

# The Cultural Times

HSU MultiCultural Center Spring 2012

California Big Time  
& Social Gathering



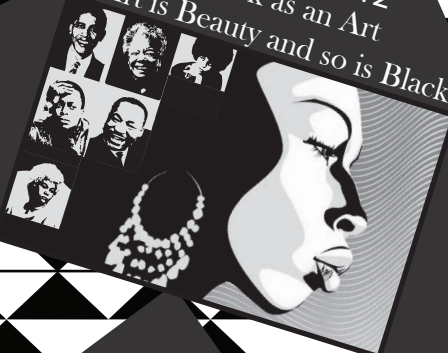
Influenced by  
Native  
Traditions

2012 Social Justice  
Summit



"Give Our  
DREAM a  
Chance"

Black History  
Month 2012  
"Art is Beauty and so is Black"



Year of the  
Dragon



2012  
Lunar New  
Year

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Ruby Buentello, Latino Community Coordinator  
Xuan Bernal, Social Justice Summit Co-coordinator  
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**MISS MONA MAZZOTTI, SOCIAL JUSTICE BOSS LADY**  
**MOMMA AMANDA STAACK, BUDGET QUEEN**

Email us at [mcc@humboldt.edu](mailto:mcc@humboldt.edu) to join the family!

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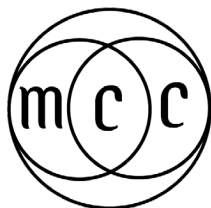
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**MultiCultural Center**  
*Cultural Times* Editor  
**Humboldt State University**  
**Arcata, CA 95521**  
 or call  
**707-826-3364**

All responses from readers or letters to the editor of the *Cultural Times* will be published, unedited, if requested. Copies of all correspondence should also be sent in writing to:

**Associated Students**  
**Humboldt State University**  
**Arcata, CA 95521**



## **Are you down with Social Justice? Want to get paid to learn job skills? Work with us at the MultiCultural Center!**

Help us coordinate and participate in great events and activities, such as:

- Multicultural Convocation
- Latin Independence Celebration
- Moon Festival
- Indigenous Peoples Week
- National Coming Out Day
- Gross Cultural Queer Film Festival (Q-Fest)
- Campus Dialogue on Race
- Lunar New Year
- Black History Month
- Social Justice Summit
- California Big Time & Social Gathering
- ...and so much more!

## **Paid Positions available in Fall:**

- African American Community Coordinator
- Asian Pacific Islander Community Coordinator
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- Graphics Coordinator
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- International Community Coordinator
- Native American Community Coordinator
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- Queer Community Coordinator
- Social Justice Summit Coordinators

**Applications are available at:**  
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# International Cultural Festival



Photo by E. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by Natalia Estrada



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by Natalia Estrada

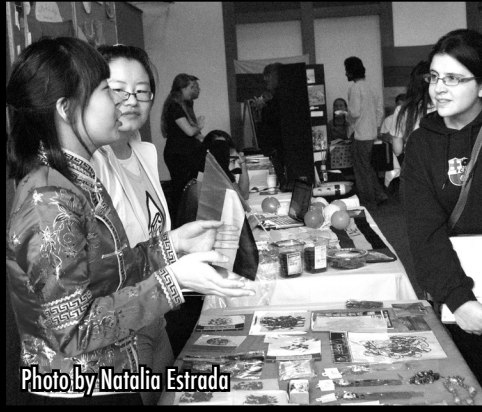


Photo by Natalia Estrada



Photo by Natalia Estrada

A showcase for exchange students and culture-based clubs alike, the annual International Cultural Festival was held in the Karshner Lounge and KBR on Feb. 25.

Exchange students from countries all around the world (Japan, China, Laos, Tibet, Honduras, and Nigeria just to name a few) were able to share their own unique traditions with the HSU community. Throughout the afternoon students shared fun facts, folk

songs and dances, some even performed short skits and comedy sketches, like a mock samurai battle over rising fees, for instance.

Sofia Kiss, student intern with International Programs, coordinated the event with the help of the MCC, Global Connections Club, Psychology Department and Office of Extended Education.

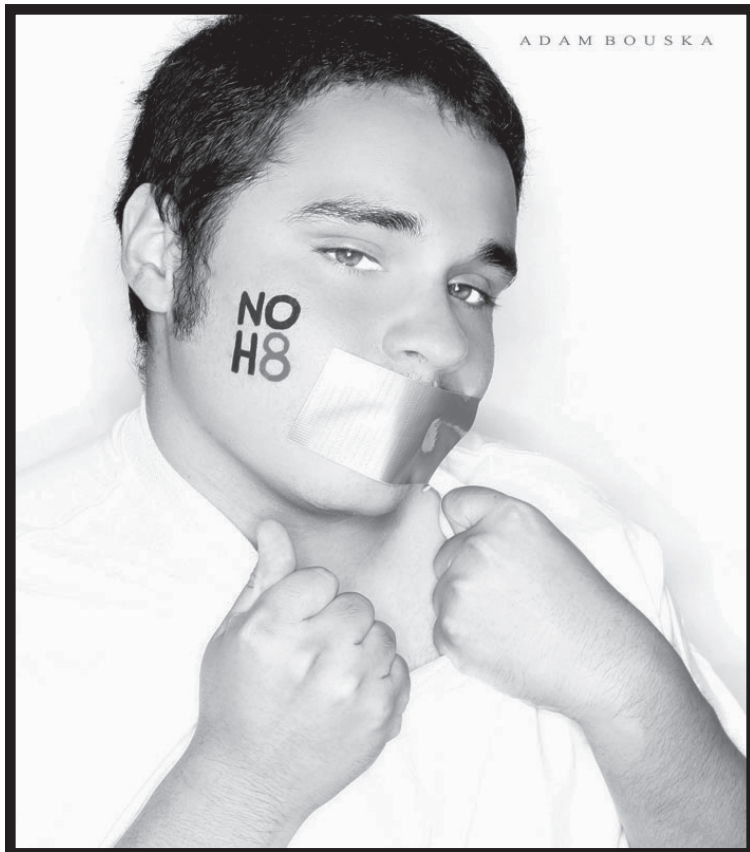
As Kiss put it, "This is a chance to show off a little bit about where we come from."



