

DICE



DIVERSE & INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY
FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

Welcome to DICE, formerly the Diversity & Inclusion Club at the Nic School! We hope you are enjoying the end of the semester and looking forward to great things next year. This edition of our newsletter features current and upcoming events, some highlights from this past semester, and the "Ask Algernon" column!

Events

Current Events

Let your voice be heard!

Please take a few minutes to complete the [Nicholas School Diversity and Inclusion Survey](#). This anonymous survey about the climate for students, staff, and faculty at our school will be used to help the NSOE D&I Strategic Planning Committee develop possible strategies for addressing issues of diversity and inclusion at the Nicholas School.

Also, please consider adding your signature to this growing [document](#) calling for President Brodhead & Provost Kornbluth to make Duke University a sanctuary campus in order to protect "students, staff, family, and community members, who face deportation under President-elect Donald J. Trump's proposed policies."

Upcoming Events

Conversations with an African Woman

TODAY! Friday, December 2nd, 6 PM, McClendon Tower, Level 2

Hosted by the Africa Conversations Club and Duke's Africa Initiative, this event is a coalition of African women on Duke's campus to create a space for African women to explore, share and talk about their shared experiences. There will be food, gift bags, henna, Ankara head wraps stations, bracelet making and LOVE! The event is open to African women, and other female-identifying individuals interested in learning about Africa and issues facing African women especially in the diaspora. RSVP [here](#).

BGPSA Holiday Dinner

Sunday, December 4th, 6 PM, Mary Lou Williams Center for Black Culture

BGPSA, the Black Graduate & Professional Student Association, invites diverse faculty, staff, students and their families to attend. Please share this message with your friends. We hope to see you there! RSVP [here](#).

MP Symposium and Holiday Party

Tuesday, December 6th, Symposium-12:45 PM, Field Auditorium

Holiday Party to follow- 2:30 PM, Environment Hall 2nd Floor

Support and hear about Master's Projects from your colleagues graduating this semester! There will be a recognition of December grads after the presentations. And don't forget the Holiday Party for some great food and a study break-bring a gift for Team Matthew! RSVP [here](#).

Team Matthew Holiday Gift Drive

December 1-16, 2016, Environment Hall and LSRC

Spread the love! Please consider donating to the Team Matthew Gift Drive. The Boys and Girls Club is collecting gifts and donations for the victims of Hurricane Matthew. Gifts should be non-sized clothes, toys for girls and boys 6-10, and monetary donations. You can drop them off in E Hall, LSRC, or donate [here](#).

MobilizeGreen 2017 Annual Conference and Diversity Career Fair

March 2-4, 2017, Oakland California City Hall

The MobilizeGreen event will inspire, engage, and mobilize the next generation of diverse green leaders to help communities solve equity and environmental

challenges. The conference features thought-provoking panel sessions, workshops, and high-impact networking opportunities. Travel scholarships are available. Visit their [website](#) to learn more.

Events Spotlight



Diwali @ Duke

The Diwali celebration at Duke took place on October 29th and brought together student and community members of many backgrounds to celebrate the Hindu festival of lights. The event featured a puja, or worship ceremony, amazing food, and beautiful solo and group dance performances including by our very own Priya Ranganathan. Thanks Nic Schoolers for attending!



International Potluck

DICE's first annual international potluck hosted jointly with FOREM on November 11th was a great success. Staff and students enjoyed conversation and delicious food from a variety of cultures. Thank you to everyone who brought dishes or beverages to celebrate and share the diversity within the Nicholas School community!



