

CONNECTIONS

The Business of Relationships

Diversity and Inclusion

Newsletter

We all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all the threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color.



- Maya Angelou

COMMUNITY
COLLABORATION
LEVERAGE
CULTURE
CREATIVITY
INTERCONNECTED
SYNERGY
UNDERSTANDING
STRATEGIC
CULTURE
EQUITY OPPORTUNITY
PERSPECTIVES
VALUE
ADVOCACY
BETTER SOLUTIONS
INNOVATION
BUSINESS IMPERATIVE
VALUE
BUSINESS IMPERATIVE
COMMON GOOD
ENGAGE
AWARENESS
RESPECT

INCLUSION
DIVERSITY
INTERCONNECTED
BETTER SOLUTIONS
SYNERGY
COMMON GOOD
INNOVATION
UNDERSTANDING
BUSINESS IMPERATIVE
STRATEGIC
IMPACT
CULTURE
EMPOWER

INCLUSION
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CULTURE
COLLABORATION



A Note from the Chair

2017 is upon us and with it comes the promise of great growth and change. As a nation and institution of higher learning, we continue to work toward and strive for full participation and equality of all citizens, upon whose shoulders the responsibility for upholding these principles rests. America is a multicultural society dedicated to inclusive participation in our democracy; our laws and our social policies have evolved over time to reflect this strong commitment. RCGC's Diversity Committee strives to build upon the diversity of our community to establish a more inclusive educational environment. We have published this first newsletter called "**CONNECTIONS**" to provide guidance, support, articles and updates on the Diversity Committee's initiatives to promote an environment of "**Respect, Civility and Inclusion.**"

Colleges, Universities and other organizations have found that achieving real and sustained diversity and inclusion programs, initiatives, and committees is a multifaceted task— one that requires a more concentrated approach. For this reason, the Diversity Committee considered it necessary to create a newsletter to help our community navigate the difficult tasks encountered during the journey for meaningful diversity and inclusion. This newsletter is designed with the goal of helping our campus foster a culture of inclusion that addresses the multifaceted tasks facing colleges. "**CONNECTIONS**" aims to provide resources necessary to establish, modify or maintain diversity efforts, shift the instructional standard to include leadership models found in diverse communities, embrace collective methods to outline a new and more inclusive institutional diversity standard, and to develop knowledge and capacity for greater diversity and inclusion success across all levels.

It is my sincerest hope that the RCGC community can attain significant and meaningful diversity and inclusion programs.

Ya Vanca Brooks, Chair,

Diversity Committee

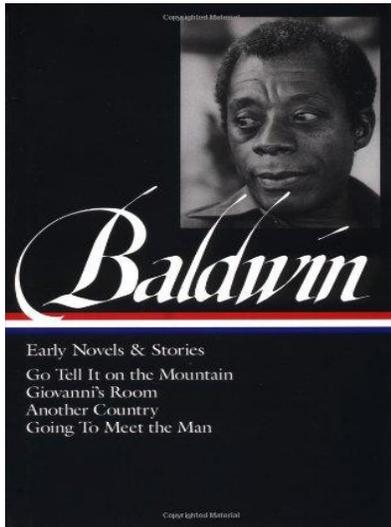
Diversity Committee's Mission

RCGC wishes to express its strong commitment to the goal of diversity, respect, civility and inclusion on our campus. The promotion and retention of a diverse faculty/staff and student body is essential to the success of our institution as a collective body as well as our respective professional pursuits. Diversity brings to our campus a broader and richer environment, which produces creative thinking and solutions. As such, RCGC embraces and encourages diversity in all aspects of its activities. RCGC is committed to creating and maintaining a culture that supports and promotes diversity and inclusion.

Purpose & Intent

Diversity Committee: serves as a review advisory and recommending body to the appropriate Vice President to promote diversity in all RCGC activities- academic, co-curricular and administrative. The Diversity Committee also provides strategies for infusing multiculturalism into all aspects of the campus community and encourages a respectful workplace.

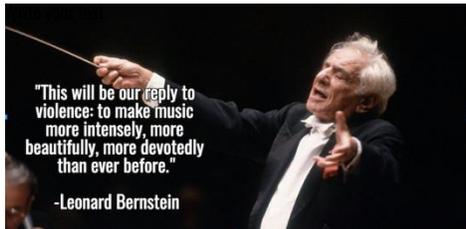
Historical Greats in August



James Baldwin (1924-1987)

He was an active participant in the civil rights movement, despite being eschewed by many participants for being gay. Baldwin used his trade as a writer to make racial inequity known. Baldwin used his writing to explore issues of self identity, often delving into issues beyond race such as sexuality. His work

has also led to him being an inspirational figure in the the gay rights movement.



