

# UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON

Office of Multicultural Affairs

November/December 2013 Volume 6 Issue 2



2013 OMA Annual Retreat

# OHANA



## Letter from the Director

Best wishes to everyone with final projects, papers, and exams! I also want to congratulate first-year students on nearing the completion of your first semester of college! All of the December graduates also deserve a very special congratulations! We look forward to acknowledging the December graduates at the OMA recognition dinner on December 3. Please update us on your next steps, and return to campus for a visit when you are able!

Please make sure that you take care of yourself during a time of the year that can be stressful for many students:

**Personal Care:** Make sure you get sleep, eat regularly, and drink plenty of water. It is also important to do some things that will help you relax (e.g., going to the gym, taking a walk, praying, reading, talking with family, hanging out with friends, attending an event on campus). The Counseling Center is also an excellent resource. Counselors can speak with students about a variety of topics, which includes managing stress, test anxiety, depression, and other personal struggles. Counselors can also offer career counseling, which includes helping students determine their major! Call the Counseling Center at 937-229-3141 or stop by the first floor of Gosiger Hall to make an appointment. You can also speak to a counselor in the OMA lounge on Mondays from 1-2pm.

**Academic Success:** Plan ahead and schedule time to study and work on projects or a paper. Also, speak with your professors and attend tutoring sessions. Make sure that you speak with your faculty members and others about course content as well as how you are feeling and doing. There is still time to finish strong!

**Winter Break:** Take time during the break to create goals for the Spring semester. This is also a great time to update your resume and cover letter, look for employment, explore summer or post-graduation opportunities, identify student organizations and leadership experiences that interest you, apply for scholarships, and outline a plan for completing financial aid paperwork.

As always, please contact an OMA staff member if we can be of assistance with anything. As a starting place, you can stop by OMA (First Floor of Alumni Hall - South Wing). You will likely be greeted with a smile and asked how we can be of help.

Best wishes,

Patty Alvarez, Ph.D.  
Assistant Dean of Students/Director of Multicultural Affairs

# OMEGA Psi Phi Fraternity Incorporated Scholarship

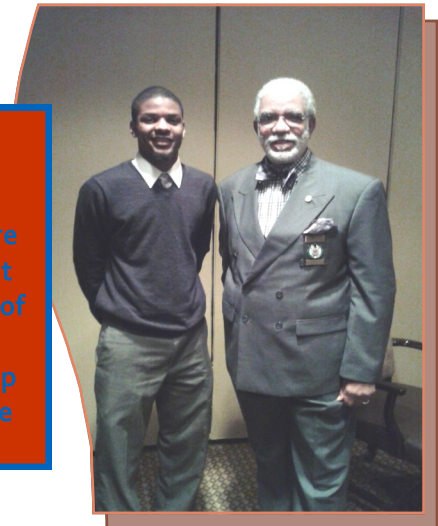
Daria-Yvonne Graham, associate director

The Delta Alpha Graduate Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc. held their annual Achievement Week Program. As part of the program, the fraternity hosted the Founders Banquet where they awarded a \$500.00 scholarship to Trenton Graham, who is a sophomore, sports management major. Some of the scholarship criteria included:

- Have completed at least one term of college study with a gpa of at least 2.5
- A brief statement of their interests and future plans including why they should be selected to receive the scholarship.

The Office of Multicultural Affairs would like to congratulate Trenton Graham on his accomplishment.

Trenton Graham, sophomore and Emmit Orr, chair of the scholarship committee



## OMA Proclamation: Dr. Joe Mashburn

Aaron Witherspoon, academic success specialist for the College of Arts and Sciences and OMA

Congratulations to Dr. Joe Mashburn who was awarded an Office of Multicultural Affairs Proclamation. OMA Proclamations are presented to an individual or group who has shown significant support of students, programs, and the mission of OMA. Since 2011, Dr. Mashburn has been a tireless supporter of the OMA Study Tables initiative, where he volunteers his time to assist students in any math course.

Please join us in celebrating the positive contributions that Dr. Mashburn has made to the success of students.

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### P R O C L A M A T I O N

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn has shown a consistent dedication to assisting with the Office of Multicultural Affairs Study Tables Program;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn has supported the endeavors and staff of the University of Dayton's Office of Multicultural Affairs mission of supporting a diverse group of scholars

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn graciously gives of his time to support students in need of assistance in various Math and Science courses on a weekly basis;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn has provided students with the opportunity to be engaged with faculty outside of the classroom;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn has modeled positive interactions between students and faculty, and encouraging students to cultivate meaningful relationships with faculty;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Joe Mashburn has become a model of collaboration between academic departments and the office of multicultural affairs

**NOW, THEREFORE**, We, the Office of Multicultural Affairs, do hereby express our appreciation and gratitude to Dr. Joe Mashburn. We celebrate your work and say a heartfelt thank you for all of your contributions.

