



The WCU Celebrates Diversity Series is sponsored by the Office of Social Equity. We cordially invite you to join us as we continue building our inclusive community. The WCU Celebrates Diversity Series responds to our changing community by providing a series of programs intended to enlighten and empower us as a community. If you would like further information on any of our programs, or if you would like to register for any of the presentations in our series, please call West Chester University's Office of Social Equity at 610-436-2433. *Accommodations for individuals with disabilities are available on request by calling the Office of Social Equity at 610-436-2433. Please make your needs known as soon as possible, but no less than one week in advance of the event, to allow time to make the necessary arrangements.*

Please check out the Office of Social Equity website for updates throughout the semester for new programs added each week!

FEBRUARY
Black History Month

Spring Organization Fair

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 from 10:00am - 3:00pm in Sykes Student Union

Want to learn about and meet with a variety of student organizations? The Student Organization Involvement Fair is coordinated by the Office of Student Leadership and Involvement to help student organizations advertise and recruit members for their rosters. The fair includes fraternities, sororities and all multicultural student organizations. Sponsored by Student Involvement & Leadership. For more information contact Jackie Aliotta at jaliotta@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2117.

LGBTQA 101

February 1, 2017 11:00 AM – 12:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

February 10, 2017 2:00 Pm – 3:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

February 23, 2017 5:00 Pm – 6:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

March 20, 2017 1:00 Pm – 2:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

March 31, 2017 3:30 Pm – 4:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 252

Part 1 - a one hour training session that provides participants with an overview of LGBTQA history, terms, and current issues. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services. To register, please contact Aneesah Smith at asmith4@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.

Black Owned Businesses Panel

Wednesday, February 1, 2017 at 7:15 Pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 10A

The Black Owned Businesses Panel will entail a panel of African American WCU alumni who will share insights into their experiences as an entrepreneurs. Panelists will discuss lessons learned, share experiences, and provide advice. Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Black Student Union. For more information contact Jairo Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

Trans 101

February 8, 2017 11:00am – 12:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

February 17, 2017 2:00pm – 3:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

March 2, 2017 5:00pm – 6:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

March 27, 2017 1:00pm – 2:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

April 7, 2017 3:30pm – 4:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

April 11, 2017 12:30pm – 1:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 252

Part 2 – a one hour presentation facilitated by peer educators who identify within the Trans community for “graduates” of LGBTQ 101. Reviews gender, sex, and sexuality but focuses on what it means to be transgender and how to support Trans people on campus. Sessions are open to all students, faculty and staff. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services. To register, please contact Aneesah Smith at asmith4@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.

Sykes After Dark: Sadie Hawkins Dance with the Black Student Union

Friday, February 10, 2017, 9:00pm, Sykes Student Union

Sykes After Dark is a free, late night program for West Chester University students. Every Friday night, during the academic year from 9:00 pm - 1:00 am, Sykes Student Union will host various interactive live events including carnivals, comedians, live music, dances and more. Every week there will be a take home novelty and free food. All Sykes After Dark events are completely free to WCU students.

For more information, contact Barrett McGhee at BMcGee@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3037. Sponsored by Student Activities, Inc.

The Period Project

February 13-24, 2017

Imagine this: You are going about your day and your period comes unexpectedly. You can go home, shower, and get the supplies you need. Now imagine getting your period while homeless. You may not be able to do laundry or shower consistently, let alone afford a box of tampons or pads. Join the Center for Women and Gender Equity and Wellness Promotion as we collect unopened tampons and pads for women and menstruating people in our community. Drop off available in Student Health Services and the Center for Women and Gender Equity. For more information, contact Alicia Hahn-Murphy at womenscenter@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2122.

Ally Training

February 15, 2017 11:00am – 12:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255

February 24, 2017 2:00 Pm – 3:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

March 9, 2017 5:00pm – 6:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

April 3, 2017 1:00pm – 2:00pm, Sykes Student Union, Room 255

April 14, 2017 3:30pm – 4:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 209

April 18, 2017 12:30 – 1:30pm – 2:20pm, Sykes Student Union, Room 252

Part 3: A one hour training session that provides LGBTQA & TRANS 101 “graduates” with the understanding and resources to be an advocate and ally to LGBTQA students, faculty, and staff. Allies are provided with a resource folder and a door sticker identifying them as an LGBTQA Ally. To register, please contact Aneesah Smith at asmith4@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services.

