Office for Diversity and Inclusion Newsletters, Fall 2023

Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Anila Karunakar
*Director for Diversity and Inclusion*

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University of Maine System Mail - Welcome to Fall 2023!

Matthew Revitt <matthew.revitt@maine.edu>

Welcome to Fall 2023!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=483c7a7ff8&view=pt&search=all
From all of us at the Office for Diversity and Inclusion!
Welcome back! We have waited all summer for y'all to return. The summer around here has been long, rainy and quiet. Welcome to the Fall 2023, We hope this is a year filled with discovery, curiosity, community, joy and safety. Friends, we have some wonderful programs that are already in the works. I have only included one, but stay tuned, we have more to follow.
For today- here is a little intro to getting to know us better. You'll meet our Graduate Assistants next week and then our incredible Student Leaders.
Please swing by our offices to learn more about us, ODI, some of our upcoming programs.
Here's to a fabulous year together!
Sincerely,
Anila Karunakar

My name is Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers). I am so excited to start my fifth year here at UMaine and my 20th year doing DEI work on higher education campuses. I am from India, raised in the Bahrain (the Middle East), and my adult education and life in the United State of America. I love working with students. I mean, Shania Twain, they challenge me AND they give me such hope for what's to come. I am inspired by the students I work with everyday. When I am not at work, I do life with my sweet 86 year old Momma. I love all things Bollywood, and all things related to food!
Swing by our offices as we look forward to getting to know you better and finding ways we can support and advocate for you.

Director for Diversity and Inclusion
Memorial Union 310. 207-581-1437. anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Taylor Matthew Ashley (he/him) was born and raised in Naples, Florida to a Cuban-American Family. Taylor and his partner, Katie Ashley, joined the University of Maine in 2017 following volunteer service in both the Peace Corps and AmeriCorps. While at UMaine, Taylor has worked for the Bodwell Center for Service and Volunteerism, the Maine Business School, and the Wilson Center for Multi-faith Dialogue and Spiritual Exploration. He is dedicated to promoting global and multicultural perspectives, fostering inclusive spaces and communities, and preparing traditional dishes from around the globe.

In his free time, Taylor and Katie operate Lilia's Cuban Café, travel abroad and immerse in the local communities, road trip to the surrounding Canadian provinces, and spend quality time with their two dachshunds, family, and friends.

Coordinator Office for Diversity and Inclusion
Memorial Union 223. 207-581-4655. taylor.ashley@maine.edu
Office of Diversity and Inclusion

Open House

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5
11AM-1PM | MEMORIAL UNION

RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTER
RM 223

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER
RM 330

INTERSECTIONAL FEMINIST RESOURCE CENTER
RM 224

Come by to connect, learn, play games, and have fun!

Contact Taylor.Ashley@maine.edu to learn more!

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Remembering 9/11 From The Outside In

1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 3:38 PM

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion  
Mon, Sep 11, 2023 at 3:38 PM

To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu
I was a senior in college in 2001. I remember coming back from my morning class, kinda groggy, ready to take a nap before my next class. I turned on the radio and heard the DJs talking about an attack on the World Trade Center in New York. I remember thinking, "Why are they talking about a past attack again today?" (Since there was an attack in the early 90's). Just like so many, I was overwhelmed by shock, horror, sadness, loss, anger, and fear. Being in Bahrain during the first Gulf War amplified my response to this attack. Yet, even in grief, my friends and campus started to distance themselves from me, and other international students. There was a sentiment that this (the attack) happened to 'us' (Americans) and not you. Support systems were put in place on campus that supported students. However, my international student community quickly discovered it was mostly for 'Americans'. But weren't we all affected by this brutal assault? There were international nationals who also lost their lives, who also helped on ground zero, who loved this country and were also angry and devastated. Communities started to unravel.
The othering continues, friends. Travel continues to impact those who are Black or Brown, folx with a turban or a head covering. Americans who practice Islam, Judaism and Sikhism continue to be singled out as targets to pay for the sins of a few. Places of worship are vandalized and attacked.

I face this day as a new US citizen. I breathe out with all those pent up feelings. Feeling so validated for having them. At least on paper! I hope that we take time today to feel loss, to listen, to learn, to shine light, to draw bigger circles of belonging. I hope we can be light. I have seen the Twin beams that remain on ground zero that remind me that light prevails. Belonging prevails. I hope we get to be light bearers drawing each other in.
QTPOC Craft Night

September 14th from 5 to 7 PM
Memorial Union Rainbow Resource Center
Room 223
Tea with Triota

Learn about the WGS Honors Society!
Wednesday 9/20 & Thursday 9/21
3-5pm | Union Room 227
Q+ Community Game Night

Spend a cozy night on campus playing games with your community!

Where: The Multicultural Student Center
Room 314 in the memorial union

When: Friday, September 22nd. 6-9PM

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Happy Hispanic and Latine Heritage Moth!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu
Happy Ganesh Chaturthi from ODI!

Lear more by clicking: The Ganesh Chaturthi Celebration
Shana Tova from all of us at ODI!
Learn more by clicking here: Rosh Hashanah 101

Happy Hispanic and Latine Heritage Month! Shana Tova! Happy Ganesh Chaturthi! We at ODI have so may things to center and celebrate! Check out all of the wonderful ways to get involved with events that students are working hard to put together. We, at ODI, are open and ready to welcome you. Swing by our three spaces, located in the Memorial Union rooms 224, 227 and 312, and check it out!
This year we have committed ourselves to centering Belonging. This concept builds on understanding what DEI is. So, for the next few newsletters, I will attempt to unpack some of these words as it pertains to the daily work we do and how we strive to foster belonging. So stay tuned!

Last week, while presenting to a class, I was talking about privilege and power. One student responded by saying, "Why should I feel guilty for being white, male and straight?" This is a good question! I mean, this about it. I find myself often being challenged by own feelings of guilt. I acknowledge that I enjoy privilege in many spaces as well. As a practicing Christian, I am overcome with guilt and shame for the ways that folx were treated in the name of 'my God' in the history of the world and right here in Maine, impacting the nations that make up the Wabanaki Confederacy. Having privilege doesn't impact us until we find ourselves defending it! I have also discovered that guilt really does nothing! It is such a wasted emotion. Privilege allows me to walk away. It gives me the power to say, "Ya, this is too much or I don't feel like talking about it or talking about it only makes me feel bad about myself..." I get it, friend. So, now what? How do I pivot from this position?

It is hard. When I find myself in situations where I feel the weight of my guilt, in my head, I am already gearing up a response that will take the other person down. (Then I say to myself, "Shania Twain, Anila! This is not oppression Olympics!). Taking a couple of deep breaths helps (me). Its not about why I get to be so high up on the privilege list, but, why is my friend (and their community) not able to access the same privileges, with the same ease as me. Decentering myself and centering the feelings and lived experiences of my family and friend/s. So I go back on my initial statement that states that guilt is a wasted emotion. Guilt is a good catalyst for pivoting. Guilt means that you are care (if, used wisely!). I can use this guilt to unlearn, listen and be better. Or I can milk the guilt and distance myself from the 'issues' that are impact everyday lives.