Photo by Natalia Estrada



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



# AIDS/LIFECYCLE

## Riding 545 miles to end ignorance

Learning not to give up and not to turn my back on the communities that have helped shaped my life is one of the biggest ideals that I live my life by. Working at the MCC has helped reinforce those ideals.

Each year the MultiCultural Center (MCC) has events that help create a home/space for students who are not from the Humboldt area and may feel homesick at first. They help bridge the gap from the home they came from, to a place that will become their new home for the next four or five years.

At the MCC we are given the chance to explore not just the community in the surrounding area but explore who we are as individuals and how our community has shaped us for what we will be doing in the future.

The MCC helps build confidence and introduce volunteers to supportive spaces where they develop the skills they need to express their individual voices here on campus. The MCC not only empowers students, but also gives us a chance to educate ourselves so that we, in turn, have the knowledge to educate others in our community.

The MCC has given me the tools and knowledge to feel confident in myself and my ability to bring positive change to my community, while also giving me the power to believe in myself as well.

That is why I ended up signing up for the AIDS/LIFECYCLE. I am always trying to work on my weaknesses so that I can be a more affective social justice worker.

HIV/AIDS was an area that I knew nothing about, other than the fact that it is affecting my community. My desire to learn more came from a very uninformed remark that a friend made to me once.

From that remark I opened my eyes to the fact that many people are not educated in a way that truly teaches them about the issue. Misinformation casts a very negative light on people with HIV/AIDS.

I ride for my ignorance, to educate myself so that I can educate others, and just to enjoy myself along the process! We must put our strength and weaknesses to good use, so that we can give 100% in changing our communities.



## The Ride

The AIDS/LIFECYCLE is a 7-day, 545 mile bike ride from San Francisco to Los Angeles taking place from June 3rd to June 9th. Each rider pledge's to raise at least \$3000 to help the LA Gay and Lesbian Center and the San Francisco AIDS Foundation to help raise awareness and continue to offer free HIV/AIDS services to the public. It also helps create a friendly environment, full of supportive people, for those who may not have one. Photo and map courtesy of Bryan Fiallos and Aids Lifecycle respectively.

Learn more at [www.aidslifecycle.org](http://www.aidslifecycle.org) or <http://bit.ly/TYe81i>  
 To donate to Bryan visit his cycling team on Facebook, search:  
**Humboldt Foggy Bottoms-AIDS LifeCycle Ride 2012**

- Bryan Leonardo Fiallos  
*Multicultural Center Project Coordinator*

# HEALING CIRCLE

BUILDING POSITIVE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE HEALING POWER OF THE HOOP

—CLUB MISSION STATEMENT

During her own trying times, inspired by the strength she found in flow art, a young Humboldt State student decided to reach out to share her experience with others.

Hanakekua Joao, known as Hana to her friends and fellow MCC staffers, is the founder and current president of Healing Circle, a new hooping club on campus.

Always having taken comfort in art, music and dance, Hana found the was hoop a way for her to combine all three elements into one calming outlet.

“At the time, I was going through a traumatic transition,” Hana said. “The hoop found me.”

The hoop is much more to her than just an object or hobby. For Hana, it is a tool for reflection, self-awareness and meditation; it is an emotional release and outlet for artistic expression.

“The hoop has changed my life,” Hana said. “There is a certain happiness it manifests. It’s a different kind of healing.”

Soon after she discovered the benefits of hooping, a form of “flow art” using rhythm and muscle mastery to keep an object in controlled motion, she decided to start a club specifically to reach more HSU students.

Hooping already has a fairly large following in the Humboldt area community, but the school offered a totally different demographic. The new club, formed last October, has quickly grown to more than 150 members.



The Healing Circle club on the UC quad. Photo by Natalie Vaughan.



Club President Hanakekua Joao was inspired by the hoop and started the club as a way to spread the art she loves. Photo by Maxwell McGruder.

“I didn’t believe it was going to going to come this far,” Hana said.

Now training to get her teaching certificate for hooping, as well as her yoga instructor’s license, Hana has embarked on a journey of self-discovery that she hopes will be her life’s work.

“Sex, race, age and gender don’t matter,” Hana said. “When you pick up a hoop you’re going to be smiling.”

Hana and the members of Healing Circle organized the club’s first major event in the spirit of spreading happiness and accordance with the club’s healing based hoop philosophy. They held a hoop making workshop at the D Street Warehouse on April 1.

