

First Peoples Advising Services Spring Newsletter

T H E E V E R G R E E N S T A T E C O L L E G E O L Y M P I A W A

CELEBRATING CULTURE AND HERITAGE
Day of Absence
Wednesday, April 25
2012
&

Day of Presence

Friday, April 27

2012



Hello All,
Spring is kind of here and there is a lot going on this quarter, not to mention some of you are graduating soon! This quarter is chock full of exciting events from the Day of Absence/Day of Presence to our First Peoples' Graduation and all of the student groups are working on exciting things and reaching out to new and old students. So many things!!

To find out more information about any of the events or activities listed in the newsletter please contact our office or visit our website:

www.evergreen.edu/multicultural

Please pass this information on to anyone who may need it.

Call us if you need us or just to say "Hi".

JUST A REMINDER, FIRST PEOPLES IS:

...here to connect you to resources, people, places and information to help you be a successful student.

We are here for any academic, personal or financial advising that you may need.

We liaison with the student of color groups on campus and host a variety of community-building and educational events as well.

We are open to all students on campus. We also offer a study lounge/meeting room and information on workshops, speakers and other events on and off-campus.

If you have any questions or need any kind of assistance or just want to share your good ideas about how to connect with other community members or just have fun, please don't hesitate to contact us.

There is never time in the future in which we will work out our salvation. The challenge is in the movement, the time is always now.

-James Baldwin

Day of Absence & Day of Presence Update

What is it?

Although there have been many changes and additions over the years, the purpose of these days is to invite the entire campus community to celebrate and to explore the richness of our diversity by participating in dialogue, activities, workshops, seminars, performances and perspectives. Every year new and different programming is developed by the Day of Absence and Day of Presence Planning Committee which is comprised of students, staff and faculty. These last few years we have put together calendars of events that span the entire year. The theme this year is, “The Challenge of Community”. Through workshops, guest lecturers and art we will be exploring and issues of allyship and intersections of identity.

This year there are also two full days of programming: April 25, The Day of Absence and April 27, The Day of Presence. (For those of you who may be unfamiliar with this yearly observance, check our FPAS website and read a brief history of the ideas behind our tradition by following the link at the start of this newsletter.)

The Day of Absence off-campus full-day event on April 25, is an off-campus educational and rejuvenating retreat which all of Evergreen’s students, staff and faculty of color are invited to attend. In addition, while the community of color is off-campus, white allies offer a full day of programming on campus around identity development and anti-oppression work. The Day of Presence on April 27 represents the reuniting of our entire community and an opportunity to share ideas with each other as allies around the issues of multiculturalism and community strength.

What is the purpose of separation?

One of the questions we are often asked is, “Why does the campus separate? Doesn’t that defeat the purpose of unity?” The departure which takes place on Day of Absence is easier to understand if seen from the perspective of coalition and community-building. For people of color, the opportunity we have in the larger society to explore ideas, problems and solutions to issues of diversity in our own community without having to explain, defend or interpret our perspectives, is rare, precious and absolutely essential. This retreat gives the campus community of color one day in the year when we can work together as a learning community, in a setting in which we are not the numerical minority.

At the same time, it is also equally important for our white allies to have a space for themselves dedicated to discuss these same issues of inclusiveness, identity, allyship and community.

Do you find strength in community?

If the answer is “no” for you, the significance of the day may be difficult to understand. The purpose of the day is for us as members of the same TESC community to come together as friends and strangers to be united and to learn more about ourselves and each other and to hopefully share a sense of community with one another. It is a great place to be just who you are.

If you have any questions or comments, please email Norma Alicia Pino,
Director of First Peoples’ Advising, at pinon@evergreen.edu

A few community members share their opinions about why they attend the Day of Absence

"Day of Absence allows for you to build the community that you want. By coming, you have the ability to see the people of color community at this school and what kind of community exists is built solely on who makes the choice to show up and build it".

-Graham Wiley

"I love the fact that we finally meet the faces of color that we see on campus and hopefully form some type of bond. It's one relaxing event full of diversity and culture".

-Roya Jalili

"It's important to go to Day of Absence just to meet other students of color. It's a good community building event and a great place to have intercultural dialogue."