What areas are you feeling guilty about? Where are those feeling leading you to do?

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
Director for the Office for Diversity and Inclusion
Tea with Triota

Learn about the WGS Honors Society!
Wednesday 9/20 & Thursday 9/21
3-5pm | Union Room 227
LUNCH & LEARN
Exploring Cuban Roots as a College Student

WEDNESDAY, SEP 20TH, 12-1PM

Multicultural Student Center
3rd Floor, Memorial Union Rm 314

with Taylor Ashley
ODI Coordinator

Free Lunch Catered By Las Palapas

The University of Maine is an EE/00 Institution
COME PLAY WITH US!

Win fun prizes while playing a thrilling traditional game of chance!

HOSTED BY CLAUDIA TORRES

SEPT 20 | 4PM-5:30PM
MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER
MEMORIAL UNION ROOM 310
Q+ Community Game Night

Spend a cozy night on campus playing games with your community!

Where: The Multicultural Student Center
Room 314 in the memorial union

When: Friday, September 22nd. 6-9PM

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Support Relief in Morocco

Seeking donations to support the High Atlas Foundation, an organization assisting in the relief and recovery efforts in Morocco following the recent earthquake, which has displaced thousands across the country.

Paypal: https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/morocco-earthquake-relief-high-atlas-communities/

Venmo: https://www.venmo.com/u/Rakibul-Hossain

If you have any questions, reach out to Maryam: maryam.ell@maine.edu or Rakibul: rakibul.hossain@maine.edu
This email was sent to matthew.revitt@maine.edu

why did I get this?  unsubscribe from this list  update subscription preferences

UMaine Multicultural Student Life · 5748 Memorial Union, 3rd Floor, Room 312 · Orono, Me 04469 · USA
Celebrating Q+ History Month!
3 messages

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

Mon, Oct 2, 2023 at 7:38 PM
Hello Friends,
Today at noon we raised the progress pride flag and the 2 Spirit Flag on the Mall to celebrate the start of LGBTQ+ History Month and the start of Coming Out Week! Please be encouraged to follow us on our Instagram and Facebook @UMaineODI to stay on top of each of our events. As promised, I want to take a moment to help define and put in context, how I define the word 'diversity'.

Most folk place undue focus on developing diversity. We hear so much about the benefits of diversity. Except, what is Diversity?

Diversity basically asks the question, "Who is here?" And who is here, based on...uh...really any label I decide. I am seeking to know how diverse my community is, I might ask, "how many can eat spicy food?" or "how many have a tattoo? or how many have allergies? or have a pet? or really any category of things I can make up. Asking for diversity about a space is asking for data, numbers, representation based on numerous identities.

In the context of DEI, diversity asks for number of folk based on social
demographics like religion/spirituality, gender, Veteran status, age, race, language, ability, neurodiversity, nationality, folx from Maine etc. Knowing the diversity data does not naturally imply anything more than facts and numbers. and who exists in this given space. So...now that I know you exist in my community, what now? This is where we will learn about inclusion, which I will discuss next week!

I am so thankful for the all the encouraging responses and the questions you ask me. Keep them coming and I will attempt to answer them.

Sincerely,

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
NATIONAL DAY OF TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION

Every Child Matters

>1,953 IDENTIFIED CHILDREN  >1,242 UNIDENTIFIED CHILDREN

Wear Orange to honor Indian Residential School survivors, and the many Indigenous children sent to residential schools to never return home.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH
Cultural Tea

Tuesday 10/3 & Thursday 10/5
9:00am–10:30am
Second Floor Lobby Memorial Union

Come and join us for some tea and learn more about ODI!

Honey provided by:

University of Maine System Mail - Celebrating Q+ History Month!
LUNCH & LEARN

Looking On: Theorizing the Communal Gaze, Storytelling, and Womanhood in The Bluest Eye

with Graduate Student Brianna Christie

Tuesday, Oct 3rd 12 to 1:30 pm
Memorial Union Room 312
Free Lunch Catered By Dominos

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EE/OO INSTITUTION
YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED

Hispanic and Latine Community Connections Dinner

Wednesday, October 4
5-7PM

MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER
3RD FLOOR, MEMORIAL UNION RM 314

FREE DINNER CATERED BY

Las Palapas
MEXICAN RESTAURANT

COMMEMORATING THE HISPANIC AND LATINE COMMUNITY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE

The University of Maine is an EEO/AA institution
FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES IN LATIN AMERICA

ROUND TABLE DISCUSSION
REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED
Thursday, Oct, 5th, 4-5 PM
Multicultural Student Center
(Memorial Union Room 312)

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION.
Make earrings, necklaces, and bracelets for Coming OUT Week!

Jewelry Joy!

RAINBOW RESOURCE CENTER
(RM 224 MEMORIAL UNION)
THURS 10/5 @ 5 PM- 7 PM

The University of Maine is an EO/AA institution
SNACK N’ CHAT

GENDER ECOLOGY

WITH WYNTER APPLEFORD

INTERSECTIONALITY
IDENTITY
SELF

GET SOME SNACKS AND LEARN ABOUT GENDER ECOLOGY!

Oct. 11th 11 am - 12 pm

Intersectional Feminist Resource Center
(Rm 227, Memorial Union)

The University of Maine is an EE/EO institution
Hispanic & Latine Heritage Month

Sep 15 - Oct 15

**September:**
- **WED 20**
  - 12-1PM: LUNCH & LEARN: EXPLORING CUBAN ROOTS AS AN UNDERGRAD in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)

- **WED 20**
  - 4-5:30PM: LOTERÍA PART 1 in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)

- **THURS 21**
  - 6-8PM: SALSA DINNER & DIALOGUE at the Wilson Center

- **WED 27**
  - 11AM-1PM: CALSA LILIA’S BLOCK in the MLK Plaza

- **SAT 30**
  - 5-10PM: CHISPA GRITO HISPANO at the Wilson Center

**October:**
- **WED 4**
  - 5-7PM: HISPANIC AND LATINE COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS DINNER in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)

- **THURS 5**
  - 4-5PM: FEMINIST PERSPECTIVES IN LATIN AMERICA in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)

- **WED 11**
  - 6-8PM: LOTERÍA, HOSTED BY CALSA in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)

**Can’t make it to these events?**
Check out these weekly programs:
- **THURS 6-7PM**: CARRIBEAN AND LATINX STUDENT ALLIANCE in the Multicultural Student Center (Memorial Union Room 314)
- **THURS 12-1PM**: SPANISH TABLE at Williams Hall, Room 207
October 13
2023

Celebrating
50 Years
LGBTQIA+ Liberation

Wilde Stein Club
at University of Maine

Noon
Coe Lounge
Memorial Union
Plaque
Dedication

12:30pm
Fogler Library
Exhibit Opening
Those who will know Pride;
The Start of the UMaine’s
Wilde Stein Club

2:00pm
Buchanan Alumni House
& Zoom
Discussion
Wilde Stein: 50 years,
an open discussion

Advanced registration is required:
https://forms.gle/JBspgP5DuMdlQmbB9
Support Relief in Morocco

Seeking donations to support the High Atlas Foundation, an organization assisting in the relief and recovery efforts in Morocco following the recent earthquake, which has displaced thousands across the country.