Leonard Bernstein (1918-1990)

Bernstein gained his fame as a legendary music director for the New York

Philharmonic. During his tenure, he created music for some of the most famous plays and musicals ever, including Peter Pan and West Side Story. Music critic Donal Henaha once said he was “one of the most prodigiously talented and successful musicians in American history.” Bernstein was one of the first American-born conductors to receive critical acclaim across the globe.



Louis Armstrong and Michael Jackson

Both Louis Armstrong “The King of Jazz Trumpet” and Michael Jackson “The King of Pop” were

born during August, on the 4th and 29th respectively. Both of

these men left a massive impact on music both artistically and culturally. Michael Jackson has the third most sold albums of all times behind The Beatles and Elvis Presley.



Emiliano Zapata (1877-1919)

An essential leader in the Mexican Revolution as the main leader of the peasants against the small landowning class. In the midst of the conflict, Zapata and other peasant leaders formed the Liberation Army of the South of which he became the leader. When revolutionary leader Madero became president he renounced all ties with the Zapatistas. Zapata promulgated the Plan of Ayala, a framework for land reform to the peasants and Indians. Eventually, his conflict with the new government led to his murder in an ambush on this date in 1919.

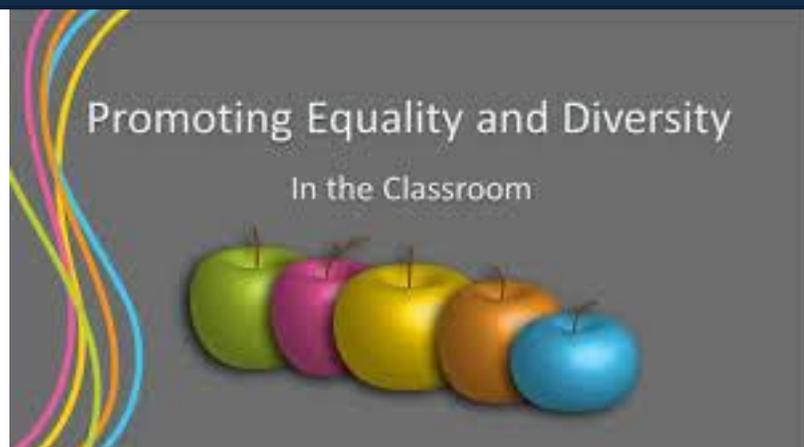
Dates for your Diary- August 2017

- 1) Raksha Bandhan – 8/7/2017
(<http://www.raksha-bandhan.com>)
- 2) International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – 8/9/2017
(<http://www.un.org/en/events/indigenousday/>)
- 3) International Day for the Remembrance of the Slave Trade and its Abolition – 8/23/2017
(<http://www.unesco.org/new/en/social-and-human-sciences/themes/slave-route/right-box/related-information/23-august-international-day-for-the-remembrance-of-the-slave-trade-and-its-abolition/>)
- 4) Women's Equality Day – 8/26/2017
(<http://www.nwhp.org/resources/commemorations/womens-equality-day/>)
- 5) RCGC's New Student Orientation – 8/31/2017
- 6) Labor Day – 9/4/2017
(<https://www.dol.gov/general/laborday/history>)
- 7) RCGC's Welcoming Tent – 9/5/2017 to 9/8/2017
Let's greet our new and returning students back to campus!

Diversity and Inclusion Resource Center

- Importance of Ethnic Diversity on College Campus
<http://blog.cengagebrain.com/blog/2015/06/importance-of-ethnic-diversity-on-college-campus/>
- Top Strategies to Implement and Increase Faculty
<http://www.campusanswers.com/increase-faculty-diversity/>

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Diversity is about recognizing and valuing differences, where everyone is respected for who they are. Equality is about creating a fairer society, where everyone can take part and where everyone has the opportunity to fulfill their potential. A diverse college campus can provide such an opportunity. Students who have classmates, instructors and mentors from different backgrounds are exposed to new viewpoints and perspectives. Consequently, students will most likely be more opened minded and receptive to other cultures.

"5 Advantages to Diversity on College Campuses"

<http://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/lists/5-advantages-to-diversity-on-college-campuses/>

Diversity Website Under Construction
<https://www.rcgc.edu/Diversity>

Send us your thoughts, comments, publications, planned events, announcements, and your campus wide Diversity initiatives.

CONNECTIONS will be circulated on the 2nd Monday of every month. Please make all submissions by the 1st Monday of the month to ybrooks@rcgc.edu

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