-Kandi Bauman

"It's important to attend these events because issues of oppression and institutionalized racism are frequently sidelined by society. "

-Jeremy Stutes

"Again and again I hear the tragedies of racism that students and staff of color consistently face in the Evergreen community. Though two days is hardly enough to delve into the layers and depths of racism, I view these days as a time to honor the presence of Evergreen's community of color and to truly begin to think about what diversity and solidarity mean outside of academic discourse."

-Jen Kamrar

"My academic work and personal experiences have been enriched by my involvement with the community of color here; Day of Absence is a crucial day on which I can get a sense of who my community is and what we bring to the table."

-Miki Foster

"Going to the Day of Absence is important because It reminds us that we are not alone and we can come back to class the next week and appreciate who we are because even though we may be alone in our classroom as students of color we know we are not alone at Evergreen."

-Sarah Watkins

"It is hard to explain in any way that might make sense to someone who has never been to a Day of Absence off campus event how or why it feels so tremendous. There is a strength that you draw from it. You are in a room full of people, some who you may know and some who you may not and somehow there is a sense of unity there that I do not usually find in large groups of people. For me, it is inspiring, nurturing, I feel a sense of connectedness that is a little inexplicable. There is a magic there. We do not all think the same and we are from all different places but there is a sense of comfort that all of that is acceptable and embraced and fully appreciated. If for no other reason come to appreciate who you are and to have a chance to share that feeling with others. Mostly in our very modern world we do not have the opportunity to just be and have that be okay."

-Raquel Salinas

Day of Absence & Day of Presence Update continued

We are excited to invite you to this year's Day of Absence off-campus retreat for all staff, students, and faculty of color.

Wednesday, April 25, 2012
Off-Campus Community of Color Retreat
Tacoma TESC Campus
1pm – 8pm

Day of Absence is a community building event where we can reconnect with old friends and make new ones. Our aim is to create a space where staff, students, and faculty can get together in a mutually rewarding environment to learn, talk, and have fun. We will be holding a community potluck during lunch for which everyone brings a dish. Check out the link to our website to find out more about the origins of the event and our theme for this year: *The Challenge of Community*

We are finalizing our workshops and events for the day and hope to send you the completed schedule soon. There will be a variety of workshops led by students and staff.

The retreat is a beautiful space to relax, re-energize and renew your community spirit. We will be providing van transportation for students and staff who need a ride. (We also ask that you connect with friends and carpool.) If you need a ride in our van please be sure to email us by April 15.

(full descriptions will be posted by the start of April and have been sent out on the crier and will be on our website later this week)

www.evergreen.edu/multicultural .

Here is a sneak peek at our presenters but check out our website for info on times and spaces as well as bios and full descriptions.

The Challenge of Community: Alliance, Allyship and Intersections

Day of Absence – Wednesday, April 25 ~ 1pm to 8pm

(off campus programming aimed at the Community of Color)

Highlights include:

- Annual potluck dinner
- The Conciliation Project and our very own Black Student Union Reads the play, *A Day of Absence* and we discuss it afterwards. The Conciliation Project (TCP) is a non-profit social justice theatre company. (<http://theconciliationproject.org/site/>)
- Film and discussion: *Precious Knowledge*, a film about the ethnic studies controversy in Arizona : <http://www.preciousknowledgefilm.com/>
- Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha: (*The Revolution Starts at Home*) will be **doing a** workshop on Transformative Justice.
- Mixed Race identity workshop by Max Codella Fernandez

The Challenge of Community: Alliance, Allyship and Intersections

Day of Absence- Wednesday, April 25th ~ 1pm to 8pm

(on campus programming aimed at white allies) Schedule TBA, currently under construction)

DOA/DOP related programming-Thursday, April 26th

-2-5pm: location TBA: Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha workshop on Transformative Justice

-6-9pm: Thursday evening at TESC Olympia, Lecture Hall #1: Queering Activism/Performing Intersectionality with Joe Kadi & Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha. Joe Kadi is a writer, teacher, and editor. He's a transgender Arab-Canadian man who believes in feminism, the power of the common people, and environmental justice. He edited the anthology *Food For Our Grandmothers: Writings by Arab-Canadian and Arab-American Feminists*, and wrote *Thinking Class: Sketches from a Cultural Worker*. Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha <http://www.brownstargirl.org/> is a queer disabled Sri Lankan writer, teacher and cultural worker. The author of *Consensual Genocide* and *Love Cake* and co-editor of *The Revolution Starts At Home: Confronting Intimate Violence in Activist Communities*. This event is part of Day of Absence/Day of Presence and is co-organized with FIST! (Feminists in Solidarity Together)

Day of Presence – Friday, April 27 ~ 9am to 8pm

All events will take place on Olympia TESC campus. Locations will be listed on our website.

