

# From the Desk of Our Director

*“Embracing our past, enhancing our present to inspire our future”*

On behalf of the staff of the WSU Multicultural Student Center (MSC), I would like to wish you and those you hold dear all the good fortunes of life, health, peace, and prosperity throughout the year! We would like to send heartfelt wishes to all. Let this year bring you health, joy and cheer!

The Center is thriving with many successes as visits are continuously on the rise. In the Fall, we provided 896 interventions or services. For the month of December, we transitioned to a new tracking system (Accudemia) where we recorded 90 unique students with 177 sessions. Over 219 eWeber Portal scholarship applications and 277 FAFSA applications were reviewed, submitted, and/or processed

Connecting you with the guidance and support to be successful at the University is our priority. We look forward to meeting you at the Center!

-Michiko Nakashima-Lizarazo



## Featuring our Davis Campus Peer Mentor!

Crystal Garcia is a Multicultural Peer Mentor located at the Davis Campus.



The purpose of having a peer mentor is to help students succeed in their college experience.

Some of the services she provides include:

- adjustment issues
- referrals to services and counselors
- study skills
- getting involved in campus leadership
- support with making friends
- enjoying the academic and social experience of attending the university

Her office hours are Mon: 4 pm - 6pm and Fri: 8 am - 11 am in room 260 at the Davis Campus. Contact or set up appointments with her through e-mail only; [crystalgarcia@mail.weber.edu](mailto:crystalgarcia@mail.weber.edu).

## Upcoming Events

February 1	Black History Month Blast (BSU Event) Union Building Atrium	10:00 am – 3:00 pm
February 4	Deverey Anderson Speaker (BSU Event) Simeon Wright Speaker (BSU Event) Browning Center	10:30 am (Deverey) 7:00 pm (Simeon)
February 6	Major Fest Union Ballrooms	8:30 am – 12:30 pm
February 8	Winter Leadership Academy Union building	3:00 pm – 10:00 pm
<b>February 12</b>	<b>Mardi Gras (MSC Event)</b> <b>Union Atrium</b>	<b>11:00 am – 2:00 pm</b>
February 13	Delta Sigma Theta (BSU event) Wildcat Theater	11:30 am – 2:30 pm
February 14	Valentine's Day Celebration with Balloons Union Atrium	10:00 am – 2:00 pm
February 15	Chinese New Year Union Building Ballrooms	6:00 pm – 9:00 pm
February 23	African American Historical Society Salt Lake City Genealogical Center	9:00 am

## WEBER STATE UNIVERSITY

Contact us at 801-626-7330 or [multicultural@weber.edu](mailto:multicultural@weber.edu)

Visit us Online at [weber.edu/multicultural](http://weber.edu/multicultural)

Text "MSC" to 469-579-2390 to receive updates via [WSU mobile](#).

February 2013

Issue Ten



MULTICULTURAL  
STUDENT CENTER



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# Culturally United



A Monthly Insight into Multicultural Life on the WSU Campus

### Eracism

In January, award-winning actor Louis Gossett Jr. came to speak at Weber State. Gossett made history in 1953 as one of the first African American actors in entertainment and has enjoyed a successful career appearing in dozens of films and stage productions. Gossett is currently on a country-wide tour speaking on his life and the experiences that lead to writing an autobiography and the creation of Eracism, a nonprofit organization that promotes peace, acceptance, and social diversity. In his new book, *An Actor And A Gentleman*, Gossett delves into complex social issues that continue to plague our society 50 years after the civil rights movement. It is truly impressive to see an individual using his talent and resources to promote the healing of our society.

By: John "J.D." Marett



Mardi Gras, also known as "Fat Tuesday", is the celebration of the visit of the Wise Men bearing gifts for the infant Jesus. It is also known as the Twelfth Night, which is 12 days after Christmas. It begins on January 6<sup>th</sup>, which is the day of Epiphany. Epiphany is a Christian feast day that celebrates the revelation of God the Son as a human being in Jesus Christ.

It kicks off a series of parties leading up to Mardi Gras and ends at midnight on February 12<sup>th</sup> this year. Kings cake is a popular food item during the Christmas season. It is a cinnamon-roll-like cake with sugary icing on top with the traditional Mardi Gras colors and inside is a plastic baby, which symbolizes the birth of Jesus Christ. The lucky person to get the baby inside their slice of cake is to host the next Kings cake party.

