



John A. Logan College DIVERSITY SPOTLIGHT



JOHN A. LOGAN COLLEGE

Mission Statement

We are a diverse learning and teaching community committed to improving individual life and society through high-quality, accessible educational programs and engaged learning opportunities.

**John A. Logan College
Diversity & Inclusion Office**

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The mission of the Diversity and Inclusion program is to educate, advocate for, promote and support campus wide diversity efforts and the community at large.

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Diversity and Inclusion Program



Greetings,

Are you familiar with the College's Diversity and Inclusion program? The 2016 *Diversity Spotlight* booklet showcases Diversity and Inclusion programming at John A. Logan College. Highlights in this booklet include the College's inclusion activities during the past year that helped be the bridge between racial and ethnic diversity.

To meet the challenges of today and to serve our students the best we can, we must continuously strive for a workforce that reflects America, and promote an environment that values individual respect, dignity, and professional growth.

Diversity and inclusion strengthen us. Embracing diversity means creating an environment in which people of all backgrounds and cultures feel included, welcome, and valued. Inclusion involves respecting individual differences and capturing the advantages they provide. Please join me in supporting JALC's diversity and inclusion efforts by treating everyone with respect, being open to the ideas and perspectives of others, and learning more about diversity.

Enjoy this booklet and welcome to our efforts to promote diversity and inclusiveness.

Sincerely,

Ron House, Ph.D.

President, John A. Logan College

“My Journey of Understanding”

Greetings,

I have lived in the US since 1990 and I have been a naturalized citizen for 18 years. Looking back, I see that racism has been the most challenging issue confronting our nation. I have heard different views from many people about the state of racial unity in this country: “We have come a long way but still have a lot of work to do;” “Nothing has changed except the branding;” “Instead of slavery and lynching, it is incarceration, police brutality, killings, drugs and gun violence;” “Promotion of racial unity is pointless because it will never work. It is just driving us more apart.” These are some of the arguments and perspectives I hear.

Before I moved to the US to join my husband, I read some texts and watched movies and documentaries (specially collected by my husband) to introduce me to the country’s racial history and to make me aware of its challenges and complexity; not that I am completely naïve since I lived with the impact of colonialism, the other side of the coin, for many years. This is how I started my journey of understanding the issue of race in America and of figuring out what role I can play to minimize the problems it poses. My American racial history expedition through print and pictures exposed me to some bright spots and heroism but the persistent racism and inequality were depressing and frustrating.

The need to bridge the racial divide has come into increasing national focus in recent years. The resurgence of divisive racial attitudes, the increased number of racial incidents, terrorist attacks and the deepening anger and despair of minorities and the poor has made the need for a proactive solution ever more pressing and urgent. To not act or to ignore the problem is to put our country’s physical, moral and spiritual strength in jeopardy.

For this reason, our events this year have focused on some of these issues. We had an opportunity to watch the movie “Selma” and the Illinois Humanities sponsored “The Music of the Civil Rights Movement” by Chris Vallillo and reflected on how far we have come with racial unity in our country. To address our racial divides effectively, we have to intensify our efforts on having difficult conversations in order to have productive progress. Moreover, we continue to stress the importance of cultural awareness and understanding through Hispanic Heritage Month, Asian Heritage Month, Women’s History Month and the Gathering of Men and Women (a Black Male Initiative), and so on.

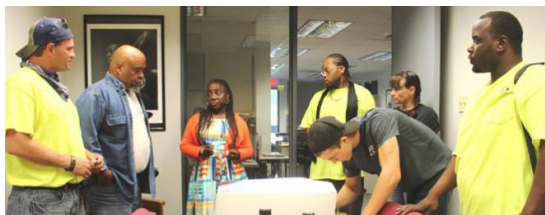
Many thanks to everyone who made our diversity and Inclusion programming possible. The program has lost some very dedicated employee advocates to the workforce reduction/state budget stalemate. There has never been a time when the program has needed support and advocacy more than now. I value everyone who is showing courage, wisdom, humanity and love at this trying time.

Sincerely,

Toyin Fox

Director of Diversity and Inclusion, John A. Logan College

An Introduction to Diversity and Inclusion at Logan



The office of Diversity and Inclusion in collaboration with the Black Student Association held a new student welcome and an open house/meet-and-greet with refreshments on campus for students on

August 21st room C143 to assist both new and continuing students with the start of the fall semester.

