

## Improving Intergroup Relations through Dialogue

By AnnaMaria Cirrincione and James Felton

The Multicultural Life and Diversity Office has teamed up with our Chief Diversity Officer, James Felton, to bring Intergroup Dialogue to the SUNY Cortland campus. This semester we provided overviews on Intergroup Dialogue—an innovative strategy to enhance participants awareness, knowledge, and skills in relating to people from different social identity groups that have a history of conflict or potential conflict.

Dialogues assist participants in enhancing their skills in the area of multicultural competency, cross-cultural communications, problem solving, teamwork and collaboration. Participants learned about Intergroup Dialogue (IGD) initiatives at SUNY Cortland and explored opportunities to become dialogue facilitators.

The three IGD information sessions were held on Thursday, Sept. 14, Thursday, Oct. 19, and Tuesday, Nov. 14.

On Jan. 19-20, there will be an IGD facilitator training for those interested. More information, will be coming out about it during the winter break.

## Coffee with a Cop

By Mark DePaull



On Wednesday, Oct. 4, 2017 University Police hosted “Coffee with a Cop”. Coffee with a Cop provided a unique opportunity for community members to ask questions and learn more about the University Police that work in the community. The majority of contacts law enforcement has with the public happen during emergencies or emotional situations. Those situations are not always the most effective times for relationship building with the community. Coffee with a Cop supports the University Police Department’s community policing mission and allows for a relaxed, one-on-one interaction. Many students, staff, faculty and administrators came out to meet the University Police staff.



## Spooksville Children’s Festival

By Miriel Collado

On Saturday, Oct. 28, 2017, the Caribbean Student Association (CSA) hosted their Annual Spooksville Children’s Festival. Spooksville is a free event for families from the Cortland and nearby communities to come and enjoy fun games, activities, music and free giveaways. Many SUNY Cortland student organizations volunteered their time to put on different activities for the children that come out to the event. WSUC radio station provided music so that the families could dance and sing. Jeremy Owusu shared the following, “The event is something kids really look forward to attending. All these games, activities and prizes really bring joy to not only the children but the parents as well, and it is very rewarding to see. CSA does a great job of making sure every Cortland student puts on their best to make the kids feel welcome and safe, while having fun.”



## Inclusive Excellence Student Session with Damon A. Williams

By Lima Stafford



On Thursday, Nov. 2, 2017, the Institutional Equity and Inclusion Office hosted Dr. Damon A. Williams. He is the leading scholar in the areas of Strategic Diversity Leadership and the Chief Diversity Officer in Higher Education. Dr. Williams visited SUNY Cortland as one of the first stops on his year- long Inclusive Excellence Tour. He is senior vice president and chief education officer for the Boys and Girls Clubs of America (BGCA). Dr. Williams met with a few students before his public lecture. Hillary Alvarez shared the following, ‘In addition to knowledge about his experience in higher education, he emphasized the importance of going after what you want, regardless of the odds. Of all the wisdom he shared, the one thing that resonated with me the most was, ‘There’s always the 1% that achieves their dream, why can’t you be a part of that 1%?’ He also stressed the importance of having a solid network, even among your friends now, and how those friends should push each other to do more.”

## Hispanic Heritage Month

By Sebastian Purcell

During Hispanic Heritage Month, Latinx and Latin American Studies hosted six official events with the support of the Center for Gender and Intercultural studies, the Campus Arts Lecture Series, the President's Office, and collaboration with the Clark Center for Global Engagement. The events included two film screenings, *Sleep Dealer* and *The U-Turn*, the last of which was screened with its director, Luis Argueta, and followed by a question and answer period. The events also included a talk by Dr. Wilfredo Benitez, a researcher visiting from Cuba, and multiple Cortland faculty presentations on topics as diverse as the economic conditions of Brazil, immigration regulations and life at the border wall.

## Black Out for Justice March

By Jason Niehr

The annual Black Out for Justice March was held on Monday, Oct. 9, 2017. At the march everyone was encouraged to share their voices, and to keep the torch of social change burning. It was focused on spreading awareness for Black Lives Matter, LGBTQAIP Rights, Domestic Violence and any other matters. It was truly an amazing opportunity for everyone to exercise their rights as a means of educating and creating social change on the SUNY Cortland campus.

