

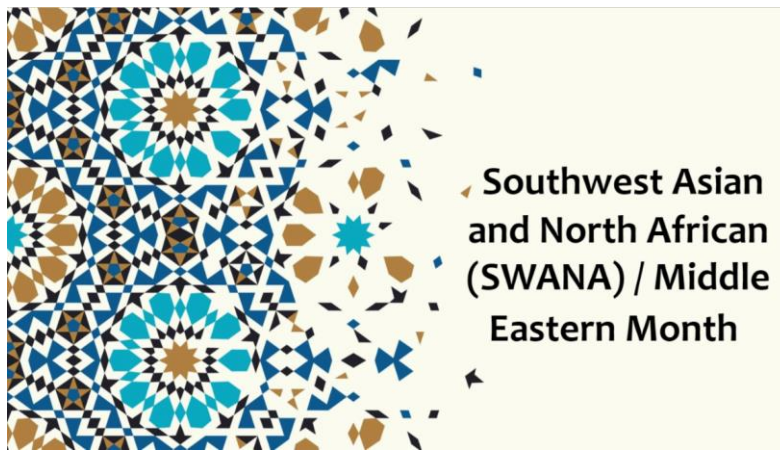


The **Intercultural Center** Newsletter

The Intercultural Center newsletter includes insights, events, and initiatives that promote intercultural education at the University of Maryland, Baltimore.

Our newsletter is released every first Wednesday of the month.

SWANA / Middle Eastern Heritage Month

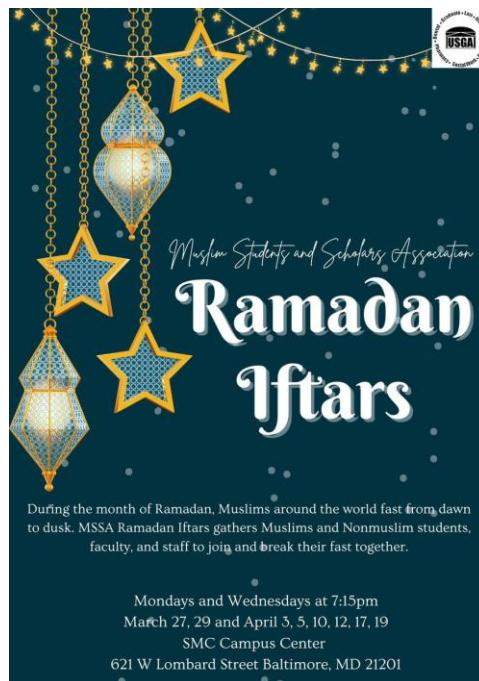


The Intercultural Center acknowledges and celebrates the contributions of Southwest Asian and North African (SWANA) / Middle Eastern students, faculty, and staff at UMB as well as across the country and around the globe.

The Intercultural Center continues to intentionally use SWANA as a decolonized term that emphasizes geography rather than a history of colonialism and imperialism while also using Middle Eastern for its accessibility.

Check out our events in honor of SWANA/Middle Eastern Heritage Month below!

The Month of Ramadan



A Note from the UMB Muslim Students and Scholars Association

The month of Ramadan began on March 22nd. Ramadan is a period of spiritual reflection for Muslims all over the world. During this month, your Muslim students and colleagues will be fasting from dawn to sunset. Please be considerate of sunset times as they will need some time and space to break their fast. We at UMB are fortunate to have a very understanding and inclusive community, and we know we can count on you all to support our fasting Muslim friends. Thank you!

Ramadan Iftars

April 3, 5, 10, 12, 17, 19
7:15 PM | SMC Campus Center

Ramadan Iftars gather muslim and non-muslim students, faculty, and staff to join and break their fast together during the month.

Sponsored by the UMB Muslim Students and Scholars Association.

Upcoming Intercultural Center Events



Self Advocates Guide to Self Care
April 6 | 12 - 1:30 PM | IC Lounge |
[Register Here](#)

The Intercultural Center invites students with disabilities to a workshop centered on learning how to self advocate in a way that protects one's mental and emotional health while also tackling internalized ableism.



The Table Dialogue: Debunking SWANA Stereotypes
April 11 | 12 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)

The U.S. media has a long history of depicting people from the SWANA region as violent and barbaric. This month's dialogue will focus on dismantling stereotypes that harm SWANA communities. By unpacking these stereotypes, we hope to create opportunities to unpack any internalized implicit bias that may show up in our studies and practice at UMB.

The Table is a monthly dialogue series where UMB students, staff, and faculty are invited to discuss current issues and unpack questions regarding race, ethnicity, culture, and norms.



Poverty Simulation
April 12 | 12 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)



A Panel Discussion on Food Justice & Urban Farming Initiatives in Baltimore City

The Poverty Simulation is an opportunity to raise one's critical consciousness about poverty and how it shapes the lives of low-income families. Participants will engage in dialogue with the goal to unpack beliefs and shift the paradigm of poverty as a result of individual failure to a structural problem of our society.

April 24 | 12 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)

In honor of Earth Month and in collaboration with the Office of Sustainability, the Intercultural Center invites you to examine the intersections of racism and environmental issues by learning from individuals involved in food justice and urban farming initiatives in Baltimore City.

Visit our New Lounge Space



The Intercultural Center Lounge is now open regularly from **9 am - 5 pm Monday through Friday** and is located in **Room 311** on the **3rd floor** of the **SMC Campus Center (621 W Lombard St)**.

What can you find in the Lounge?