Cirque Zuma Zuma presented by WCU Live!

Friday, February 17, 2017 at 7:30pm
in Philips Memorial Building, Emilie K.
Asplundh Concert Hall

Audiences and critics agree – Cirque Zuma Zuma is unlike anything they have ever seen before. Many describe it as an African-style Cirque du Soleil; such is the standard of the performers and the quality of the show's live musical score. As seen on season 6 of America's Got Talent, Cirque Zuma Zuma packs every show with non-stop action and incredible features which keep audiences on the edges of their seats. Purchase tickets at www.wcupatix.com.

2017 Sankofa Conference

February 17-19, 2017 at Bloomsburg
University

Student trip sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. For more information, contact Jairo Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

#PositiveProfiling

Monday, February 20, 2017, 6:00pm –
8:00pm in Sykes Student Union,
Sykes Ballrooms A/B

Believing negative stereotypes based on how someone looks is not only hurtful, but it can have serious consequences. This is especially true for men of color in the United States. Check out the #PositiveProfiling poster campaign around campus and on social media, then join us to engage in a discussion with men from the campaign to help put an end to negative stereotypes. Sponsored by the Center for Women & Gender Equity and co-sponsored by the Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center and Photography Club.

Veterans Breakfast

Wednesday, February 22, 2017, 8:30am –
10:30am at West Chester VFW

Chester County Veterans Affairs and the WCU Veterans Center will be hosting a Veterans breakfast to allow WCU Student Veterans to meet and network with members of several Veteran Service Organizations. Students will also receive presentations regarding resources and services available to them in Chester County. For more information, contact Lillian Morrison at lmorrison@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2862.

Africa Today

Thursday, February 23, 2017
7:30pm – 9:00pm in Philips Memorial
Hall, Autograph Library

Four West Chester University students will

talk about their lives growing up on the Africa continent and how they came to West Chester University. This program is free and open to the public. Sponsored by Center for International Programs and the Department of History. For more information, contact Brenda Gaydosh at Bgaydosh@wcupa.edu or Charity Alinda at Calinda@wcupa.edu.

2017 PA Black Conference on Higher Education (PBCOHE)

February 23-25, 2017 in Pittsburgh, PA

The 2017 Annual Conference: "Inclusion: The New Face of Affirmative Action?" will be held at the Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Pittsburgh/Monroeville Convention Center. For more information, contact PBCOHE President, Dr. John Craig at JCraig@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3133.

Committed sponsored by WCU Live!

Saturday, February 25, 2017 at 7:30pm
in the Swope Building, Madeleine Wing
Adler Theatre

Considered on the nation's top ten acappella groups, Committed is frequently compared to groups like Take 6 and Boyz II Men. To learn more visit www.committedsings.com. Purchase tickets at www.wcupatix.com.

Cultivating Change: Activism and Self-Care Conference

Sunday, February 26, 12:00pm-4:30pm,
Sykes Student Union

Social change doesn't happen alone or overnight. This conference will give you tools, action steps, and community to empower you to cultivate change on campus and beyond. Pre-registration is required. For more information email womenscenter@wcupa.edu or call 610-436-2122. Sponsored by the Center for Women & Gender Equity and co-sponsored by Office of Wellness Promotion, LGBTQA Services, Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center, Social Equity, Provost's Office, and the following academic departments: Philosophy, Peace and Conflict Studies, Graduate Social Work, Women's and Gender Studies, History, Languages and Cultures, Anthropology & Sociology, Chemistry, English, and Political Science.

M A R C H

Women's History Month

Women of Color Celebration

Thursday, March 2, 2017 12:15pm –
1:30pm in Philips Memorial Building,
Autograph Library

Join us for lunch and networking as we celebrate and recognize the achievements of women of color at WCU! Space is limited. To reserve your seat, please email your

RSVP to womenscenter@wcupa.edu or call 610-436-2122.