-8:30-9: Welcome

-9 to Noon: Generational Healing

Students from the Multicultural Program will share their work. Students will show films they made on cultural identity and generational healing and will present their multicultural autobiography art and projects.

-10 to Noon: Writing Across Borders

Writing Tutors facilitate Film Screening and Discussion. *Writing Across Borders* is a 3-year documentary project funded by Oregon State University's Center for Writing and Learning and its Writing Intensive Curriculum Program. The documentary's purpose is to help faculty, writing assistants, and other professionals work more productively with international students in writing environments.

-Noon to 1pm and 5-6pm: Identity Project:

Opening of art exhibit (Identity pieces)

-1pm to 3pm: Lecture by Joe Kadi: "Holistic Visions Require Appropriate Theories: The Power of Intersectionality."

After the lecture Dr. T from the Conciliation Project will moderate **a panel focused on intersections of Race, Gender and Class** with Talcott Broadhead, Joe Kadi, Jimmie Lowe, Mimi Alcantar, Chris German, Aleticia Tijerina and Norma Alicia Pino.

-3 to 5pm

Film and Discussion: *BirthMarks*: Using archival footage, interviews, video, 16mm film, performances and writing by Bill and Naima Lowe, this film is about how fathers and daughters make beauty out of trauma and art out of living.

-5pm to 6pm: Dinner Break on your own and Identity Project Reception Continues

-6pm to 8pm: The Conciliation Project

Will give a Theater presentation to the using examples from the different plays of the Conciliation Project, they will discuss intersections of Race, Class and Gender.



Career Development Center

Spring 2012 Calendar



We provide drop-in appointments, a comprehensive Career Resource Library, graduate school testing information, various workshops, Job Club, Job Board, ACE (Alumni Career Educator) files and a Virtual Career Development website.

We offer one-on-one appointments with career counselors for career/life planning, self-assessment tools and resources, job search, interview preparation, resume writing assistance and graduate school advising.

Individual Appointments

Monday - Friday 9am - 4pm

Job Club

In the Career Development Library
Wednesday 2 - 3pm

A place for students and alumni to develop job search strategies in a supportive networking environment.

Resume Writing Workshops

In the Career Development Library
Wednesday 3 - 4pm

Come and get feedback on your resume.

** Dates are subject to change – please call or check our website to verify availability*

Drop-In Hours

Monday – 10am - 12pm

Tuesday, Wednesday &

Thursday – 2- 4pm

Evening Hours

Monday & Thursday

Appointments available

5 - 6pm (LIB 2100R)

Tuesday & Wednesday

Drop-In Hours

5 - 6pm (LIB 2153)

SPRING 2012 WORKSHOPS

Professional Presentation for Job Search

Tuesday, April 10th

6:00-7:00 pm – Career Development Library, LIB 2151

Resume Writing Workshop

Monday, April 16th

3:00-4:00 pm – SEM II A2107

Preparing For Life After Evergreen

Wednesday, April 18th

2:00-3:00pm – SEM II A2107

Acing the Job Interview

Wednesday, May 2nd

3:30-4:30 pm – SEM II A2107

Preparing For Life After Evergreen

Wednesday, May 16th

2:00-3:00pm – SEM II A3105

Finding a Summer Job

Wednesday, May 23rd

1:00-2:00 pm – SEM IIA2107

Location: Library 2100R (in the SASS Offices) ♦ Phone: (360) 867-6193

E-Mail: careerdevelopment@evergreen.edu

Website: www.evergreen.edu/career

Upward Bound Announcement

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Upward Bound is soon accepting applications for Summer positions!



Looking for summer enriching summer employment?

Upward Bound is a federally-funded educational enrichment program that promotes high school achievement and participation in Post-secondary education among youth from low-income and diverse backgrounds. They are currently accepting applications for summer employment opportunities in their **Upward Bound Summer Learning Institute** on campus. Please keep an eye out to view position descriptions once they are announced or call Juana Vaughan at (360) 867-6012 or e-mail her at vaughanj@evergreen.edu

FIRST PEOPLES ASKS....