Paypal: https://www.globalgiving.org/projects/morocco-earthquake-relief-high-atlas-communities/

Venmo: https://www.venmo.com/u/Rakibul-Hossain

If you have any questions, reach out to Maryam: maryam.ell@maine.edu or Rakibul: rakibul.hossain@maine.edu
History and Pain.
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

Tue, Oct 10, 2023 at 4:31 PM
CANDLELIGHT VIGIL FOR ISRAEL

October 11th
5 PM, MLK Plaza
How Indigenous Peoples’ Day came about and why it matters today

Dear Friends,
How do I even begin to process what is happening around us? I have a lot of feelings. Most of them are of heartbreak. Of anger at the disregard for human life. There is no sense to be made about what is happening in the Middle East. Because there is none to be made, right now. If I am someone who values life, then I cannot have a conversation about whose lives matter more. How can this be the agenda? As someone who was caught up in the first Gulf War as a child, I am ware of how detached a government is of the needs of its people. I am even more aware of how militant regimes and their people’s values vehemently differ.
I found myself praying, leaning into communal wisdom. It is here that I grieved, mourned and was angry. Friends, I meet you here, in this space. I have no words. I don't want to talk about the history right now or whose fault it is. I am on the side of no more lives lost. Everything else, all of that dialogue that is historical or political in nature comes after we can ensure no loss of lives. I am here with you in this angst.

At UMaine, I ask that you, respectfully, reach out to your friends who are Jewish, Iranian, and Palestinian to make sure they feel safe.
We are UMaine, and we adhere to the values of community. When one part of us is affected, the rest of us surround them in kindness, care and respect. Please hold these values close. Please reach out to trusted fellow friends, professors, and support systems as and when you need them. The Counseling Center is ever ready to support your your needs as well. Please let me know how I can support you as well.

In humility,
Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
“WHEN I WAS A BOY AND I WOULD SEE SCARY THINGS IN THE NEWS, MY MOTHER WOULD SAY TO ME, ‘LOOK FOR THE HELPERS. YOU WILL ALWAYS FIND PEOPLE WHO ARE HELPING.’”

—FRED ROGERS
SNACK N’ CHAT
GENDER ECOLOGY
WITH WYNTER APPLEFORD

INTERSECTIONALITY
IDENTITY
SELF

GET SOME SNACKS AND LEARN ABOUT GENDER ECOLOGY!

Oct. 11th 11 am - 12 pm
Multicultural Student Center
(Rm 312, Memorial Union)

The University of Maine is an EE/EO institution
Coming Out Monologues

Wednesday October 11th
Multicultural Center
7-8 pm

A time for the community
to come together and
share their stories

Hosted by Wilde Stein
YOU'RE INVITED TO

Walk With

The Ones You Love

WALK WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE
THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12TH
12:15 FROM STEPS OF FOGLER LIBRARY

MEET IN FRONT OF FOGLER LIBRARY -- YOU'LL SEE US ON THE STEPS WITH THE RAINBOW FLAG - FOR THE 10 MINUTE WALK AROUND THE MALL WITH YOUR FRIENDS. SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR A LOVING CAMPUS THAT EMBRACES DIVERSITY AS PART OF COMING OUT WEEK. (CLASSES END AT 12:15 SO JOIN US DURING THE BREAK BETWEEN CLASSES BEFORE YOUR 12:30 CLASS)

THE CHRISTIAN CHENARD WALK WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE IS A STATEWIDE ACTION TO PROMOTE A VISION OF A MAINE WHERE ALL PEOPLE -- REGARDLESS OF SEXUAL ORIENTATION OR GENDER IDENTITY -- SHOULD FEEL SAFE AND RESPECTED TO WALK HAND-IN-HAND WITH THEIR SIGNIFICANT OTHERS.


Brought to you by
Athletes for Sexual Responsibility, Male Athletes Against Violence and the Sexual Health and Reproductive Education
ODI INVITES YOU TO

BISEXUAL BRUNCH!

Join us in community for some treats and a break from midterms!

October 18th
Memorial Union
Room 224
11am

All bi and multisexual identifying folks are welcome!

The University of Maine is an EO/AA institution
LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT

SPEND SOME TIME HAVING FUN, PLAYING GAMES & HANGING OUT WITH OTHER QUEER PEOPLE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH, 6-9 PM
IN THE MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER
ROOM 312 IN THE MEMORIAL UNION

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Hello! My name is Claudia Torres and I am the Critical Languages/VOX program coordinator in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics at the University of Maine.

The VOX program uses a self-instructional method for language learning. The major responsibility belongs to the student, who works with a tutor-instructor who is a native speaker of the target language. We are currently seeking a native Italian speaker interested in tutoring our Italian courses and a native Portuguese speaker interested in tutoring our Portuguese course in the Spring 2024 semester. If you are interested in becoming a tutor-instructor, please contact me at claudia.torres@maine.edu Thank you!

You can learn more about the VOX program by visiting our website: https://umaine.edu/mlandc/undergraduate-programs/critical-languages/

Best,
Claudia
SIGN UP FOR
CULTUREFEST
2023

Exhibit Tables • Food Court • Style Show
Kids' Games & Activities

November 4
11:00am-3:30pm
New Balance Recreation Center

Please help us make Culturefest a HUGE success! Sign up to participate in the events or volunteer to help as a coordinator.

Sign up at: https://umaine.edu/international/culturefest
Celebrating 50 Years LGBTQIA+ Liberation
Wilde Stein Club at University of Maine

October 13, 2023

Noon
Coe Lounge
Memorial Union
Plaque Dedication

12:30pm
Fogler Library
Exhibit Opening
Those who will know Pride;
The Start of the UMaine's Wilde Stein Club

2:00pm
Buchanan Alumni House & Zoom
Discussion
Wilde Stein: 50 years, an open discussion

Advanced registration is required:
https://forms.gle/JBspgP5DuMdlQmbB9
Be the Light. Be a Peacemaker.

1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>    Mon, Oct 16, 2023 at 4:22 PM
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu
IF EVERYTHING AROUND YOU SEEMS DARK, LOOK AGAIN, YOU MAY BE THE LIGHT.