The traditional colors consist of purple, green, and gold. Purple represents justice, green represents faith and gold represents power.

The reason it is known as "Fat Tuesday" is because it is the starting of the lent period which begins on Ash Wednesday, February 13<sup>th</sup>. People lent usually for 40 days up until Easter Sunday. One meal was allowed per day, in the evening, and meat, fish, eggs, and butter were forbidden.

Come join the Multicultural Student Center on February 12<sup>th</sup> in the Union Building for a Mardi Gras Celebration from 11:00 AM to 2:00 PM!

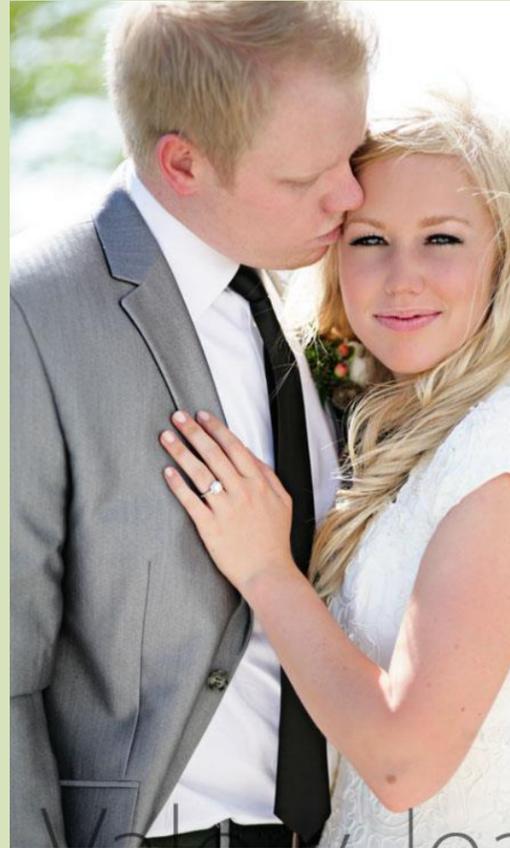
Timmy Phomsouvanh

# HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY!

## LOVE STORIES AND LITTLE MESSAGES FOR EVERYONE

Emily and Cameron

Emily and I met in high school; we were best friends for nearly a year before we ever dated; which was way-way too long if you ask me. I had wanted more than just friendship since before she even knew I existed. In fact, I pointed her out from the balcony at our school to one of my best friends before I even knew her name, and told him there was something about her that I had to get to the bottom of. Months later after we had been friends for what seemed like forever, I had accepted my fate in the "friend zone" forever. She shocked my reality with our first kiss, which was one of the best moments of my life. We then dated for a few months before I was scheduled to leave on a 2-year mission for my church. I thought that I was losing everything when I left and it was one of the most painful experiences of my life to move away. I thought there was no chance that I would be lucky to keep such a beautiful girl on the hook waiting for me to come back. To my surprise she waited, which was one of the best gifts I could have asked for. We dated for about eight months when I got back. She was ready for me to propose early on and after eight months it seemed like I would never propose. I also kept my intentions super close to the chest, so when I did propose it was a huge surprise. I took her GEO caching which is like an organized treasure hunt in which you use your GPS to find the treasure. I created a fake GEO point where I buried the ring next to a pond in South Ogden. Earlier that day, thankfully, I had my friends string the trees with lights, hide and wait for us. As we got close, I let her find the spot and uncover the treasure. Shocked to find a wedding band in the GEO cache, she turned to find me on one knee as my friends lit the lights on the tree. We spent the evening on a blanket I had stashed on the bank of the pond, under the lights.



Pablo and Maria

It all started in a lovely little Mexican city called Tres Mesquites. As passion filled the lovely Mexican night someone caught Maria's eye, that lovely person was Pablo. Although she was bashful she sent a friend to introduce her, as is custom made in her culture. He looked at her and smiled, that is where their love began.

On the night of her cousin's wedding, two shy souls came together on the dance floor. As they danced the night away it was as if the more they danced the more that they fell in love.

Fast-forward to the US in 2012, they met up and had many lovely dates and finally on February 26, 2012 he asked her to be his. From there it has developed into more and more love every day.

