

News Release
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MSC Cultural Diversity Board celebrates 23 years
Unity Fest 2009, April 22-25

Grand Junction, Colo. (April 14, 2009)—The Mesa State College Cultural Diversity Board (CDB) will host Unity Fest 2009 “Opening Minds” April 22-25. Unity Fest is a yearly spring event during which activities are held on campus with the intention of opening minds and spreading the positive message of diversity.

“Unity Fest is important to the college atmosphere to bring awareness about lifestyles and cultures,” said Allison Castellano, CDB assistant director.

Each year the CDB strives to bring something new to the campus for all to experience. The CDB includes six cultural organizations: La Raza Hispanic Club, the Gay Straight Alliance, the Black Student Alliance, the International Student Association, Ho’olokahi Polynesian club, and the Native American Student Council. Each one will host a variety of activities during the four days of Unity Fest.

Kick-off day features a free barbeque co-sponsored by the Associated Student Government, the Programming Activities Council, and the Club Advisory Board. Along with the free food, attendees may enjoy a variety of cultural games; International Student Association will be playing Tinikling, which is the Philippines national dance, the Gay Straight Alliance will be holding a drag relay, Ho’olokahi will be playing Ulumaika, which is similar to bowling. The other organizations will also be set up with various cultural games.

This year, the CDB has booked the R&B/Rap group, God-Des & She. The popular lesbian group has been seen on the hit Showtime series the L Word and featured on the LOGO Channel. They will be performing in Brownson Arena at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6:30 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for non-students.

Saturday brings a vast array of cultures to be experienced. From Folkloric dancers to Japanese Drummers and the annual Luau, this day is surely to be one that shouldn’t be missed. Most events are free and all are open to the public.

Unity Fest is held each year to offer students and community members the opportunity to celebrate and embrace different cultures, ethnic backgrounds, and lifestyles. This year Unity Fest features cultural education through games, poetry, community, and performances.

The student-led Cultural Diversity Board strives to promote and support the ethnic and cultural groups on campus by providing educational resources and support services. The Cultural Diversity Board serves as the educational liaison to the Mesa State College campuses and the regional community regarding culturally diverse issues. The Cultural Diversity Board is open to anyone who would like to be a part of our mission to promote diversity on the Mesa State campus and in the Grand Valley. CDB contributes to the process of dismantling the destructive power of prejudice and intolerance.

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