# OMA Student Engagement Assistants



Yvette Cabrera  
Student Engagement  
Assistant

Special thanks to everyone that participated in the Hispanic Heritage Month events. Thanks to you, the events were a success, and we hope that next year we have the same enthusiasm as we had this year.

As seen in the office, the Student Spotlight bulletin board has been in total effect. If you feel like someone should be nominated please do not hesitate to email me at [cabreray1@udayton.edu](mailto:cabreray1@udayton.edu) or feel free to talk to me in my direct office. Remember that we will also be having the End of the Year Recognition Dinner soon. Make sure to come to this dinner and congratulate our seniors that are graduating this December.



Candace Madry  
Student Engagement  
Assistant

Additional thanks to all of the students who participated in the OMA Retreat on November 15-16, 2013. We hope that everyone walked away with a renewed sense of self and created great new friendships.

As we wind down the semester, please remember OMA will be having finals study tables during the week of finals. Study tables will be hosted by several student organizations. Food will also be provided. See a student engagement assistant for more information regarding extended hours and finals care packages.

Fellow students,

We hope your semester is going well. We would like to thank everyone who continues to support the SEA's and our programming events, particularly the REAL Topics dialogue series. The last REAL Topic hosted in October was a huge success; students, faculty and staff dialogued about Latino culture including misconceptions, assumptions, and traditions. The next REAL Topic will be hosted November 22, 2013, and will be "Obama Care versus Affordable Care Act." Bring your lunch and engage with students, faculty and staff to discuss what is ACA, how it affects you (now and in the future) and why it is such a controversial topic. I hope to see you for what is bound to be open and honest dialogue!



Miracle Reason  
Student Engagement  
Assistant

Hello fellow peers,

We have made it through the mid-way of the semester, on to the last stretch. I hope and pray everything is going well. Here are a few heads up on what is going to happen for the rest of the semester and for next semester. OMA will be hosting finals study tables for the whole week of finals. Study tables will be ran by OMA Student Organizations so you can meet them and know their faces. Next semester we will be having our 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Colors of Leadership Conference. Registration will be starting next semester so be looking out for more information soon. You can also go to our website to see detailed information about the conference. Lastly I will say, finish strong for this semester and enjoy your breaks!



Jerami Johnson  
Student Engagement  
Assistant

GO TO [HTTP://OMA.UDAYTON.EDU](http://oma.udayton.edu) FOR MORE INFORMATION

# Letter from the Editor

Kwynn Townsend Riley, sophomore, editor

Happy Holidays Everyone and Congratulations! You are almost finished with your fall 2013 Semester! To my fly first years, you have nearly successfully finished your first semester. Now it is time to work harder! Studying for finals, and enjoying all of the free finals food and goodies. It is also close to enjoying the holidays with your love ones! I encourage you, if you have room, to invite an International friend with you. When we go home the majority of the international students stay on campus. It will really be a great experience for you and them to invite them to our American tradition of Thanksgiving. I mean, what is a community for? Anyways, you are going to have a great time with this issue. There are job and leadership opportunities available for you to take advantage of! So get to it, flyers :) There have been a lot of events that occurred these last couple of months. For example, the Intercultural Talent Show was a huge success! I was lucky



to perform in. There was also the Christmas on Campus sign up, as well as, the annual Stroll Off competition by the men of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., (Of course I have to mention my birthday shout out to all the Scorpios out there!) Lastly, we had our amazing annual OMA Retreat! This was a huge success! Flyers do not let the harsh cold get you thinking you can't fly, I hope you enjoy this issue.

## FREE

### OMA Porches Group

Subscribe on Porches to receive  
information regarding

*events, scholarships,  
research, and student  
employment  
opportunities*

*Now Available*

## News in Spanish

Spanish papers will now be delivered to  
Alumni Hall/OMA, Kennedy Union,  
and the Center for International  
Programs each week on Thursday or  
Friday.

# OHANA Staff Writers

The OHANA newsletter is looking for talented young writers to join the team for the 2013-14 school year. If you enjoy writing about multicultural issues and are willing to share that eagerness with the UD community, this may be the position for you. The OHANA staff writer position is a volunteer opportunity that you can utilize to develop your portfolio and learn valuable skills to use in the future. If you are interested in writing for OHANA for the 2013-14 school year, please contact Daria Graham at [dgraham1@udayton.edu](mailto:dgraham1@udayton.edu).