## Music 4 the Cause Talent and Fashion Show

By Tishana Clarke



On Saturday, Nov. 4, 2017, the Caribbean Student Association (CSA) hosted their 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Music for the Cause Fashion/ Talent Show fundraiser. Preparation for this show began back in September, when they established the theme, “Black Diamond Casino,” and invited designers, models and talents. Both models and talents had countless amounts of practice hours to prepare for this event. Modeling practice was held twice a week for the whole month of October up until the show. Talents included dancing, poetry, singing, stepping and strolling. Cortland Alumni Regina Morgan '11, Lucila Mutino '12, Rosa Moore '17, Mecca Snipe '17 and Everett Phillips '17 partook in the event, holding positions as judges. Photos were taken by alumni, Jamon Davis '17 and hosted by alumni, Michael Guity '17 and senior, Rodney Highsmith. At the end of the night, the winners were: Lambda Sigma Upsilon Latino Fraternity, Inc. in 3<sup>rd</sup> place, Jordan Pedroza in 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Diversity, Rhythm and Movement Association (DRAMA) dance team, in 1<sup>st</sup> place. CSA raised over \$2000 and proceeds for this event went to Doctors without Borders organization.





## Multicultural Life and Diversity Office

### Voice Office

#### Weekly Meeting Times:

#### Black Student Union (BSU):

Mondays at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Caribbean Student Association (CSA):

Wednesdays at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Hillel:

Tuesdays at 8 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### La Familia Latina (LFL):

Tuesdays at 6p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Men of Value and Excellence (MOVE):

Tuesdays at 7 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Pan-African Student Association (PASA):

Mondays at 7 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Spectrum:

Thursdays at 7 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Women of Color (WOC):

Thursdays at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### Voice Office Instagram

**BSU:** @cortlandbsu  
**PASA:** @cortlandpasa  
**LFL:** @lafamilialatina  
**MOVE:** @cortlandmove  
**Hillel:** @cortlandhillel  
**CSA:** @cortlandcsa  
**WOC:** @\_womenofcolor  
**Spectrum:** @cortlandspectrum

## 32nd Annual Gospel Choir Concert

By Shakira Overton

The SUNY Cortland Gospel Choir, under the directorship of Mr. Deyquan BOWENS, celebrated the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Gospel Festival in Corey Union Function Room on Nov. 5, 2017 at 4:00 p.m. Syracuse University Black Celestial Choral Ensemble, Jamel Jett, Binghamton University Gospel Choir and The Promise Land Church were the other groups who participated in the festival. The festival was attended by students and many community members. The Gospel Choir has maintained their place on this campus as a unique hybrid of a SGA club and a class in the Africana Studies Department. Their last concert of the semester will be Wednesday, Dec. 6 at 7:15 p.m. at Christ Community Church in Cortland.



## From Our Eyes: Police Intervention

By Brandon Clark



On Monday, Nov. 13, 2017, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Inc. had the opportunity to facilitate an event called “From Our Eyes: Police Intervention”. The purpose of the event was to bridge the gap between police and the community, and give the SUNY Cortland students a platform to ask police legal and social questions. With everything happening in society from Black Lives Matter, Blue Lives Matter,

the shootings of unarmed civilians, and social unrest, it is easy for us to paint all police as bad. Kappa Alpha Psi knew we needed to create a dialogue between the police and the people they protect and serve. This would give a chance to hear things from their side as well as afford them the chance to hear our concerns as a community. Officer Brooks from University Police Department, and Officer Abbott from the Cortland Police Department did an amazing job representing their agencies and answering tough questions that the participants presented. We would like to thank them for their involvement.

### Voice Office Spring Events:

#### CSA Vybez Cah Done

Friday, Jan. 26 at 11 p.m.  
Corey Union Function Room

#### Translating Your Success with Carlos Malave Collaboration

Thursday, Feb. 1 at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Function Room

#### MOVE All Star Weekend

Saturday, Feb. 10 at 2pm  
Sunday, Feb 11 at 2 p.m.  
Moffett Gym

#### BSU Black and Boujee

Friday, March 2 at 11 p.m.  
Corey Union Exhibition Lounge

#### PASA Fashion Show & Party

Saturday, March 3 at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Function Room