RUMI

HAPPY SHARDIYA NAVRATRI

MAY MAA DURGA BLESS YOU WITH HAPPINESS, PROSPERITY AND HEALTH

Learn more about this Hindu Festival by clicking HERE
The 2023 Nobel Peace Prize was awarded to Narges Mohammadi, an imprisoned Iranian scientist, journalist and human rights activist, for her principled and persistent campaign against the increasingly repressive regime in Iran.
Dear Friends,
It has been a hard week, friends. Paying attention to the news consistently has brought me to my knees in prayer. There is so much blood, lives lost, pain, sufferings and destruction. In the midst of this, the war in Ukraine continues, there was an awful earthquake in Morocco, in Afghanistan, so much!
My thoughts centered on being the Peacemakers. From my religious text, there is a verse about being Peacemakers. It make me think, how could I, here in Maine, be a Peacemaker? What does it look like, friends? How can I facilitate this process?
I don't think it is about taking sides. It is not about being silent. So how can my physicality, my presence, my words, my actions be a conduit to peace? This is how my week has been...I have reached out to friends in my community - friends who are Jewish, and friends who are Palestinian and Iranian. For me, being peacemaker was just about telling folx I am thinking about you. Seeking ways to support them. Offering to pick up groceries, or cook dinner. Being a
peacemaker is about walking with friends emotionally as they process situations. It's really simple, friends. It's about creating and intentional space that is compassionate and healing. No one has really asked me my opinion, and that is point! It is not about me - or my opinions, feelings or really my views. Just allowing a friend to lean on me.

I stumbled on this quote by the famous Iranian poet Rumi this week that resonated with me. Translated, it reads, "If everything around you seems dark. Look again, you make be the Light." May our Light be used to facilitate peace.

Check out all of our other programs that are coming! I will discuss what inclusion is all about next week and other things.

In humility,
Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
ODI DiversiTEA Party Series Presents:

EXPECTATIONS OF ASEXUALITY

Monday, October 23rd, 12-1PM
Rainbow Resource Center
Memorial Union Room 224

Tea, coffee, and light snacks on us.

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
PROMOTION SERIES
OCTOBER 25TH & 26TH
4:00 PM - 6:00 PM
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS, 2ND FLOOR ALUMNI HALL

AN OPPORTUNITY MARKETED TOWARDS MARGINALIZED STUDENTS TO OBTAIN A HEADSHOT

GET 25 FREE NETWORK CARDS

REGISTER HERE

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION.
YOU'RE INVITED TO

Walk With The Ones You Love

WALK WITH THE ONES YOU LOVE 
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ROOM 312 IN THE MEMORIAL UNION

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
THE WABANAKI CENTER AND NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS PROUDLY PRESENTS

Indigenous Research Methodologies Conference

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 24th
10AM-3:30PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER ELIZABETH HUAMAN
10:00AM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1:00PM-3:00PM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BUCHANAN ALUMNI HOUSE
UNIVERSITY OF MAINE, ORONO

ELIZABETH HUAMAN IS AN INDIGENOUS SCHOLAR FOCUSING ON INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND PLACE-BASED EDUCATION, INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, AND DECOLONIAL RESEARCH DESIGN
SAS Presents ADHD Awareness Month & Mini Waffles

Join us along with other students for fresh and free mini waffles with toppings. Come to eat, chat, meet new people, and relax.

Thursday, October 26, 2023
11AM-1PM
East Annex Student Lounge

This event is free & open to everyone. To request a reasonable accommodation please contact Amy Coleman, amy.coleman@maine.edu or 207.581.2319
2023 Culturefest

SATURDAY, NOV. 4
11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A celebration of food, music
and fashion from around the
world

NEW BALANCE STUDENT
RECREATION CENTER
University of Maine

FREE ADMISSION

For more information or to
request a reasonable
accommodation call
581.3437

Cultural Affairs & Distinguished Lecture Series

The University of Maine System is an equal
opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Hello! My name is Claudia Torres and I am the Critical Languages/VOX program coordinator in the Department of Modern Languages and Classics at the University of Maine.

The VOX program uses a self-instructional method for language learning. The major responsibility belongs to the student, who works with a tutor-instructor who is a native speaker of the target language. We are currently seeking a native Italian speaker interested in tutoring our Italian courses and a native Portuguese speaker interested in tutoring our Portuguese course in the Spring 2024 semester. If you are interested in becoming a tutor-instructor, please contact me at claudia.torres@maine.edu Thank you!

You can learn more about the VOX program by visiting our website: https://umaine.edu/mlandc/undergraduate-programs/critical-languages/

Best,
Claudia
What is Inclusion Mean?

1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

Mon, Oct 23, 2023 at 8:12 PM

https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=483c7a7f8&view=pt&search=al...
Intersex Awareness Day
October 26th

“Intersex is an umbrella term for people with variations in the sex traits such as chromosomes, hormones or reproductive anatomy.”

“This day is a celebration of those people who make up 2% of the population yet are often rendered invisible. The day marks the first protest by intersex people against medical abuse and for bodily autonomy.”

https://interactadvocates.org/intersex-awareness-day/
Hello Friends!

Happy Fall Y'all! I hope you have a checklist of things going on for outdoorsy things you want to do this Fall. I hope you have a chance to peruse through our programs and consider attending a couple. If you are interested in writing for this newsletter or are interested in hosting a program, just let me know via email. If you want me to answer a question on here - let me know! I will do my best.

Black, Brown, Indigenous People of Color Support Group

Every Wednesday from 3pm - 4pm
Memorial Union 314
Facilitated by Tyler Dubois (They/she)

Please direct all inquiries to anila.karunakar@maine.edu
A few weeks ago, I introduced the definition of Diversity. To recap, diversity is simply about numbers, representation, percentages based on certain categories that the data collector deems important. So this data is based on the context of the labels on these categories. If this is what diversity is, then what is inclusion?

Inclusion builds on diversity. Now that we have defined our categories (like, all those who like red, or folx who have nut allergies, or those who have a passport, or those who are veterans, or folx who are part of the Q+ community, etc.), we can gather information of how many folx are present in each other these categories and the percentages of each who make up a specific community.

Here is the action part of inclusion: I am creating a massive conference. So I now make sure I send out invitations to each of the 'categories' of friends to make sure I can asking for their input. From getting input in selecting the theme, inviting presenters, deciding food options, to locations of breakout sessions to signage on accessibility to bathrooms, rooms and cafeteria, to who sits on the planning committee, etc. I want to make sure I am listening to all parts of my community to make sure I get buy in. As long as I am open to documenting opinion, suggestions, getting input - I am practicing inclusion.

We have learned that inclusion is not enough to help us be beings who practice equity. So then what is equity? Stay tuned to receive our next Newsletter, next week!

