



## **Cultural Times Bulletin**

ASC EST. 1989

ALANA=African American, Latino/a American, Asian American, Native American & Friends

#### ASC Welcomes Chandler Hawkins '20

Chandler Hawkins is ASC's new Graduate Assistant! Chandler has a BA in Public Health and Information Services from the University of Louisville, and is pursuing her Master's degree in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration (H.E.S.A.A.) here at Canisius. Chandler is a proud member of her sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc. and enjoys participating in community service whenever she can. She is very happy and excited to be a part of the ALANA Student Center programming and mission, and we are blessed to have her enthusiasm, skills and experience. She believes in an open door policy, so do not hesitate to stop in and say hello! Chandler shares: "In diversity there is beauty and there is strength." – Maya Angelou



### August 18, 2018

### **Racial Diversity Training!**

During RA training, the Student Life staff (RA's/OL's) had the opportunity to learn, reflect, and develop skills in having conversations regarding race/ethnicity. We watched videos that encompassed a multitude of identities and some of the experiences students had moving through the world. Although we talked about a variety of situations, one example that stuck out to me was affirmative action. We learned about a Black male student speaking about the affirmative action process, and how people might not see him as intelligent, and the assumptions raised around the color. On top of that, he received so many scholarships due to the school possibly wanting him for their "diversity quota." Instead of just learning about affirmative action and what it really meant, we talked about how to have a conversation with a student of color on campus who feels that way. Additionally, we also discussed how to talk to students who actually **believe** that students of color who receive scholarships and funding to attend a university are only there for a diversity quota. We discussed how to ensure that when we are talking to the students who believe that, that we are not speaking with judgement, but simply, understanding. It helped us learn what questions to ask, how to ask them, and how to create a safe, truthful, and open environment for these conversations. Through role-play and honest discussions, this training, sponsored by ASC and Student Life, made us more prepared for future conversations with students, staff, and faculty regarding all identities that we are here at Canisius to celebrate.

-Tasia Clemons '20



### August 26, 2018 Let's TAPA Bout It!

On August 26, I attended the ASC social for students of color who are regular admits. I was a little skeptical to go at first because I didn't know anyone else that was going. I'm an introvert, so going to an event without knowing anyone was definitely out of my element. I decided to step out of my shell and go, and I'm glad I did. When I arrived, there weren't many people there at first, but I believe it was just first year nerves. At first I felt like an outsider, but once the event started I felt included the whole time. There was food, and a Native American drink called Ojibwe Menwaagamig that was very delicious. We did a "speed dating" activity to get to know everyone and feel more comfortable. Everyone at the event, including the ASC staff, participated. Afterwards, there were a few speakers, all being students or alums of Canisius. They talked about being part of ASC and how it impacted their lives. They also mentioned how being included in ASC makes you open up more with one another, thus building a family environment. The event as a whole was pretty successful. I felt comfortable and confident meeting everyone there and it was easier to relate to the speakers knowing they were going through the same college struggles as I am. I look forward to attending more events in the future and seeing more individuals join in and experience new adventures with ASC.

-Hailey Wells –Smith '22

### **ASC congratulates Alum Malik Stubbs**

The name Malik Stubbs '19 is well-known within the ALANA paradigm, since he has written numerous pieces for ASC's bulletins. He is also very popular campus-wide, as the recipient of the college's 2017/18 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr Award. Shortly after his commencement ceremony in May, Malik began connecting with prominent names in Buffalo politics. This was his first step in achieving his lifelong dream of becoming the Mayor of Buffalo. He decided to run for public office and reached out to a few students of the Canisius community, including me, to be a part of his campaign team. We went around Buffalo collecting petitions and signatures of registered voters in order to make Malik eligible to run. The committee elections were held on Thursday, September 13, and the college's Student Center was one of the annual polling booths. Lo and behold, Malik emerged victorious, and now holds a position on the Erie County Democratic Committee. As a committee member, his primary duty, amongst others, involves working with other committee members in changing communities by improving the standard of living, particularly on the "East side." Congrats future Mayor!



-McSteve Ezikeoha '19 Malik Stubbs pictured in center

Positivities from the Pope

"We all have the duty to do good." - Pope Francis

Unscramble the term in royal blue below to enter a raffle to win a pair of REGAL Movie Passes. 3 winners chosen!

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Canisius College is one of 28 Jesuit Universities in the nation and the premier private university in Western New York



# September 13, 2018 A Meet & Greet Social: Family Matters

"For students to feel like family."