“We are here to provide information about our services for those who are curious,” said Toyin Fox, Diversity and Inclusion director. “This is an opportunity for us to reach out, connect, and assist students in navigating our campus.” Fox said the Black Student Association helps to host a “New Student Welcome” event from 4-to-6 p.m. this Friday in the McCollum Room. Steps that students can take at the start of the semester to assure that they are well prepared for the challenges to come were emphasized at this event. “Our expectation is that this event serves as a forum for new students to network with fellow students and continuing students, faculty and staff, as well as members of the JALC community to learn about unique opportunities and resources that support student success here at the college,” Fox added. She said that her office will continue to encourage students to take advantage of this opportunity to connect and make a successful transition to college life or a new semester of studies.

Diversity Advisory Committee Retreat

The Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) held a retreat on February 3rd, 2016 at the Carterville Community Center. The purpose of this retreat was to create a forum for members to discuss and more deeply explore issues particular to the committee’s charge and responsibilities that cannot fit into the regular committee meeting agenda, as well as to create an opportunity for members to become better acquainted with each other, and to feel more part of an effective team. The objectives were to review the DAC’s role, its accomplishments over time, and to develop goals and an action plan to increase retention and student success in the future.

The facilitators were Dr. Joseph Brown, SJ, from the Africana Studies Department, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale and Ms. Charmaine Sevier, Diversity and Employment Manager, Moraine Valley Community College. They guided the DAC through the reflection process and discussions. Also, they inspired and challenged the committee to action. Ms. Sevier offered descriptions of some best practices at her college that have helped them to improve retention and received the Higher Education Excellence in Diversity (HEED) award from INSIGHT Into Diversity Magazine, the oldest and largest diversity-focused publication in higher education. Moraine Valley was one of the 12 community colleges to receive the honor and one of only two community colleges to have received the award all four years. Many comments, concerns and recommendations were offered by the participants. The DAC started a step-by-step action plan for the current priorities of the college’s diversity strategic plan with a timeline before the closing of the retreat.



ida y vuelta



In Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month

Date: Friday, September 4th, 2015

Time: 11:00am. – 12:00pm. & 12:15pm. – 1:15pm.

Location: Waterfall Courtyard (weather permitting), if raining Skylight Lounge.

Ida y Vuelta's presentations come from a long tradition of Mexican folk music called Son Jarocho.

The genre is a fusion of African, Spanish and Indigenous music and poetry. Ida y Vuelta's instrumentation is native to the Veracruz region and includes Jaranas (8 string small guitars), requinto (lead 4 string guitar), Requito & Vocals, Leona (acoustic bass), zapateado, Jarana & Vocals (percussive foot tapping) and they also incorporate the cajón (wood peruvian box) and cajita (small peruvian box) for reinforcements.



JAIME GARZA



LAURA CAMBRON



ZACBE PICHARDO



DANIEL VILLARREAL



CONSTITUTION DAY ★
SEPTEMBER 17TH

*Please join us in the Batteau Conference Room
on Thursday, September 17*

9:30 a.m. David Yepsen— Paul Simon Public Policy
Institute Director

“Presidential Election Review: 2016”

12:30 p.m. David Cochran—JALC History Professor
"The Tree of Liberty and the Blood of Patriots and
Tyrants: Origins and Legacy of the Constitution"

*This program is sponsored by the Social Science Department in
conjunction with the JALC Multicultural Perspective Series.*

For more information please contact

*Jane Bryant , Social Science Department Chair at 618/457-7676,
ext. 8271 or janebryant@jalc.edu.*

On Thursday, September 17, 2015, JALC History Professor in the Social Science department, Dr. David Cochran, did a presentation on **“The Tree of Liberty and the Blood of Patriots and Tyrants: Origins and Legacy of the Constitution.”** The audience comprised the public and John A. Logan College students, faculty and staff.

Dr. Cochran spoke about the U.S. Constitution from a historical perspective and its relevance to the current state of affairs in our nation. He talked about the struggle that is going on when the Constitution was drafted between the American tendency toward democracy and the American tendency toward stability and wealth. He further explained that “the Constitution is a living document, and part of the genius of the men who wrote it was that they left it open that it could be adaptable to different times.”

