

## Loyola to Celebrate Native American Heritage Month

Since the beginning of the 20th century, some were concerned about honoring American Indians. In 1914, Red Fox James, a member of a tribe, rode around the states to gain some support. In 1916, the state of New York observed an American Indian Day but it was not until 1990 that the federal government designated November as a the National American Indian Heritage Month.

American Indians' role in the history of the United States is of crucial importance. They contributed to the economic system, agricultural practices, and medicinal remedies.

These words were said by President George Bush during the proclamation of the Heritage Month in 2001: "During National American Indian Heritage Month, I call on all Americans to learn more about the history and heritage of the Native peoples of this great land. Such actions reaffirm our appreciation and respect for their traditions and way of life and can help to preserve an important part of our culture for generations yet to come".

Currently, American Indians are less than one percent of the total U.S. population. They have been facing challenges as a minority group such as misconceptions, generalizations and lifestyle issues. They have dealt with the term "Native American" and have fought to gain some recognition.

According to the Selig Center for Economic Growth—University of Georgia, Native Americans are the fastest expanding demographic in the U.S., growing 18.6% between 1990 and 2001. Many of the tribes are still enduring as political communities.

Source: [www.infoplease.com](http://www.infoplease.com)

### ALANA'S Native American Celebration!

Join ALANA'S Native American Celebration!!

**"Mini Pow Wow" featuring the Soaring Eagles-Dance Troup.**

Come and eat American Indian cuisine and learn to perform traditional tribal dances.

**Wednesday, November 9th, 11:30am-12:30pm Maryland Hall Circle (Rain site: 4th floor Programming Room)**



MC Keith Cox, drummer/singer for the Soaring Eagles.

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### ALANA STAFF

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*Want to join our mailing list?*

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## Director's Corner:

It's a busy time! Midterms are over! So much has been accomplished and still so much to do! The ALANA Services office has been extremely busy with successful programming such as the Latino Heritage Month Celebration, the largest ever ALANA Breakfast during Family Weekend, and the 21st Annual International Festival.

As our semester rushes to a close, I am very excited about our upcoming celebrations of Native American Heritage Month and Kwanzaa. In light of celebrations, the holiday season is also fast approaching, and I hope that we will allow the spirit of each of those distinct holidays to serve as an opportunity to give to others.

Happy Holidays!  
Rodney L. Parker

### ALANA Student Services Mission Statement

ALANA (African, Latino, Asian, and Native American) Student Services is committed to providing support, services, and programs that facilitate the success of all ALANA students at Loyola College in Maryland. Through intentional programming and a myriad of services, the ALANA office fosters the academic, cultural, personal, and spiritual development of ALANA students. Furthermore, ALANA Student Services seeks to create and maintain an environment of respect and awareness, while advocating for ALANA students and responding to their needs

**“One does not sell the land people walk on”**  
**Crazy Horse, Chief**  
**Ogala Sioux**

*It is my land, my home, my father's land, to which I now ask to be allowed to return. I want to spend my last days there, and be buried among those mountains. If this could be I might die in peace, feeling that my people, placed in their native homes, would increase in numbers, rather than diminish as at present, and that our name would not become extinct.*

**Geronimo, Chief**  
**Apache**



## Kwanzaa Celebration



Kwanzaa is an African American and Pan-African holiday which celebrates family, community, and culture. Kwanzaa is celebrated from December 26 thru January 1. The name Kwanzaa is derived from the phrase “matunda ya kwanza” which means “first fruits” in Swahili, the most widely spoken African language.



Saba (the Seven Principles). The seven communitarian African values are Umoja (unity), Kujichagulia (self-determination), Ujima (collective work and responsibility), Ujamaa (cooperative economics), Nia (purpose), Kuumba (creativity), and Imani (Faith).

The colors of Kwanzaa are black, red, and green,

and are utilized in decorations for Kwanzaa. Decorations typically include African baskets, cloth patterns, art objects, harvest symbols, etc. (See picture above).