#### Mr. MOVE

Saturday, March 24 at 6 p.m.  
Corey Union Function Room

#### WOC Celebration of Women

Sunday, March 25 at Noon  
Corey Union Exhibition Lounge

#### CSA Run the Town

Friday, March 30 at 4 p.m.  
Corey Union Voice Office

#### CSA Carib Olympics

Saturday, March 31 at 2 p.m.  
Lusk Field House

#### CSA Taste of the Caribbean

Sunday, April 1 at 4:30 p.m.  
YWCA 14 Clayton Ave

#### LFL Arieto

Saturday, April 14 at 5 p.m.  
Location: TBA

#### BSU End of the Year Trip

April 19-22  
Virginia Beach, VA

## Celebration of Men

By Mouath Abufarah

On Sunday, Nov. 19, 2017, Men of Value and Excellence (MOVE) hosted their Annual Celebration of Men event. Celebration of Men recognizes men of SUNY Cortland for their involvement on campus, academic success, community service and athletic leadership. MOVE strives to empower and develop members to become positive contributors in the community, and their personal and professional lives. MOVE creates programs and activities that benefit the school and the student body by improving the image, leadership qualities, professional development and communication skills of all members. The guest speaker was Juan Miolan '09, who was apart of the process of bringing MOVE to campus in Spring 2005. Thirty-five men were recognized this year as follows:

Alexander Jackson– Faculty/Staff  
Andy Ratchford– Student  
Angelo Foster– Student  
Brandon Clark- Student  
Brandon Manning– Staff  
Brian Murphy– Student  
Christian Orozco– Student  
Christopher Venant– Student  
David Keye– Student  
Dervin Filpo– Student  
Devon Sanders- Student  
Erik Bitterbaum– Staff  
Greg Sharer– Staff  
Ismet Cavusoglu– Student  
Jacob Wright– Student  
James FitzGerald– Staff  
Joseph Sarno– Student

James Felton- Staff  
Jerell DeCaille– Student  
John Santarelli– Student  
Jose Escalera Cruz– Student  
Joseph Pasqualone– Student  
Kyle Reinhardt– Staff  
Kyle Richard– Student  
Lewis Rosengarten– Staff  
Mincheng Jeremy Wu– Student  
Neal Brooks– Staff  
Peter Kobe Sarkodie– Student  
Ralph Carrasquillo– Staff  
Robert Rivera– Student  
Rodney Highsmith– Student  
Ryan Dougherty– Student  
Sebastian Purcell– Faculty  
Shaquel Dozil– Student  
Timothy Francois– Student



## Kente Celebration

**Saturday, April 7, 2018**

Multicultural Life and Diversity will be hosting their Annual Kente Celebration on Saturday, April 7, 2018. The Kente Celebration symbolizes and commemorates the rite of passage for learners and scholars who are transitioning from institutions of higher learning to the next chapter of their lives. The Kente Celebration has deep institutional history and is an important experience for our multicultural students.

Graduating seniors and graduate students are encouraged to participate in the Kente Celebration. Faculty and staff are encouraged to register to attend the event and support students. Seniors please look out for the registration form on the MLDO website in the beginning of the spring semester. Nomination forms for the Kente Honorary Stole to recognize a Faculty/Staff/Administrator will also be posted the beginning of the Spring semester.



## The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Student Conference on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Social Justice

**Saturday, April 14, 2018**

Corey Union, 8 a.m. – 4 p.m.

This student-led conference seeks to promote open-mindedness, celebrate diversity, and promote awareness of divergent views on our college campus and within our communities.

This conference allows participants to problematize, conceptualize, research, and present across a wide range of disciplines. Jamie Piperato, a SUNY Cortland Alumni, will be the keynote speaker.

Please join us for this amazing conference, facilitated by the student conference committee, under the leadership of MLDO Assistant Director, Lima Stafford, Residence Hall Director, Christina Papaleo, and student conference chair, Shai'an Irving. For more information please email [multicultural.life@cortland.edu](mailto:multicultural.life@cortland.edu).

**Early Bird Registration, Call for Proposals, and the Student Scholarship Applications Deadline is Wednesday, March 1, 2018**

If you would like to contribute to the MLDO Newsletter, please email [lima.stafford@cortland.edu](mailto:lima.stafford@cortland.edu) with submissions. Submissions in any language will be accepted. [www.cortland.edu/multicultural](http://www.cortland.edu/multicultural)