

**Community Coalition for Social Justice**  
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**UPDATE: 1 OCTOBER 2013**

**MISSION STATEMENT:** The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

**STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP:** Our next steering committee meeting will be at Panera's on Monday, October 14 @ 7:00 pm. We are working on plans for our Martin Luther King, Jr., Day Celebration for 2014, so please join us if you wish to help us plan this annual event at the Metropolitan Theatre.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at [attfield@comcast.net](mailto:attfield@comcast.net). Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at [ccsjwv@hotmail.com](mailto:ccsjwv@hotmail.com). Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at [barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu).

**PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES** - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. We decided at the last steering committee meeting that, after more than 13 years of keeping our dues at \$5, we should ask for \$10 for individuals.

**CCSJ DIVERSITY PICNIC** – Many thanks to Al Anderson for the great tour of Osage and for the chance to view the new Scotts Run Coal Museum. WVU students under the direction of Eve Faulkes have developed beautiful creative signage for the town and informative exhibit panels for the museum.

**Local news**

**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION:** The next meeting of the Morgantown Human Rights Commission will be Thursday, October 17, at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Safety Building Conference Room on Spruce Street. You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at <http://www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/>.

**WVU OFFICE OF MULTICULTURAL PROGRAMS & THE OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENT AFFAIRS AND GLOBAL SERVICES PRESENT: THE CECILIA ROLLINS BROWN BAG FILM AND DISCUSSION SERIES ON THE OCCASION OF LGBTQ HISTORY MONTH.** Here are the events:

**Tuesday, October 1, 2013**, at 7:00 pm in the Gluck Theater, WVU Mountainlair: Presenter: Spectrum, the WVU LGBTQ Student Organization will show “**The Celluloid Closet: 100 Years of Hidden Screen Agendas.**” This is “A brilliant documentary by award-winning directors Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman and inspired by Vito Russo’s groundbreaking 1981 book of film history, “The Celluloid Closet” examines Hollywood’s depictions of the LGBTQ community and the attitudes behind them throughout the history of film. Narrated by Lilly Tomlin, the documentary interviews men and women connected to the Hollywood film industry, and provides insight into their own personal experiences with the treatment of LGBT characters in film. Pizza will be provided first-come, first-served.

**Wednesday, October 2, 2013**, at 7:00 pm in the Gluck Theater of the WVU Mountainlair. **The "Self" in Everyday Life: American and Omani Cultural Differences.** Presenter: Dr. Chas Koermer, WVU teaching associate professor, department of marketing

Omani desserts will be served.

**Thursday, October 3, 2013**, at 11:30 am in the Gluck Theater of the WVU Mountainlair. **"Pariah."** Presenter: Allyson Perry, GTA, Women's and Gender Studies. "Set in Brooklyn's Fort Greene neighborhood, Dee Rees' powerful semi-autobiographic tale of a shy, but determined, teenage poet coming-of-age, poignantly captures one's sense of feeling like a pariah. What's special about "Pariah" is that it success-fully tells many stories at once. The main character's struggle to live openly with her family is the most prominent, but there's also her socially isolated mother and her bitter, yet protective father; and there are the stories that turn on the underreported brutality hundreds of thousands of LGBTQ youth of color face each year. The film premiered at the 2011 Sun-dance Film Festival and was awarded the Excellence in Cinematography Award." Pizza will be provided first-come, first-served.

You can learn about other films throughout the month at <http://cal.wvu.edu/CalendarNOW.aspx?fromdate=10/1/2013&todate=10/31/2013&more=10/23/2013&display=Month&type=public>.

**For more information on all of these programs, please call Multicultural Programs at 304-293-0890.**

**NATIVE AMERICAN EVENT– October 9.** "Black Elk: Medicine Man, Missionary, Mystic," a lecture by Michael F. Steltenkamp, S.J., Ph.D., 6-7 PM, 122 Ming Hsieh Hall, WVU downtown campus. Light reception begins at 5:30 PM. Book-signing follows lecture. Free event, open to the public.

**WVU DIVERSITY WEEK COMING SOON:** WVU's annual Diversity Week will be the week of October 20. You can find the full calendar of events at <http://cal.wvu.edu/CalendarNOW.aspx?fromdate=9%2f1%2f2013&todate=9%2f30%2f2013&display=Month>, but one of the highlights is always the annual **WOMEN OF COLOR DAY LUNCHEON**, which will be held Wednesday, October 23, at 11:30 am at the WVU Mountainlair Ballrooms. The speaker will be Diane Lewis of Action Facilities Management. The cost is \$17, and the event is open to the public.