# What is Professionalism?

Erin Callahan, junior

As young adults transitioning into the professional world, this is a question that becomes more prevalent in the back of our minds as these four years in college progress. It is more than looking the part by throwing on a pantsuit or tie for an interview. By Merriam-Webster's definition, professionalism is "the skill, good judgment, and polite behavior that is expected from a person who is trained to do a job well." Considering each of us is bound on a different career path, this description may seem a bit ambiguous. However, through internships, side jobs, networking, Greek life, and classroom interactions, many college students are exposed to the basis of professionalism and what kind of behavior is required in the professional world. With more experience come more specified qualifications for your desired field. From my experience in Phi Beta Chi, UD's honors professional communication fraternity, my educational experience, as well as my job experience dating back to my early teenage years, I have learned a few tips on professionalism and how to reach the standards that future supervisors and coworkers expect in the real world.

Be knowledgeable. Expertise in your job field is an essential part of professionalism. Applying for a specialized job means you should have the appropriate specialized skills. After all, that's what makes you a professional! You should also know enough about the company or organization to understand the best application of your skills within the position you are applying for. However, if for any reason you're feeling unprepared throughout the application or interview process, enthusiasm can go a long way. Even if you don't meet all of the job qualifications, express to your employer that you are excited to work for them. Passion and a readiness to learn will help you stand out among the other candidates, and will benefit you in challenging situations even after you land the job.

Have confidence. Believing in yourself opens the door for others to believe in you, too. Whether it's an interview, a presentation, or just your every day tasks within the workplace, recognize what you have to offer and offer it with dignity and conviction. Before an interview, study your interests, abilities, and expectations within a job and be able to communicate them to a potential employer. During a presentation, discuss your topic while still remaining open to other ideas or suggestions. While completing your everyday tasks, utilize your personal knowledge and qualifications for the job you were assigned to the best of your ability, but don't be afraid to ask for help! Having confidence in yourself indicates a strong self-representation and lets employers know you can portray a strong representation for the company or organization as well.

Go above and beyond. Getting the job done makes you a dependable employee, but going the extra mile makes you a valuable employee. This doesn't just mean that you take on leadership positions for an assignment, or you rock a solo presentation. The little things you do to show commitment to your job can make just as much of a difference. Employers notice when you show up early for work, and when you volunteer for tasks no one else wants to do. Professionalism doesn't just concern what will get you ahead, but what will help the entire company or organization progress together. The company's progression comes from achievers that put in the extra time and effort for the common good.

These three tips have served me well so far in my professional experiences, thanks to my past employers and my education at UD. Even though many jobs are specialized, it's important to remember the basics of professionalism as you enter today's job market.

# Student Success Stories

Daria-Yvonne Graham, associate director

In November, the UD Business Plan Competition (UDBPC) began with the Elevator Pitch round, where contestants make a 60-second pitch to a panel of judges. With over 100 teams presenting, Aaron Pugh '13 ranked number one. Both Aaron and Khristian Santiago, sophomore, were selected to move on to the Cameo round on November 23, where they gave 5 minute presentations on their proposed businesses. The results and more information are posted on the UDBPC website at [www.udbpc.com](http://www.udbpc.com).

Please join us in congratulating Aaron and Khristian.

## Retreat! Retreat!

On November 15-16, OMA hosted the annual OMA Retreat. Over 50 students took time away from campus to rejuvenate and connect with other students. This year's theme was "Team Work Makes the Dream Work." Led by a team of students, the retreat offered ice breakers, team builders, and opportunities to dialogue about leadership, interpersonal development, and the importance of working together.



# Lee Daniels' The Butler: How a Newspaper Article Spawned an Oscar Contender

Shannon Miller, assistant director of communications  
Enrollment Management and Marketing

First published on the Reel Life With Jane website at <http://www.reellifewithjane.com>

[Editor's Note: This story comes to us from [Shannon Shelton Miller](#), who participated in a press conference at the National Association of Black Journalists' annual convention earlier this month, where Lee Daniels, Forest Whitaker and journalist Wil Haygood discussed their film, "Lee Daniels' The Butler."]

On the campaign trail in the early months of 2008, Washington Post reporter Wil Haygood noticed three young white women in tears outside a North Carolina rally for Illinois senator Barack Obama.

Haygood approached them and asked if they needed help. No, they said. They were crying because they planned to vote for Obama, but couldn't understand why their fathers had stopped talking to them for supporting a black candidate.

"They were judging Obama by the content of his character and not the color of his skin," Haygood said. "That was very powerful. I made up my mind right there that Obama was going to win. I just got a feeling in my gut he was going to win because I felt the emotion carried from town to town, city to city, state to state."

