



# Center for Multicultural Education

**FALL 2015 ISSUE**

## In this Issue:

Message from the Coordinator	Page 1
Hispanic Heritage Month Icon	Page 2
LGBT History Month Icon	Page 3
Native American Heritage Month Icon	Page 4

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## Message from the Coordinator



My name is Latoya Fitzpatrick, and I am the Coordinator in the Center for Multicultural Education here at Missouri Western State University. We are thrilled to have you be a part of our campus & community. I wanted to give you an overview of the Center for Multicultural Education. We are here to serve you by maintaining an open door policy, assisting you in finding campus resources to help you be successful, supporting and advising student groups, and encouraging student involvement and leadership opportunities. We strive to educate students through programming, community involvement, and educational workshops. We recognize our students come from diverse backgrounds, which help to enhance the educational experience of all students on our campus. We invite all students to connect with our office through an office visit, a phone call, social media interactions, or an email.

For further questions or information, stop by the Center for Multicultural Education on the second floor of the Nelle Blum Union, Room 210. I can be reached by phone at (816) 271-4150 or via email at cme@missouriwestern.edu. Our hours of operation are Monday – Friday from 8:00 am until 4:30 pm. I have also included a brochure to provide you further information about our department.

Sincerely,

Latoya Fitzpatrick



## Fall 2015 Upcoming Events

- Aug. 31: Western Warm Up  
11am-2pm Blum Walkway
- Sept. 1: The Hunting Ground  
6pm Fulkerson Center
- Sept. 2: Ice Cream Social  
11:30am-1pm Blum Lobby
- Sept. 3: Community Service  
3pm-5pm Meet in Blum 210
- Sept. 16: Way Back Wednesday  
4pm Blum 207
- Sept. 16: Movie Night: McFarland USA  
6pm Blum 223
- Sept. 30: Hispanic Heritage Banquet  
6pm Enright 214-216
- Oct. 7: Way Back Wednesday  
4pm Blum 207
- Oct. 8: Hot Topic  
6pm Spratt 214
- Oct. 14: Drag Show  
7pm Fulkerson Center
- Oct. 20: The Case Against 8  
6pm Blum 222-223
- Oct. 21: Gay Marriage Panel  
7pm Murphy 103
- Nov. 2-5: Tunnel of Oppression  
10am-5pm Blum 223
- Nov. 11: Way Back Wednesday  
4pm Blum 207
- Nov. 17: Native Heritage Dancers  
7pm Spratt 101
- Nov. 18: Hot Topic  
6pm Spratt 214

## Hispanic Heritage Month Icon: Cesar Chavez

Born near Yuma, Arizona, on March 31, 1927, Cesar Chavez employed nonviolent means to bring attention to the plight of farmworkers, and formed both the National Farm Workers Association, which later became United Farm Workers. As a labor leader, Chavez led marches, called for boycotts and went on several hunger strikes. It is believed that Chavez's hunger strikes contributed to his death on April 23, 1993, in San Luis, Arizona.



Union leader and labor organizer Cesar Chavez was born Cesario Estrada Chavez near Yuma, Arizona. Chavez dedicated his life to improving the treatment, pay and working conditions for farm workers. He knew all too well the hardships farm workers faced. When he was young, Chavez and his family toiled in the fields as migrant farm workers.

After working as a community and labor organizer in the 1950s, Chavez founded the National Farm Workers Association in 1962. This union joined with the Agricultural Workers Organizing Committee in its first strike against grape growers in California in 1965. A year later, the two unions merged, and the resulting union was renamed the United Farm Workers in 1972.

In early 1968, Chavez called for a national boycott of California table grape growers. Chavez's battle with the grape growers for improved compensation and labor conditions would last for years. At the end, Chavez and his union won several victories for the workers when many growers signed contracts with the union. He faced more challenges through the years from other growers and the Teamsters Union. All the while, he continued to oversee the union and work to advance his cause.