The Native American Studies Program will also host its annual Peace Tree Ceremony this week, on Thursday, October 24, at 11:30 am outside E. Moore Hall on the downtown campus or, if there is inclement weather, in the Vandalia Lounge of the Mountainlair. The speaker will be Klane King of the Blood Tribe of the Blackfoot Nation. The Peace Tree Lecture will be at 5:30 pm that evening in G11 Life Sciences on the downtown campus, with Klane King speaking on "Modern Problems, Traditional Medicine." This event is free and open to the public. There will also be a Native American Luncheon on Friday, October 25, at 11:30 am in Allen Hall with Klane King as the speaker.

For more information on any Diversity Week events, please contact Sharon Mallow at 304-293-5600 or [sharon.mallow@mail.wvu.edu](mailto:sharon.mallow@mail.wvu.edu).

**WVU CULTURAL ATTACHÉ PROGRAM BEGINS ON OCTOBER 29 WITH A CELEBRATION OF THE CULTURE OF KUWAIT:**

"The West Virginia University Cultural Attaché Program will host a celebration of the Culture of Kuwait on Tuesday, October 29 2013 at 7:30 PM in the Gluck Theater, WVU Mountainlair. The festivities will begin with a short film and presentation on Kuwait. The celebration continues with a reception featuring Kuwaiti food, music, and handicrafts.

“The Cultural Attaché Program offers presentations by official representatives of nations located on different continents. Our goals are to provide a forum for official representatives from other nations, inform the WVU community of their cultures, educate the WVU community about intercultural awareness, and promote the understanding of other peoples and cultures.

“This event is sponsored by the WVU Office of Multicultural Programs, WVU Office of International Student Affairs and Global Services. It is free and open to the public. For more information, contact Debbi Pariser at 304-293-0890.”

## STATE-WIDE NEWS

**FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA INSTITUTE'S 2013 FACES OF FAIRNESS CONFERENCE & GALA: LIFTING OUR VOICES TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2:** The event will feature **Rod Snyder** the keynote speaker at the conference, with conference sessions on the following topics: Family Law, Housing Discrimination, Financial Planning, Communities of Faith, Domestic Violence, Campus, Community, and Workplace Organizing. Social workers will be able to earn CEUs for attending conference sessions. If you want to be a table captain, contact Scott Jarrell at [scott@fairnesswv.org](mailto:scott@fairnesswv.org) if you're interested. Catering for the gala will be provided by **Bridge Road Bistro**.

Early bird registration closes at midnight on October 18 and final registration ends at midnight on October 28. To register and for more information, go to [www.fairnesswv.org/institute](http://www.fairnesswv.org/institute).

## NATIONAL NEWS

**HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN WORKING TO END DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT:** This e-mail from the Human Rights Campaign explains how to support the Employment Non-Discrimination Act:

“This Thursday [October 3], hundreds of advocates from around the country will make the trip to our nation’s capital to meet with senators about the Employment Non-Discrimination Act. That's why we're gearing up for ENDA actions across West Virginia this week.

“Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid has said that he hopes to bring ENDA to a vote in the Senate this fall, and that vote could come at any time. Americans from all walks of life share the basic value that no one – including lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people – should face discrimination in the workplace, but we still need to line up a few more votes in the Senate to win. Will you help us keep the work going in West Virginia?

“HRC has organizers on the ground in West Virginia as part of the Americans for Workplace Opportunity campaign. They are ready to help you connect pro-equality voters with your senator's office. **Please sign up to volunteer today** or contact Justin Williams at [justinw@workplaceopportunity.org](mailto:justinw@workplaceopportunity.org) to get involved. And because volunteering is more fun with friends, please ask your friends and family members to join you.