Haygood then decided to search for a potential interview subject whose life encompassed working in the White House during the era of segregation to witnessing the election of an African-American president. He found his subject in Eugene Allen, a man who started his career in the White House pantry in 1952 and served eight presidents, from Harry Truman to Ronald Reagan, before retiring as maitre 'd, or head butler, in 1986.

Allen's life, chronicled in [a Washington Post story](#) published on the eve of the 2008 presidential election, serves as the framework for "[Lee Daniels' The Butler](#)," a historical biopic already gaining buzz for its Academy Award potential.

Forest Whitaker plays the title role in this star-studded film, which also features Oprah Winfrey as his wife, Gloria, Robin Williams as Dwight Eisenhower, James Marsden as John F. Kennedy, Liev Schreiber as Lyndon Johnson, John Cusack as Richard Nixon, and Alan Rickman as Ronald Reagan.

Whitaker, Haygood and director Lee Daniels shared the story behind the film and Daniels' screenplay during a question-and-answer session with reporters at the [National Association of Black Journalists](#) convention August 3 in Orlando, Florida.

Daniels takes elements of Haygood's story, which details Allen's interactions with the presidents through pivotal moments in American history, and crafts a tale juxtaposing the lead character's relatively stable life for an African-American in segregated America with the increasing involvement of his son, Louis (David Oyelowo), in the civil rights and black nationalist movements.

"At its core, it's a father-son love story," said Daniels. "The civil rights movement and what was going on at the White House just happened to be in the backdrop of this love story between the father and the son. Then I found as we were shooting that this was getting heavier than I thought it was going to be."

Those intense scenes include the vivid juxtaposition of the butler, Cecil Gaines, serving guests at a lavish state dinner in the 1960s while Louis and other young freedom riders escape from a firebombed bus in the South, or remain steadfast while seated at segregated lunch counters, despite the presence of counter-protestors who spit and spray ketchup in their faces or dump hot coffee on their heads.

The love between Cecil and Gloria also permeates the story, a chemistry Whitaker said he and Winfrey worked to generate throughout filming.

"We were friends and wanted to work together," Whitaker said. "While we were working on the movie, we did have an





## The Butler (continued from page 8)

intimacy that we carried with us. I would be working and sitting in the trailer getting ready, and she'd come in and rub my back."

"Whoa," some audience members exclaimed. Whitaker, Daniels and Haygood laughed.

"Then she'd talk to me and we'd hold hands," Whitaker said. "The intimacy was really important to show this beautiful relationship."

Although the historical details and presidential depictions are likely to gain the most attention from filmgoers and reviewers, Whitaker said Daniels' attention on Gaines' personal life drew him to the role.

"It was a story that was dealing with love of a family," Whitaker said. "It had an intimacy that allowed us to see love in this black family in a way that I thought was very unique, very special, very honest and very true."

# Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. 2014 Celebration Events

## His Dream, Our Vision: Where are we now?

Events in celebration and recognition of the 2014 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday include:

Monday, January 20, 2014 9am, Alumni Hall 101	University of Dayton participation in the City of Dayton Peace March Transportation will leave promptly at 9:30am
Tuesday, January 21, 2014 11:30am, KU Ballroom	Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Campus Wide Luncheon Sister Laura Leming, F.M.I., associate professor of sociology and chair of department of sociology, anthropology, and social work, will facilitate the keynote discussion
Wednesday, January 22, 2014 11:30am-1:30pm, KU Lobby	Happy Birthday, Dr. King Be sure to get a piece of birthday cake as we celebrate Dr. King's birthday
Wednesday, January 22, 2014 Noon-1pm, KU 222	His Dream, Our Vision: Where are we now? Brown Bag Panel Discussion Panelists are Dr. Verb Washington, professor of history, and Dr. Ruth Thompson-Miller, an assistant professor of sociology. The discussion will be facilitated by Dr. Jack Ling, executive director, Institutional Diversity and Inclusion.
Thursday, January 23, 2014 11:30am, Roesch Library 1st floor Group FlexSpace 7 pm, Alumni Hall 101	Movie Showing: At the River I Stand 1st screening 2nd screening
Friday, January 24, 2014 6pm-8pm, Art Street Cafe	Rhythm, Voice, and Vision: In the Spirit of the King Come for music, food, fellowship, and the arts as we celebrate Dr. King
Saturday, January 25, 2014 11pm, Boll Theatre	Movie Showing: The Butler

# The Mentor Report

Carlos Stewart, assistant director

## Lead Mentors

In its third year, the Lead Mentor position has continued to work with the Office of Multicultural Affairs and Enrollment Management to implement marketing and enrollment strategies for the recruitment of multicultural students. Lead Mentors also assist with the planning and implementation of OMA programming initiatives, specifically the PEERS First Friday Program.