John A. Logan College
Diversity & Inclusion Office Presents:

Illinois Humanities Council

www.prairie.org

Bucky Halker

Rebel Voices: Songs of Joe Hill, Woody Guthrie, Bob Dylan, & Bruce Springsteen

DATE: Tuesday, November 3, 2015

TIME: 11:00 am. – 12:00 pm.

PLACE: Tarvin/Crisp Conference Rooms

Bucky Halker is a veteran Chicago songwriter, scholar, and performer with fifteen albums and a host of honors and awards to his credit. In 2012 he released “The Ghost of Woody Guthrie,” an original music tribute to

folksong legend Woody Guthrie that fused elements of folk, blues, honky-tonk country, rock, and jazz and on “Welcome to Labor Land” (2007) Halker offered eclectic renditions of historic labor protest songs from Illinois. Bucky, a Ph.D. in labor history, is also the author of For Democracy, Workers, and God: Labor Song-Poems and Labor Protest, 1865-1895 (University of Illinois Press) and the producer-scholar for the five volume “Folksongs of Illinois” CD series. In the

summer of this year, he completed a tribute CD to martyred labor songwriter Joe Hill (1879-1915) entitled “Anywhere but Utah.” He received the prestigious Archie Green Fellowship from the Library of Congress - American Folk Life Center in 2011 and currently serves on the board of directors for the Woody Guthrie Foundation and the Illinois Labor History Society. Rick Kogan recently referred to Bucky as a “missionary, spreading the words and redefining folk music in new and vital and exciting ways.” Chicago Tribune (March 23, 2014).



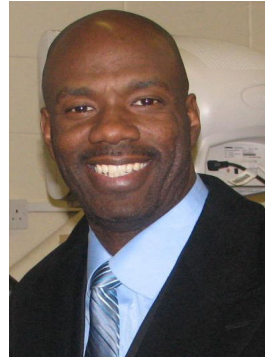
JOHN A LOGAN COLLEGE PRESENTS

UNITY AMIDST DIVERSITY

Tuesday, Nov. 10 • 11:00 am to 12:00 pm • Batteau Room

GUEST SPEAKER Mr. Edward Ellis

Edward Ellis is dedicated to serving those who served. He is the Supervisor, Non-VA Care Purchased Care, Veterans Administration Medical Center, Marion, IL. He leads a team responsible for paying for medical services provided to Veterans in the local community. He entered the United States Air Force in 1986 and began his career as an Information Manager in the 831st Air Division, George Air Force Base (AFB), California. He then transitioned into the Communications career field and held a variety of assignments in the Continental United States and Overseas including deployments to Operations DESERT SHIELD and DESERT STORM, two deployments to Kuwait, Uzbekistan and Afghanistan. His military duties took him to 18 different countries, serving with a diverse population of American and Multi-National military personnel.



Mr. Ed Ellis described his experience when he served in Afghanistan as part of an International Assistance Force that comprised different nations with a common goal. He said they all spoke different languages, had different ideas, confronted issues from different positions, had different beliefs, ate different foods and desired different things. However, with communication and a willingness to see things from other's perspective we were able to bond into a cohesive force and were unified in fighting the enemy and accomplishing the goals that were set before us. He added, "Unity has a sound! One of the first things you learn to do in military basic training is to march. Marching builds unity and it teaches a group of individuals how to operate as one. Imagine new trainees with new boots with thick heels on them. Unity can be heard by the pounding of every footstep to the pavement. When a flight is in unity you will not hear individual or multiple heel beats, each person will be in sync, step and rhythm. Just as unity has a sound, disunity has a sound as well. It always amazed me how a Training Instructor with all of their responsibilities of proper alignment of the squadron, calling out orders, call cadence, staying in step etc. could always tell when we were not marching correctly. It's because their ears are trained to listen for one heel beat, and when one person is not in step it can be easy recognized." He challenged the audience to not allow our differences on issues to divide and separate us.

Edward has attended United States Air Force Basic Training, Lackland AFB, TX, Noncommissioned Officer Preparatory Course, George AFB, CA, Airman Leadership School, Barksdale AFB, LA, and the Noncommissioned Officer Academy, Kapaun, Germany. He attended Liberty University in Lynchburg, VA and has a degree in Religion. He retired from the United States Air Force in 2009 after 23 years of service to his country. He and his family reside in Marion.

MUSIC OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT



Written by Teri Campbell

In February, the Diversity & Inclusion office played host to Folksinger Chris Vallillo who performed pivotal selections of music from the civil right movement that inspired and sustained this landmark movement.

