



OMA's Community Digest

University of Dayton | 31 January 2017

OHANA

Ohana means family, and family means no one is left behind.
Brought to you by [The Office of Multicultural Affairs](#)

Volume IX, Issue I

- ★ Upcoming
- ★ Ongoing
- ★ Updates
- ★ Welcome Cynthia Payne, *Assistant Director for Academic Success!*
- ★ OMA Textbook Library Announcement
- ★ Victoria Bordfeld, Graduate Assistant for Leadership Initiatives
- ★ Student Involvement and Leadership
- ★ Sisterhood of the Traveling Scarves
- ★ Black History Month
- ★ Mona Guerrier Endowed Scholarship

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Director's Welcome

Welcome to new and returning members of the UD and OMA community! Congratulations to first-year students for completing their first semester! The UD community also welcomed a new President, Dr. Eric Spina, and Dr. Larry Burnley, Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion. OMA appreciates the support of these excellent and inclusive leaders who are truly student-centered.

The Fall was a particularly busy semester, which started with OMA moving back to Alumni Hall in August after spending the summer in a temporary location in the Music Theater Building due to construction. After conducting a national search, we were so very lucky and blessed to hire Cynthia Payne for a new Assistant Director for Academic Success position. This new position was created as a result of two staff vacancies due to promotions received by our former Academic Success Specialists: Aaron Witherspoon, now an Assistant Dean for Student Success in the College of Arts and Sciences, and Ieesha Ramsey, currently serving as the Director of Upward Bound. Cynthia began working in OMA on December 1.

This edition of the newsletter will present a review of the Fall 2016 semester and highlight some upcoming initiatives. As you reflect on the Fall and look forward to the Spring semester, I hope you will meet with an OMA staff member so that we can share resources and encouragement as you work toward achieving your goals! Contact an OMA staff member to schedule a time to meet or stop by OMA in Alumni Hall (First Floor - South Wing) - I am confident that you will be welcomed with a smile and a sincere desire to get to know you and to be of help. Please also add signing up to participate in the faculty/staff and student mentoring program to your to-do list - contact Cynthia Payne for more information! If you are not already involved with the PEERS mentoring program, contact Carlos Stewart.

God Bless,

Patty Alvarez, Ph.D.

Assistant Dean of Students and Director of Multicultural Affairs

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Recognition:

View OMA Proclamations presented at the Fall Recognition Dinner and Program to [Aaron Witherspoon, Assistant Dean, College of Arts and Sciences](#) and [Dr. Brink Harris, Professor, Mathematics](#)

Upcoming:

→ **Upstander Workshop**
[January 31]

→ **Black History Month Events** [February] can be viewed online at go.udayton.edu/culturalheritagemonths or here: [UD Cultural Programming](#)

Don't Miss the BHM Kickoff Event- **OMA Day Lunch!**

[February 7; 11:30-1:30 pm]

Join the Office of Multicultural Affairs as we celebrate family and dine together in fellowship. This lunch is free to students, faculty, and staff.

Sponsored by Black Action Through Unity (BATU) and the Office of Multicultural Affairs

→ **OMA and Public Safety Partnership Events**
(RSVP on [OrgSync](#))

- ◆ Chat with Chief Chatman
 - [March 8]
- ◆ Engaging in Dialogue: *Students and Officers*
 - [Feb. 6, March 13]
- ◆ Sister-to-Sister Self Defense Workshop

- [Feb. 27]
- ◆ Think Spring, Think Safety!
- [March 9]

→ **Creating Inclusive Communities Book Read:**

Between the World and Me (Coates, 2014)
[March 6; Noon-1]

→ **P.E.E.R.S. Mentoring**

- ◆ First Fridays Event for students
- ◆ [Feb. 3, March 10]

→ **COLC: Colors of Leadership Connections**

- ◆ [April 1-7]

→ **Multicultural Overnight**

- ◆ [April 8-9]

→ **Faculty/Staff Mentor Program**

- ◆ Kick Off
- ◆ [Feb. 10, Noon]

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Ongoing:

- The **OMA Lounge** (Alumni Hall 101) is a space for students to gather for a variety of purposes, most commonly it is an informal study and engagement with peers. Other uses include OMA, other departments or student orgs. frequently host programs and services for multicultural students. With After Hours Access, students are able to access the Lounge, Library and Computer Lab after 5:00 pm weekdays, weekends. [Register Here](#) to request access.
- **Study Tables** are held every Wednesday from 6-10:00 pm, in

Alumni Hall Room 101-OMA Lounge, and open to students.