The event was a great success with between 80 and 100 people in attendance.

Donations were accepted for the materials, which many gladly gave and considered a bargain, but it was more about sharing the mutual affection for flow arts and the hoop.

“It makes me happy just to know there are those 100 new hoops in the community,” Hana said.

- F. Thomas Cardenas  
*Cultural Times Editor*

# PURPLE KISSES



In 2007, a musical group called The Dream came out with a hit single, Purple Kisses. It was then that the club of women at Humboldt State University, known as Legacy, started their annual Purple Kisses Dance.

On February 17, 2012, Legacy initiated their Purple Kisses Dance by decorating the Green and Gold Room in Founders Hall with their distinct shade of purple. Streamers and balloons hung from the walls where the dj set up for a night of fun, laughter and, of course, dancing.

Legacy President Paige Hanzy describes the dance as a fundraising event for the local community and a safe environment for women of diverse backgrounds.

“We try to stand up for women of color especially,” said Hanzy, “but anybody is welcome to come to our events.”

Half of the money earned from this year’s dance went to a hygiene drive for local foster children in need of soap, clothing and shoes, the other half went to the club.

HSU junior and Legacy club member Kristin Peavey learned a lot from her Legacy sisters.

“Legacy has taught me how to be independent, and how to support my sisters and about the importance of supporting the community,” Peavey said.

Legacy sisters are enthusiastic and inclusive of new people at their



Legacy sister Bri Brito greets guest Amanda Saiz with a high five. Photos by Natalia Estrada.

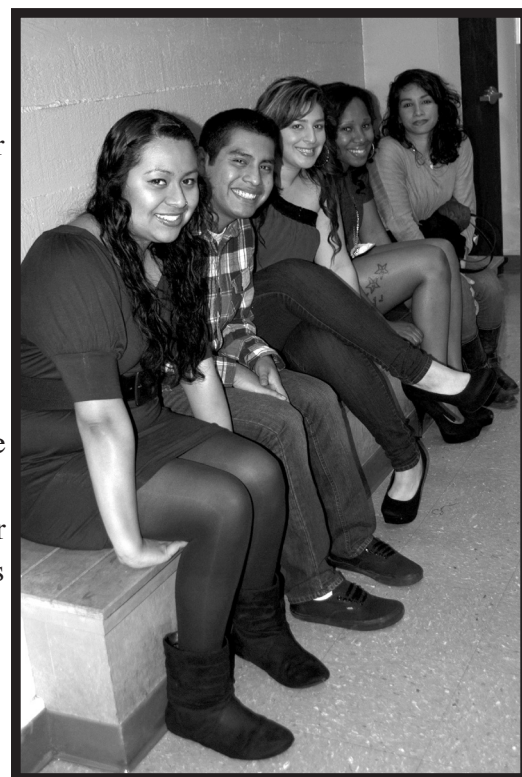
dances. They often persuade their guests to participate in their club festivities.

Guests like Amber Okeh, a senior English major, likes the friendliness and approachable nature of Legacy.

“I feel like they have a strong sisterhood and it emulates through the various events they throw,” said Okeh.

Purple Kisses is open to everyone above the age of 18 and helps out local community charities. Last year Legacy raised money and awareness for the Women’s Center in McKinlyville.

- Natalia Estrada  
*Cultural Times Staff*



Legacy guests take a break from the dance floor.



# VENUS

## *A tale of race, gender, love and exploitation*

Feb. 10 — In *Venus*, a play based on the actual life of Sara Baartman, also known as the Venus Hottentot, a black woman is persuaded by a 'Grade-School Chum' to leave her home in South Africa for a better life in Europe, only to end up joining a freak show in England.

*Venus*, played by Eboni Session, has aspirations of wealth and fame that are met instead with constant ridicule, economic and physical exploitation, and those aren't the only hardships she endures.

As the play goes on, Venus Hotentot is sexually exploited because of her voluptuous figure. Seen only as an object of sexual desire, she eventually moves to France, where the exploitation in the freak show continues.

It is there that a scientist, known in the play as 'The Baron Docteur', played by Zach Scott, offers to buy her from 'Mother Showman,' portrayed by Shannon Bass. Bass, as the character who made Venus the star attraction in the freak shows, agrees to sell her, so the 'Baron' then gladly takes her to live with him.

Venus Hottentot, after giving it some thought, agrees to this and ends up falling in love with the scientist. They then both start a consensual relationship despite him being married to another woman. The scientist then introduces her to laboratories that begin to study her in order to prove that there are solid anatomical differences between Africans and Europeans. After her death in 1815, she is dissected by the scientist she had a love affair with, and put on display in France at the Musée de l'Homme.



*Venus Hottentot* is examined by scientists during the play. Photo courtesy of HSU Stage & Screen.

The director of this play, Jean O'hara, who has been directing for about 17 years, thought of this play as a challenge and described it as "more surreal than realism."

When asked why this play was important she stated, "The story is important because it is not in the past, it is still happening."

O'hara also talked about her inspiration for the set saying, "the background symbolized colonization and how society layers as well as forces beliefs upon us."

Assistant director, Nora Chatmon, gave her insight on the actors who portrayed these characters, "It's been fun seeing the actors from the first day to opening night." Also stating, "They have come very far in understanding their roles."