The presentation, “*Music of the Civil Rights Movement*,” took place on Feb. 2nd at the John A. Logan College, Carterville, and 11:00 am. *The Civil Rights Movement has been described as one of the greatest singing movements that this country has experienced. From “We Shall Overcome” to “This Little Light of Mine,” music played a vital role in that historic struggle as both an inspirational rallying point and a means of spreading the message of equality and justice. From the Freedom Riders, to the jails of Montgomery Alabama, and Parchman Prison, all the way to Washington DC, both old and new songs of the era spoke of the yearning for equal rights, the struggle and the determination to win freedom.*

The event was funded in part by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau, a program that provides organizations statewide with affordable, entertaining, and thought-provoking humanities events for their communities. A roster of speakers, hailing from 20 different towns and cities across Illinois, present topics in history, culture, literature, music, politics, law, science, and many more.

Road Scholar Chris Vallillo is a nationally acclaimed singer/songwriter and folk musician. Performing on six-string and bottleneck slide guitars and harmonica, Vallillo



Chris Vallillo

weaves original, contemporary, and traditional songs and narratives into a compelling and entertaining portrait of the history and lifestyles of the Midwest, and in the U.S. as a whole. A recipient of a 1986 Illinois Arts Council Artist Fellowship Award for music composition, Chris was also a nominee for the Illinois Arts Council’s 1987 Governor’s Award for Individual Artist. In 1987 he conducted the Schuyler Arts Folk Music Project to document the last of the pre-radio generation. These recordings were accepted into the American Folk life Collection at the Library of Congress

Illinois Humanities is supported in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) and the Illinois General Assembly (through the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency), as well as by contributions from individuals, foundations and corporations.

Any views, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed by speakers, programs participants, or audiences do not necessarily reflect those of the NEH, Illinois Humanities, our partnering organizations or our funders.



Civil Rights Movement March

The Gathering of Men and Women

Friday, February 5th, 2016 • 12:00 – 4:00 pm

John A. Logan College Conference Center - Tarvin & Crisp Rooms

Theme: Who Are You?

Identity and Grit as a Foundation for Resilience

Guest Speaker:

Mr. Nathan Stephens

Mr. Nathan Stephens is the Director of the Center for Inclusive Excellence at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL. Nathan holds a bachelor's degree in social work from Columbia College in Missouri and a master's degree in social work with emphasis on policy, planning and non-profit administration from the University of Missouri-Columbia. Nathan has conducted workshops on Black males at several conferences like AERA, ABCC, Big XII Conference on Black Student Government and the Missouri Legislative Black Caucus.



He has also presented at various summits at the University of Denver Black Male Summit, Saint Louis University African American Male Summit and the University of Akron Black Male Summit. He is associated with the national Campaign for Black Male Achievement and the Black Male Engagement.

The gathering of Men and Women was hosted by the D & I office to discuss practical and productive solutions to increasing academic and career success at Logan. Participants attended a business/dining etiquette session before the guest speaker presentation. A break out session for men and women was facilitated by Dr. Marilyn Toliver at the end, with interactive & fun activities plus a variety of door prizes. The event was sponsored by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion and the Black Student Association.

The Office of Diversity & Inclusion sponsors the "Gathering of Men" event to provide additional opportunity for Black male students/men of color, JALC faculty, staff, and community professionals to network and fellowship with each other. Also, additional opportunity is provided for Women of Color JALC faculty, staff, and community professionals to network and fellowship with each other. The goal is to forge and foster relationships that can lead to peer support and mentorship amongst attendees.

John A. Logan College Diversity & Inclusion Office Presents

Thursday, Feb. 25, 2016 • 9:00 am. - 12:00 pm.

Room: C138

Screening: 9:00 – 11:15 am. Discussion: 11:15 am. - 12:15 pm.



***This Event is
Co-Sponsored & Facilitated
by the English Department***

Although the Civil Rights Act of 1964 legally desegregated the South, discrimination was still rampant in certain areas, making it very difficult for blacks to register to vote. In 1965, an Alabama city became the battleground in the fight for suffrage. Despite violent opposition, Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. (David Oyelowo) and his followers pressed forward on an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, and their efforts culminated in President Lyndon Johnson signing the Voting Rights Act

of 1965. “Selma” has received so many awards including the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Motion Picture (2015), a BET Award for Best Movie, PGA Visionary Vanguard Award (2015), NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Actor, David Oyelowo (2015), NAACP Image Award for Supporting Actor, NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Supporting Actress Carmen Ejogo (2015).