Thank you,



Marty Rouse  
National Field Director

“P.S. If you haven't yet sent a message to your senators about ENDA, it's not too late. **Send your message.**”

If you can't go to Washington, there are two opportunities for phone-banking:

**Fairmont Community Event** - Thursday, Oct. 3rd 4pm - 5:45pm  
Marion County Public Library, 321 Monroe St. Fairmont, WV 26554  
Lower conference room B (note: not handicap accessible)  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/547185415351029/>

**Morgantown Phonebanking for ENDA**- Thursday, Oct. 3rd 3pm-6pm  
WVU Hillel, 1420 University Ave. Morgantown, WV 26505  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/372621162840918/>

### **OCTOBER DIVERSITY CALENDAR FROM ED HORVAT**

Congress designated each October as National Disability Employment Awareness Month (USA) to increase the public's awareness of the contributions and skills of American workers with disabilities and to highlight the specific employment barriers that still need to be addressed and removed.

**Hindu** – October 5 - 14. Navaratri (nine nights) symbolizes the triumph of good over evil and marks the start of autumn. Navaratri is divided into sets of three days to adore three different aspects of the supreme goddess or goddesses. Navaratri is also known as Durga Puja.

**Christian** – October 6. World Communion Sunday, observed by member churches of the World Council of Churches, focuses on their common union through Jesus Christ.

“Christians are called as Christ's people to be God's peacemakers as agents of reconciliation in families, individual lives, communities, churches, the international arena, and the whole of creation” (Presbyterian Church USA).

**Scientology** – October 7. This day celebrates the founding of the International Association of Scientologists, the membership organization responsible for safeguarding and ensuring the continuity and expansion of the Scientology religion.

**Zarathushti (Zoroastrianism)** – October 12 – 16. Ghambar Ayathrem celebrates the creation of plants, the sowing of the winter crop, and the return of herds from pasture.

**Hindu** – October 14. Dassehra, or Vijay Dasami, celebrates the victory of good over evil: the victory of Lord Rama over the demon Ravan, and the victory of Goddess Durga over a demon.

**Islam** – October 14. Day of Haij comes on the ninth day of Dhul-Hija, the month of pilgrimage. It commemorates the last revelation to the Prophet [Peace Be Upon Him] at Mt. Ararat shortly before his death. Muslims on Haij attend a service on the plains in front of Mount 'Arafat.

**Islam** – October 15. Eid al-Adha, the Festival of Sacrifice. Commemorates Ibrahim's (Abraham's) willingness to obey God by sacrificing his son, Ishmael. According to the Holy Qur'an, Ibrahim was about to sacrifice his son when a voice from heaven stopped him and allowed him to sacrifice a ram instead. The feast re-enacts Ibrahim's obedience by sacrificing a goat or lamb. The family eats a special meal prepared from this meat, and donations are made to feed the poor. This festival, the concluding act of pilgrimage, is observed even if not on pilgrimage.

**Baha'i Faith** – October 20. Birthday of the Bab, the Herald of the Baha'i Faith. Born Siyyid 'Ali Muhammad in southwestern Iran in 1891, his title in Arabic means, "The Gate." His shrine is at the Baha'i World Center in Haifa, Israel. Baha'is generally do not work on holy days, and their celebrations are open to the public.

**Sikhism** – October 20. Installation of the Sri Guru Granth Sahib Ji. This date celebrates the passing on of the Guruship to the Holy Scriptures by the tenth Guru, Gobind Singh Ji.

**Pastoral & Spiritual Care Week** – October 20 – 26. Chaplains and spiritual caregivers cross institutional,

economic, cultural and ecclesiastical boundaries in integrating spirituality into the healing of the whole being. They work in communities, congregations, hospitals, long-term care facilities, correctional services, mental health systems and many other places where hurting souls are found. They seek to help people of all faiths and those with no formal religious affiliation. The focus of this year's celebration is "Prophetic Voice."

**Earth-Based Spirituality** – October 31. Samhain celebrates the Celtic New Year. The dying God returns to the womb of the Goddess in preparation for rebirth at Yule. The souls of those who have died during the turning of the past year's wheel are bid farewell. It also marks the third and final harvest. As the veil between the physical and spiritual worlds is thinnest at this time, ancestors can join the celebrations.

NOTE: The above is not a complete calendar and is intended only as an example of some of the kinds of festivals, holy days, and religious observances of America's many religious communities. It is composed from sites for interfaith calendars on the web and the Multifaith Calendar 2013, published by the Multifaith Action Society of Port Moody, British Columbia, Canada. To purchase the Multifaith Calendar for 2014, visit <http://www.interfaithmarketplace.com/> in the USA; or [www.multifaithcalendar.org](http://www.multifaithcalendar.org) in Canada and elsewhere.