Brother of Excellence Conference

Saturday, March 4, 2017 9:30am in
Sykes Student Union

This conference will focus on building stronger relationships amongst men of color on campus and find ways to uplift one another. We will discuss some of the issues men of color face on campus, at home, and in our everyday communities. Sponsored by the Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center, Brother II Brother and Black Men United. For more information, contact Jairo Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

2017 PA Chapter of the National Association of Multicultural Education (NAME) Conference

March 3-4, 2017 at Dickinson College

The 2017 annual conference: "Don't let your schooling interfere with your education: Exploring Multicultural Education to Develop Communal Consciousness" will be held from Friday, March 3, 2017 through Saturday, March 4, 2017 at Dickinson College in Carlisle, PA.

University Forum Symposium

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 12:00pm –
2:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Sykes
Theatre

The Spring 2017 University Forum Symposium will feature presentations from previous and current UF award recipients. The UF panel participants will describe their vision, goals and accomplishments of their funded projects in order to provide the audience with an inclusive collegiate atmosphere of rich dialogue around the importance of building on sustainable initiatives and programs connected to the campus climate survey.

Kristen Green, Author of "Something Must Be Done About Prince Edward County"

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 7:00pm –
8:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Sykes
Theatre

This book uncovers racial segregation and disparities in a strongly racist Virginia County from the 50's to today. Through interviews, anecdotes, and research, Kristen Green reveals powerful details about both her town and family history. Sponsored by the Student Pennsylvania State Education Association (SPSEA) of WCU.

Job Search Success and OPT Workshop for International Students

Thursday, March 9, 2017 12:30pm –

3:30pm in the Career Development Center, Room 225

The goal of the workshop is to introduce the Career Development Center to international students and to discuss strategies for developing a strong resume and effective interviewing skills. Additionally, a representative from the Center for International Programs will explain the Optional Practical Training (OPT) process in detail for graduating students. Sponsored by the Center for International Programs and the Twardowski Career Development Center.

Caladh Nua by WCU Live!

Saturday, March 11, 2017 at 7:30pm in Philips Memorial Building, Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall

Caladh Nua is a tightly-knit, vibrant, and staggeringly talented band with its origins deeply rooted in the southern counties of Ireland. Comprised of five versatile musicians and singers playing a wide selection of instruments, the band captures the essential qualities of traditional Irish music and balances them with an innovative contemporary flair. To learn more visit www.caladhnu.com. Purchase tickets at www.wcupatix.com.

The Luxury of Choice:

Dr. Joy Degruy

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 2:30pm – 4:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Sykes Theatre

5:30pm – 7:00pm in Philips Lower Level Conference Room

Sponsored by the Assistant Dean of Students, Lawrence Dowdy Multicultural Center, Office of Social Equity, Philosophy Department, Sykes Student Union and the Vice President for Student Affairs.

Daravann Yi, Author of "Salt Seeker"

Wednesday, March 22, 2017 at 7:30pm - 9:00pm in Philips Memorial Hall, Autograph Library

Daravann Yi reflects on his fascinating and harrowing autobiography, *Salt Seeker*: Where there is life, there is a will to survive, of life as a young boy in Cambodia during the Khmer Rouge genocide. After 40 years, his tale of survival continues to resonate in a world filled with war and displacement. The program is free and open to the public. Sponsored by University Libraries and Department of History. For more information, contact Brenda Gaydosh at Bgaydosh@wcupa.edu or 610-436-0734.

Etiquette Dinner

Thursday, March 23, 2017 at 5:00pm – 7:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Ballrooms B and C

Join the Center for Career Development and Office of Multicultural Affairs in an Etiquette Dinner. Space is limited. To register, please contact Preeti Singh at psingh@wcupa.edu or Jerome "Skip" Hutson at jhutson@wcupa.edu.

SAGA's Second Chance Prom

Thursday, March 23, 2017 8:00pm – 10:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 10A

Second Chance Prom provides students with the opportunity to "redo" their prom experience. You can show up however you feel most comfortable and with the person you want. There will be dancing, food, and fun for all!

WCU goes to National Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture

Friday, March 24, 2017 in Washington, D.C.