Standing Rock Sioux Tribal Councilmen: Panel Discussion

On November 3rd, students and community members gathered to hear about the fight against the Dakota Access Pipeline from a panel discussion featuring two Standing Rock Sioux tribal council members. Chad Harrison and Cody Two Bears gave accounts of their tribe's tumultuous past with the US government and the life-changing announcement of the DAPL. Nicholas student Celeste

Whitman attended and says, "It was disheartening to hear Chad and Cody talk about their constant struggle for a voice in this country. At one point, Chad Harrison stated that his people 'are tired of being acceptable collateral damage' for the US government." Cody Two Bears discussed the government's interest in national security, but then went on to exclaim that "we have given so much to the national interest of this country." For the Standing Rock Sioux, the fight to re-route DAPL away from tribal land is a fight for their voices to be heard, just as much as a fight to protect their sacred sites and their right to clean water.

This Month In History

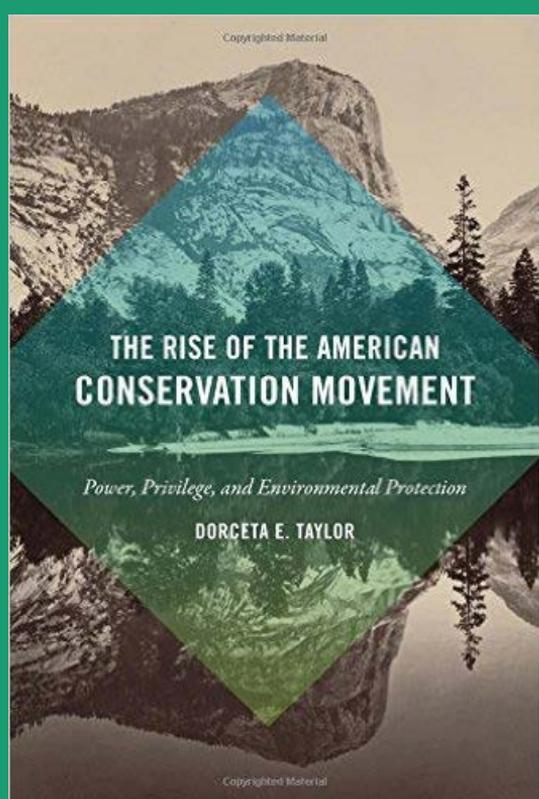
November 8, 1920-- The first US presidential election in which women have the right to vote.

November 13, 1967-- Carl Stokes becomes the first African American mayor in the US, elected mayor of Cleveland, Ohio.

November 18, 1993-- Apartheid Ends: South Africa adopts a new constitution after more than 300 years of white majority rule. The constitution provides basic civil rights to blacks and is approved by representatives of the ruling party, as well as members of 20 other political parties.

November 24, 1859-- Charles Darwin publishes his book *On The Origin of the Species*.

Looking for a good read or gift ideas?



The Rise of the American Conservation Movement: Power, Privilege, and Environmental Protection is highly recommended by DICE member Shaina Nanavati! Dorceta Taylor is a professor at the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources who focuses on diversity in the environmental field and environmental justice issues. She even visited to speak at Duke University last year, and students from the Nicholas School had the opportunity to meet with her to discuss diversity within our school community. Check it out!

Ask Algernon!

Welcome to our International Student column, where we hope to answer questions submitted from students in our Nicholas School community about American culture and transitioning to life and school in a foreign country. The sky's the limit! Q/A may address anything from how to make small talk to American culture, from classroom expectations to who to contact for important resources.

Q: How do US holidays work? What are typical celebrations like?

A: Every holiday in the US is a little bit different, with its own traditions and celebration style, personalized even further by regional, religious, or familial customs. In general, holidays are a time to spend with friends and family and usually include food and drink. For example, New Year's Eve is celebrated on the night of Dec 31st. People stay up until the clock strikes midnight, when they toast the upcoming year with champagne, a "New Year's kiss", and a resolution - a goal they would like to accomplish in the following year. Traditional New Year's foods include black eyed peas and greens to symbolize money, noodles to symbolize long life, and fish to symbolize abundance. Happy holidays to all!

Do you have questions for Algernon about American culture or transitioning to grad school in a foreign country? Do you have ideas for cultural or educational events surrounding D&I? Would you like to nominate a fellow student, staff, or faculty member for our next D&I spotlight?