"It didn't have a happy ending," said audience member Jessie Holtz. "When [*Venus*] had a chance to leave she was pressured to stay."

Holtz said she she was left sad and angry at the end of the play.

This type of reaction was to be expected from the audience, because a story like this really uncovers the hidden and unspoken truth of how society viewed Africans during those times, and is still a view some people have today. This is a tragic story about a woman pressured and forced into a life of ridicule and dehumanization before and after her death.

- Arturo Martinez  
MultiCultural Center Event Staff

# Year of the Dragon

The annual Lunar New Year celebration filled the Kate Buchan Room with revelers on January 23, all there to usher in the Year of the Dragon.

Every year in the Chinese zodiac has not only an animal association, but also an element. This year shares the dragon with 2000 and 1988, but is distinguished by its element, water. Exchange students and cultural clubs shared fun facts like this throughout the night, along with skits, songs, dances and even gifts.

In the spirit of the holiday, College of Professional Studies Dean, John Lee handed out \$25 gift cards to Café Brio with the help of staff and faculty. He used thousands of dollars of his own money to make sure students feel at home in the community.

As a native of Korea, Lee knows what it is like to be far from home. He said it was very important to him for students to feel comfortable and welcome while at Humboldt State. His gift was a gesture of good will and welcome.

The day also celebrated that cultural welcome in reverse.

Matthew Thompkins, who will be studying in China with a few other students next semester, used the festival as a way to get closer to the culture and practice his new language skills. He and his cohort performed a short comedy skit about trying to get directions on their trip.

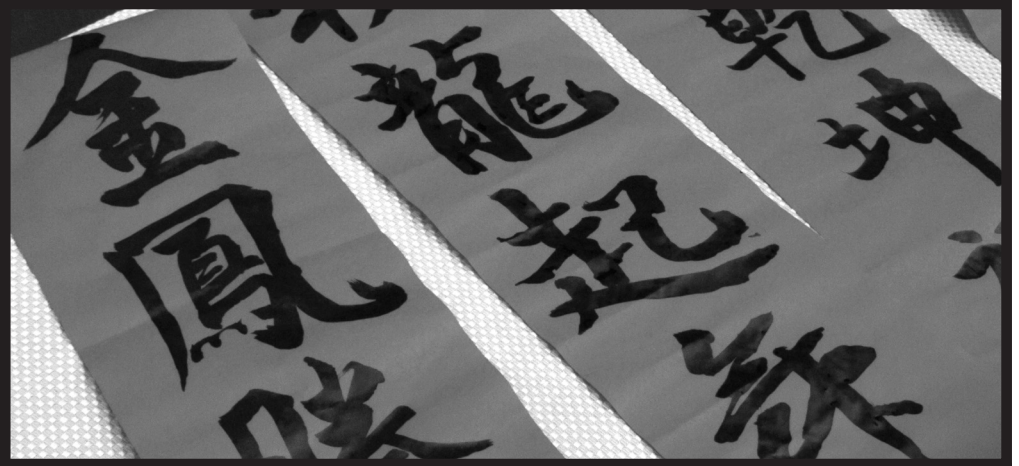
Ziwei Wang, a Chinese exchange student, participated in a demonstration of her culture's traditional calligraphy art. She ushered in the year with good tidings written on red paper; red being the color of luck.

"The Dragon and Phoenix welcome the Spring and bring people happiness," her sheet read.

- F. Thomas Cardenas  
*Cultural Times Editor*



Photos by F. Thomas Cardenas



# 2012 SOCIAL JUSTICE SUMMIT



Photo by Ruby Bransford



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas

On March 2 and 3, 2012, two HSU students saw their hard work realized. Social Justice Summit Coordinators Melissa Estrada and Xuan Bernal (left) spent months planning workshops, coordinating volunteers, contacting presenters and finding performers prior to the event.

This year's summit, titled *Give Our DREAM a Chance*, was centered on immigration issues and their effects on youth.

Different presenters answered questions and discussed immigration issues during the keynote panel discussion (above from left to right) include political writer and columnist Roberto Lovato, hip-hop activist Olmecca, Jesus Iñiguez and Julio Salgado of Dreamers Adrift, Jose Arreola and Steve Lio from Education 4 Fair Consideration.

The two days were filled with film screenings, discussions, lectures and activities.

Workshops at the summit included topics like race issues in modern media, immigration law, and cultural history. An exhibition by El Salvadorian expatriate artist Victor Cartagena, titled *Tatuajes de la Memoria* (Tattoos of Memory), that explored cultural injustice in his home country was featured concurrently in the Reese Bullen Gallery on campus.

Attendees were treated to multiple chances to create art as well. There was an aerosol stenciling tutorial and "undocumedia" session where Dreamers Adrift demonstrated how they use modern media to spread their call for immigration reform. They even shot an episode of their YouTube show *Undocumented and Awkward* at the workshop.



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by Ruby Bransford



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas



Photo by Ruby Bransford



Photo by F. Thomas Cardenas

# XUAN BERNAL

## How did it feel to put on the event?

It is hard to articulate how it felt to put on this event, a lot of time and effort went into putting this event on and so much has changed since then. I feel like some wounds have finally started to heal. There was a lot of courage that went into this event. In working with amazing people like Marylyn, Mona, Amanda and all the presenters, I feel like my family just got bigger.