- Did you complete your FAFSA?
- Please make sure there are no holds on your accounts with the school.
- Would you like to join us for Freshman Advising Day and meet new freshmen?
- Would you like to help us with Day of Absence and Presence and Graduation this year?
- Have you looked at the Day of Absence and the Day of Presence schedule and circled what you want to go to?



Contact First Peoples directly to help out or get help with any of the above items.....

FIRST PEOPLES GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Thursday, June 14th 2012

3-6pm, TESC Longhouse



This is a time for all of us to be together to wish a fond farewell to our graduating Seniors and say thank you to the strong community that supports them. Join us for a fabulous program with guest speakers and refreshments. Please contact us if you are interested in helping plan the graduation celebration or attending. Everyone is invited but you must RSVP.

Please call or email to reserve a space. Graduates, remember to include your family and friends when you confirm your attendance. In the meantime, please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 14th.

To RSVP, contact Raquel Salinas

360.867.6462 or salinasr@evergreen.edu

Spring TESC 2012 Events Calendar: sponsored by various campus organizations

Career Fair: April 3

Pacific Islander Conference: April 6 and 7

Student of Color Conference: April 19-21

MECh@/O Conference: April 20-22

Day of Absence: April 25

Day of Presence: April 27

40th anniversary Coming Back to Evergreen event: May 18-May 20

Cinco De Mayo Event: May 5

Freshmen Advising Day: May 11

Powwow: May 12

Coastal Jam: May 26

Memorial Day campus closed: May 28

Study Jam: May 29-30

First Peoples Graduation: June 14

Quiencenero event TBA

SPRING EVENTS ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Peoples at Primetime

Location: Unity Lounge. L2147

Date: Most Wednesdays in the Spring

Time: 6:00pm-8:00pm

Check out events here

<http://www.evergreen.edu/advising/primetime/home.htm>

Freshman Advising Day

Location: Unity Lounge

Lib. Rm. 2147

Date: May 11

Time: 2:30-5pm

Come and meet some of the incoming freshmen that will be visiting the college and registering for classes for next Fall. Light refreshments courtesy of Admissions.

Message from The Native Student Alliance

POWWOW

MAY 12TH

&

COASTAL JAM

MAY 26TH

Presented by the Native Student Alliance and the Longhouse Education and Cultural Center

Tea...have a cup of tea on us

Location: L2147, Unity Lounge

Date: Every Wednesday of Spring qtr.

Time: 12:00pm-1:30pm

Come and visit our lounge and have a warm cup of soup or other snacks and meet other staff and students. You may also bring your sack lunch.

DOA/DOP

Location: On and off campus events

Date: All year long

Time: Various times day and night

We have an amazing array of workshops, lectures and presenters.

(Check out our spotlight section on page 2 - 5)

First Peoples Graduation Celebration

Location: The Evergreen State College Longhouse

Date: June 14

Time: 3-6pm

Check out our spotlight section on page 8

RSVP required by May 28th

Career & Internship Fair

April 3, 2012, 11:00 - 3:00

Saint Martin's University Marcus Pavilion in Lacey

Presented by: Saint Martin's University and The Evergreen State College

Puget Sound businesses, government agencies and nonprofit organizations interested in hiring job seekers will be represented at the Career Fair.

The fair is free to job seekers and is open to students, alumni, and the public. For an updated list of employers who have registered, please visit www.stmartin.edu/career_fair/

Spring Symposium

The Occupy Movement: Uprisings at Home and Abroad

Thursdays, 6-9 pm, Lecture Hall 1

April 5-June 7: Free & Open to the Public

Dubbed "the year of unrest," 2011 has witnessed an unprecedented groundswell of global popular movements demanding political, economic and social justice. From Tahrir Square to Zucotti Park, the desire for greater democracy has been accompanied by actions to reclaim public spaces where people can convene, learn about, and experiment with alternative forms of participatory democracy.

In this spirit, Re-Interpreting Liberation, Dangerous Work, Resistance & Social Change, and the Venezuela programs will host this Spring Symposium. Our goal is to create a forum to facilitate discussion across a broad range of issues and perspectives, provoking thought, debate, and action on issues that have accelerated to global prominence in light of recent movements.