This event was open to the public and Mr. Matt Garrison, the Chair of the English department and the instructor The Art of the Cinema course, facilitated the discussion on “Selma” with his students and the audience.



March is Women's History Month

**2016 THEME: *Working to Form a More Perfect Union:
Honoring Women in Public Service and Government***
Women and Girls: Conversations Across Generations

Tuesday, March 29, 2016 • 12:00 noon – 1:00 pm
Room: McCollum/Terrace Dining Room

A panel presentation was held in the McCollum room on Tuesday, March 29th in celebration of Women's History month. The presentation was a conversation among women and girls across generations. Panelists shared real life stories from their public service, personal anecdotes, and their thoughts on how far women have come in public service and government. They talked about critical issues still affecting women today and discussed ideas on improving and expanding economic opportunities for working and struggling women. The panelists are Sharon Harris-Johnson, PhD, Jackson County Treasurer, Ms. Angela Calcaterra, Coordinator of Deaf & Hard of Hearing Services, Ms. Brandi Hüsich, John A. Logan Student Trustee, Ms. Gloria Campos, Council Woman for City of Murphysboro & Chair of the Republican National Hispanic Assembly and Ms. Melissa Cauthen, Volunteer Recruiter, The Women's Center in Carbondale. The event was sponsored by Diversity & Inclusion Office & the AAWCC, John A. Logan College.

The National Women's History Month theme for 2016 honors women who have shaped America's history and its future through their public service and government leadership. Although often overlooked and undervalued, collectively they have dramatically influenced our public policy and the building of viable institutions and organizations. From championing basic human rights to ensuring access and equal opportunity for all Americans, they have led the way in establishing a stronger and more democratic country.

Each of these public leaders succeeded against great odds. The diversity of their experiences demonstrates both the challenges and the opportunities women in public service have faced. Their ability to use the art of collaboration to create inclusive solutions and non-partisan policies, as well as their skill and determination, serve to inspire future generations. The tenacity of each Honoree underlines the fact that women from all cultural backgrounds in all levels of public service and government are essential in the continuing work of forming a more perfect union.

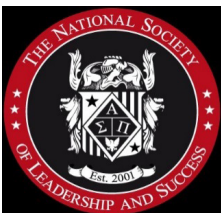
My Experience with the National Society of Leadership and Success

By Alex Howell, Class of 2016

One year ago when I received an invitation in the mail to join the National Society of Leadership and Success, I was beyond excited. I was proud that I had this invitation reflecting my achievements. When I joined, it was without a doubt one of the best decisions of my college career. When orientation day arrived, I was so excited. I had no idea what was in store. I completed orientation, and then leadership training day. I made the decision that I wanted to be part of the Society's Executive Board. I absolutely love being part of the E-Board. Soon came success networking team meetings, e-board meetings, e-board retreat, and live speaker broadcasts. This past May, I became an inducted member of the Society, even earning two extra awards. I have made many friends along the way. Being a part of the society has many benefits. from a job bank to scholarships, awards, custom recommendations, and graduation honors. It is truly encouraging, motivational and inspiring. I have achieved so many more things in the past year than I ever thought about. I have even become the John A. Logan College National Society Chapter President. The benefits of joining are great. It has truly been an amazing experience and I encourage you to join! It will truly change your life.



National Society of Leadership and Success after their May 2016 Induction Ceremony (with Alex Howell standing far right -front)



The National Society of Leadership and Success is an organization that is dedicated to training and building leaders who will positively affect their community and the people around them. The Society brings people from different backgrounds and ethnic groups together to work on learning skills that will allow them to lead other people to achieve any goal. This kind of skill set is something that will help members at work and their everyday life as well.

GRANT WORKSHOP IN THE ARTS

Thursday, March 10, 2016

Workshop presented by: Company of Folk

2:00 - 4:00 pm • Room B65



Company of Folk Executive Director Bucky Halker conducted a workshop on the Master-Apprentice Fellowships available through the Illinois Arts Council Agency for 2016.

These fellowships provide financial support to a “master artist” to train an apprentice in order to preserve important traditional folk and ethnic art forms in Illinois.