Sincerely,

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion
ODI October

**BEISEXUAL BRUNCH**
11AM-12PM, in the rainbow resource center, room 224 memorial union

**LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT**
6-9PM, in the multicultural student center, room 312 memorial union

**EXPECTATIONS OF ASEXUALITY**
12-1PM, in the rainbow resource center, room 224 memorial union

**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROMOTION SERIES**
2-4PM, marketing and communications, 2nd floor, alumni hall

**WOMEN OF COLOR WEDNESDAY**
7:30-8:30PM, in the multicultural student center, room 312 memorial union

**DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION PROMOTION SERIES**
2-4PM, marketing and communications, 2nd floor, alumni hall

**FLAG RAISING FOR INTERSEX AWARENESS DAY**

**SNACK AND CHAT: MASCULINITY AND FEMINITY**
4-5:30PM, in the multicultural student center, room 312 memorial union

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Thursday Dinner & Dialogue
in partnership with UMaine’s Office for Diversity and Inclusion

Creating Hope through Community Art
with the Wilson Center Board

5-7 PM (Note earlier time!)
Thursday October 26th
North Pod in the Union
All are welcome!

wilsoncenterorono@gmail.com for questions
The University of Maine is an equal opportunity / affirmative action institution
WOMEN OF COLOR WEDNESDAY

Pajama Party

Come chill, chat, and wear your favorite pajamas!

WEDNESDAY  OCTOBER 25TH  7:30-8:30 PM

MEMORIAL UNION ROOM 312

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EE/EO INSTITUTION
THE WABANAKI CENTER AND NATIVE AMERICAN PROGRAMS PROUDLY PRESENTS

Indigenous Research Methodologies Conference

TUESDAY
OCTOBER 24th
10AM-3:30PM

KEYNOTE SPEAKER ELIZABETH HUAMAN
10:00AM

BREAKOUT SESSIONS 1:00PM-3:00PM

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BUCHANAN ALUMNI HOUSE
UNIVERSITY OF MAIN, ORONO

ELIZABETH HUAMAN IS AN INDIGENOUS SCHOLAR FOCUSING ON INDIGENOUS KNOWLEDGE SYSTEMS AND PLACE-BASED EDUCATION, INDIGENOUS RIGHTS, AND DECOLONIAL RESEARCH DESIGN
SAS Presents ADHD Awareness Month & Mini Waffles

Join us along with other students for fresh and free mini waffles with toppings. Come to eat, chat, meet new people, and relax.

Thursday, October 26, 2023
11AM-1PM
East Annex Student Lounge

This event is free & open to everyone. To request a reasonable accommodation please contact Amy Coleman, amy.coleman@maine.edu or 207.581.2319
Snack & Chat: Masculinity & Femininity

Monday, Oct. 30th
4 PM TO 5:30 PM
Union - MSC RM. 312

Join us for drinks and desserts to discuss the nuances of masculinity and femininity in relation to ourselves and the world around us!

Coffee
Hot Chocolate
Cookies
Conversation!

The University of Maine is an EO/AA Institution
Hormone Replacement Therapy Workshop

Learn more about HRT with Aspen from the Mabel Wadsworth Center

Wednesday, November 1st, 12-1PM
In the Multicultural Student Center, memorial union room 312
FROM ODI TO YOU....

feliz
DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

November 1st - November 2nd
INTERESTED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY?

SOCIAL JUSTICE SATURDAYS: PLANNING WORKSHOP

Help us plan a brand new program series, focusing on social justice work and advocacy!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND
12:30-2:00PM
MSC, ROOM 312 IN THE MEMORIAL UNION

REGISTER HERE:

LUNCH PROVIDED

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TAYLOR ASHLEY:
TAYLOR.ASHLEY@MAINE.EDU

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EO/AA INSTITUTION
2023 Culturefest

SATURDAY, NOV. 4
11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

A celebration of food, music and fashion from around the world

NEW BALANCE STUDENT RECREATION CENTER
University of Maine

FREE ADMISSION

For more information or to request a reasonable accommodation call 581.3437

Cultural Affairs & Distinguished Lecture Series

The University of Maine System is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
LET'S GATHER!
TO CHAT, CHEW & BUILD

WHO: 2S/LGBTQ+ identifying folk
WHEN: 11/1/23 at 5 PM
WHERE: Room 312 Memorial Union
       Provisions provided!

RSVP here with your UMaine email:

OR USE THIS LINK TO RSVP

PRESENTED BY
2S/LGBTQ+ UMAINE FACULTY & STAFF AFFINITY GROUP
&
ODI
Department of History and the Canadian-American Center Present the Annual Robert Babcock Lecture

The Histories We Inherit: Concordia's Reckoning With the Pasts of Its Founding Institutions

Dr. Graham Carr
President and Vice-Chancellor
Concordia University, Montréal
October 30, 3:10 PM
Bodwell Lounge, Collins Center for the Arts

A University of Maine alumnus, Professor Graham Carr is president and vice-chancellor of Concordia University in Montreal, Canada. A historian by training and a long-time leader in higher education in Canada, Carr returns to his alma mater to explore the role universities can and should play in addressing the legacy of colonialism and anti-Black racism on campuses and in greater society. He will explore two case studies from Concordia’s recent history: a formal apology it issued for the role systemic racism played in student protests and their aftermath in 1969 as well as its response to the role two religious orders with ties to Concordia played in Canada’s infamous residential school system. In both examples, Concordia has had to come terms with the actions of its founding institutions. Please join us as we hear firsthand how Concordia’s university leadership is charting a course forward through two of the most important cultural topics of our day.

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity affirmative action institution. This lecture was supported in part by grant funding from the U.S. Department of Education’s Title VI National Resource Centers program. The content of this lecture do not necessarily represent the policy of the U.S. Department of Education, and you should not assume endorsement by the Federal Government.
This email was sent to matthew.revitt@maine.edu

why did I get this? unsubscribe from this list update subscription preferences

UMaine Multicultural Student Life · 5748 Memorial Union, 3rd Floor, Room 312 · Orono, Me 04469 · USA
Happy Halloween! And don't Culturally Appropriate!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu
FROM ODI TO YOU....

feliz DÍA DE LOS MUERTOS

November 1st - November 2nd
Learn more about this religious festival - [HERE](https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=483c7a7f8&view=pt&search=al...
Dear friends. I am going to spend some time talking about Inclusion some more over the next few weeks. Only because, there is so much to cover. Early on in my career, I learned a valuable lesson from an incredible community developer who works in Jackson, Mississippi named, Dr. John Perkins. He said that whenever we use a term that objectifies people, we dehumanize them. We went on to say that, when we dehumanize people, "...we distort the face of God." These words
stuck to my me. Mostly because sometimes, i find myself using words (I mean, not even harsh words!), to separate the humanity from people. Some extreme examples are "S" word used for Indigenous people or the "N" word used for Black folx. Anti Semitic or Islamophobic generalized sentiments. White Trash is another such phrase.
I have started to hear other subtle words in everyday vocabulary that communicate disdain when uttered like Republicans, Democrats, illegals, rednecks, conservative, liberals, pro-life or pro-choice etc. If we want inclusion, then it really takes all of us to be present to make it happen. AND it all of us should want it. It cannot happen if only one part of us are working toward inclusion. Inclusion requires action to listen and share. This process can be bumpy but the return investment is valuable. I have glimpses of it and those spaces are an absolute stunner!
I hope that we pay attention to the words we use when we speak about people. I hope that we are able to maintain the value of people when we speak about each other.
May we continue to check in with each other and continue to be kind to each other, friends.
Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion
Black, Brown, Indigenous People of Color Support Group

