

CULTURAL EVENTS

Broaden your cultural perspective, enhance your leadership skills, and develop life-long friendships by attending AND participating in the planning of many programs and events co-sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Programs and VU's multicultural student organizations. Each event has a Planning Committee that meets and interacts during the stages of event planning. And, events are open to all students, faculty, staff, and community members. Student organizations involved in planning and co-funding major events with the Office of Multicultural Programs include:

- [Asian American Association \(AAA\)](#)
- [Black Student Organization \(BSO\)](#)
- [Latinos In Valparaiso for Excellence \(LIVE\)](#)

Hispanic/Latino Heritage Awareness

Educates the campus about diverse Hispanic/Latino cultures through social functions, traditional holiday celebrations, the Arts, and educational programs. Ethnic American groups representing LIVE (Latinos In Valparaiso for Excellence) includes: Mexican American, Puerto Rican, Columbian, Ecuadorian, Peruvian, Cuban, Chilean, El Salvadorian, Spanish American, etc.



Events:

- Annual Hispanic Heritage Month Dinner and Celebration
- Cinco de Mayo Celebration
- Talent Show Competition
- Cinemateca Hispanica Movie Series & Discussion
- Puerto Rican Culture Night
- L.I.V.E. Ice-Cream Social
- Trip to the Chicago Mexican Fine Arts Museum
- Salsa Dance Lessons
- Educational Workshops and presentations
- Latino Art Display
- South of the Border Arts & Crafts Sale

- Brazilian Band and Afro-Caribbean Music
- Food & Music of Spain
- Guest Speakers

Native American Awareness

Educates the campus about the different Native American tribes in America and the uniqueness of each. Some Midwest Tribes are: Minominee, Oneida, Potawotami, Chippewa, Ottawa, Ojibwe, and many more!

Events:

- Annual Concert by an award-winning Native artist
- Authentic Native Arts & Craft Sale
- Hands On Demonstrations
- Native Art Display
- Native Story Telling
- Films & Discussion
- Workshop Presentations
- Native Dance Ensemble
- Drumming & Singing Groups

African American History and Culture

Educates the campus about the history and cultural aspects of the African American heritage.

Events:

- Annual "Black History Month" Dinner & Celebration
- Poetry Slam Night
- Black Film Noire
- Gospel Festival
- Fish Fry Night
- Black Jeopardy Game
- Trip to Wisconsin's Black Holocaust Museum
- Trip to Chicago's Du Sable Museum
- Attend Gwendolyn Brooks Writers' Conference
- Art & Poster Display
- Praise & Worship Night
- Soul Food Dinner
- Comedy Club Night
- Step Show
- Harlem Renaissance Presentation (Dance & Music)
- Guest Speakers (VU has brought such notable guests as: Nikki Giovanni, Haki Madhubuti, Carl Mack, Spike Lee, Maya Angelou, "Cousin" Jeff, and others!).

Office of Multicultural Programs - Valparaiso University
Annual Peace and Social Justice Symposium:

Symposium is a venue for in-depth discussion and dialogue of domestic and global social issues affecting humanity. Symposium highlight includes: Post-Symposium KickOff Program (sponsored by Union Board), Continental Breakfast (sponsored by Greek Life), Keynote Speaker (sponsored by Chapel of the Resurrection), Plenary Sessions, Workshop Sessions, Ethnic luncheon, information on social and political organizations involved in social causes. Topics for workshops have included issues regarding: Domestic violence, human rights violation, immigration controversy, ethnic genocide, poverty and world hunger, religious persecution, race and ethnic discrimination, gender issues, global injustice and inequality, gay rights debate, war in the Middle East, and peace-making efforts of regional and national organizations.

Asian/Pacific American Heritage Awareness:

Educates the campus on diverse Asian American cultures that encompass this group, their respective history, traditions, and other cultural aspects. Examples of Asian ethnic groups representing VU's student organization, Asian American Association (AAA): Chinese American, Japanese American, Thai American, Filipino American, Korean American, Vietnamese American, Indian American, Hawaiian, and others.

Events:

- Diwali Indian Celebration
- Co-sponsoring Chinese New Year with Asian Studies Department
- Hosting Polynesian Dancers
- Golden Wok Competition in the Residence Hall
- Trips to Ethnic areas of Chicago: China Town, Korea Town, India Town, etc.
- Origami Making Workshop
- Henna Painting at Activity Fair
- Present an MLK Day Workshop to promote Asian American Awareness
- Art Display
- Taste of Asia
- Sponsor Food and Flicks at Multipurpose Center

Other

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration – A campus-wide Collaboration!!!

Although VU remains open on Dr. Martin Luther King Day, the campus does not hold classes. Instead, the day is set aside to celebrate the life and accomplishments of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to continue work on the legacy he left behind.

This annual event is funded by the President's Office and is planned by a committee consisting of faculty, staff, and VU students. Each year, new Co-Chairs are appointed by the President to spear-head the Planning Committee. Events include: Week-long programs and speakers (sponsored by the Law School) the Sunday Night Program Kick-Off , Breakfast, Convocation Speaker, Luncheon,

Office of Multicultural Programs - Valparaiso University
Focus Sessions, and the Closing Event. For more information, contact: Provost
Office: 464-6880

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