- **Book Loan Library, Book Scholarship Program and After Hours Access**
Browse the OMA Book Library in Alumni Hall Rm 106, or email to Cynthia Payne, to check availability. Contact cpayne2@udayton.edu.
- **OMazing Days** are opportunities for students to learn about important facts to improve their awareness of the importance of balance, time-management and personal well-being for college students. February is Heart Health Month, stop by to see how OMA raises our awareness!

[SIGN UP for OMA After Hours Access in Alumni Hall](#)
[View and RSVP for OMA EVENTS](#)

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Student Updates:



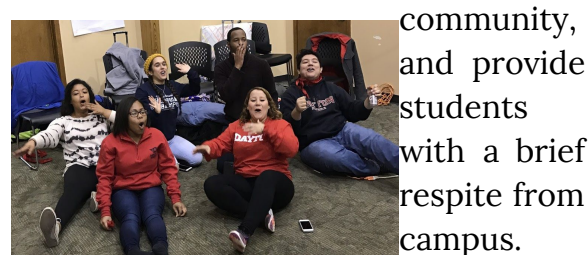
In August, the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the University of Dayton welcomed 64 incoming first-year students during **Transitions**, a pre-orientation program held two days prior to first-year student move-in. The students were introduced to many campus resources, services, and supporters from over 50 UD faculty and staff.

A highlight of the program as always, was the peer-to-peer interaction the students had with OMA Peer Mentors and other student leaders. Incoming students were intentionally paired with students who attended the **PEERS** Mentor Training and AYIL Leadership Academy, which were held the week prior to the fall semester for returning student leaders. Students interested in joining the PEERS mentoring program can contact Carlos Stewart at cstewart1@udayton.edu or sign up at [P.E.E.R.S. MENTOR PROGRAM](#). The **P.E.E.R.S. First Friday events are held the first Friday of each month classes are in session, from 4:30-6:00 pm in KL 221.**

The OMA Retreat, was held November 18-19, 2016 at Camp Joy in Clarskville,



OH with approximately 50 students. The retreat is offered at the halfway point in the academic year in order to encourage academic success, build



community, and provide students with a brief respite from campus.

Sessions are facilitated by continuing students. The retreat is planned by a student committee and is chaired by the OMA Student Engagement Assistants, Veronica Halfacre, Brandyn Hunter, Jorge Munoz and Devin Mallett. The following major themes are explored: stress management, academic success, relationship building, problem solving, physical wellness, recreation, discovering passionate purpose. Join us next fall for the 2017 Retreat!

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Editor's Note:

Roberto Dela Rosa-Finch, *Junior, English*

Hey! ¡Hola! and What's up! Hey everybody! Classes are in full swing, spring semester is here! It goes on and on. If you're reading this you probably already know about all these events so, I encourage everyone to get someone new to come along to visit OMA or attend one of our enriching programs. Check out some of the OMAzing events coming up! It's the beginning of **Black History Month (BHM)**, and there are a host of amazing programs to attend such as, the BHM Kickoff- **OMA Day Lunch** on Tuesday, Feb. 7 from 11:30-1:30 pm in Alumni Hall 101- OMA Lounge



Other great programs to check out in the Office of Multicultural Affairs:

- **PEERS First Friday**, on Feb. 3, at 4:30 pm;
- **Brother2Sister**, "Part II: Who text who?" on Mon. Feb 13 from 7-9:20 pm in Alumni Hall 016, for conversation about relationships, gender expectations, and communication;
- **Brown Bag Discussion: Policing and Communities of Color**, Mon, February 13, 12pm - 1pm
- Kennedy Union

RM207

Cultural programming and educational opportunities.

Come on out and feel free to invite friends, invite a classmate—heck, invite your RA to join you and check out the many great benefits available to students. Trust me, not everyone knows all the great stuff we have to offer at OMA (took me a semester and a half to cross the street from Founders freshman year, now that you know stop by the first floor of Alumni Hall to study, say hi, ask any question or relax between classes!

January 2017- I'm glad to be back on campus, I hope you guys are. It's the start of a new year, with a new president, a new semester but the same old beautiful UD. Although it is freezing outside, things should warm up soon and we'll be bar-b-queuing at BATU in no time. I encourage everyone to set up visuals or reminders to complete any big goals you plan to accomplish this year. As always, I'm wishing everyone good luck in their classes and a great start to this semester. I look forward to seeing you on campus.

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Welcome Cynthia Payne!



Greetings and Salutations!! I consider myself to be very blessed to join the OMA family as the Assistant Director for Academic Success. You can find me in Room 106 in Alumni Hall, right across from Carlos' office. Please stop by and say hello!