Every Wednesday from 3pm - 4pm
Memorial Union 314
Facilitated by Tyler Dubois (They/she)

Please direct all inquiries to anila.karunakar@maine.edu
7 Myths about Cultural Appropriation DEBUNKED!
2023 VETERANS WEEK
NOVEMBER 6TH-11TH

UMAINEDU/VETERANS

THURSDAY
11/2

ARMY ROTC VS NAVY ROTC FLAG FOOTBALL GAME - 6:30PM - RITCHIE FIELD, MAINE MARITIME ACADEMY - JOIN US FOR THE ANNUAL GAME OF THE BIGGEST RIVALRY IN THE COUNTRY! COME OUT TO SUPPORT OUR ARMY AND NAVY CADETS AS THEY TAKE EACH OTHER ON FOR SERVICE PRIDE!

MONDAY
11/6

FLAG CEREMONY - 12:00 PM - A FLAG RAISING CEREMONY WILL BE HELD ON THE MALL IN FRONT OF FOGLER LIBRARY TO CELEBRATE UMAINE VETERANS. THE US FLAG AND POW/MIA FLAG WILL BE RAISED IN HONOR OF THE VETERAN COMMUNITY.

THE VETERANS WEEK BBQ - MLK PLAZA - A BARBECUE WILL BE HELD AT THE MLK PLAZA TO CELEBRATE UMAINE VETERANS DIRECTLY FOLLOWING THE FLAG CEREMONY. HAMBURGERS AND HOTDOGS WILL BE SERVED.

TUESDAY
11/7

SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION PRESENTATION IN THE VETERANS CENTER - 12:00PM - STOP BY THE VETERANS CENTER AND JOIN US WITH SBA SENIOR AREA MANAGER JAMES PINEAU IN LEARNING ABOUT OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES AVAILABLE TO ENTREPRENEURS.

WEDNESDAY
11/8

LUNCH ON US - STARTING AT 11:00 AM - LUNCH VOUCHERS AVAILABLE TO STUDENT VETERANS ON CAMPUS. VOUCHER IS GOOD FOR SINGLE USE THIS WEEK. (LIMIT 100)

THURSDAY
11/9

GREEN ZONE TRAINING - 2:00 PM - BUMPS ROOM MEMORIAL UNION - GREEN ZONE TRAINING IS FOR FACULTY, STAFF, AND STUDENTS THAT WISH TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE STUDENT VETERAN EXPERIENCE. ITS GOALS ARE TO TRAIN MEMBERS OF THE UMAINE COMMUNITY TO KNOW MORE ABOUT THE ISSUES AND CONCERNS FACED BY STUDENT VETERANS AND TO IDENTIFY INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE AVAILABLE TO ASSIST THIS POPULATION.

FRIDAY
11/10

VETERANS DAY RECOGNIZED - NO CLASSES - VETERANS DAY (ORIGINALLY KNOWN AS ARMY VETERANS) IS A FEDERAL HOLIDAY IN THE UNITED STATES OBSERVED ANNUALLY ON NOVEMBER 11 FOR HONORING MILITARY VETERANS, THAT IS, PERSONS WHO HAVE SERVED IN THE UNITED STATES ARMED FORCES. IT COINCIDES WITH OTHER HOLIDAYS INCLUDING ARMISTICE DAY AND REMEMBRANCE DAY WHICH ARE CELEBRATED IN OTHER COUNTRIES MARKING THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE END OF WORLD WAR I.

MONDAY
11/13

UMAINE VETERAN FACULTY AND STAFF COMMUNITY CONNECTION - 4:00 PM - VETERANS CENTER MEMORIAL UNION - CATERED BY MOE'S BBQ - IN COLLABORATION WITH THE OFFICE FOR DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION CONTACT UMAINE VETERANS CENTER: 581-1316 5748 MEMORIAL UNION RM 161 UM.VETERANS@UMAINE.EDU WWW.UMAINE.EDU/VETERANS

THE UNIVERSITY OF
MAINE
Student Life
Veterans Education and Transition Services
Wabanaki Voices Series
Fall 2023

Please join us November 1, 2023 at 1 PM in Torrey 230 for a talk with Nolan Altvater

“Elatkuhkalkiyiq”
How our stories are told about us

Nolan will engage in a discussion revolving around place based approaches to the preservation of petroglyphs, oral history, and other cultural heritage in a digital world that is shaped by colonial history and policies of intellectual property.

maine.zoom.us/j/81991804114

Nolan Altvater, Passamaquoddy from Sipayik, is the Special Projects Coordinator for the Passamaquoddy Cultural Heritage Museum in Motahkomikuk.

They are currently an Interdisciplinary studies PhD Student at the University of Maine focusing in Native American Studies.

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Hormone Replacement Therapy Workshop

Learn more about HRT with Aspen from the Mabel Wadsworth Center

Wednesday, November 1st, 12-1PM
In the Multicultural Student Center, memorial union room 312

The University of Maine is an EO/AA institution
INTERESTED IN SOCIAL JUSTICE AND ADVOCACY?

SOCIAL JUSTICE SATURDAYS: PLANNING WORKSHOP

Help us plan a brand new program series, focusing on social justice work and advocacy!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2ND  
12:30-2:00PM  
MSC, ROOM 312 IN THE MEMORIAL UNION

REGISTER HERE:

LUNCH PROVIDED

QUESTIONS? CONTACT TAYLOR ASHLEY:
TAYLOR.ASHLEY@MAINE.EDU

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAIN IS AN EO/AA INSTITUTION
FIRST FRIDAY BAGELS
BROUGHT TO YOU BY
CNTSP & ODI!

Friday, November 3rd from 8:30-10:30
ODI & CNTSP are partnering to bring you Friday Bagels!
Located in the Wade Center- the bottom floor of the Memorial Union.

Stop by for a chance to win prizes!

Bagels are provided by Bagel Central.
2023 Culturefest

SATURDAY, NOV. 4
11 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.
A celebration of food, music and fashion from around the world

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University of Maine
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Cultural Affairs & Distinguished Lecture Series

The University of Maine System is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
LET'S GATHER!
TO CHAT, CHEW & BUIDL

WHO: 2SLGBTQ+ identifying folk
WHEN: 11/1/23 at 5 PM
WHERE: Room 312 Memorial Union
Provisions provided!