The African American branch of Kwanzaa was established in 1966 in the midst of the Black Freedom Movement. It reflects the concern for being culturally grounded in thought and practice, and the unity and self-determination associated with this. Kwanzaa was created to reaffirm and restore our roots in African culture. It also serves as a regular communal celebration to reaffirm and reinforce the bonds between Africans and African Americans as a people. To do this, Kwanzaa incorporated the Nguzo

Join ALANA in their **Kwanzaa Celebration** to be held on **Saturday, December 3rd, from 12pm-3pm in the 4th floor Programming Room.** More to come about the celebration!!



### ALANA Breakfast

ALANA would like to thank all those who participated and attended the ALANA Breakfast during family weekend. More than 350 people were in attendance at the breakfast! It was truly an amazing event! A special thanks to Dr. Stephanie Flores-Koulish for her moving speech and special guest Father Linnane.

### Is There A Difference Between “Native American” and “American Indian”?

American Indians decided in a Geneva Conference, at the United Nations in 1977 that they would go under this term. Most of them have emphasized their preference to be called with their specific tribal designations. They have made clear that they consider themselves American Indian rather than Native American, since the latter has been used as a generic government term describing all the indigenous prisoners of the United States. However, some American Indians still believe acceptable to use both terms interchangeably.

Some words from Russell Means: “I abhor the term Native American [...]. I prefer the term American Indian because I know its origins. The word Indian is an English bastardization of two Spanish words, En Dio, which correctly translated means in with God. As an added distinction the American Indian is the only ethnic group in the United States with the American before our ethnicity. [...] I will not allow a government, any government, to define who I am. Besides anyone born in the Western hemisphere is a Native American.”



### Did you know...

- ◆ The Ghost Dance became an important tradition and rallying point for Indian during the latter part of the 19th century.
- ◆ The Nez Perce Indian Tribe outwitted the US Cavalry in 1877.
- ◆ The Navajo has one of the largest population and biggest reservation of any American Tribe.
- ◆ Sacagawea was the Shoshone Indian who assisted the historic Lewis and Clark expedition. Between 1804-1806, while still a teenager, she guided the adventurers from the Northern Great Plains to the Pacific Ocean and back. Sacagawea replaces suffragette Susan B. Anthony as the image on the dollar coin.
- ◆ Some notable American Indians: Geronimo, Pocahontas, Elias Boudinot, Will Rogers.
- ◆ The word “Texas” come from an Indian word meaning “Friends”.
- ◆ Beans, cocoa, peanuts and potatoes were originally introduced in cuisine by the American Indian people.

## Diwali: The Festival of Lights

Diwali, the Indian Festival of Lights, is very much celebrated throughout India with much gaiety. The festival is celebrated to dispel darkness and light up their lives. It symbolizes unity in diversity as every state celebrates it in its own special way. Expression in people's happiness is shown by lighting earthen diyas (lamps), decorating houses, bursting firecrackers, and enjoying a marvelous feast. Lighting the lamps is a way of paying obeisance to God for attainment of health, wealth, knowledge, peace, valor, and fame. The festival takes place over five days:

**Day One:** *Dhanteras* or *Dhantrayaodashi*—This

falls on the thirteenth day of the month of Ashwin. The word "Dhan" means wealth.

**Day Two:** *Narka-Chaturdashi* or *Choti Diwali*—In South India, this signifies the victory of the divine over the mundane.

**Day Three:** *Lakshmi-Puja*—This is the most important day of the festival and is devoted to the propitiation of the Goddess Lakshmi.

**Day Four:** *Padwa* or *VashaPratipada*—This day marks the coronation of King Vikramaditya and Vikaram-Samvat was started from this Padwa day.

**Day Five:** *Bhaiya-Dooj*—This day is observed as

a symbol of love between sisters and brothers.

Picture: Lakshmi with ring.



Sources: <http://www.diwalimela.com>

## The History of Hanukkah



Hanukkah or Chanukah (both spellings are used) is the Hebrew term for redirection and is the festival of lights. Chanukah begins on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of the month of Kislev in the Jewish calendar, equivalent to our November/December. It is celebrated for eight days in honor of the Jewish victory and the miracle of the oil lasting for 8 days to rededicate the temple.

