



The 2012-2013 year was filled with excitement at the Multicultural Center. There was always a program or event to look forward to, and our staff was hard at work ensuring the highest quality in programming. To all those who have made the Multicultural Center part of their UTC experience during this past year, we say thank you. You all make the Multicultural Center that special home away from home that it is.

As the school year comes to an end, we look back on many fond memories throughout the year. For some students, this was the last year at UTC. For many others, we look forward to welcoming you back in the fall. To the graduating students, we say "well done" and we wish you great success as you embark on your post collegiate life. We are extremely proud of you and will surely miss you. To those continuing in the fall, have a safe and enjoyable summer vacation. Whether you're graduating, returning, taking summer classes, or going back home, be sure to take some time to do something fun and exciting; and always remember that diversity is the one true thing we all have in common so celebrate it every day!

SPRING 2013 IN REVIEW

Below is a recap of some of the activities that the Office of Multicultural Affairs was involved in during the spring semester.

JANUARY

The year started off with the Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration Breakfast held at the Chattanooga Room in the University Center. More than 100 UTC students, faculty, staff and invited guests from the Greater Chattanooga Community were present at this event. The guest of honor was our keynote speaker, Civil Rights and Peace Activist, Ms. Diane Nash, who was featured in the film 'The Freedom Riders'. Below is a pic of some students posing with Ms. Nash.



The Office of Multicultural Affairs was a generous contributor, along with the Student Development Department, the Office of Equity and Diversity, the Women Center, and Greek and Fraternity Life, to the much anticipated first ever UTC to DC Presidential Inauguration trip. A total of 32 students and 6 staff members left UTC on January 19th to brace the cold temperatures of the nation's capital to be a part of history and represent the Blue and Gold at the 2nd Presidential Inauguration of President Barack Obama. Despite a tight schedule, the group was able to do some sight-seeing to places like the MLK Memorial, the Holocaust Museum, the Smithsonian Natural History Museum, and the Lincoln Memorial. Before returning to Chattanooga, the group also visited the George Washington University campus and engaged in an interactive meet and greet session with some of the GWU students. By all accounts, this trip was truly memorable and we were indeed proud to be a part of it.



UTC to DC Trip Participants

In January, we decided to start the year off on a sound financial footing for our Ladies' Night program, with the theme 'Women and Financial Independence: A Man is Not A Plan'. Two guest presenters joined us from the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults. They delivered an entertaining, yet very educational presentation on the importance of making wise financial decisions and practical steps that college students could take to ensure a bright financial future. The ladies present were very appreciative of Ms. Sara Oster and Ms. Gideon Thomas for the information shared at that program. Below are some of the ladies who attended, along with Ms. Thomas on the far left and Ms. Oster on the far right.



Trip participants at the Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial

A tribute to Brittney....



To many, she is affectionately known as 'Bear'. To others, she's known as 'B-King'. Regardless of the name you know her by, it's hard *not* to know her. Brittney King has been the Graduate Assistant in the Office of Multicultural Affairs for the past year and a half, and she will be graduating this spring, or as she would say, "on May 4th at 10 a.m."

While Brittney will be missed tremendously, we are all extremely proud of her and her accomplishments. Her passion, devotion, and determination to succeed serve as an inspiration to so many, and her infectious laugh has brought joy to so many more.

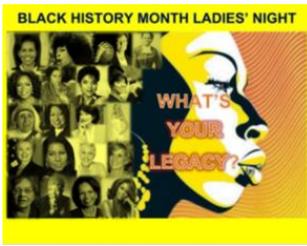
Brittney, know that we are all so proud of you and we wish you every success in your future endeavors!!!

Your MCC Family

FEBRUARY

The month of February was non-stop action at the Multicultural Center. We celebrated Black History Month with a month-long calendar of events under a central theme, "Leaving a Legacy".

Among the many activities were: the Alumni Legacy Luncheon; Ladies' Night program, "What's Your Legacy?"; Soul Poetry Night featuring J. Whaley; The Sankofa African American Museum on Wheels; Movie Mondays; Breakfast Bunch Program, "Your UTC Legacy"; and the grand finale was the Black History Month Play, "Our Story: Diaspora".



'What's Your Legacy' Poster



'Our Story: Diaspora' Participants



Acapella Group which performed at Diaspora



Sankofa artifacts

MARCH

For the Month of March, the Office of Multicultural Affairs celebrated Women's History Month by collaborating with the Women Center to co-host a book club. We all read the book "Ain't I a Woman: Black Women and Feminism" by author Bell Hooks. On Tuesday, February 26th, a diverse group of about 15 women met in the Multicultural Center for an interesting and spirited discussion about the book and their interpretation and personal experiences surrounding some of the themes presented in the book.



In addition to the book club, we also hosted a special Breakfast Bunch to commemorate Women's History Month. Ms. Vanasia Conley Parks, Associate Vice Chancellor Business and Finance, and Ms. Laura Herron, then Interim Athletics Director were the special guests. The two ladies shared some of their personal experiences as leaders in the workplace. It was a very interesting and interactive forum with about 13 young ladies, who received some very practical advice about life, school and work.

APRIL

In April, members of the Minority Mentorship Program took part in a community service activity by volunteering at the Partnership for Families, Children and Adults. Students assisted the Youth Services division in their relocation efforts. Afterwards, everyone went to Urban Stack to enjoy a meal. Below are the members of the volunteer team.



Towards the end of the semester, the Minority Mentorship Program participants spent an enjoyable day at Six Flags Over Georgia and then went to Dave & Busters for dinner and more fun.



The Office of Multicultural Affairs wishes to say



to the Class of 2013!!!!!!!

Find Yourself

We are all trying to figure out where we belong in life
Where we fit, where we stand

What we stand for and what to stand for and against
We are told we have to stand for something or we will fall for anything

Causes, we search for
Effects, we choose

And we look for effective causes to activate our way to the top, but what happened to reaching bottom? Reaching the bottom helps one to figure how to reach new heights, sky's the limit, no matter your phenotype no matter your stereotypes, everyone has a right to accomplish and achieve, so is your status or circumstance holding you down or is it you, are you standing in the way of you figuring out where u belong, where u fit, what to stand for??

Diversity is what makes this world what it is, if we were all the same this world would be close to meaningless, our choices our styles are what make up our worlds;
We think, therefore we exist
we breathe, we live, thrive, die
We learn because ignorance is far from bliss
Live to the fullest so life doesn't pass you by
Find where u fit, where u belong, find yourself in the midst of diversity, not to necessarily fit in but to stand out

Find yourself

- Davreeka Audura Hughes (UTC Sophomore)