As a labor leader, Chavez employed nonviolent means to bring attention to the plight of farm workers. He led marches, called for boycotts and went on several hunger strikes. He also brought the national awareness to the dangers of pesticides to workers' health. His dedication to his work earned him numerous friends and supporters, including Robert Kennedy and Jesse Jackson.

It is believed that Chavez's hunger strikes contributed to his death: He died on April 23, 1993, in San Luis, Arizona.

*Adapted from: <http://www.biography.com/people/cesar-chavez-9245781>*



## 2015 Religious & Cultural Calendar

- Aug. 6: Transfiguration (Christian)
- Aug. 15: Dormition of Theotokos (Christian)
- Aug. 15: Bon/Obon (Buddhist)
- Aug. 28: Ullambana/Ghost Festival (Buddhist)
- Aug. 28: Onam (Hindu)
- Aug. 29: Raksha/Bandham (Hindu)
- Sept. 5: Krishna Jayanti (Hindu)
- Sept. 13-15: Rosh Hashanah (Jewish)
- Sept. 14: Triumph of the Cross (Christian)
- Sept. 17: Ganesh Chaturthi (Hindu)
- Sept. 21: Radhashtami (Hindu)
- Sept. 22-23: Yom Kippur (Jewish)
- Sept. 26: American Indian Day (Cultural Celebration)
- Sept. 27-29: Sukkot (Jewish)
- Oct. 2: Feat of Guardian Angels (Christian)
- Oct. 4: Hoshanah Rabbah (Jewish)
- Oct. 4-5: Shemini Atzeret (Jewish)
- Oct. 5: Eid Al-Adha (Muslim)
- Oct. 5-6: Simchat Torah (Jewish)
- Oct. 12: Spanish National Day (Cultural Celebration)
- Oct. 13-22: Navrati (Hindu)
- Oct. 13-14: Muharram (Muslim)
- Oct. 15-Nov. 12: Al-Hijra/Muharram (Muslim)
- Oct. 20: Birth of Guru Granth (Buddhist)
- Oct. 24: Ashura (Muslim)
- Oct. 31: All Hallow's Eve Reformation Day (Christian)
- All November: Native American Heritage Month (Cultural Celebration)
- Nov. 1: All Saints Day (Christian)
- Nov. 2: All Souls' Day (Christian)
- Nov. 2: Dia de los Muertos (Cultural Celebration)
- Nov. 11: Diwali (Hindu & Sikh)
- Nov. 24: Martyrdom of Guru Tegh Bahadur (Sikh)
- Nov. 25: Birth of Guru Nanak (Sikh)
- Nov. 26: Thanksgiving (Cultural Celebration)
- Nov. 29: Beginning of Advent (Christian)
- Dec. 6-14: Hanukkah (Jewish)
- Dec. 8: Bodhi Day (Buddhist)
- Dec. 8: Feast of Immaculate Conception (Christian)
- Dec. 12: Our Lady of Guadalupe (Christian)
- Dec. 24: Christmas Eve (Christian)
- Dec. 25: Christmas (Christian)
- Dec. 26-31: Kwanzaa (Cultural Celebration)
- Dec. 31: New Year's Eve (Cultural Celebration)

## LGBT History Month Icon: Lee Daniels

Lee Daniels is an Academy Award nominated producer, director, screenwriter and actor.

Daniels survived a traumatic childhood after being caught wearing his mother's pumps, he was violently assaulted by his father. Torment also followed Daniels to school. He was gay and black in a predominantly white school.



At age 21, Daniels started a nurse-staffing agency, which he sold a year later. The sale made him a millionaire and allowed him to pursue his dream of working in the entertainment industry. He first worked as a casting director and later as a talent manager. He built a client base of Academy Award winners and nominees, most of whom later worked in Daniels's films. Daniels became a Hollywood force in 2001 when his production company released "Monster's Ball," a movie for which Halle Berry won the Oscar for Best Actress. Daniels later directed the film "Precious." His

experience as a sexually abused child inspired his direction of the film. "Precious" received six

Academy Award nominations, including Best Director and earned two Academy Awards. In 2012 his film "The Paperboy," with Nicole Kidman, was nominated for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival. In 2013 Daniels directed the critically

acclaimed film "The Butler," with Oprah Winfrey, Forest Whitaker, John Cusack, Jane Fonda and Mariah Carey.