He would bring her flowers and dazzle her with affection. And after all that romance he finally asked one of the best questions he could ever ask, "Will you marry me?" She of course rejoiced with emotion and said, yes!



## Black Scholars United

BSU is hosting a blast in the Union Atrium to celebrate Black History Month and boost and educate student and the community of what black history month is about. The blast will be on February 1<sup>st</sup> from 10:00AM – 3:00PM. Booths will be available for clubs. BSU will also welcome any performances. For questions about the event or signing up, contact Naiesha at (801) 673-0282.

Devery Anderson, an expert scholar rehearsed in the Emmitt Louis Till case will be speaking at 10:30AM, open to the public, on February 4<sup>th</sup> at the Browning Center main campus. On the same day, Simon Wright, the author of a book about Emmitt Louis Till will be doing a meet and greet, as well as book signing at 6:00PM and a lecture at 7:00PM in the Browning Center main campus. A Delta Sigma Theta meeting will be held on February 13<sup>th</sup> at 11:30AM – 2:30PM at the Wildcat Theatre.

The African American Historical Society Family Research Library will have a Dr. Crawford as the Keynote Speaker at the Family Search Center on 15 East South Temple, Salt Lake City on February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:00AM. BSU Officers will be expected to attend.

-Michael Vuong

## American Indian Council

Spring semester has officially arrived and the American Indian Council is busy planning to help universities in Utah with their annual pow wows.. According to powwows.com, "Pow Wows are the Native American people's way of meeting together, to join in dancing, singing, visiting, renewing old friendships, and making new ones. This is a timeless tradition to renew Native American culture and preserve the rich heritage of American Indians."

Along with the Pow Wow, the American Indian Council is also planning on having a sunrise ceremony in the morning on March 9<sup>th</sup> to start the day with a positive energy. We invite you to join us in celebrating and preserving our American Indian culture with the sunrise ceremony and helping volunteer with the other Utah universities.

For more information The American Indian Council meets every Wednesday in the Student Services Building room 233 in the Career Services Center from 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm.

-Stephanie Quinn

## Hispanic Area Council

The New Year is in and there is still snow out there. Things have not changed for us since December, but HAC is trying to come up with new ideas to make this semester warmer! HAC meetings are currently twice a week.

The Hispanic Area Council will also be helping out with the Chinese Club with their annual Chinese New Year celebration on February 15th. HAC will be present at the event from 6:15 PM to 7:45 PM in the Union Building.

For more information please e-mail Senator Viviana Felix,

[vivianafelix@mail.weber.edu](mailto:vivianafelix@mail.weber.edu)

The Hispanic Area Council meets every other Wednesday at 12:30 – 1:30 pm

-Jovany Bahena



**DON'T KNOW WHAT TO GET THAT SPECIAL SOMEONE FOR VALENTINE'S DAY?**

**THE MULTICULTURAL STUDENT CENTER HAS THE PERFECT SOLUTION FOR YOU!**

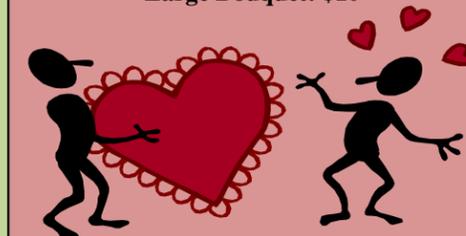
**WE WILL BE SELLING VALENTINE'S BALLOON BOUQUETS ON FEBRUARY 14, 2013 AT THE UNION BUILDING FROM 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM**

**Pre-order at the Info Booth before January 12<sup>th</sup> and receive a free gift with your order.**

**Small bouquet: \$5**

**Medium Bouquet: \$7**

**Large Bouquet: \$10**



## The Ohana Association/ Asian Pacific Islander

Recently in "TOA" (The Ohana Association), the club has re-established its officials due to the inconvenience that was caused by the misunderstandings from last semester.

The New officials are really struggling to make ends meet in a very short moment of time, to bring forth a better start for all of its members and for the reliving of its culture to its youths.

Their senator Joshua Poli will be graduating this semester and so the seat for the Asian-Pacific islander Senator will be vacant for the following terms, unless anyone is to step up and take its role to represent the Asian-Pacific islanders.

For more information contact Eveni Tafiti at the multicultural student center.

-Owen Tipa