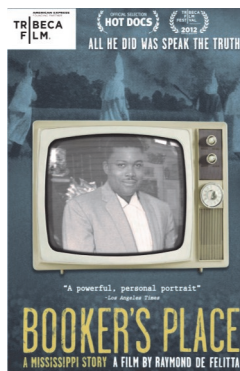


"The meaner the man be, the more you smile, although you crying on the inside."

When Booker Wright spoke these words in the 1966 'Mississippi: A Self Portrait' documentary, he may not have realized the effect he was about to have on his community. When his granddaughter Yvette Johnson embarked on a journey to discover more about her family's history, she was in for a life changing surprise. She had not yet realized the role her own grandfather played in bringing the civil rights movement home to folks in his own town. Booker Wright was in the documentary for a few minutes, but his effect was far reaching, and he paid for it with his life.



To find out more about the role Wright played, please join us for a discussion with Yvette Johnson and Raymond DE Felitta, co-producer and director of "Booker's Place: A Mississippi Story" at the Multicultural Center, Feb. 22, 4:30pm - 5:50pm, followed by a screening of the film at UAA's Wendy Williamson Auditorium at 6:30 pm, and a Q&A time with our guests. Yvette Johnson will also be available for a book signing of "Searching for Booker Wright" at the UAA Bookstore, Feb. 20 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

Leo Medal

joins the Multicultural Center from UAA's TRiO Educational Talent Search (ETS) program, where he served as the middle school advisor. He is responsible for coordination of the AHAINA programs, assisting students at all levels and retention and graduation of students. Leo is passionate about encouraging, motivating and empowering all students to succeed, not only at UAA but in their future endeavors. He received his Masters Degree in 2006 from Wayne State College in Science in Education (MSE) with an emphasis in Communications.



Everyone Makes a Difference

This time of the year, we celebrate Alaska Civil Rights, followed by Black History, followed by Women's History month. In each of these cycles, UAA seeks to showcase men and women of different cultures who played a significant role in making America a place of equal opportunity, equal rights and dignity for all. In looking through our mixed and rich heritage, we can find inspiration for our present. Like previous generations, we struggle with challenges and fears, and strive after goals and dreams. From Booker Wright, the unsung hero, to Martin Luther King, the world renown activist, we can find strength and inspiration to improve our community today for future generations.

Janine Elgamal

is the new Student Transition Advisor at the Multicultural Center. She comes to UAA from the American University in Cairo, Egypt, where she mentored and trained a group of 47-52 leadership scholarship students over the last 4 years.

Janine is responsible for the Seawolf Success Program, which aims to provide first and second year students at UAA with resources to help them achieve their academic goals. She also spends time with students one on one to map out their plan for their first and second year, to reach their maximum potential at UAA.





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR FALL 2012 GRADUATES!

January

AK Civil Rights Month

- 1/15 AK Civil Rights Month
- 1/29 Add/Drop Deadline
- 1/30 Civil Rights Resource Fair
- 1/31 Black History Month Kick-off

February

Black History Month

- 2/7 Indigenous Values Discussion
- 2/9 NCBI Social Inclusion Workshop
- 2/14 Color of Justice 2013
- 2/15 BSU Dance
- 2/21 Black History Month Jeopardy
- 2/22 "Booker's Place: a Mississippi Story" screening
- 2/25 Summer '13 Priority Registration
- 2/28 Health Symposium

March

Women's History Month

- 3/4 Summer '13 open registration begins
- 3/11-15 Spring Break-No Classes
- 3/30 Fall '13 Priority Registration



AHAINA would like to congratulate all of the Fall 2012 Graduates. You have overcome considerable obstacles to earn your degree, and your success is an example to those students that are approaching their finish line.

Our mission at the UAA Multicultural Center (MCC) is to provide programs and services that facilitate access, persistence, success and graduation of underrepresented minority students, and to promote their academic and personal growth. We encourage all students to fully engage in the university community, including active participation in student clubs and organizations, programs, services, leadership opportunities and working with faculty, staff and administrators to facilitate informed decision making.

The MCC is open to collaboration with stakeholders throughout the entire campus community to create an institutional and community climate of justice and equity in higher education. One of the ways that the MCC seeks to support our students is through scholarships such as the Vara Allen-Jones Scholarship for Academic Excellence and Tuition Waivers. Please contact a center staff member for more information.

A special thank you to our Student Staff Ashleigh Nero and Cepeda Woods who are always there to help us meet the needs of the UAA community.



AHAINA will be celebrating The Spring 2013 graduates on May 4, 2013. You are encouraged to also participate in the University Commencement on May 5, 2013.

**Spring 2013 graduates,
remember to RSVP soon for
the May 4th ceremony!**



Multicultural Center
UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

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E. Andre Thorn
Director

Janette Thornton
Office Manager

Janine Elgamal
Student Transition Advisor

Leonidas Medal
Student Success Coordinator

Hours of Operation 8 am—5 pm, with extended hours during finals
Study Hours from 8 am—11 am and 2 pm—5 pm