The workshop was designed for any Master Artist in a folk or traditional art genre, including ethnic arts such as dance, painting, clothing, pottery, and music. The workshop was organized for the campus and the community to inform participants to know if they might qualify and apply for this award. The goal of the award is to help a Master Artist pass along his/her knowledge to an apprentice and insure that his/her art will continue to thrive with another generation.

The guest presenter, Dr. Bucky Halker, reviewed grant guidelines and the application, as well as answered questions from workshop participants. He also offered information on other grants funding options available for Illinois resident artists.

The workshop was co-sponsored by the Diversity and Inclusion office and took place at John A. Logan College Carterville campus. It was free and open to the public.

For further information contact:

Bucky Halker, Director, Company of Folk

bucky@companyoffolk.org

773-275-4959

Visit <http://www.arts.illinois.gov/grants-programs> for information on this and other grants available through the Illinois Arts Council Agency.

Illinois Humanities Council

www.prairie.org

Funded by: Illinois Arts Council Agency and the National Endowment for the Arts.



ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

五月 | MAY

April 12, 2016 • 10:00 to 12:00

Room: C 138 – Film screening

2016 THEME:

“Walk Together, Embrace Differences, Build Legacies”

John A. Logan celebrated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month in April to allow for more participation from the entire campus and community before the academic year closes in the middle of May. Our presentation featured Origami art, Henna tattoos, Calligraphy: a Symbol of China, and a film. Tables were set up in the E wing entrance area of the campus to showcase cultural tradition and artifacts from China, Japan, Korea and India.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Opening a Window of Hope and Opportunity...

Several years ago the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Memorial Scholarship fund was established by the Black Student Association (BSA). The scholarship is to be awarded to the student who excels in academics and has outstanding leadership skills, a student who exemplifies the ideals of a motivated mentor, Dr. King. The BSA and friends reaches out to black students to create a sense of community and plan cultural, social and academic activities that inspire learning and unity on our campus and promote community outreach. Help us make a difference! Together, we can pay it forward by supporting excellence in education and building leaders who make a better world!

“As a student I remember receiving the Paul Robeson Award from SIU-C Black Student Affairs Council. I was so grateful for the help and so encouraged by their acknowledgement and support! These scholarships mean a lot to students; it can be the catalyst that propels them forward. I know it was a turning point in my life. And I want to show my gratitude by paying it forward! It is a pleasure and an honor to donate to such a worthy cause. It is all about helping our students to succeed!”

– Dr. Marilyn Toliver, JALC Faculty

Paying It Forward Alumni Speak

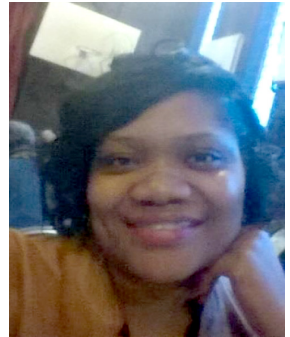
“Hello my name is Breona Hawkins. I was the 2014 recipient of the Black Student Association Leadership Award Scholarship. This scholarship was very helpful in helping me continue my education at John A. Logan College which later helped me to transfer to Southern Illinois University-Carbondale to complete my Bachelor’s degree and become a first generation college graduate.

Breona Hawkins (left) graduated from SIUC with a B.S. in Social Work.

The Black Student Association Leadership Award scholarship fund is extremely important to help students, like myself, who want to be world changers within their community and beyond. The BSA scholarship helps fund the education and dreams of future leaders and world changers.”

2012 Leadership Award Recipient

“My name is Imani Hudson and I am a previous recipient of multiple Black Student Association Scholarships while attending John A. Logan College (JALC) as a non-traditional student and a single mother. I graduated from JALC with an associate degree in Computer Information System and from Southern Illinois University in 2014 with a degree in Information System Technology with a specialization in cybersecurity. I had the opportunity to work for JALC as a student and for SIU Carbondale in the Security Department while in school. Upon graduating, in the corporate world, I worked for Barnes Jewish Hospital (telecommunications) and Charter Communications (cyber security Department). I benefited from the scholarships I received at JALC by paying off school debt. In an effort to support others who may be in my previous position or even worse, your support is needed. Your monetary support will help someone advance in higher education and in life. Thank you for caring.”



