



The Mosaic: Center for Culture and Diversity

# NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2018

The Mosaic is a part of Campus Life | The Commons: 2B23 | 410-455-2686 | [mosaic@umbc.edu](mailto:mosaic@umbc.edu)

## 2017-18 Theme RESILIENCE

### Staff

Lisa Gray  
*Associate Director*

Carlos Turcios  
*Coordinator*

### Our Centers

The Mosaic  
*Commons: 2B23*  
*M-Th: 10 a.m. - 7 p.m.*  
*F: 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.*

The Interfaith Center  
*Student Development  
and Success Center*  
*(on Center Rd.)*  
*S-Sa: 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.*

Queer Student Lounge  
*University Center: 210-D*  
*M-F: 7 a.m. - 11 p.m.*

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[/UMBCMosaic](#) [UMBClife](#)

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[/groups/theMosaic](#)

## HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH: THE HISTORY OF BLACK BALTIMORE

An interactive lecture-style event in which historic knowledge of the city of Baltimore was paired with the personal experiences of UMBC students who call the city their home. The presentation traced the city and its black community's history from the founding of the city, the issues of redlining and segregation, and continued to the more recent protests surrounding the death of Freddie Gray, as well as the

harmful effects of gentrification. While these issues can be difficult to talk about as they are literally "close to home," they remain an important part of local history.

Event attendees enjoyed Maryland-themed hors d'oeuvres alongside the lecture, presented by Carlos Turcios, Coordinator for Diversity and Inclusion. Attendees expressed satisfaction in the event's "in-

depth" nature, as well as its ability to paint "a big picture to the issue" of race in Baltimore.

We are glad to provide a space for students to discuss issues such as these which have such direct effect on their lives. We hope that in the future, we are able to host more Africana-centered events similar to "The History of Black Baltimore" to allow students to reflect on their social identities in local cultural climates. We encourage all of you to check out our last Africana focused event "Lost in Translation: The Impact of African Colonialism" in early May!

## CAMPUS LIFE IS HIRING!

We are excited to announce that we have several student intern positions open in our office and the rest of Campus Life for the 2018-2019 academic year. We are looking for excited, proactive, and hard-working students to work with some of the various areas in our office including Diversity & Inclusion, STRiVE, Welcome Week, First Year Council, Alternative Spring Break, and more! For more information, visit our website at [campuslife.umbc.edu](http://campuslife.umbc.edu) or email us!



# MOSAIC EVENTS

## **PAWTalks: Justin Clapp, Vivica C. Cox and the Art of Drag**

Tuesday, April 3 at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Commons: Skylight Room

As Durham's Drag Diva, and UMBC alum, Vivica C. Cox, brings beauty, comedy, and social justice to a head in the most beautiful way. Vivica seeks to create an open and inclusive drag community where love and entertainment are most important. Her discussion will focus on how mainstream LGBTQ+ community can work together to continue its work to make it inclusive for all LGBTQ+ individuals. Have any questions? Email Carlos Turcios as carlos6@umbc.edu.

## **What's the (T)ea?: "Taxation Without Representation"**

Thursday, April 5 at 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Commons: 329

A monthly co-facilitated discussion series that is geared to exploring social issues affecting our society and various communities. This session will elaborate on how voting laws have historically affected various marginalized communities, the limitations of ineligible voters, the residents of D.C. and U.S. territories and explore what voting rights mean for people today.

## **Afro-Latinos: Who are We?**

Tuesday, April 17 at 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Commons: 329

This co-facilitated lecture event will focus on the history of Afro-Latinx identity in Latin America and the Caribbean. From the slave trade to modern day racism, Afro-Latinxs have been subjected to various forms of stratification. Despite this marginalization, Afro-Latinxs have provided an invaluable amount of cultural contributions to Latin America and the Caribbean. Have any questions? Email Gerardo Herrera-Cortés at gherrer1@umbc.edu.

## **Living in Silence: Gender-Based Violence in the Immigrant Community**

Tuesday, April 24 at 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Commons: Skylight Room

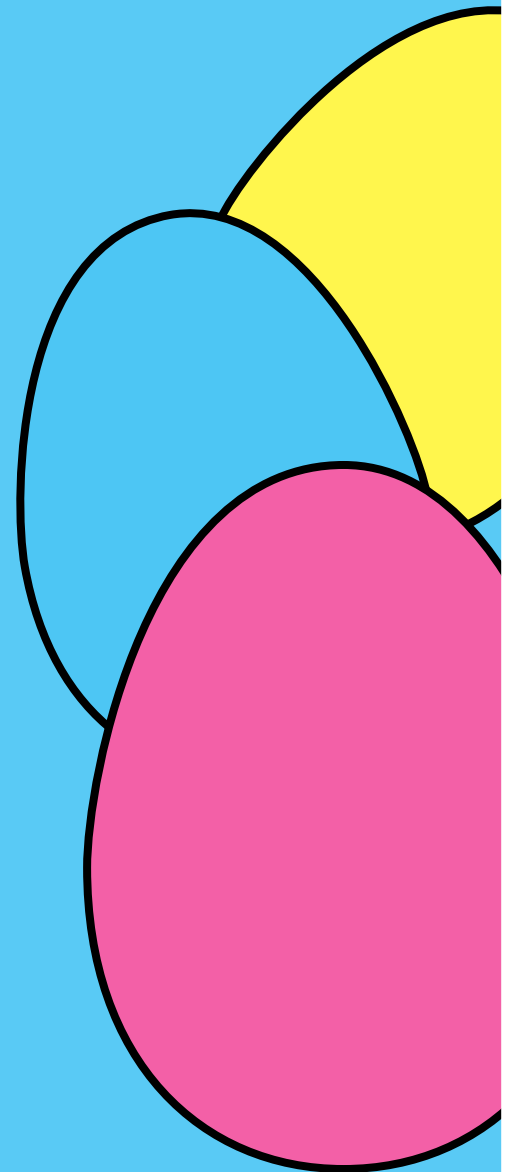
In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, please join us for a brief film screening and a simulation on current gender-based violence issues affecting immigrant communities. Come experience a simulation of immigrant battered woman while learning about how this population is especially vulnerable compared to American born women. Resources on how to support this population will also be included. Have any questions? Email Becca Mann at mann1@umbc.edu.