## How did it benefit the community?

I hope it brought attention to an issue that is rarely discussed. We all benefit from immigration, but hardly anyone sits down and has a discussion about the issue. When we do, it only brings to mind ideas and images about immigrants that the media puts out. Most of the media puts out crap. Immigrants are seen as some "thing" that works the fields but no one ever realizes there are undocumented people all around us, but they at times do not feel comfortable coming out of the shadow society has put them/us in. I hope that at least people can feel comfortable to talk. There are students on campus that are put into these shadows and I hope this event started to change that.

## Was it a success?

Only time will tell if it was a success. If more and more students come out and say, "Hey I exist, I am undocumented, I am not afraid" this will be a success. Events like this have to constantly be put on so it is not forgotten. We cannot stop here, we must keep talking about all these intersectionalities until we deconstruct them. So in terms of spreading this information and experiences it was a success but there are so many individuals that did not attend, and it may seem

selfish but until everyone is at least exposed to these issues such as immigration, racism, sexism and other forms of oppression we cannot stop. I really want to create a better world, and I have to put on much more work to leave a place that fosters the idea of social justice.

## Why did you get involved in planning?

I got involved because I have so much anger still in me about the way undocumented students and people are viewed. There is this fire and anger in my heart that burns just as bright as the sun when ever I hear, see, and read terms like "illegal," "alien," "wetback," or any type of myth about immigration. So much is not known about the life of undocumented people because so many things are taken for granted—things like an ID, Social Security, Financial Aid, and even being able to get a job. When I was asked if I wanted to do it there was no way I could say no. Thankfully this event helped quench some of the flames because at times those flames were burning my heart.

## What was your favorite part?

I cannot choose a single point of the conference, the whole event was my favorite part. I got to meet so many people that will be my friends and family for life. If I had to choose a part I would say it was outside of the conference. A few days before the conference I had to deal with an incident that had me really shaken up. It is incredible to see the amount of power fear has over people. I had not felt that type of fear in so long. I remember that when I had to deal with this issue I had to take a moment and cry because I was so afraid. I have a hard time showing my emotions, but I could not help it. After a moment and lots of deep breathing I remembered something. I remembered that I was the Social Justice Coordinator, the best experience that I have had so far. It was okay to be afraid, but I could not let fear control my life. On a lighter note, I was part of a video by Dreamers Adrift, that was pretty cool too. =)



# MELISSA ESTRADA

## How did it feel to put on the event?

AWESOME!!!! I was so grateful to have had the opportunity to work along side Roberto Lovato, Dreamers Adrift, Educators for Fair Consideration and hip hop artist Olmecca. They are all such amazing individuals who are doing great work to bring awareness to social justice issues in their communities.

## How did it benefit the community?

The summit benefitted the community because it brought awareness to what it means to be undocumented. We live in an area where undocumented people are treated unfairly because they don't have a few sheets of paper. I think that to a certain extent the topic of undocumented-ness might still be a bit taboo out in the community but that's why we need to build more spaces like this summit where we can actively engage in a discussion to see how this affects us not only as individuals but as a community as a whole.

## Was it a success?

Yes, I believe it truly was a success. People came out of the Social Justice Summit with a better understanding on who undocumented students are and what struggles they face everyday for simply not having the proper paperwork. We were able to show a side of their story that has been kept in the shadows for far too long. However,

recently undocumented youth has begun to step outside of the shadows and has had masses of students publicly "coming out" as undocumented.

This year we were lucky enough to have a group called Dreamers Adrift come to our Summit and share some of the work that they have been doing to help spread awareness on the issue of undocumented-ness. It was also a great opportunity for us since we were able to make a video with them as part of one of our workshops. Through the SJS we like to enforce art as a form of social activism and Dreamer's Adrift gave us the opportunity of getting into the media art form.

We created an "Undocumented and Awkward" video as one of our workshops and Dreamers Adrift posted it to their series.

## Why did you get involved in planning?

I was actually approached by Xuan who asked me if I was interested in helping him coordinate the summit since this year's summit was going to emphasize undocumented youth. I have volunteered for the SJS since my freshman year at HSU and to actually get the opportunity to coordinate it was an amazing opportunity that I knew I couldn't pass up.

## What was your favorite part?

Honestly I don't think I can pick just one specific part because the whole experience was amazing to me. From going to the airport to pick up one of our guests speakers to walking around from workshop to workshop seeing people actively engaged in their education...that was an amazing sight.



Photo by Natalia Estrada

## A CouRaGeouS New Club

Unlike the typical Social Justice Summit workshop, more than half of CouRaGeouS' presentation was held outside. Attendees stood together in a circle and tossed around a multicolored yarn ball.

Amee Catalano worked on this year's workshop called Queering Immigration, and was surprised by the impact it had on her.

"I learned so much from [Queering Immigration] even though I organized it," Catalano said.

Initially, Critical Race, Gender and Sexuality Studies (CRGS) students at Humboldt State created the club. CouRaGeouS, spelled with emphasis on the C, R, G and S is a student run club that focuses on a variety of social justice issues. The club isn't just for CRGS majors, and the members encourage any student to join their coalition.

"I've totally felt empowered and I've also made a lot of friends," HSU sophomore Kamilah Barajas said.

