

Multicultural Connection

Volume 14 Issue 2

October 2008

USI LIVE AT THE APOLLO

The Multicultural Center will host USI Live At The Apollo on Saturday, October 11, 2008 at 6pm in Carter Hall. The doors will open at 5:30pm.

Last year totaled 18 individual and group acts in the divisions of song, dance and instruments, rap, poetry, spoken word, stand-up comedy, and dialogues.

The emcee for this event will be radio personality "Nikki B" who graduated from USI in 2006.

CASH MONEY

Cash Prizes awarded are: Individual first place (\$150), Individual second place (\$125), and Individual third place (\$100) Group first place (\$300), group second place (\$250), and group third place (\$200)



OCTOBER 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 BSU Meeting 3pm, UC 206	2 EXCEL Mentors 1:30pm-2:30pm, UC214	3	4
5	6 Designed By Grace, 6pm, Forum Rm I	7	8 BSU Meeting 3pm, UC 206	9 EXCEL Mentors 1:30pm-2:30pm, UC214	10 Apollo Rehearsal for Participants 3pm	11 USI Live at The Apollo, 6pm Carter Hall
12	13 Designed By Grace, 6pm, Forum Rm I	14 College Mentors first activity	15 BSU Meeting 3pm, UC 206	16 EXCEL Mentors 1:30pm-2:30pm, UC214	17 Old National Bank Workshop	18
19	20 Designed By Grace, 6pm, Forum Rm I	21 College Mentors 3pm, Carter Hall	22 BSU Meeting 3pm, UC 205	23 EXCEL Mentors 1:30pm-2:30pm, UC214	24	25
26	27 Designed By Grace, 6pm, Forum Rm I	28 Black Greek Forum, Carter Hall, 6pm	29 BSU Meeting 3pm, UC 205	30 EXCEL Mentors 1:30pm-2:30pm, UC214	31	

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Hispanic Heritage Month is a Holiday celebrating the independence for five Latin American countries. Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, and Nicaragua. The anniversary is celebrated between September 15—October 15. Mexico declared its independence on September 16 and Chile declared its independence on September 18.

Why is this important?

Hispanic is defined by the U.S. Census Bureau as Spanish-speaking people in the United States of any race. In the 2000 census, more than 35 million people identified themselves as Hispanic or Latino. The Hispanic

Population as of July 1, 2007 is recognized as the nation's largest ethnic or race minority. (1)

Some famous Hispanic people are:

Athletes: Keith Hernandez, Pedro Martinez, Alex Rodriguez, and Sammy Sosa.

Actors: Andy Garcia, Desi Arnaz, Cameron Diaz, and Jennifer Lopez.

Performing Artists: Gloria Estefan, Marc Antony, and Christine Aguilera.

Hispanic Culture

The Ohio State University created a fact sheet to assist non Hispanics in understanding the Hispanic culture.

Traditionally, the Hispanic family is a close-knit group and *familia* is a term that extends beyond the nuclear family. In most Hispanic families, the father is the head of the family and the mother is responsible for the home.

Other Hispanic holidays are Easter, Christmas, New Year's Day, Three Kings' Day. Each country celebrates its *El Dia de Independencia*. *Las fiestas* refers to festivals, and *fiesta nacional* refers to an official national holiday. (2)

(1)<http://www.factmonster.com/spot/hhm1.html>

(2)<http://ohioline.osu.edu/hyg-fact/5000/5237.html>

CONNECTIONS WEEK A BIG SUCCESS



Students "cool off" in the Multicultural Center by enjoying a dish of ice cream at Ice Ice Baby.

This year, a number of USI students had the privilege of experiencing Cultural Connections week, which was sponsored by the Multicultural Center. The first event of Cultural Connections week was an **Open House**. Cookies and punch were served and students enjoyed the relaxing atmosphere of the Multicultural Center.

The **New Student Assembly** was a forum used to provide first year students with information about clubs and organizations

sponsored by the MCC, and the importance of getting involved.

Ice Cream and apple cobbler were served to students at **Ice Ice Baby**.

The **Cookout** was at Eicher Barn. Students attending this event were given an MCC t-shirt. Food was catered by Popeye's Chicken, and Tristan Dade was the disc jockey.



BLACK STUDENT UNION



The Black Student Union kicked off the year by hosting a reception for new potential members. The President for the 2008-09 academic year is Keisha Knight, a sophomore from Marion, Indiana. Other officers include; Ashley Bell, Vice President,

Patrice Davis, Secretary, and Tyler Allison, Treasurer. The Black Student Union meet every Wednesday, at 3pm in UC206.

For more information contact the MCC at 812-465-7188 or visit the website at <http://www.usi.edu/mcc/bsu.asp>

COLLEGE MENTORS FOR KIDS



College Mentors for Kids is a collaborative effort between Culver Elementary School, College Mentors for Kids State Office, and the University of Southern Indiana Multicultural Center. Last year the USI chapter had 53 Mentors and 45 elementary children enrolled in the program.

This program is designed to pair one USI student with one elementary student so that the elementary student receives favorable exposure to campus life. The group meets every Tuesday from 3pm-4:30pm in Carter Hall. Contact the MCC at 465-7188 for additional information.

EXCEL MENTORING PROGRAM



The EXCEL mentoring program is a program sponsored by the MCC. This program matches incoming students with mentors who provide academic and social support for incoming students.

These mentors motivate and encourage the

mentees to excel by guiding students through a series of workshops and activities to improve academic and life skills. EXCEL meets every Thursday, from 1:30pm-2:30pm in UC214. For more information contact the Multicultural Center at 812-465-7188.

NEXT MONTH : SOUTH ASIAN UNION & DESIGNED BY GRACE



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We're on the Web!

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Make your cultural connection!

MCC Mission Statement

The University of Southern Indiana's Multicultural Center enhances the personal and academic success of students by preparing them to be responsible citizens in a multicultural society.

The goals of the center are to:

- Foster and provide a warm, welcoming, supportive, and inclusive environment for diverse populations at USI.
- Encourage, promote, and assist the academic and social integration of under-represented students into the University through programs and services offered by the Center and through partnerships with other campus entities.
- Create opportunities for cultural interaction between students, the campus and the community at large to promote cultural awareness and sensitivity.
- Provide outreach opportunities to under-represented groups and underserved communities to seek higher education.



NEW STUDENT ASSEMBLY

First Year student Jasmine Thomas learns more about clubs and organizations that are sponsored by the Multicultural Center.

The New Student Assembly took place on Tuesday, September 9, 2008 in Carter Hall. In addition to learning about the Multicultural Center, students also participated in a focus group to discuss the concerns of being a new student.



OUTREACH

The Governor's Minority Scholars Program from Madisonville, Kentucky visited the USI campus in June 2008. This program is a summer program that provides middle school and high school-aged children an opportunity to visit college campuses during the summer. Some areas visited were the David L. Rice Library, the residence halls, and the USI radio station.



DIVERSITY TRAINING

The Multicultural Center conducts a variety of workshops throughout the year.

Herman Thomas, Assistant Director of the Multicultural Center facilitates a Social Justice workshop to the USI Area Coordinators and Residence Life staff, prior to the start of the 2008-09 Academic Year. Diversity training plays a significant role in outreach initiatives established by the MCC.