On September 13<sup>th</sup>, I had the opportunity to attend ASC's social. The event had a great turn out. The food was very delicious. I had the chance to taste foods from different cultures and socialize with many students and staff visiting from other offices.

-Michelle Calhoun '20

### September 20, 2018 Celebrating Latinx Heritage Month with Salsa with Substance

The Salsa with Substance event was way better than what I expected. Before attending, I didn't think that I would've enjoyed the event the way I did. The Band was awesome. Even though I didn't know the words they were singing, the music itself was great. The food was also amazing, and overall, it was a great event and I am excited for next year.

-Niesha Morrison '21

### **HEOP Club conceived over the summer**

As Canisius continues to grow its diversity goals throughout our campus community, HEOP students, by way of the COPE Office, have taken a strong incentive to providing further aid for students that come from lower-income families by conceiving the "HEOP Club." Waiting for approval by USA, HEOP Club members hope to help students with financial and social problems that derive from economic hardships. With a view to improving the equity of our campus community, members of the club have a strong passion for aiding students with specific needs. This will help students to succeed throughout their college career. Aiming to uphold the Jesuit values of Canisius College, during the 2018-2019 academic year we plan to begin programs that allow students to borrow professional clothing or other articles which will help them succeed with presentations and other formal events. We also would like to host networking events where students can connect with alumni who have also gone through a financial struggle during their time here at Canisius. We believe students can overcome such difficulties by receiving advice

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from those who have followed similar paths. Our main goal of the HEOP Club is to remind students that no matter how unfortunate anyone may be, they should still have an equal chance at succeeding.

-Marcos Tellez '19

## Meet the Active ALANA Clubs & their Presidents



Hello faculty, Administrators, staff, students and peers,

It brings me great pleasure and excitement to introduce myself to my Canisius Community! My name is Avyana Morehead '19 and I'm a senior majoring in Psychology with a minor in Clinical Mental Health Counseling in the hopes of becoming a licensed mental health counselor. Outside of my academics, I am the current 2018-2019 Afro-American Society President. I am

super excited and driven to make sure the Executive Board and I carry out our mission in creating and promoting racial harmony on the Canisius College campus, including a wide range of AAS' cultural events planned, alongside great open discussions within our general body meetings. I also believe this academic year will be something fresh and fun for new and familiar members of Afro to enjoy!

If any students are passionate about re-activating the following ALANA Clubs, please stop by ASC--Frisch Hall 008
--Native American Circle
--Society of Asian Students & Friends
--G- Squad (Griffin Step Team)



My name is Alexander Sanchez '19, and I am the new president of the Latin American Students & Friends (LASAF). I am a senior and I double major in Criminal Justice and Spanish, with a minor in Sociology. I am from the West Side of Buffalo, a hot spot for Latinx culture in the area. I grew up around my culture and language, and I pride myself in that. That is a big reason why I want to make sure that Latinx culture is prevalent here on the Canisius campus, so students can learn more about Latin Americans. I also have a passion for making sure that others who

share our culture have a space where they can feel at home on this campus. I am always willing to learn about new things and listen to others, so feel free to stop by whenever I'm in the LASAF club room, or spark up a conversation whenever you see me around--I'm always excited to meet new people!



My name is Perrin G Leftwich Jr '21. I direct The Gospel Ensemble at Canisius College. We are a Kingdom building group that ministers through music and singing. Gospel Ensemble is made up of people on and off campus who love to minister. We sing at the campus Mass and we are planning to have a musical later this fall semester. More personally, I am a double major in Education and Music. After Canisius, I want to go into performance, and then get my masters in Music and earn a license in teaching. If you feel like God is calling you to sing, join us! Email Danielle Smikle at <a href="mailto:smikled@canisius.edu">smikled@canisius.edu</a> for a rehearsal schedule!

### UPCOMING EVENT: Thursday, Oct 4, 4pm

The ALANA Student Center, in association with the Undergraduate Student Association, will host the workshop, *Combating Campus Racial Incidents*. This workshop is designed for students to learn various ways to navigate through racial incidents when they occur on campus. At the same time, to help participants learn how Canisius addresses the issues. Prof. Craig Rogers of the college's Economic and Finance Department will facilitate this workshop. The location is Grupp Fireside Lounge, Student Center, second floor. There will be door prizes for students. For more info, contact student McSteve, ezikeohm@canisius.edu