Senior CRGS major Yamilet Alas likes the energy and liveliness of the club, and also enjoys the fact that everyone's ideas are respected and allowed to flow without negative criticism.

"This part of my life has been missing," Alas said, "I don't know how I got through college without CouRaGeouS."

If accepted, CouRaGeouS will be working with the National Women's Studies Association Conference in November.

- Natalia Estrada  
Cultural Times Staff

# OUTSTANDING STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENTS

**JAHNNA MOREHOUSE**  
Outstanding Student of the Year

**WENDY GONZALEZ**  
Outstanding Contributions to an  
Associated Students Program

**JENNIFER ALEJO**  
Al Elpusan Award for Student Activism

Humboldt State hosts an Outstanding Student Awards banquet each spring to honor students who make a difference at the university. There are 17 categories ranging from activism and community service to publications and staff awards. Each college also chooses a student to highlight for their achievements.

The MultiCultural Center had three students receive awards for their contributions this year. Jahanna Morehouse of the Womyn's Resource Center was selected to receive an overall Outstanding Student of the Year award, the highest honor bestowed at the ceremony.

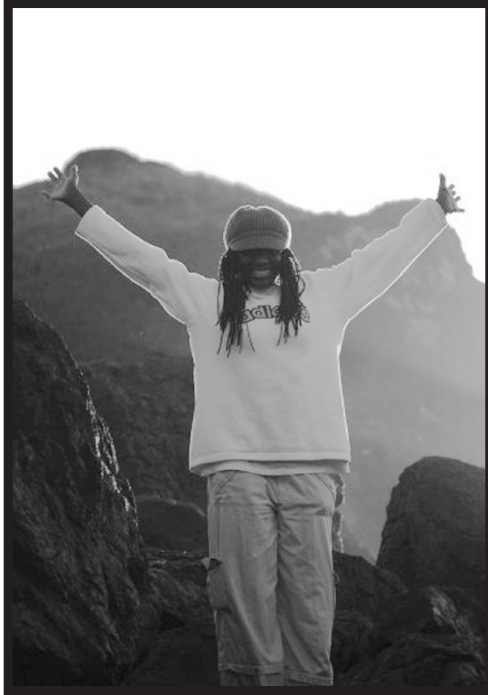
The MCC could not be more proud of our students and all their hard work. Congratulations!

# Conrgrats to our MCC



**Eiliana Esparza**  
**Womens Studies Major**  
**Womyn's Resource Center Staff**

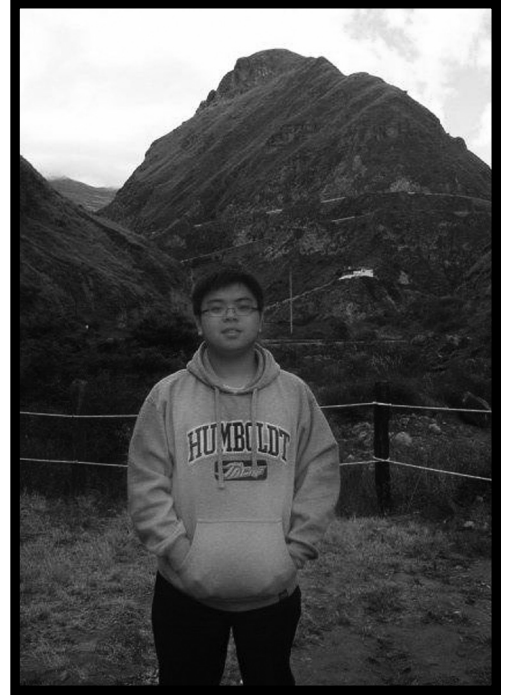
The MCC was like a second home to me. I've always been around the center, trying to get involved, volunteering or just hanging around. I went to a lot of the community receptions and events since my freshman yr, 4 yrs now. I helped bring back M.E.Ch.A to HSU and the MCC was always so supportive, so I got comfortable going to Mona, Marylyn and the wonderful staff for any help. Since working at the Womyn's Resource Center and sharing the same house with the MCC, I felt the sense of a real community, a home. I love this place (and the work we do)! My college experience wouldn't have been so awesome without y'all!



**Nora Chatmon**  
**Zoology**  
**African American Community Co-coordinator '11, Staff '12**

I have volunteered at the MultiCultural Center for one year and have been a staff member for two years. The MultiCultural Center has provided a place for me to feel entirely comfortable as a black woman and to be able to exert my expression wholly and not partition myself based on my surroundings. During this time, I learned more about the variety of people and cultures that there are in the world working with the MCC than I had ever learned before. If I had not worked with the MultiCultural Center, I would not have gained the wealth of knowledge that I have. Helping to throw the events, meeting different people, and building community has broadened my views of people in general and given me an education and awareness that I never received in an academic setting. I now have the desire to travel to different places and learn more about the world and the amazing diversity of people within it. I am continually inspired by the students that are able to take the initiative to go live in a country that they've never been to before and learn a completely new language. I am inspired by the students of color at the MultiCultural Center that persevere in a system that isn't catered to them and are successful.