## **How to be a Better Ally: People Who Identify as Agnostics and Atheists**

Thursday April 25 at 4 - 5:30 p.m.

Commons: 329

This co-facilitated workshop series focuses on various underrepresented and/or marginalized populations. Our goal of the series is to provide UMBC community members with basic practices for allyship, specifically for the highlighted target population. After a brief discussion on the unique experiences of people who identify as Agnostic or Atheist, this workshop session will highlight best practices to practice allyship. All undergrads, grads, staff, and faculty are encouraged to attend!



## Mundo Lingo: Mosaic End-of-Semester Hype!

Thursday, April 26 at 7 - 11 p.m.

Commons: Gameroom

Some say there is nothing to do at UMBC, but the Mosaic disagrees! Come join us to celebrate the end of the semester with an evening of music, dancing, food, and games! Ice-breaker activities will be provided and then the attendees are left to freely converse in an informal atmosphere. This is a great way for you to learn about all of our opportunities at our Center and throughout the department.

## ADDITIONAL NEWS AND EVENTS

### Freedom Sedar

Tuesday, April 10 at 7 - 9 p.m.

University Center: Ballroom



Join us as we break bread and share stories from the UMBC community on their challenge to freedom through the symbolism of the Passover Sedar. Together we will explore what it means to be free as well as honor the leaders, both past and present, who have fought and continue to fight for an egalitarian society. We invite you to come, experience and learn about the diverse personal narratives within our community.

### Take Back the Night

Thursday, April 12 at 6:15 - 9 p.m.

Commons: Main Street



In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, join the Women's Center on Commons Main Street. Events and activities include the Survivor Speak Out, a campus march against sexual violence, the Clothesline Project, and a community resource fair and craftivism. For more information, visit the Women's Center website at [womenscenter.umbc.edu](http://womenscenter.umbc.edu).

### LGBTQ+ In the Workplace

Thursday, April 19 at Noon - 1 p.m.

Commons: 331

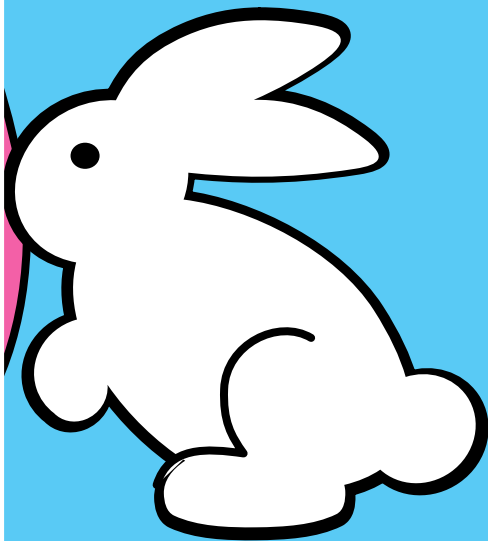
Please join the Mosaic and the Career Center staff in this interactive panel discussion. Alumni will discuss being "out" and the role of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression in the workplace. They will also offer strategies for career success while embracing LGBTQ+ diversity.

### International Identities in the Workplace

Thursday, April 26 at Noon - 1 p.m.

Commons: 331

Please join the Mosaic and the Career Center staff for a workshop focusing on international experience in the U.S. job force. This event is geared toward international, foreign-born, and immigrant students. Topics will include how to market your unique international identity in the workplace, interview tips and business etiquette in American culture, and workplace discrimination policy.



# DYLAN'S CORNER

## Reese Burke

*Mosaic Ambassador*

Reese Burke is one of TWO amazing Reeses at our center! They are a Media and Communications Major with a Creative Writing minor. Reese is *THE* rockstar behind the scenes. They are the person who goes above their own responsibilities to be a team player at our center. They never hesitate to provide a lending hand and has been a life saver on multiple occasions.

Their great writing skills has helped us all who struggle a little bit more in that department. Reese is constantly proactive and exemplifies the qualities that make all of our staff superstars!



## WHO AND WHAT IS DYLAN'S CORNER?

### Dylan, the Genderqueer Diversity Deer

*Unofficial Mosaic Mascot*

Dylan, the Genderqueer Diversity Deer, is a spiritual, genderqueer, middle-class, "woke," multi-ethnic, deer of color. They spotlight one of our the Mosaic's staff members or other campus partners to our center. We will celebrate that individual and recognize them for their accomplishments in each newsletter.

Dylan currently resides in the Mosaic, and they encourage visits by whomever supports the mission of Campus Life and exemplifies the values of the Mosaic.



**The Mosaic**  
*Center for Culture and Diversity*