WCU students, faculty and staff will have an opportunity to visit the National Smithsonian Museum of African American History and Culture on March 24, 2017. For more information, please contact SGA Multicultural Affairs Senator, Jill Root, at JR846631@wcupa.edu during the month of February. Prior registration is required. Sponsored by the Frederick Douglass Institute, Student Government Association, and Office of Social Equity.

Partners-in-Movement

Sunday, March 26, 2017 at 11:00am – 3:00pm, Sykes 115

This workshop is designed for students who acknowledge systems of white supremacy and racial oppression and desire to further explore their personal and collective responsibility within a racialized society. We will explore concepts such as systemic racism, white savior complex, white fragility, and anti-racist action. Pre-registration required via OrgSync. Lunch provided. For more information, contact the Center for Women & Gender Equity at womenscenter@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2122.

Post Secret Live!

Tuesday, March 28, 7:00pm, Asplundh Concert Hall, Philips Memorial Building

This multimedia event - based on Frank Warren's PostSecret Project - shares the humor, heartbreak, and humanity of the stories behind the 1,000,000+ secrets mailed to him on postcards. Listen to others share their secrets live - or step up and tell yours for the first time during this poignant, funny and inspiring event. Tickets will be available on a first come first served basis at the SSI

ticket window starting in February. Each student, faculty, and staff member will be able to get two tickets per ID until they run out. Sponsored by the Center for Women & Gender Equity and co-sponsored by Social Equity, and Office of Wellness Promotion.

Hynotic Brass Ensemble by WCU Live!

Friday, March 31, 2017 at 7:30pm in Philips Memorial Building, Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall

The Hynotic Brass Ensemble consists of seven brothers from the south side of Chicago who come from an extraordinary musical family. Mixing the brass band tradition with generous doses of hip hop, soul and funk. Learn more at www.hynoticbrassensemble.com. Purchase tickets at www.wcupatix.com.

APRIL - Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Diversity Week

April 3 - 7 2017

Join the Student Government Association for its annual Diversity Week celebration from April 3 - 7, 2017. Enjoy a week filled with a myriad of diversity awareness and educational activities and events coordinated by our very own student organizations. For more information or to get involved, please contact SGA Multicultural Affairs Senator, Jill Root, at JR846631@wcupa.edu.

Multicultural Showcase

Wednesday, April 5, 2017 6:00pm – 9:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Ballrooms

As part of Diversity Week, join the Student Government Association in its inaugural Multicultural Showcase and celebration of WCU's diverse student body. For more information or to get involved, please contact SGA Multicultural Affairs Senator, Jill Root, at JR846631@wcupa.edu.

3rd Annual Armenian Roundtable Discussion

Thursday, April 6, 2017 7:00pm - 9:00pm in F.H.G. Library, Green Room #409

Join members of the local Armenian population (both Protestant and Catholic) and WCU students and faculty as they continue the discussion begun in April 2014 on the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Free and all are welcome! Sponsored by University Libraries and the History Department. For more information, contact Brenda Gaydosh at Bgaydosh@wcupa.edu or Mame Purce at Mpurce@wcupa.edu.

Dr. Patricia Gratsy Gaines Multicultural Leadership Awards Program

Thursday, April 6, 2017 6:00pm – 9:00 pm at the WCU Foundation

The Frederick Douglass Institute's Dr. Patricia Gratsy Gaines Multicultural Leadership Award Dinner is part of West Chester University's annual Teacher Education Day and part of the Frederick Douglass Institute's endowment efforts. This is a ticketed event. For more information, contact the Frederick Douglass Institute at fdouglass@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2766.

International Student Essay Award Reception

Thursday, April 6, 2017, 5:00pm – 7:00 pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 255A

As part of Diversity Week, this is an award reception for international students who won the 2016-2017 International Student Essay Contest. You are welcome to come and listen to their stories and also have an opportunity to congratulate them. Light refreshments will be provided. For you information, contact Charity Alinda at calinda@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3515.

