

# THE MULTICULTURAL CENTER'S **CULTURAL** TIMES

HUMBOLDT STATE UNIVERSITY • FALL 2005



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# From the Editor...

The MultiCultural Center is much more than just a part of the Humboldt State campus to me. It's a home. A place I can go to relax, to do homework and to speak to others like...me. The Women's Resource Center is a part of House 55 and that makes it even more of a home. Without even knowing it, all of you have made such an impact on me this semester, thank you.

Too many of us are stuck in adaptation mode. If you attended an American public school, you know that as early as pre-school they teach you to adapt. They teach you who you should be, what your family should look like and how many people it should consist of. We are separated from ourselves and our histories. Remember to question everything, even yourself. Because when you listen to what others have to say and decide that your truth might not be the only truth, you grow. Find your roots and water them. Use your voice, my friends, and in turn remind me to use mine. We are all leaders, lets build this community that we so desperately need... together. Lets question the status quo together – lets damage the status quo together, let's conspire together...oh yea and let's eat together!

Thank you to everyone who helped me, the MCC Outreach Team: David, Tarikh, Daniella, and Matt. Thank you to Brandon, who with love spent hours upon hours on the phone explaining how to use InDesign. Thank you to everyone who contributed something to this semester's Times. A big thank you to the ResLife and EOP families. Thanks, Marylyn and Jerri and the whole entire MCC and WRC family for your never-ending support and knowledge.

My first newsletter people! This is going to get me my big time PR job at that big time PR firm. Just kidding...you know I'm a non-profit kinda girl.

Gods Bless,  
Shyama R. Kuver

Oh yea....Thanks for the cake, Marylyn.



The Cultural Times is the official newsletter of the HSU MultiCultural Center. It is funded by the Associated Students of Humboldt State University. The views expressed in the content of the Cultural Times are not censored or reviewed by the Associated Students. The Cultural Times invites students, staff, faculty and community members to contribute work and to share experiences and points of view. All correspondence regarding this publication should be sent to:



MCC Cultural Times  
HSU MultiCultural Center  
1 Harpst St.  
Arcata, CA 95521

Copies of all correspondence should also be sent to: Associated Students of Humboldt State University

# Community Receptions



## Queer Community Reception

There was an exceptional turn out at this year's community reception. There was a great mixture of faculty, staff and students on hand to provide a loving and supportive environment. Paulo delighted us with an evening of piano playing, while Patty and Patrick, of QSU, spoke and provided lots of speakers for the open mic. All in all this was a very fun and successful night for everyone involved.

~Porscha Cobbs, Women's Resource Center Staff

(Pictured with Brandie Wilson, Queer Community Coordinator,)



## Native American Community Reception

Often Native students are the first in their families to go to college. The Native American Community Reception was to connect new students to supporting friends (staff, faculty and other students) who can help them navigate and make them feel at home on campus. Representatives of INRSEP, ITEPP and the NAS Department spoke about their programs. The Oaxaca Sister School Delegation was also in attendance.

~Lorraine Taggar, American Indian Alliance Advisor



## Asian Pacific Islander Community Reception

The reception is held to welcome new and old students and to give them a taste of our many different Asian cultures. Everyone had lots of fun at this year's reception. Those who attended got to learn about the different traditions of Asian cultures, hear folktales and taste many kinds of Asian foods. We had foods from the Philippines, Thailand, India and Hawaii. We got to meet new people, share stories, share our cultures and histories.

~May Yang, Asian Pacific Islander Community Coordinator



## Black Community Reception

At this year's community reception it was demonstrated that there are only a couple of African-American, full-time faculty members. That prompted a dialogue about the lack of diversity on the HSU campus and the role that our community plays in it. Many of our students have started their own businesses and spoke about that. We learned about current and historical black political leaders and that our fight still has not been won. Of course, the food was off the hook.

~Daniella Sharon White, MCC Staff



## Latino Community Reception

The reception turned out to be a very successful event. It gave an opportunity to HSU students, staff and faculty of Latino decent and the local community to come together. It helped our incoming students meet the supportive organizations, faculty and staff. We had lots of fun. We brought out the traditional game, Loteria (Mexican Bingo), and played classic and new Latino music. We also provided traditional Mexican food like Chimichangas, taquitos, pasteles, rice and beans.