Retired Maintenance Man, Page, Honored before JALC Men's Game *By John D. Homan*



Retired JALC maintenance man extraordinaire, Larry Page, receives a plaque and points to a friend in the crowd feigning anger as JALC Athletic Director stands alongside.

(PHOTO BY JOHN D. HOMAN)

John A. Logan College honored one of its most treasured assets Wednesday night prior to the start of the men's basketball game with Kaskaskia.

Retired maintenance worker, Larry Page – the man who always jokes that he feels “terrible” all the while cracking a smile and who delivers some ferocious bear hugs and memorable mussings of hair – received a standing ovation from the overflow crowd as he was presented a plaque of appreciation by JALC Athletic Director Jerry Halstead.

Page played basketball for the Volunteers in the mid-1980s for coaches Tom Ashman and Mark Imhoff prior to being employed by the college. And although he was a solid player, it wasn't his ability to play the game that he is so fondly remembered. It is his zest for life. To know Larry is to love Larry. He was a friend to one and all on campus as referenced in the plaque he received.

It reads as follows:

“In recognition of Mr. Larry Page... Your 28-plus years as a maintenance technician at John A. Logan College was only your formal job description. Encourager and entertainer seem more appropriate. The positive impact you have made on the lives of your co-workers and many student-athletes, in particular, will not be forgotten. Whether you were the father figure, big brother or simply “good friend” to these young people, you were a difference maker. We wish you only the best in your retirement and hope to see you around the basketball court many times in the years ahead! Your JALC Friends.”

Halstead said he can't begin to explain the depth of Page's value to the college, in particular to the athletic program over the years.

“Larry was definitely our go-to guy when something was needed no matter how big or small the job,” Halstead said. “We wish him well in his retirement.”

The Diversity and Inclusion Program at John A. Logan College is doing interesting and good work to engage the students and the community.

Diversity Advisory Committee

The role of the Diversity Advisory Committee is to provide leadership and expertise on diversity and inclusion, serve in an advisory capacity to the President to meet diversity goals of the college's strategic plan, collaborate and support campus wide diversity and inclusion efforts.

Diversity Events Programming

We sponsor cultural awareness and heritage programs, social justice and advocacy programs, minority and international student groups, identity-based organizations, student leadership programs, collaboration with secondary schools and community organizations and other diversity initiatives.

Multicultural Perspectives Series

MPS is a forum that provides an informal atmosphere for students to engage with John A. Logan College Alumni, fellow students, faculty and staff, and community members. Guest speakers/presenters share their personal and/or professional multicultural experiences with students. The goal of this program is to increase opportunities for our students to experience more diverse views and cultures that will create openness to enriching their future professional responsibilities and personal lives in today's global politics and economy. MPS will be scheduled once a month in the fall and spring semesters.

International Program/Week

International Program offers a wide range of international education opportunities for students and the community. Lectures, exhibits, and performances frequently have an international flavor, and roundtable discussions on topics of international interest are also held several times each semester. Contact the director: Dr. Sue Trammell at suetrammell@jalc.edu or ext. 8324

Acts of Kindness Project

Acts of Kindness Project provides an opportunity for John A. Logan College students to reach out and serve the youth in the community especially among the traditionally underrepresented populations of youth.

Diversity Spotlight

A booklet to showcase Diversity and Inclusion programming and creative expressions on building and sustaining an inclusive environment.

National Society of Leadership and Success

It is a student leadership honors society that build leaders who make a better world www.societyleadership.org

The Society activities include peer mentoring, teambuilding, leadership training and community service. Members also attend student leadership workshops and conferences.

ADVANCE! Mentoring Program

ADVANCE! helps students address and manage challenges, overcome obstacles and adapt to a new environment with the assistance of an experienced and trusted faculty, staff member or upper student.

SAFE ZONE Project

The Safe Zone Project, through education, advocacy, visibility, and skill development supports faculty and staff to become allies for GLBTQIA students and colleagues. The Project is designed to reduce prejudice and discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression at the college and create a safe campus.

Scholarships and Awards

We provide resources and incentives that promote positive identity, personal growth, educational and professional advancement.

***If you are interested in contributing in any way to any of the above or would like to make donations to help promote our diversity efforts, please contact Toyin Fox at 618-985-3741 Ext. 8586 or toyinfox@jalc.edu
For more information about the Diversity and Inclusion Program, visit us online at www.jalc.edu or advance!program@jalc.edu.***