Chanukah is celebrated because over 2300 years ago the Jewish people were being forced by King Antiochus to give up their religion and obey the

Greek Gods. Many people refused to do this, and among them were Judah Maccabee. Along with his brothers, Judah set out to rededicate the temples by cleaning them and removing the Greek symbols. During this, Judah and his followers were unable to find oil to light the lamps in the temple. Eventually, they found a small cruse of oil that they thought would only be enough for one evening. Amazingly, the oil burned for eight nights. This is why the menorah has eight candles. Each candle represents a night that a small flask of oil kept the light of the Holy Temple lit.

This year, Hanukkah begins on December 26.



## ALANA STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Several ALANA students were honored at the 12th annual Gratias Awards Ceremony held during Family Weekend. Congratulations to each of you!



**Name:** Jasmine L. Jenkins, Class of 2006

**Major:** Political Science, Spanish

**Award(s) Received:** Cura Personalis Award, Diversity Award, & Diane Geppi-Aikens Service to Loyola Award

**Leadership Roles:** RA, Honor Council Chair, BSA Secretary, Pi Sigma Alpha (Political Science Honors Fraternity)

**What Leadership Means to Me:** Leadership is the ability to serve. A good leader recognizes the needs of those whom he/she is leading and works to meet those needs. A good leader understands and properly embodies the values of respect, character, humility, discernment, and integrity.



**Name:** L'Oreal Thompson, Class of 2008

**Major:** Communications, specialization in Journalism, minor in Spanish

**Award(s) Received:** Magis-Scholar-Leader Award

**Leadership Roles:** MAP Mentor

**What Leadership Means to Me:** Leadership is the responsibility and the ability to recognize your God-given talents and use them to better yourself, your peers, and your community.

Other ALANA students recognized at Gratias: Marquita Smith (Honor Council), Ariana Brooks-James (Magis Scholar-Leader Award), Tamika Jones & Georges Ndikuyeze (Green & Grey Society)

http://www.loyola.edu/alana

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ALANA Anthem

## ALANA EVENTS CALENDAR

### November 2005

- 11/1—Los Dias de los Muertos, 6:30pm, CMC, Sponsored by the Hispanic Club & Dept. of Modern Languages and Literatures
- 11/2— “Tango, “ 6pm, Maryland Hall 443, Sponsored by the Hispanic Club, ASA Meeting, 7:15pm
- 11/3 — CSU Meeting, 6pm Claver Center, BSA Meeting , 7:30pm, CMC
- 11/7— Hispanic Club Meeting, 8pm, CMC
- 11/9 — Mini Pow-Wow, 11:30am-12:30pm, Maryland Hall Circle (Rainsite: 4th Floor, Programming Room), ASU Meeting, 7pm, Lange Court 40C
- 11/15 — CSU Meeting, 6pm, CMC
- 11/16— ASA Meeting, 7:15pm
- 11/21— Hispanic Club Meeting, 8pm, CMC

### December 2005

- 12/3 — Kwanzaa Celebration, Noon—3pm, 4th floor Programming Room
- 12/5— Hispanic Club Meeting, 8pm, CMC
- 12/7 — CSU Meeting,, 6pm, CMC, ASA Meeting, 7:15pm
- 12/8 — BSA Meeting, 7:30pm Knott Hall B01

## CULTURAL CALENDAR

- 11/1— Diwali Festival (India)
- 11/4— Eid al-Fitr (Muslim)
- 11/11— Veterans Day (United States)
- 11/15— American Recycles Day
- 11/24— Thanksgiving (US)
- 12/1—World Aids Day (US)
- 12/10— Human Rights Day (US)
- 12/17— Wrights Brothers Day (US)
- 12/25— Christmas
- 12/ 26-1/26— Kwanzaa (African American)
- 12/26-1/2— Hanukkah (Jewish)

### Abbreviations Key:

**ASA**—Asian Students Association, **ASU**—African Students Union, **BSA**—Black Students Association, **CMC**—Claver Multicultural Center, **CSU**—Caribbean Students Union