- A library with books focused on identity development and social justice
- A small snack pantry courtesy of the UMB Student Pantry
- A sensory corner with items to relax and play with
- A small community garden with herbs to pick from
- A community altar for spiritual grounding and health (post-March 3 event)

The lounge is also available to reserve for small events, student organization meetings, and department trainings! Use [this link](#) to reserve the space.

UMB Student Pantry



All UMB students are eligible to place an order from the UMB Student Pantry! [Click on this link](#) to complete the form. Once your order has been bagged for you, you will receive an email with pick-up instructions. The current pick-up location is the SMC Campus Center, located at 621 W. Lombard Street.

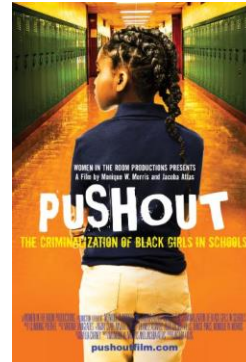
Campus and Community Partner Events



Cannabis Updates

April 11 | 3 PM | [Register Here](#)

Join URecFit and Wellness to learn about cannabis pharmacology, evidence for therapeutic uses, precautions and adverse effects and the changing legal landscape in Maryland.

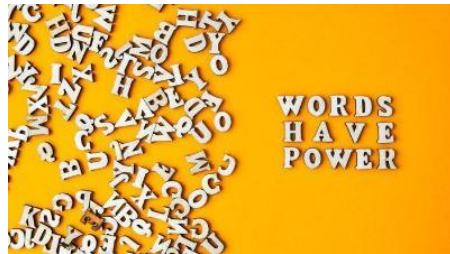


Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools

April 17 | 12 - 2 PM | SSW Auditorium (525 W Redwood St) | [Register Here](#)

Join the Positive Schools Center for a screening of Pushout: The Criminalization of Black Girls in Schools. Participants will view the film and discuss the challenges Black girls face and the inequitable policies and practices that disrupt their education. Participants will

learn of alternatives to the punitive response within the educational system.



UMSON Presents: Ableism Language Matters with Heather Moore, MA, UMB ESDS

April 18 | 12 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)

Many words and phrases we use on a daily basis may have more complicated histories and baggage than we know. Through the history and baggage of these words and phrases, people are belittled, marginalized, and rejected. Some of these words and phrases refer to disabilities in demeaning ways, but are often considered 'fine', 'not that bad', or 'just a word'.

Join us as Heather Moore of UMB's Educational Support and Disability Services discusses why language matters and how to make better use of our language to ensure belonging and inclusivity.

UMSON Learning Research Seminar Series Hosted by the Office of the Associate Dean for Research

USING EVIDENCE TO ADVANCE EQUITY IN EARLY CARE & EDUCATION: A FOCUS ON HEAD START BOYS OF COLOR

Thursday, April 20
12:15 - 1:45 PM
Hybrid, Online & Rm 2E06

Scan to see seminar objectives and to register

Nikki Aikens, PhD
Principal Researcher, Mathematics
An expert in early care and education (ECE) programs, focused on young children and their families. She specializes in observation and evaluation studies in ECE settings, and has extensive knowledge regarding instructional practices and reporting for national and local studies of Head Start, Early Head Start and other child care settings. Her work also includes evaluations of state-based initiatives and studies focused on supports for systemic change.

UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND
School of Public Works

Using Evidence to Advance Equity in Early Care and Education: A Focus on Head Start Boys of Color

April 20 | 12:15 - 1:45 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)

By the end of this presentation, participants will:

1. Learn about motivations for advancing equity in early care and education settings and systems, with a focus on boys of color.
2. Understand research approaches for advancing equity, including the use of a resiliency framework for understanding the resources of Head Start boys of color.
3. Identify future practice, policy, and research directions for advancing equity for boys of color.



UMSON Presents: SWANA Heritage Month
April 27 | 12 PM | Virtual | [Register Here](#)

Join us as Nadia Hassan, MBA, MSC, from the Maryland Governor's Commission on Middle Eastern American Affairs discusses the importance of SWANA representation, terminology, and much more.

Volunteer Gardening Event 

WHEN April 28th, 12:00 - 2:00 PM
WHERE Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy, Franklin Square

Join our office and students from Vivien T. Thomas's Garden Club to weed, water, and clean up its newly created raised beds.

Learn more about food waste diversion and composting from Baltimore City's Department of Public Works.

sign up at: <https://bit.ly/UMBatVT23>

 OFFICE OF SUSTAINABILITY

Urban Garden Volunteering Opportunity in West Baltimore
April 28 | 12-2 pm | Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy | [Register Here](#)

Join the Office of Sustainability for a volunteer event at Vivien T. Thomas Medical Arts Academy in Franklin Square. The first portion will include waste diversion and compost basics from guests from Baltimore City Department of Public Works. After the presentation, volunteers will assist the school's Garden Club in weeding and watering its garden beds, as well as cleaning up the general premises of the green space's surroundings.

Visit Our Virtual Office Hours



Courtney Jones Carney (she/her)
Director of the Intercultural Center



Rosemary Ferreira (she/her)

Meet with Courtney (Zoom Link)

Mondays, 10 - 11:30 am

Wednesdays, 12 - 1 pm

Associate Director of the Intercultural Center

Meet with Rosemary (Zoom Link)

Tuesdays, 3 - 4:30 pm

Thursdays, 9 - 10 am

Fridays, 1 - 2 pm

Submit Events & Announcements to the Intercultural Center Newsletter

[Submission Form](#)

Submit your events or announcements related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. The form must be submitted **before the last Wednesday of the month** to be included in the following month's newsletter.



Founded in June of 2020, the Intercultural Center is diligently working toward the continuation of existing Student Affairs initiatives and the creation of new initiatives.

[About Us](#) | [Contact Us](#)