

September 2016

Creating Inclusive Classrooms



Facilitated by [Dr. Laura Von Wallmenich](#) and Dr. Lauren Woolbright

"Inclusion is not simply about physical proximity. It is about intentionally planning for the success of all students." – Unknown

To promote the academic success, equality, and leadership development of all students inclusive initiatives need to be taken in the classroom. Hear from students and professors who are breaking down the barriers in the classroom to create a space that holistically address cultural, educational and civic growth for everyone.

October 2016

It Started at Stonewall



Facilitated by Marissa Relitz

"Our journey is not complete until our gay brothers and sisters are treated like anyone else under the law...for if we are truly created equal, then surely the love we commit to one another must be equal as well." – President Obama

In the summer of 1969, a police raid quickly turned into a riot at the Stonewall Inn. LGBTQ+ members, tired of oppression and harassment collectively took a stand and kicked off a 6 day protest to end such injustices. What many call the first collective protest for the queer community produced some of the most influential activists such as Marsha P. Johnson and Sylvia Rivera. In honor of PRIDE Month, we will reflect on the historical challenges and triumphs in the LGBTQ+ community and hear about the efforts made at Alma College to grow the SAFE ZONE program to promote awareness and inclusiveness.

November 2016

Practicing Religious Diversity



Facilitated by Dr. Blanchard, Noel Snyder and Dr. Gilbert

“We need to give each other the space to grow, to be ourselves, to exercise our diversity. We need to give each other space so that we may both give and receive such beautiful things as ideas, openness, dignity, joy, healing, and inclusion.” – Max de Pree

The First Amendment prohibits the making of laws that impedes ones freedom to exercise religion, abridging the freedom of speech...or that which would prohibit the right to assemble peacefully. This month welcomes all to join in the dialogue to hear perspectives to discuss a number of religious and spiritual affiliations.

January 2017

Oh S.N.A.P.! Who is really on welfare?



"The most violent element in society is ignorance."

-Emma Goldman

Welfare Queens! Lazy Bums! Immigrants! Well...40% of S.N.A.P. recipients are white, comprising the largest racial group on food stamps. 73% of people who receive public benefits are working families. And all undocumented populations are ineligible for welfare programs. How many other stereotypes are there out there? Together let's discuss the myths and misconceptions of welfare recipients and discuss the value of government assistant programs.

February 2017

Strength to Love: Understanding Extreme Acts of Violence



Facilitated by Dr. Maya Dora- Laskey

Hate multiplies hate, violence multiplies violence, and toughness multiplies toughness in a descending spiral of destruction....The chain reaction of evil — hate begetting hate, wars producing more wars — must be broken, or we shall be plunged into the dark abyss of annihilation.

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr

It may seem as though acts of violence have become normalized, being streamed daily across the world. Let's discuss our understanding of these events, honor the innocent lives lost, and move forward with the mentality as a community in solidarity.