**Matthew Thompkins**  
**International Business, Chinese Studies Minor**  
**Office Assistant**



**Calvin K. Li**  
**International and Chinese Studies**  
**International Community Coordinator ' 12**

I started working at the MultiCultural Center in Spring 2008 during my freshman year. I knew that the MCC was a small organization, but little did I know how much of a positive impact a "small organization" could make on my life. Being a part of the MCC has totally made my experience at HSU memorable because these past few years here have helped me embrace my cultural background. During my 4 years at HSU, I had my ups and downs, but just being at the MCC always made me forget the negative things in life. I feel that my experience here has prepared me for the future. This summer I will be starting my Masters program for Valparaiso University in Indiana. I will spend my summer in Hangzhou, China, where I will finally return back to my roots. I will never forget the feeling of family here. It is something I will always miss. At one point I had considered transferring, but as soon as I got involved with the MCC, I never had thoughts about leaving again. I consider everybody I met here at the MCC my family because they were all by my side when my family could not be due to distance. I would like to thank everybody I have met and worked with at the MCC for being there for me and for taking me into the family. I will never forget all the things that we had done together, and I will obviously give back to the MCC in the future.





# Grads!!!



**Dashanae Johnson-Smith**  
**Sociology Major**  
**African-American Community Coordinator**



**Wendy Gonzalez**  
**Social Work**  
**Office Assistant**



**Janine Silvis**  
**Critical Race Gender and Sexuality studies**  
**Asian Pacific Islander Community Coordinator**

I have been with the MCC the last two years of my undergraduate career here at Humboldt State University. In those two years, the MCC has been a place where I have learned to love myself and empower others despite some of the hardships we have faced because of our identities. The MCC has been home and a place of empathy. Being a part of a community that is welcoming to everyone has made my time here at Humboldt State much more meaningful.

I will very much miss everyone I have worked with and will never forget all the fun times. And to those part of the MCC staff, remember, "don't be a fool!"



**Frank Thomas Cardenas**  
**Journalism, Environmental Management**  
**and Protection Minor**  
**Cultural Times Editor**

I have only been on Staff at the MCC for a single year, but that did not stop anyone from welcoming me with open arms. Last year I did not work with the MCC at all but did volunteer when I could and attended many of the events. It was amazing to see the dedication of all these students around me. There was always someone doing whatever they could for a cause they believed in. Everyone had their own passion, their own sense of duty, and they did their best to fulfill that.

As a Junior transfer student to Humboldt State I was amazed at how quickly I felt at home here. I felt immediately at ease with all the wonderful people at events like the Multicultural Festival, Chinese New Year Celebration and California Big Time. Finding a cultural center at HSU was my saving grace. It was a home away from home, always full of family ready to lend a hand.

I could not imagine what life would have been like here without Marlyn, Mona, Amanda and all the wonderful people at the MCC and all they do. I was truly honored to be able to become a part of the organization and share so many wonderful moments with all these amazing people. Thank you all for making my life at HSU an incredible experience.

**Andre Arguilles**  
**Spanish Language Major, Emphasis in**  
**Education**  
**Office Assistant, Bollywood Film Festival**  
**Coordinator**



# CALIFORNIA IS A BIG TIME and SOCIAL GATHERING

Every year the North Coast Native Peoples come together to celebrate language, heritage and history.

Heritage is more than just culture. It is friends, family, food, song, dance and duty. It is the stories we share and the songs we sing. The thundering drums we dance to. It is the way we pray. The way we live. The way we have lived for thousands of years. A way we will never forget. A way we cannot forget. It is in the very blood that runs through our veins. It is us.

Big Time represents us. Not just the individual, but the collective us, the larger native community. It is a chance to gather together and socialize that is not often facilitated anymore. Even with nearby communities, tribes that may socialize internally, get the chance to see others and share amongst each other together in one place. It also offers a place for newcomers to introduce themselves to the local Elders.

Emanuel Delgado, an HSU student and Mexica dancer, has started a new Danza Azteca group on campus. Chicauca-Tlanlt-Cuahuitl, translated from Nahuatl, means strong red tree, a tribute to Humboldt and the natural wonders we are lucky enough to share with local Native communities.

Even though his, and my own, native roots are from farther South, we respectfully acknowledge the local traditions of the generations and Peoples before us. We just hope to

share our own as well to build a stronger community.

There are so many things in this life to be angry about; it is wonderful to have a positive, uplifting place to share language, heritage and history.

Much thanks, respect and love to those in the local Native Communities, the MCC and HSU.

**- F. Thomas Cardenas**  
*Cultural Times Editor*



Big Time Organizer Vincent Feliz, a Chumash tribal member, and his family share one of his traditional tribal songs at the Honoring Dinner for Eunice Bommelyn on April 6. Photos by F. Thomas Cardenas.

# The Marylyn Paik-Nicely Space for Sharing

## Letter from the Editor

It has been an amazing year here for me at the MCC. You all are some of the greatest people I have ever known. Learning of your individual achievements as part of this group still surprises me every day. Getting to know you has inspired me to strive for more in my life. It will be easier, and much more optimistic, now that I have seen so many of my peers are just as dedicated to creating positive change in our world.

People I have met here at the MCC are committed to a deeper understanding of life, past a mere education system; they are learning more than memorizing, analytical and awake, actually conscious, creating the changes they hope to see in the world.

Every single person does incredible things, and together, you all are seriously spectacular to watch. Even more important is that through the combined impact of these individual efforts that things will get better better. I cannot wait to see the endeavors of you fine young students undertake as you continue on your journeys.