Lee Daniels also created the hit show "Empire" on ABC that follows the life of a successful music business owner who has to choose one of his son's to run the music business after he was diagnosed with a neurodegenerative disease that will eventually kill him.

*Adapted from: <http://www.lgbthistorymonth.com/lee-daniels?tab=biography>*





## 2015 Campus Dates

- Aug. 31: Classes Begin
- Sept. 7: Labor Day Holiday
- Sept. 11: 1st Financial Aid Disbursement
- Sept. 18: 1st Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Sept. 20: Federal Work-Study Disbursement
- Oct. 2: 1st Time Freshman Borrower 30 Day Delay Financial Aid Disbursement
- Oct. 9: 1st Time Freshman Borrower 30 Day Delay Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Oct. 20: Federal Work-Study Disbursement
- Oct. 28: Mid-term Grades Due
- Oct. 30: 2nd Financial Aid Disbursement
- Nov. 6: 2nd Business Office Disbursement (Refund Check)
- Nov. 6: Last day to Withdraw
- Nov. 9: Registration Begins for Spring
- Nov. 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement
- Nov. 22-29: Fall Break (no classes/campus closed)
- Dec. 11: Last Day of classes
- Dec. 12-18: Final Exams
- Dec. 19: Commencement
- Dec. 20: Federal Work Study Disbursement
- Dec. 21: Final Grades Due
- Dec. 24-Jan. 3: Campus Closed
- Jan. 4: Campus Re-opens
- Jan. 19: Classes begin

## Native American Heritage Month Icon: Bunky Echo-Hawk

Bunky Echo-Hawk is a multi-talented artist whose work spans both media and lifestyle. A graduate of the Institute of American Indian Arts, he is a fine artist, graphic designer, photographer, writer and a non-profit professional. Bunky is a traditional singer and dancer of the Pawnee Nation and an enrolled member of the Yakama Nation.



Throughout his career, he has merged traditional values with his lifestyle and art. He has exhibited in major exhibitions throughout the United States and internationally, including in NYC, Chicago, Denver, Santa Fe, and Frankfurt, Germany, to name a few. His poetry has been published in magazines and anthologies, and his plays have been performed and produced across the nation.

Bunky speaks at conferences, conducts workshops and teaches both art and writing. As an advocate and an educator, Bunky travels extensively, creating live works of art for auction. Through his art, Bunky has raised thousands of dollars for non-profits. Bunky begins the performance by creating a dialogue with the audience, where socially relevant and meaningful discussion takes place. He guides the

audience through conceptualizing a painting, which he creates on the spot for the host organization, while participants continue to contribute their ideas, opinions and personal testimony.

In 2006, Bunky co-founded NVision, serving as Executive Director until 2009. NVision is a nonprofit collective of Native American artists, musicians, community organizers, and nonprofit professionals who focus on Native American youth empowerment through multimedia arts.

Bunky is the 2012 Eiteljorg Museum Artist in Residence. In 2008, the First Peoples Fund named him a Business in Leadership Fellow. Bunky was also nominated for the United States Artist Fellowship in 2008 and received the 2008 Boulder County Multicultural Award.

Nike signed Bunky in 2010, to design for the Nike N7 line. Bunky lives and works in Pawnee, Oklahoma. Missouri Western brought Bunky to campus in November of 2014 where he drew a live painting and named it "Buck Skin Barbie." The painting is currently hanging in the office of the Vice President of Student Affairs office, Shana Meyer.

*Adapted from: <http://bunkyechohawk.com/bio/>*