RSVP here with your UMaine email:

OR USE THIS LINK TO RSVP

PRESENTED BY
2SLGBTQ+ UMAINE FACULTY & STAFF AFFINITY GROUP
& 
ODI
Happy Veteran's Week and Vote!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
To: matthew.revitt@maine.edu

University of Maine System Mail - Happy Veteran's Week and Vote!
https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0/?ik=483c7a7ff8&view=pt&search=all...
WE CAN BOMB THE WORLD TO PIECES;

WE CAN'T BOMB IT TO PEACE.
LUNCH & LEARN
RACIAL CONSCIOUSNESS WITH
RAPHAEL OKUTORO

REALIZING THE CONSCIOUSNESS OF OUR
RACE AS FIRST-GENERATION COLLEGE
STUDENTS OF COLOR

WEDNESDAY
NOVEMBER 8TH
12-1 PM

Multicultural Student Center Room 312
Free lunch catered by Efia's Kitchen

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Women of Color Wednesday

BARBIE TAKEOVER!

DRESS AS YOUR FAVORITE BARBIE! OR EVEN BETTER, BE YOUR OWN KIND OF BARBIE!

Nov 8th Memorial Union Room 312 from 7:30 to 8:30 PM

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
DIVERSIFY EDUCATION ABROAD

Nov. 12
11am - 1pm
Location

Free Boba!
Catered by China Garden!

Join the Office for International Programming for an informational session about Study Abroad!

Asian Student Association
The University of Maine is an EE/EO institution
UMaine Veteran Community Connections Dinner

University of Maine staff and faculty

Join us for a free dinner!
Catered by Moe’s BBQ!

Monday, November 13th
4 pm - 5:30 pm

1st floor of the Memorial Union
Veteran Center, room 161

Moe’s Original
EST | BBQ | 88

Contact ODI@maine.edu with any questions!
The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Mens Mental Health

An open discussion on men and their relationship with mental health

EVENT CATERED BY:

BAGEL CENTRAL

Wednesday, November 15th, 12 PM - 1 PM
Multicultural Student Center, Memorial Union room 312

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
YOU BELONG

FRIENDS & FAMILY FEAST
Community, Culture, and Cuisine!

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16TH
NORTH POD MEMORIAL UNION
5PM - 6:30PM

Questions or Accommodations, Contact ODI@maine.edu
The University of Maine is an EE/OO Institution
LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY GAME NIGHT

SPEND SOME TIME HAVING FUN, PLAYING GAMES & HANGING OUT WITH OTHER QUEER PEOPLE

LAST ONE FOR THE SEMESTER!

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17TH, 6:30-9 PM IN THE MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER ROOM 312 IN THE MEMORIAL UNION
Black, Brown, Indigenous People of Color Support Group

Every Wednesday from 3pm - 4pm
Memorial Union 314
Facilitated by Tyler Dubois (They/she)

Please direct all inquiries to anila.karunakar@maine.edu
QTPOC Craft Night

Wednesday 29th November from 5 PM to 6:30 PM

Memorial Union Rainbow Resource Center Room 224

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
ODI November Events

2023

WED 1
10-10:30 AM: Native American Heritage Month Flag Raising on the Mall
12-1 PM: Lunch & Learn HRT Workshop with Mabel Wadsworth in the Multicultural Student Center

FRI 3
8:30-10:30 AM: ODI and Wade Center Pride Bagels in the Wade Center

TUE 7
2-4 PM: Diversity and Inclusion Promotion Series in the Multicultural Student Center

WED 8
2-4 PM: Diversity and Inclusion Promotion Series
7:30-8:30 PM: Women of Color Wednesday in the Multicultural Student Center
11:30-12:30 PM: Lunch and Learn: Racial Consciousness with Raphael Okutoro

NOV 14
12-1 PM: Lunch & Learn w/ Joe Robbins: Indigenous Foods (Past, Present, and Future)

WED 15
12-1 PM: Men’s Mental Health Discussion in the MSC

THU 16
5-7 PM: ODI Friends & Family Feast in the North Pod

FRI 17
6:30-9 PM: LGBTQ+ Community Game Night in the Multicultural Student Center
4:5 PM: International Coffee Hour in the North Pod

WED 29
5-6:30 PM: QTPOC Craft Night in the Rainbow Resource Center

THU 30
5-7 PM: Native American Community Connections Dinner in the Multicultural Student Center

Celebrating Native American Heritage Month
Happy November Friends.
I hope you all had a chance to gather around some good food at Culture Fest. If you missed it, make sure you plan for it next year. It was nothing short of a delicious banquet! Thank you to OIP and all the students for such a wonderful.

Happy Veterans Week! I hope you will consider supporting our campus veteran students and their families celebrating this week together. Please refer to the Veteran’s Week schedule included above.

Another very important aspect of inclusion is listening. It seems so
basic and yet, it is so hard to do well. A good place to start is evaluating what I need to be a better listener. A really distracting barrier, for me, is a TV. Make sure that I am not facing any moving images on a screen. I am notoriously known to get a glazed look on my face if there is a TV around! Another barriers is when someone is talking to me in a loud tone. Note that context matters. Many of the folx who are upset come to my office come to be heard and validated. It was important for me to understand this. And IF I wanted to be a good listener, I needed to manage my emotions and decenter myself to listen. Some need space to pace as they talk with their hands and their bodies. Some use flowery language. It takes practice and intention to be present when bodies are speaking. Listening is the best we can do. Being a good listener in itself is healing and restorative. Being heard is healing. Listening is what Peacemakers do. We insist on it, friends.

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion
Trans Day or Remembrance and May your Harvest be Bountiful!

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
Mon, Nov 20, 2023 at 5:25 PM

To:

Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>

Trans Day or Remembrance and May your Harvest be Bountiful!
Transgender Day of Remembrance

Candlelight Vigil
6 pm November 20
Fogler Library Steps
Save a Turkey!
Eat more Chicken.

SERIOUSLY?!?
YOU'RE ON THE MENU LIKE ONE DAY A YEAR YA BIG WUSS! TRY BEIN' AH LOBSTAH' SURVIVIN' A WHOLE SUMMAH IN MAINE!!
Hey Y’all!

Are you as excited about the long break as I am?! I am excited that I will be surrounded by my mom, dear friends and we are going to celebrate by eating lots of delicious Indian food (from India!).

Continuing our conversation on inclusion, I want to take a moment and thank all of our Veterans for their work, sacrifices, commitment, obedience, and care. I am grateful. Last week we took a day to honor our Veterans. I had the privilege of going through a Green Zone Training here at UMaine. If you are looking for ways to support the Veteran staff, faculty and students here on campus, I encourage you to sign up. You can do so HERE.

Today, we take a moment to recognize Trans Day of Remembrance, November 20th. It is a day to remember the lives of Trans folx lost due to violence or death. It is 2023, friends, and in this year alone, we have lost a
total of 434 Trans people. Our own UMaine graduate, Wynter Appleford, draws in us into understanding and charges us with action through their article "Transgender Day of Remembrance 2023."

I hope you will take time to join us for a vigil to remember the lives lost, today on the steps of Fogler Library at 6pm. This even is hosted by UMaine's Wilde Stein. Scroll down for a list of agencies to support monetarily or even learn more about.