My only regret is that I did not get to know you all sooner. Each event has enlightened me in a new and unexpected way. You are all helping me get closer to realms of significant knowledge I miss in class.

It has been an honor to work with the cultural community and MCC Family this year. I look forward to what seeing what the future brings for all of you.

Special thanks to Aunt Marylyn, Momma Amanda (and her new baby boy for sharing), and the wonderful Boss Lady Mona. You and the MCC staff have been my family here at HSU.

Thank you for that privilege.

Frank Thomas Cardenas

## Letter from the Designer

Hello, My name is Eldon Kinney. I am a proud member of the Yurok Tribe. I am an HSU student in Environmental Management & Protection in Planning with an emphasis in GIS and Remote Sensing. During my free time, which is minimal, I do graphic artwork. The majority of my work is influenced from my culture and understanding. I try to use my artwork as a tool to teach others about my culture with drawings of native designs, landscapes, and other aspects of my native culture.

The purpose of the design on the front cover, which is my personal interpretation and definition, illustrates a timeline of events that are cultural based here on campus throughout the semester. This design is known as the "sturgeon design." The sturgeon is a large, bony fish in the surrounding area that is important in the local native culture. To look at a sturgeon is like looking at a tank in the river: grey in color, big, armor plated with welts and ridges. The repeating triangle design, representing the armor of the sturgeon, means continuing strength, guardian/shield. The background design is known as the "Morning Star." The Morning Star is actually two in one, three triangles symbolizes friendship, family, and community. The whole design is defined as higher purpose/goal in life. The design is repeated because life is continuous and as individuals we have pursued and are continuing to pursue goals, tasks, higher purpose (education) for our own personal reasons. In whole, the Morning Star is defined as a pursuit of a higher purpose/goal (education) in our lifetime that is centered on our family, friends, and community.

Respectfully submitted.

Eldon Kinney

# WANTED



# COMPASSION

**EVERYONE WAS AN IMMIGRANT AT SOME POINT  
DITCH IGNORANCE, PRACTICE COMPASSION  
WE ARE ALL OF THE SAME STARDUST**

SUBVERT THE DOMINANT PARADIGM

Submitted by HSU student Chloe Hawkins, a member of Sub 21 Art Collective. SUB 21 stands for Stopping Unnecessary Bigotry in the 21st century.

## Cultural Grad Ceremonies

**Asian Pacific Islander Lei Ceremony**  
2:30pm at Goodwin Forum

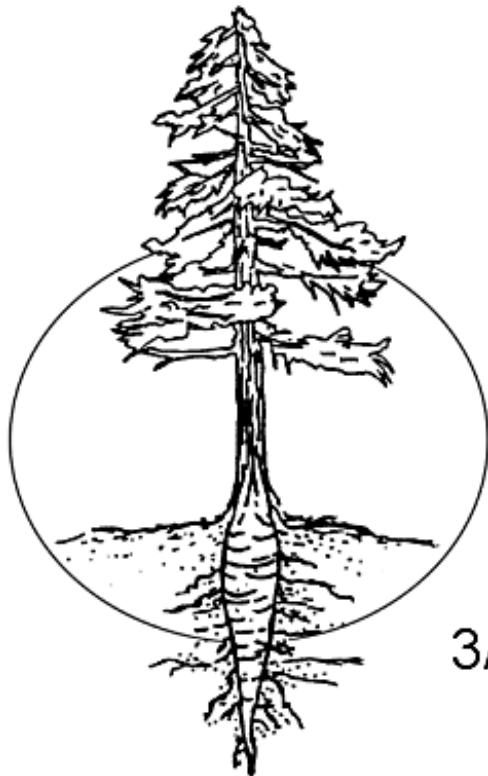
**Graduación Latin@**  
5:30pm at Arcata Community Center

**Black Grad**  
6:00pm at Kate Buchanan Room

# SOCIAL JUSTICE EVENTS CALENDAR

Events listed below are subject to change. For more information about the MCC and the most up to date information about our events, please visit us at [www.humboldt.edu/multicultural](http://www.humboldt.edu/multicultural)

Tues, May 1	Wong Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest: Film Screening	7pm	JGC
Wed, May 2	Angela Davis	5:30pm	JVD Theater
Thurs, May 3	ASAPI Perspectives Celebration Dinner	5:30pm	JGC
Thurs, May 3	Natural Vibrations Benefit Concert for MCC	9pm	KBR
Sat, May 5	Q-Grad Celebration	2:30pm	Great Hall
May 7-11	Finals Week		Good Luck!
Thurs, May 10	All Native Sash Ceremony	5:30pm	Native Forum
Fri, May 11	Cultural Graduation Celebrations	See inside back cover	
Sat, May 12	HSU Commencement	8:30am	Redwood Bowl
Sat, May 16	MCC Open House Receptions	10-6pm	MCC



Redwood Roots Farm  
is pleased to announce  
the opening of our  
**FARM STAND!**

Starting June

**Tuesdays and Thursdays**

Noon – 6:00 at the farm

3/4 mile down Jacoby Creek Rd.

Bayside

Bring your FRIENDS,

Bring your FAMILY,

Bring your BAGS!

Check us out at  
[www.redwoodrootsfarm.com](http://www.redwoodrootsfarm.com)  
or on Facebook