I am thrilled to join Patty, Mérida, Carlos, Victoria and Ms. Williams as someone who is here to help support you through your journey at UD. In my role, I will be focused on assisting students in OMA with academic needs, concerns or questions in a variety of ways. I will help to coordinate the Faculty/Staff and Student Mentoring program, conduct academic workshops, as

well as manage the OMA textbook library. What I look forward to the most is sitting down one-on-one with students to discuss academic goals, challenges, and pursuits. I hope to speak with you soon so that I can learn more about you!

So you can get to know me a little bit better here are the basics:

- Born and raised in Lexington, Kentucky (Go Cats!!)
- Butler University alum for my Bachelor's degree (Go Dawgs!!)
- Majored in psychology and minored in music
- Master's degree in College Student Personnel from Bowling Green State University
- 11.5 years working in higher education, primarily serving as an academic advisor
- My favorite things are: God, family & friends, food (especially ice cream), music, knowledge, college basketball, the St. Louis Cardinals and sleeping – probably in that order.

If I have already met you, come by again to say hi,! If we have yet to meet, I hope we can make that happen soon! I wish you all a wonderful Spring semester. Please know we are here to help in any way we can.

For more information: Cynthia Payne, Alumni Hall Rm. 106, cpayne2@udayton.edu, 937.229.3638

OMA Textbook Library Announcement:

Don't forget about the OMA Textbook Library! Thanks to generous donations from UD alumni, there are several textbooks in our office that you are able to borrow for the semester. Visit Cynthia's office (room 106 in Alumni Hall) to see what textbooks are available. It is a great way to save yourself some money! If you have questions or wish to borrow a book, please be in touch with any of the staff members in OMA.

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Victoria Bordfeld,



January is one of the most exciting months of the academic year for our office. All of the planning during the fall comes together for the annual Dr. Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. campus wide celebration. This week and a half of events are focused on honoring the life and times of MLK. On MLK Day, January 16, 30 UD faculty, staff, and students joined 1,000 other residents of the City of Dayton in the city's MLK March as well as a few students joining President Spina at the City dinner later that day. Tuesday, began bright and early with the MLK Prayer breakfast, where Dr. Larry Burnley, VP of Diversity and Inclusion shared a heartfelt and powerful keynote address. Wednesday was jam packed with button making where students could make a button with the official celebration hashtag, #UDMLK2017. Wednesday was also national teach-in day, where schools around the world brought together their faculty, staff, and students to learn and educate each other on current social justice issues. The University of Dayton, also participated with our teach-in, Raising the T.O.R.C.H in Honor of Dr. King: Teach. Organize. Resist. Change. Hope. Thursday, was the Table of Plenty, lead by the Center for Social Concern, where students were able to engage in a meaningful dialogue focused on the work of Dr. King. Friday, marked the unveiling of the Moral Courage Project, out of the Human Rights Center, Ferguson Voices: Disrupting the Frame. This project was completed by a group of student lead by Joel Pruce, who traveled to Ferguson, Missouri to capture the true experience of the people living in Ferguson through audio recording and pictures, which will be displayed in Roesch Library. January 22, Dr. Jelani Cobb, from Columbia University will also be on campus through the speaker series to talk about race, relations with law enforcement, and civil rights. Thursday, with a partnership with the University Libraries, the documentary *PS. I Can't Breathe* was viewed followed by a dialogue lead by current graduate assistants in Student Development.

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OMA STUDENT EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

OMA and Public Safety Partnership

Dialogue. Engagement. Cultivating Understanding.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and Public Safety co-sponsor a series of programs and initiatives designed to increase understanding and engagement among students and campus police. Out of a recognition of existing and historical tensions between the Police and Communities of Color, we are offering some new initiatives to increase dialogue and engagement between multicultural students and Public Safety. We hope to see you at an upcoming event.

Past Events:

- **Safety Bowling** - OMA Students and Public Safety - September 2016
- **Community Chats with Chief** Chatman - Monthly
- **Leadership Lunch** with OMA's Kindred Presidents and PS Officers - Oct. 12.
- **OMA/Public Safety Student and Officer Dialogue**

Upcoming Events:

- **Community Chats with Chief** Chatman - Monthly
- **OMA/Public Safety Student and Officer Dialogue**
 - February 6 & March 13, from 4:30-6:00 pm, 461 Kiefaber
- **Think Spring, Think Safety!** Thursday, March 9, from 4:30 - 6:00 pm
 - *Students will have an opportunity to engage with UD Department of Public Safety and learn about their role and services available to students. Also, students will be given firsthand information on navigating spring events and circumstances.. Our goal is to keep you informed and SAFE!*

OMA and Department of Communication Partnership

The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and Department of Communication have planned and coordinated a series of interactive dialoge programs for all students interested in learning and engaging with peers on challenging topics and social issues. The AVIATE-PATH Eligible Events are designed to guide students to learn tools for engaging in dialogue and the ability to apply these skills. This is also a great resource to inform student research topics for Communication, English, Education and Social Sciences courses.