~Joe Cortez and Maria Ordonez, Latino Community Coordinators

# Latino Unidos Benefit Dance

Pictures and writing by:  
Matt Courtis



With a great turnout the Salsa Benefit Dance was a complete success! Most were students, but many were community members. It started with an hour of Salsa dance lessons. It was great because people were able to get lessons in before the band played their music and the dance started. I wasn't expecting people to use this time to take the lessons, but I was proven wrong when almost everybody was following the directions on dancing the Salsa. Once the band, Conjunto Alegre, started playing, people were dancing and having a great time.

Throughout the dance, the band sold and even signed their CD's for fans. The Gamma Alpha Omega sorority was in attendance and MEChA came to support the dance too. Everybody seemed to have a great time. People who had never danced the Salsa before were using the lessons they learned to show off on the dance floor. There were even some who weren't dancing the salsa and just decided to go with the beats provided. It was an all around fun night for everyone.

# The 1st Queens of Distinction Talent Show

Pictures and writing by:  
Shyama R. Kuver



The first Queens of Distinction Talent Show was an enormous hit. Before the doors even opened the anticipation was obvious: everyone was ready to be entertained, and the crowd was not disappointed.

The night included the soulful sounds of a songstress, a hip hop duo, blues music, and the flowing music of the saxophone and guitar. The dances were filled with energy, so much that the room felt electric. Sexy, fun, and even spiritual, the dances were very enjoyable. There was a variety of spoken word poetry, all of which got the crowd out of their seats, clapping for more.

During the intermission the women of the Queens of Distinction sold food—chicken, macaroni and cheese, vegetables and rolls. Music was playing as everyone danced and ate while laughing with friends.

The night had the refreshing feel of a high school talent show. Not only did you feel like you belonged but that it was your community and it was something to be proud of. The Queens of Distinction did a wonderful job and their goal of having a night filled with fun and positive vibes was definitely achieved.





# Día de los Muertos

Written by Claudia N. Torres-Ambriz



The Día De los Muertos March was attended by a coalition of people who were interested in honoring loved ones who have passed. In preparation for the March, Mechistas (MEChA members) and our allies spent four weekends making traditional crafts. We made papel picado, a tissue paper that is used as a decorative motif. We also sculpted paper mache Calacas, and made hand pressed Día de Los Muertos greeting cards. Lastly, we tailored votive candles that are meant as a reminder of those we have lost.

The March began at the center of the Arcata Plaza and proceeded up the hill toward campus. Most non-participating spectators were friendly, however, at one point an angry driver drove very close to the legs of a fellow marcher, almost making her dead.

One of the ruling sentiments was that as the living, we have a responsibility to make good use of our lives and to make sure that we do all the things we want to.



# Diwali

Pictures and writing by:  
Shyama R. Kuver



Diwali, also known as the festival of lights, is the Hindu New Year. This year the South Asian Student Alliance held a special gathering. Many people came to learn about the spiritual aspects, as well as, the social aspects of this auspicious holiday.

The night started out with a special prayer and a candle lighting ceremony. In order to allow each person to take part in the festivities, each person that attended got to light his or her own candle. After the prayer and the lighting of the candles everyone was eating vegetarian-Indian cuisine. As they ate, people were getting to know one another and sharing their own cultural beliefs and ideas.

Soon enough the bhangra, a form of Indian dance music, started to play. Everyone was dancing and having a fantastic time. Members of the South Asian Student Alliance showed people dance moves and even learned some themselves. The night went on, filled with fun and laughter, which is exactly how the New Year should kick off.

# Asian Purposeful Dinner

The 9th Annual Asian Purposeful Dinner was held on Sunday, November 13 in the Kate Buchanan Room. Members of the Asian Pacific American Student Alliance (APASA), South Asian Student Association (SASA) and volunteers from other clubs and organizations on campus worked together to make the event a success. One of the goals of this event is to educate the campus and community about the diverse cultures in Asia through traditional foods and performances. There are thirty-seven countries in Asia, each with their own culture and history.