On a joyous note, I learned that for the first time, there were two trans women who proudly represented their countries at the Miss Universe pageant. Regardless of my personal opinions about the show, I am proud that all women have the agency to be an equal representation on that grand stage! So check out the stunning Miss Portugal, Marina Machete, and Miss Netherlands, Rikkie Kolle. Also, Miss Nepal, Jane Dipika Garrett, the first plus size (umm a rather normal regular sized individual, really) to grace the stage as well.

Friends, Thanksgiving is just over the bend. I know you must be gearing up to spend time with family, friends or spend time relaxing. Align with your values of inclusion and center Native American Heritage Day. Be safe on the road. Be kind to each other. Find ways to center the meal with your own traditional favorite foods to help recenter this time to celebrate bounty, harvest, friends and family.

Sincerely,

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion
SHAC IS BACK

THANK YOU ALL, FOR A SUCCESSFUL
FRIENDS AND FAMILY FEAST!

COMMUNITY, CULTURE, AND CUISINE

Keep in touch with us on Instagram for future events!
Contact: jon.guzman@maine.edu

A THANKS TO THE FOOD PROVIDERS
QTPOC Craft Night

Wednesday 29th November
from 5 PM to 6:30 PM

Memorial Union
Rainbow Resource Center
Room 224

The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
Shades of Belonging: Painting Our Homes

Paint what or where your home is with us!

catered with Applebee's

December 6 from 12 to 2 pm
Rainbow Resource Center and
Intersectional Feminist Resource Center
2nd Floor of Memorial Union
Chosen Family. Let the gratitude continue!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
To: 

Mon, Nov 27, 2023 at 7:51 PM
Welcome back dear friends!
Glad you are back. I hope you brought fond memories and full bellies!
I spent many long years before getting the privilege of doing life together with my parents. When I was in college, I worked in food services, and students like me, international, would often be asked to take on extra shifts for Parents Weekend, Sibling Weekend, or Grandparent Weekend. Most of us students gladly took on the extra hours knowing fully well, that if our families were here, we would have wanted someone else to take our shifts. During those days, when it was $0.98/min to call home, we barely share much to those back home. With a small group of international friends, we formed family. I am forever thankful I got to experience belonging with some amazing people.
After graduation, I was embraced by a family who continue to call me theirs. Family. Chosen Family - what a concept! An immeasurable and priceless gift. We choose to draw into each other - again and again, for the
past 24 years. I learn to chuck corn and they learned to make Chicken Curry! I learned to make Turkey and they learned how to make Christmas more Indian. I spend many holidays with this family and call them, Mom, Dad, Grandpa, Grandma, brothers, sisters. While they crossed the ocean to call mine Amma, Abbu, Nanamma, Atta, Nana and Peddamama. Without this Chosen Family of mine, I would not have able to even survive. To belong means paying attention to who is there and who is not and who is left out. I have been left out. But, oh! the feeling to be accepted and to belong!

This past week, I experiences a grand privilege. I was granted the privilege to extend my table. Oh! to have a chosen family and a bigger oh! to be crowned a chosen family. May we learn to list the things we are grateful for. May we aspire to do the same.

Sincerely,
Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion
QTPOC
Craft
Night

Wednesday 29th November
from 5 PM to 6:30 PM

Memorial Union Rainbow Resource Center
Room 224

ODI
Office for Diversity and Inclusion
The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.
DIVERSITY & INCLUSION
PROMOTION SERIES
NOVEMBER 30TH
2:00 PM - 4:00 PM
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS, 2ND FLOOR ALUMNI HALL

AN OPPORTUNITY MARKETED TOWARDS ALL STUDENTS TO RECEIVE A FREE HEADSHOT

REGISTER HERE

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QUESTIONS? EMAIL: JOHN.GUZMAN@M AINE.EDU

THE UNIVERSITY OF MAINE IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY/AFFIRMATIVE ACTION INSTITUTION.
Shades of Belonging: Painting Our Homes

Paint what or where your home is with us!

Catered with Applebee's

December 6 from 12 to 2 pm
Rainbow Resource Center and Intersectional Feminist Resource Center
2nd Floor of Memorial Union
WILSON CENTER

BEAN SUPPER FUNDRAISER

FOOD | CONVERSATION | SILENT AUCTION
LIVE MUSIC | ALL ARE WELCOME!

DINE-IN and TAKE-OUT options
RSVPs appreciated at bit.ly/WilsonCenterBeanFundraiser

HOSTED AT THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST SOCIETY
OF BANGOR | 120 PARK ST, BANGOR, ME

SUNDAY DEC 3
4-6PM
FREEWILL DONATION

Questions? 207-866-4227 or wilsoncenterorono@gmail.com
ASIAN STUDENT ASSOCIATIONS PRESENTS

Karaoke Night

6-7PM
MULTICULTURAL CENTER ROOM 312
WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29TH
Blood Drive
University of Maine
Collins Center for the Arts
Whole First Floor
2 Flagstaff Road
Orono, ME 4469

Tuesday, December 5, 2023
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Wednesday, December 6, 2023
11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Please call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit RedCrossBlood.org and enter: UMAINE to schedule an appointment.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.

Schedule your blood donation appointment today!
1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

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Happy Everyone!
1 message

UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>  
Reply-To: UMaine Office for Diversity and Inclusion <Anila.karunakar@maine.edu>
To:  
Mon, Dec 11, 2023 at 6:30 PM

University of Maine Office for Diversity and Inclusion
You Belong
We are on Penobscot Land
Hanukkah blessings

BLESS ED ARE YOU, LORD OUR GOD, KING OF THE UNIVERSE, WHO PERFORMED MIRACLES FOR OUR FOREFATHERS IN THOSE DAYS, AT THIS TIME.

Hello Friends!

Happy Hanukkah to all of our dear friends, families and community members who observe this festival of Lights!

Merry Christmas to all our friends, families and community members who observe this glorious season!
To my people,
I hope you are able to round this year reminiscing all the wonderful things you were a part of! As I do the same, I remember the good and not-so-good things. I rejoice in the good and I strive to right my wrongs by doing and being better.

Even in the midst of soaking in the good, love and abundance;
* find small ways to extend your table,
* check-in with a loved one who might be homebound,
* reach out to someone whom you have not spoken to in a long time (I need to do this!),
* send a note to a friend letting them know you are thinking about them.

This season can be isolating and lonely for some. The war between Israel and Palestine continues to weight on our community. The war in Russia and Ukraine continues to cause anxiety for some in our community. Check-in with each other simply means asking questions sensitively like
* How are you?
* How can I support you?
* What are you doing over the weekend, want to get a manicure together?
* Let's grab a bite to eat at....
* What do you think about the Golden Bachelor?
* What is something fun you want to do over the holidays?

I hope for peace, safety in travels, joyous moments with friends/family/community, good food and lots of laughter.
Take care of yourselves and each other and we'll see you in the Spring of 2024!

Sincerely,
Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)
anila.karunakar@maine.edu
Director for Diversity and Inclusion