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[View and RSVP for OMA EVENTS HERE](#)

Meet the OMA Staff

Patty Alvarez, Ph.D., OMA Director and Assistant Dean of Students

Merida Allen, Associate Director

Carlos Stewart, Assistant Director for Student Services

Cynthia Payne, Assistant Director for Academic Success

Victoria Bordfeld, Graduate Assistant for Leadership Initiatives

Sherry Williams, Administrative Assistant

Student Engagement Assistants [S.E.A.S.]

Veronica Halfacre, has a primary responsibility to plan and coordinate the Real Topics dialogues and Sister to Sister (S2S) events, where students come together to examine and have conversations about social justice and hot topics that affect all students. “What I love about working in the office is that we're such a big family! You will always find support and love at OMA.”



Brandyn Hunter, has a primary responsibility in the office is to coordinate First Friday's for the P.E.E.R.S mentoring program and to meet with Campus Activity Board (CAB) as a liaison for the office and provide overall support to peers. “What I love most about working in the office is meeting the new people and helping people find their place here at UD. I feel that we have a very family like environment that is open for everyone to join.”

Devin Mallett, primary responsibility in the office is a monthly segment known as Brother 2 Brother (B2B), a monthly segment where men on campus come together to discuss hot topics occurring in society. In addition to discussion, B2B also deals closely with personal development. “My favorite part of working in OMA are the students we serve! Getting to meet and greet new faces is something I love to do and working at OMA allows me to do what I love!”

Jorge Muñoz, (also known as Georgie) I am one of the Student Engagement Assistants. My major responsibilities are Community Development, Student Recognition Board (where we recognize our students for their excellent efforts), and P.E.E.R.S First Fridays.

Main Office Administration Student Staff Assistants: **Paola Ortiz**, and **Yasmeen Issa**. OMA Main Office is located in Alumni Hall Rm 112, is a great first stop for students looking to connect with OMA resources and services. Students can request after hours

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access to OMA space, use the free textbook library or choose to study in the OMA Library or Lounge in Alumni Hall Rm 101. Contact The Main Office at 937.229.3634 or oma@udayton.edu for more information, or stop by Alumni Hall 112.



Breana Smith, *Graduate Assistant, University Honors Program; Graduate Intern, OMA*

Before reading this, channel your inner Jay-Z, and allow me to re-introduce myself (well not really re-introduce but...) my name is BRE! and I will be interning in OMA for this Spr 17 semester. I am a first year grad student here at UD, studying Higher Education Administration. I am also the Graduate Assistant for the University Honors Program (also located in Alumni Hall). Before coming to UD I worked as an admissions counselor at my Alma Mater, Kentucky State University. I began working immediately after graduating undergrad in 2015 and found out within a year that the work force was not for me just yet. It was a tough decision to make, but I took a leap of faith, and let God lead me here to UD. I just completed my first semester here and like many of you, this was a new environment for me, and I am still adjusting to the differences. Adjusting to new environments can be tough, and having a place like OMA available at your fingertips to assist and support you in making that transition is a golden opportunity! I intend on being another team member in OMA dedicated to assisting you not only in adjusting if need be, but becoming the best you possible. I have a passion for pushing people to their potential and being a resource of experience and wisdom to help students execute day to day, month to month and even year to year academic and life experiences. Aside from my direct responsibilities as an OMA intern, I will be available as an extra set of ears to listen when you need it, eyes to look over things if you want, and a voice to converse with when the silence gets too loud . Again, my passion is to work directly with students and watch them grow into amazing people and I look forward to having that experience with you this semester.

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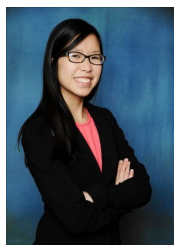
This Issue's OMAzing
TOP STORIES

Student Involvement and Leadership Spotlight



The **Multicultural Programming Council** was founded in 2016, with support from the Office of Multicultural Affairs, to provide opportunities for individuals to work with a diverse group of peers at deeper levels of involvement, at the University of Dayton. Now a recognized student organization, MPC's foundation of inclusive leadership offers a chance to plan educational and sociocultural activities, through event planning and consultation to departments and other organizations, as appropriate. The Council's goal is to break down socially constructed barriers and create inclusive events to enrich the University of Dayton community and all of the diverse cultures, ethnicities, and identities represented on campus. Organization Email Address: UDayton.MPC@gmail.com

Congratulations *Marina Mancuso!*



Marina is a Senior at UD, majoring in Chemical Engineering. She is currently serving as the Chapter President for the University of Dayton chapter for the 2016-17 year. Marina was nominated for the 2016 Society of Asian Scientists and Engineers (SASE) Role Model Contest. If you are not familiar with SASE, we are a professional organization that strives to prepare Asian heritage STEM majors for the global business world and celebrate diversity on our campus.