Thurs. April 5: Roots of Unrest & Dialogue for Farm Worker Justice Introduction by Savvina Chowdhury; Rosalinda Guillen Executive Director of Community to Community Development and member of United Farm Workers
<http://depts.washington.edu/civilr/guillen.htm>

Thurs. April 12: Occupy Economics: Global Debt Crisis, Bailout, Neoliberalism & Who Really are the 99%?
 Peter Bohmer, Savvina Chowdhury, and Larry Mosqueda

Thurs. April 19: Reclaiming the Commons: Our Health and Our Education Stephen Bezruchka, Department of Global Health at University of Washington http://depts.washington.edu/hserv/faculty/Bezruchka_SStephen with Nancy Anderson and Sarah Ryan.

Thurs. April 26: Queering Activism/Performing Intersectionality with Joe Kadi & Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha. Joe Kadi is a writer, teacher, and editor. He's a transgender Arab-Canadian man who believes in feminism, the power of the common people, and environmental justice. He edited the anthology *Food For Our Grandmothers: Writings by Arab-Canadian and Arab-American Feminists*, and wrote *Thinking Class: Sketches from a Cultural Worker*. Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha <http://www.brownstargirl.org/> <<http://www.brownstargirl.org/>> is a queer disabled Sri Lankan writer, teacher and cultural worker. The author of *Consensual Genocide* and *Love Cake* and co-editor of *The Revolution Starts At Home: Confronting Intimate Violence in Activist Communities*. This event is part of Day of Absence/Day of Presence and is co-organized with FIST! (Feminists in Solidarity Together)

Thurs. May 3: Occupation as Colonization/Decolonization: Local, Regional, National Movements (Waziyatawin to be confirmed) Waziyatawin, Dakota activist, writer, and educator, is "committed to the development of liberation strategies that will support the recovery of Indigenous ways of being, the reclamation of Indigenous homelands, and the eradication of colonial institutions." Hip Hop Occupy, Seattle <http://www.hiphopoccupies.com/> activists from Olympia and Tacoma co-sponsored with Native Student Alliance.

Thurs. May 10: The Poetics of the People's Mic: Art & Resistance Climbing Poetree <http://climbingpoetree.com/>, and local and regional poets co-sponsored with FIST!

Thurs. May 17: Occupy as Strategy: Prioritizing the Environment TBA

Thurs. May 24: Occupied Territories: The Security State, Militarization & Civil Rights, Isis Nusair, Palestinian-Israeli scholar and co-editor of *Displaced at Home: Ethnicity and Gender among Palestinians in Israel*, Therese Saliba. TBA

Thurs. May 31: Cooperatives & Community Development: Visitors from Venezuela with the Venezuela Program

Thurs. June 7: Visions of a New Society Black Orchid Collective <http://blackorchidcollective.wordpress.com/>
 <<http://blackorchidcollective.wordpress.com/>>

Sponsored by The President's Diversity Fund, TESC Writing Center, Center for Community-Based Learning and Action, the Academic Deans, and Sustainability & Justice Planning Unit, United Faculty of Evergreen (UFE) Occupy Group

Contact Information:

We will be sending out regular emails and newsletters with reminders and updates about campus news, if you wish to be taken off of our mailing list please contact us.

Director
Norma-Alicia Pino
Library 2137

Coordinator of Student Support Services
Raquel Salinas
Library 2135

Office Assistant
Dena Jaskar
Library 2126

Unity Lounge
Library 2147
(360) 867-6083

Spring Peer Support Student Staff and volunteers:

Ninette Rincon, Ashley Pina, Jesse Drescher, Elizabeth Seibel, Carmen Ramento, Max Codella Fernandez, Favi Ortiz., Tra Mouton, Michelle Quinlan, Nathan Westwater, Chris Gamboa

Please contact these fabulous S & A Student Groups for information about their upcoming events and to be put on their mailing lists!

- ☀ **Black Student Union (BSU)** Contact them at: bsu@evergreen.edu
- ☀ **NSA (Native Student Alliance)** Contact them at: evergreen.nsa@hotmail.com
- ☀ **Women of Color Coalition (WOCC)** Contact them at: wocc.tesc@gmail.com
- ☀ **Movimiento Estudiantil Chicano/a de Aztlan (MEChA)** Contact them at:
tescmecha@yahoo.com
- ☀ **QPOC (Queer People of Color)** Contact them at: qpocatevergreen@gmail.com
- ☀ **APIC: (Asian Pacific Islander Coalition)** Contact: TESC.apic@gmail.com

Check out the Student Activities website to get a full description of these groups, their meeting times and their missions: www.evergreen.edu/activities/