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UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion_ Honoring the Women who made You Email

University of Maine Office for Diversity and Inclusion
Sabrina Murray
Anila Karunakar

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Happy Monday,

In recognition of women’s history month, I want to share my reflections on women’s resilience and empowerment. Throughout my life I have been surrounded by powerful and influential women. The first woman of color mentor I had taught me how to advocate for my mental health and pursue meaningful connections with people like me. My sister who helped raise me when my mother was working late. My sociology professor who invested in my personal development outside of the classroom. My best friends who come from various diverse backgrounds have shown me what it means to be an ally. I am grateful for all the women in my life who have shaped who I am today.

One woman in particular that I owe everything to is my mother. My mother is a single parent and worked late nights in a hospital to support my sister, my grandmother, and I. On top of that, my mother faced challenges and questions about our family. Both my sister and I are adopted from China and do not share the same race, ethnicity, or culture as our mother. For that reason, my family experienced intrusive and insensitive questions about our racial differences. In stores, people have asked my mother in front of my sister and I, “How much did you pay for her?” and “Is she really your daughter?” These questions are offensive and appalling but it is a reality that my family lives every day. Most of the time people do not assume we are a family.

My mother is the strongest woman I know because of her resilience. She educated me about the obstacles I would face because of my race. She supported me when I heard my first racial slur. She taught me to stand up for myself when people would ask intrusive questions. She raised my sister and I with a strong foundation about both Chinese and American culture. She gave my sister and I privileges that we could never obtain by ourselves. Despite our racial, cultural, and ethnic differences, my mother loves my sister and I the same.

Today and everyday it is important to remember the women in our lives and celebrate their strengths, weaknesses, and vulnerabilities.

In community,

Sabrina Murray (she/her)
Graduate Intern
Office for Diversity and Inclusion
Office for Diversity and Inclusion

Women's History Month

March 3rd-
IFBB: Sex Workers Rights
11am-12p, Memorial Union 227

March 3rd-
Afro-Latinx Presentation
2:30p-3:30p, Memorial Union 312

March 3-
HEAL Pop-up Testing
12pm-4pm, Memorial Union 223

March 3, 10, 17, 24, 31-
LGBTQIA+ Support Group
3pm-4pm, Memorial Union 224

March 10 & 24-
Solidarity Meeting
5pm, Memorial Union 314

March 21-
IFBB Roe v. Wade
11am-12p Memorial Union 227

March 22-
Fat Fashion & Wellness Dialogue
12pm-1pm, Memorial Union 312

March 22-
HEAL Pop-up Testing
10am-2pm, Memorial Union 223

March 23-
Female Naval Career Panel
1pm-3pm, Career Center

March 25-
No Man’s Land Film
6pm-9pm, Maine Bound

March 25-
Being Black at a PWI Support Group
12pm-1pm, Memorial Union 312

March 26-
Women’s Climb
9am-1pm, Maine Bound

"The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution."
Chai Chat

HOW TO BE A
AN ALLY

BY

DR. SONJA BIRTHISIEL

Tuesday, March 8, 2022
1:30pm - 2:30pm
Multicultural Resource Center
Memorial Union Room 312

"The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution"
University of Maine System Mail - Honoring the Women who made You.

No Man’s Land is a film festival featuring female identifying athletes in outdoor sports.

The Stories We Tell Ourselves | Annapurna ’78
The Traverse | The Approach

Women’s Climbing Day
@ Maine Bound
Open to female identifying individuals and allies
Saturday March 26th
9:00AM - 1:00PM

Vote March 8th!
The Career Center Presents:

Women in the Workforce: An Empowerment Panel

Wed. March 23, 12-1 pm, Career Center

Meet Naval Officers, as they discuss their careers.

The Officers have backgrounds in nuclear power, aviation, Navy nursing and cyber.

Open to All Majors & All Gender Identities

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Being Black at a PWI

*Predominantly White Institution

Come and join a safe space where Black students and Black professionals can come together, eat lunch and chat.

*Lunch will be provided

25th March
12pm - 1pm
Memorial Union
Multicultural Student Center Rm 312

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FAT FASHION & WELLNESS

Dialogue around the intersections of fatness, race, class, ability, and gender and how to celebrate fatness

TUESDAY, MARCH 22ND
12-1PM
MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER
312 IN THE UNION

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CHECK OUT OUR FREE, RÅD
PROGRESSIVE, INCLUSIVE

Sex Ed Class
at the Wilson Center

Recommended for Ages 18-25
Tuesdays 5-7 PM | Starting January 25
67 College Ave | wilsoncenterorono@gmail.com

FACILITATORS:
SONJA BIRTHISEL &
KATE DAWSON
Are you passionate about spiritual exploration and multifaith dialogue?

Join the UMaine Interfaith Group!

MONDAYS @ 6PM
WILSON CENTER, ORONO

Email dominique.dispirito@maine.edu with questions! We hope to see you there!

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LGBTQIA+ SUPPORT GROUP

JOIN US WEEKLY ON THURSDAYS
3-4PM
RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTER (UNION 224)

For questions, contact Julia Taner at Julia.taner@maine.edu

This group is in partnership with the Office for Diversity and Inclusion and the University of Maine Counseling Center. This group is a private, non-confidential support group.

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SOLIDARITY MEETING

A SAFE PLACE TO FIND SOLIDARITY! A PLACE TO SHARE AND SUPPORT EACH OTHER AS STUDENTS OF COLOR AT UMAINE

MEETING WILL BE HELD BI-WEEKLY IN PERSON STARTING 1/27/22 AT 5PM
SIGN UP VIA QR CODE OR THE LINK BELOW

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLsdwDlQO0Tg3muzMPDajhYju68PTQO2tOhW9gyj9sV7_4dZTw/viewform?usp=sf_link

For more questions, please contact frank.wang@maine.edu