Her nominator wrote, *"Marina has only been a part of SASE for a little over a year, but she has already made a great impact on the chapter and regional levels. During a year of adversity for the University of Dayton chapter, Marina did her best to motivate her executive board despite her experience. When Marina took over as president, much of the old executive board left, which left her with the unenviable task of creating an entire executive board from scratch. However, through sheer persistence and passion, she was able to find other students who were willing to help rebuild the U of D chapter. She is a major reason why the University of Dayton*

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chapter is still here. Her passion for SASE is infectious as her peers regionally and nationally can allude to."

Student Organization Involvement and Leadership Opportunities

Look into joining a great multicultural student organization to increase your level of involvement, service, leadership, through educational, professional, political and/or social interaction. Email bordfeldv1@udayton.edu for info on joining an org!

Active Multicultural Student Organizations

- Student Organizations: Black Action Thru Unity (**BATU**); El Orgullo Latino (**EOL**); Hispanic Business Student Association (**HBSA**); Multicultural Association of Premedical Sciences (**MAPS**); National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (**NAACP**); National Society of Black Engineers (**NSBE**); Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers (**SHPE**); National Pan-Hellenic Council (**NPHC**); South Asian Society of Engineers (SASE), Women of Remarkable Distinction (**W.O.R.D.**).
- Divine Nine Greek Life Organizations: Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc., Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc.

[Contact groups or View all organization events and news on [OrgSync](#)

[Student Profile: Darius Beckum!](#)

Congratulations to all students who were named to the Dean's List This recognition signals a great achievement to mark in your journey. If you missed your mark along the way, remember to not allow any setbacks deter you from striving to meet your goals for next semester.

Sisterhood of the Traveling Scarves

Modeled after *The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants* novel and movie, a decorative scarf connects women students, faculty, and staff at the University of Dayton. From February 13 - March 30, participants will each spend a day with the scarf and reflect on her experience before sharing the scarf with another woman, who will then have her day with the scarf. Take advantage of this opportunity to meet women in the UD community and find the common fabric that connects us all. For more information, please review the attached document.

To participate in the journey, [sign up here](#).

[View more EVENTS on our website](#)

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The Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship



Applications are accepted once a year for the Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs at the University of Dayton. In August 2013, Mr. Detry Fallen '86 established an endowed scholarship in recognition of his wife, Mona Guerrier Fallen, who passed away in 2013 at the age of 47. Mona Guerrier Fallen received a Bachelor of Arts in 1991 from the University of Dayton. As a way to supplement her educational costs, Mrs. Guerrier Fallen worked for the Department of English, served as a Resident Assistant and was a grant writer for University Advancement. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati in 1996. Mrs. Guerrier Fallen served as an Assistant United States Attorney for over 13 years. Her husband, Detry Fallen, established the Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs to honor Mona Guerrier Fallen's commitment to the University of Dayton and educational opportunities, as well as to remember her positive and enthusiastic approach to life.

One (1) student will be selected to receive an endowed scholarship for approximately one thousand and two hundred dollars (\$1200) for the 2016-2017 academic year. Past recipients of the scholarship are listed on the OMA website: [Mona Guerrier Endowed Scholarship](#)

Fall 2016 Recipients

Mona Guerrier Fallen's legacy will be felt through the following scholarship recipients:

- Jenea Adams Sophomore Biology/Pre-Med Cleveland, OH
- Jada Woods Sophomore Science/Communications Stone Mountain, GA

Many thanks to the The Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs Selection Committee for their time and commitment to interviewing candidates.

- ❖ Patty Alvarez, Ph.D., Assistant Dean of Students/Director of Multicultural Affairs
- ❖ Racquel Gamble, Assistant Director, Flyers First-Office of Enrollment Services
- ❖ Rev. LaKendra Hardware, Ph.D., Campus Minister for Interdenominational Ministry
- ❖ Tom Morgan, Ph.D., Associate Professor, English Department
- ❖ Brittany Philbert, Area Coordinator, Marycrest Complex

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