

american indian heritage month

The American Indian Resource Center (AIRC) will be hosting several events in celebration of American Indian Heritage Month in November. The AIRC has partnered with UEN and the Division of Indian Affairs to kick off the first annual Utah American Indian Film Festival, featuring screenings of “Trudell,” “Looking Toward Home” and a film on “Aboriginal Architecture.” These film screenings will take place the first week of November, and are free and open to the public.

The AIRC will also resume hosting their monthly Lunch & Lecture and Snack

& Substance series. On November 15th, Colin Ben from Westminster will host the Snack & Substance on the McNairs Scholars Program, the Udall Scholarship, and the Udall Native American Congressional Internship Program.

On November 21st, Professor Donna Deyhle will host a Lunch & Lecture on the real story of Thanksgiving. The AIRC and Inter Tribal Student Association (ITSA) is hosting an American Indian High School Conference on November 17th, providing workshops on financial aid and scholarships, strategies for

mission statement

The Student Affairs Diversity Council (SADC) strives to cultivate an environment that embraces and promotes the broad scope of diversity within the division.

academic success, and more.

For more information on any of these events please go to the AIRC’s website or call Matthew Makomenaw at (801) 581-7392.

it's hard to hate someone whose story you know: stories of growth and change

This column features stories by Student Affairs professionals and students who are willing to share an experience (event, book, speaker, etc) which promoted growth, a change in perspective, an awareness of another, or when some knowledge that was previously missing slipped into place.

ko au!

Kajsa Maria Berlin-Kaufusi

This is a big deal—diversity. The subject of navigating differences, learning to see people as individuals, and appreciating those differences

will build a stronger society around us.

I love the diversity around me, and take joy in discovering the diversity that exists in those around me. From first appearances, I am a tall, athletic, blonde “white girl”—the ultimate opposite of what most people



think of when they think of a “diverse” person.

My name is Kajsa Maria Berlin-Kaufusi. Quite the combination, right? When my parents named me, they were advised NOT to spell my name the traditional Swedish way, but they just felt

that Kajsa with a “j” was who

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I was. Today my name is very much a part of my identity. But my Swedish first name often confuses people when they see it in conjunction my new last name, “Kaufusi”. Those from the Salt Lake Valley may be familiar with the last name of “Kaufusi” and its connection to the legendary football rivalry between the U of U and BYU football teams. My husband is Heilame Monty Kaufusi—he is “afa kasi”, or Tongan with a Tongan father and a “palangi” (white) mother. He enjoys the challenge of navigating both sides of his heritage.

This summer, while visiting Tonga with his family, I learned that when you call out to people, they respond with “Ko au?” In Tongan, “Ko au” literally means, “I am here”. I have been pondering that phrase in the Tongan language and how

it associates with my thoughts on diversity. Often, as I interact with people, I so badly want them to see past my being “white” and understand that there is a lot more to me than skin color, especially when I am interacting with diverse circles of people. It is crucial that we strive to get to know individuals and understand that their diversity is far beyond what we can easily conclude by a first glance.

When someone looks at me, I want to say, “Ko au!”-I am here! Me, all of me—my Scandinavian background, my Tongan relatives whom I love like they were always my own family, my future children who will be of Tongan heritage, and my nephew who is ALSO Tongan. This blend of cultures in my life has been a rich blessing and—to be honest—at times a challenge, as I navigate my

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Salty City Happenings and More

Together with two neighboring states, Utah is experiencing a boom in population. According to the Bureau of Economic and Business REsearch at the U, Utah has gained over a half a million people over the past decade, a 23.8 percent increase that is the third fastest in the nation, behind Arizona and Nevada. The growth spurt is increasing the size of urban areas in the west, as well as mitigating the signature demographics of the state. To read the full article, visit http://unews.utah.edu/news_releases/utah-part-of-three-state-population-boom-corridor/

calendar

PISA High School Conference
Tuesday, Nov 8, 9:00am-1:00pm

CA+P Lecture Series: Problems in Organized Complexity
Wednesday, Nov 9, 5:30-7:00pm
Learn how the UACDC is developing models for urbanism.

Veteran’s Day Celebration: Student Honors Gala & Movie Night
Thursday, Nov 10, 4:30-9:30pm
Movies and celebration in the Union Theater/ Student Lounge

Ambassador Joao Vale de Almeida, Head of Delegation of the European Union to the U.S.
Monday, Nov 14, 10:45-11:45am
Listen to the U. S. representative of the European Commission

AIRC High School Conference
Thurs, Nov 17, 8:00am-2:00pm

MEChA Activism Week
Mid-November
Details will be forthcoming on www.diversity.utah.edu

Natural History Museum Grand Opening Gala
Thursday, Nov 17, 7:00-10:00pm
Join us for the gala opening of the new Museum at the Rio Tinto Center. \$45 per person.

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student affairs
 diversity council

- Debra Daniels, Co-chair, Women's Resource Center
- Kari Ellingson, Co-chair, Student Affairs, Student Development
- Maria Baldwin, Educational Opportunity Programs
- Kajsa Berlin-Kaufusi, Office of International Education
- Michael Bard, Registrar's Office
- Arlyn Bradshaw, Dean of Students Office
- Holly M. Coleman, Office of Student Recruitment
- Karen Cone-Uemura, Counseling Center
- Branden Dalley, Union
- Sabine Klahr, International Center
- Adrienne Howell, Educational Opportunity Programs
- Scott Jensen, Housing & Residential Education
- Suzanne Jones, Registrar's Office
- Carol MacNicholl, Center for Disability Services
- Cathy Martinez, LGBT Center
- Susan Miller, Campus Recreation
- Nicole Miranda, Office of Student Recruitment
- Sana Muller, ASUU
- Cynthia Powell, Student Health Center
- Erica Rojas, Financial Aid & Scholarships
- Nick Rothacher, Bennion Center
- Claudia Snow, Network Support
- Nancy Trevino, Admissions Office
- Jim White, Career Services

ko au, con't

identity and the future identity of my family. My sister boldly went before me, living in France for four years with her husband who is incredibly diverse himself, being Tongan and speaking English, Tongan, French and Spanish fluently.

Their identity as a mixed race couple, combined with the rich cultural experiences they share in their marriage, has shown me the richness that comes with being diverse and regarding with enthusiasm the diversity of others.

Just as my personal experiences with diversity have greatly enriched my life and my day-to-day interactions with my associations, I firmly believe that all people can be enriched, educated and refined through interactions with diverse people, and by striving to identify their own diversity, whether it be ethnicity, religious affiliation, age, sexual orientation, etc. I look forward to the day when we can all see each other clearly and acknowledge the presence of the other with the statement of "ko au!"-"I am here!"

calendar

Imagination in Higher Education in the 21st Century

Wednesday, Nov 30, 5:30pm

Former speechwriter for President Clinton and author, Eric Liu speaks to re-imagining general ed at the U.

not an object for your consumption



Angie Makomenaw

Wednesday, Nov 16

12:00 - 1:30 pm, Parlor A, Union

Please join the Student Affairs Diversity Council (SADC) for our monthly Diversity Seminars. In November we will be hearing from Angie Makomenaw.

According to U.S. Justice Department figures, more than 1 in 3 Native women will be raped in her lifetime, and they are 2 1/2 times more likely to be sexually assaulted or raped than non-Native women. Join Angie Makomenaw, Violence Against Women Coordinator from the University of Utah Women's Resource Center, on an exploration through print media to understand how advertising further perpetuates the rape culture in the United States.