Multicultural Faculty Commission Retreat

Friday, April 7, 2017 9:00am – 3:00pm at the WCU Foundation

Sponsored by the Multicultural Faculty Commission

Black & Latino Greek Step Show

Friday, April 7, 2017 7:00pm – 10:00pm in Philips Memorial Building, Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall

The Black and Latino Greek Council (BLGC) is pleased to announce its annual Step Show, which will take place during "Greek Weekend" on campus! Thirteen chapters from the Black and Latino Greek Council will showcase their talents to the WCU community and compete not only for the chance to win \$1000 in prize money but also bragging rights for the next year. Teams will be judged on several points of criteria, with most emphasis on overall presentation, precision, and degree of difficulty. Tickets are available at Sykes Student Union SSI Window during regular business hours, beginning Monday, March 27th through Friday, April 7, 2017, and then they will be sold at the door.

Rainbow Connection Leadership Conference

Friday, April 7, 2017 8:00am – 3:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Sykes Theatre

This conference provides a day where prospective LGBTQA high school students, involved in their Gay/Straight Alliance come to network, learn and grow together. Administrators, parents and community members are welcomed to attend. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services. For more information, please contact Aneesah Smith at asmith4@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.

Tamagawa University Drumming & Dance Troupe by WCU Live!

Monday, April 10, 2017 7:30pm in Philips Memorial Building, Emilie K. Asplundh Concert Hall

Nearly 30 drummers and dancers from Tamagawa University, Japan, make a return appearance on our campus for an athletic and graceful performance that includes thundering Taiko drumming and Japanese folkloric dance. Purchase tickets at www.wcupatix.com.

Guante: Keynote Performance

Tuesday, April 11, 2017 7:30pm – 8:30pm in Sykes Student Union, Sykes Ballrooms

Guante, a hip-hop artist and two-time National Poetry Slam champion, strives to push boundaries in form and substance while deconstructing traditional ideas of masculinity and highlighting men's role in ending sexual violence. Sponsored by the Center for Women & Gender Equity, co-sponsored by Social Equity, Office of Wellness Promotion, and English Department. For more information, contact the Center for Women & Gender Equity at womenscenter@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2122.

Latin American Studies Conference April 11-12, 2017

Sponsored by the Latin American and Latino Studies Minor. For more information, contact Dr. Leon Arredondo at LArredondo@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2523.

Sykes After Dark: Drag Show with Latrice Royale

Friday, April 21, 2017 9:00pm in Sykes Student Union

This is an evening you will not want to miss. Our host Queen is none other than Miss Latrice Royale – latriceroyale.com. There will be a student drag competition and a karaoke portion as well. All are invited for the fun!

Sykes After Dark: Comedy Night with Gina Brillon

Friday, April 28, 2017

9:00pm in Sykes Student Union

Sykes After Dark is a free, late night program for West Chester University students. Every Friday night, during the academic year from 9:00pm - 1:00am, Sykes Student Union will host various interactive live events including carnivals, comedians, live music, dances and more. Every week there will be a take home novelty and free food. All Sykes After Dark events are completely free to WCU students.

Lavender Graduation

Friday, April 28, 2017 4:00pm – 7:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Room 10A

Lavender Graduation recognizes graduating LGBTQ students, dynamic student leaders and scholarship recipients. It also highlights the year's achievements for both the department and student organization. Sponsored by LGBTQA Services. For more information, please contact Aneesah Smith at asmith4@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3147.

International Student Graduation Stole Ceremony

Tuesday, May 9, 2017 1:00pm – 3:00pm in Sykes Student Union, Ballroom C

During this event, the Center for International Programs will present graduating international students with stoles designed with colors representing flags of the graduates' country of origin. For you information, contact Charity Alinda at calinda@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3515.

Kente Ceremony

Friday, May 12, 2017 7:00pm in Hollinger Field House

The Lawrence A. Dowdy Multicultural Center Kente Ceremony is an event which recognizes, acknowledge, emphasizes, and celebrates the educational achievement of multicultural graduates through a heritage tradition. For more information contact Jairo Henao at jhenao@wcupa.edu or 610-436-3273.

2017 Global Awareness Society International (GASI) Conference

May 26-29, 2017 in Heredia, Costa Rica

To learn more about the Global Awareness Society International, please visit <http://organizations.bloomu.edu/gasi/>. For more information, contact GASI President, Hiram G. Martinez at hmartinez@wcupa.edu or 610-436-2433. ●

Please check out the Office of Social Equity website for updates throughout the semester for new programs added each week!