Performers included a Vietnamese song & dance by Phi Nguyen and Huong Nguyen, Eureka High School Hmong dancers, a Laos dance by Ampha and friends, Ker Thao and Pata Vang in a Hmong skit, Mary Chen singing a Chinese song, and YuHmong Lo and Shoua Vang in a Hmong sing & dance. The diversity of cultures being presented was truly amazing.



The emcees of the night, Phi Nguyen and Vannida Mel, asked questions about the different cultures of Asia and gave away prizes that were donated from various stores in the community.

APASA worked with the Campus Recycling Program to incorporate an environmentally friendly approach to this year's dinner. The plates and cups used were made of biodegradable material and silverware was used in lieu of plastic utensils. Members of the Campus Recycling Program also brought compost bins for all the biodegradable waste.



APASA would like to thank all those who attended and helped with this year's Asian Purposeful Dinner.







The only way to end this semester's Times...

# A VERY special thank you to Rama Rawal and Issac Carter.



We're not completely sure what words to use to express how grateful we are for what you've done and we know that when we say we appreciate you for the friends and leaders you are -we're not speaking for ourselves alone.

The love you've given and the time you've taken to share your knowledge and laughter will never be forgotten...partly because along with everyone

else you know in Arcata we'll be visiting you all in Florida. Soo... don't invest in too many pieces of furniture. You will need the floor space.

~MultiCultural Center alums, current students and staff.



The following are expressions of self based on and inspired by the realities of our every day lives. The realities expressed here are respected by the MultiCultural Center but do not represent it.

# Student Expressions

## Fresh AirZ BY TMB!



Welcome  
2  
Fresh Airz  
By TMB!

Open your mind and break free of mental Slavery. I just hope we wake up soon before we are DOOMED as a People. 2005 is almost over and I feel we still haven't resolved issues from the 60's. Tha MovEmenT will continue.....



The Revolution will be Drawn!!



Photo By: Veronica Chand  
 Social justice is something that I'm passionate about. This picture represents the idea that history is a white man's vision. I've never truly learned my history.



"The Things that Make the World go 'Round"  
 By: Shyama Kuver  
 To me music is another element of life and it helps me keep my life in balance.

# Fuck Reparations

Courtney Terry

Fuck reparations  
 I want a repo-man  
 To take back all the cotton we picked for the man.  
 Polo shirts, Hugo Boss pants  
 I want all that shit in the dirt.  
 Stripped naked, psychologically, physically, and emotionally like we were.

Yea, we deserve them, but FUCK 'EM!  
 Walk on our calluses, work with our warts and blisters.

See it aint about the money  
 We all know that shit funny.

FUCK reparations, FUCK the 40 acres FUCK the mule  
 I just want to switch places for about 480 years!  
 I, We "can't go back to where I, We came from"  
 WE are from the lost tribe of Judah  
 And they shoulda thought twice.

Cause now we've surpassed the point of needing them reparations.

Check ya watches...  
 Check ya watches...

Its about that time, Ethiopia, Egypt, Ghanna and the other sister countires 'gone rise up and shine and take this world by surprise.

Cause this world is a roulette wheel and its time for BLACK to shine. We gone. Let it ride.  
 RED necks have won this shit too many times.

FUCK Reparations.  
 Black is right on time.

## Upcoming Events...

January  
29 Lunar New Year

February  
1-28 Black Liberation Month  
3-5 Education Summit  
25 International Cultural Festival  
26 Soul Food Dinner

March  
1-31 Women's Herstory Month  
3-4 12th Annual Diversity Conference  
23-25 4th Annual Cross Cultural Queer  
Film Festival

April  
1-9 Celebración Latina  
14 Take Back the Night  
17-30 Asian Pacific Heritage Celebration  
30 Ho'olaule'a

## Need a Unit?

### Spring 2006

## Diversity Conference

March 3-4

1 Unit

ES 480 (CRN: 22290)

WS 480 (CRN: 23522)

LEAD 358 (CRN: 22692)

## Cross Cultural Queer

### Film Festival

March 23-25

1 Unit

ES 480 (CRN: 23370)

WS 480 (CRN: 24509)

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