Your Lead Mentors for 2013-2014 are:

Stefon Towler  
Nicolas Esparza  
Dominique Pettit-Mickens  
Ametra Harris  
Rachel Bernardo  
Anastashia Hicks  
Lisette Soto  
Taylor Ruffin

If you would like more information on how to become a Lead Mentor, please contact Carlos Stewart at [cstewart1@udayton.edu](mailto:cstewart1@udayton.edu).

## PEERS

It was a wonderful semester for the PEERS Mentoring Program filled with resource sessions offered through the First Friday programs, great 1 to 1 connections between our mentors and mentees, and academic support offered through OMA and MEP study tables. Most of our mentees were able to set goals for the semester by completing the personal success plan, and mentors were able to enhance their leadership development by connecting and supporting their mentees. There are approximately 80 students participating in PEERS, and all are committed to successfully navigating the college experience.



Participants of the PEERS mentoring program *will*:

- have access to a community of support and resources during key stages of their academic career.
- receive support that aids in their personal and leadership development.
- develop a greater sense of belonging to UD by engaging in the PEERS community.
- be exposed to diverse perspectives and experiences that affirms their cultural identity.

The next First Friday for PEERS, is Friday, January 17 at 4:00 pm, in Kettering Labs, RM 221.

# A Spotlight on Scholarship

Aaron Witherspoon, academic success specialist for the College of Arts and Sciences and OMA

As we close another semester, we would like to recognize the following individuals for their outstanding contributions to the university community.

In December, the following students were recognized as Office of Multicultural Affairs Graduating Scholars of Excellence. This award is given to a student/s in recognition of their academic achievement, exemplary leadership skills, and continuous commitment to and embodiment of the mission of the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the College of Arts and Sciences/the School of Business Administration/Engineering/Education & Health Sciences.

Please join us in congratulating our recipients:

Mathew Cotton, International Studies

Flor Ortega-Bolanos, Psychology

Anthony Sadler, Engineering Technology

Rafael Cajigas, Computer Engineering

Imani Sherman, Electrical engineering

Faisal Rahman, Mechanical Engineering

## MLK WEEK 2014 — His Dream, Our Vision: Where Are We Now?

### AT THE RIVER I STAND THURSDAY, JAN. 23, 2014

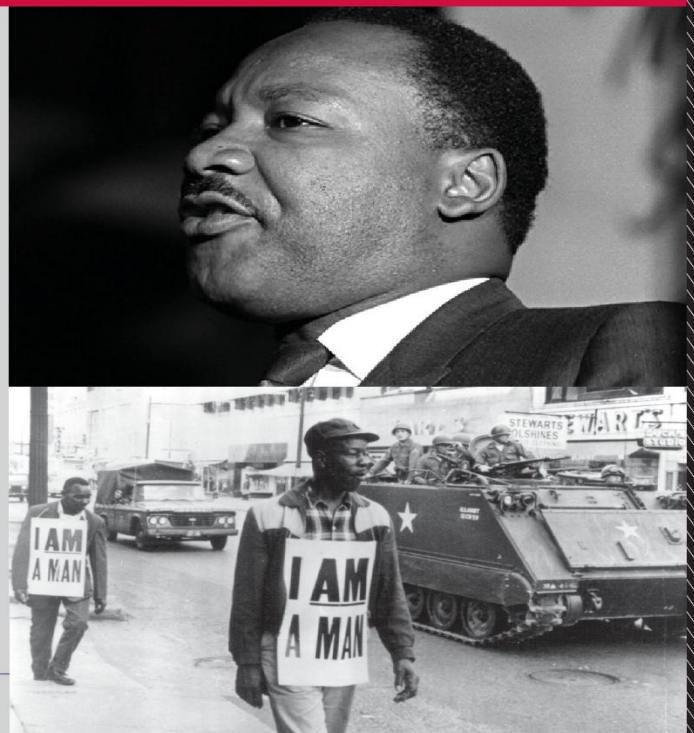
1st screening — **11:30 a.m.** at Roesch Library 1st floor Group FlexSpace

2nd screening — **7 p.m.** at the Office of Multicultural Affairs lounge (Alumni Hall 101)

Free and open to all

*At the River I Stand* skillfully reconstructs the two eventful months that transformed a strike by Memphis sanitation workers into a national conflagration, and disentangles the complex historical forces that came together with the inevitability of tragedy at the death of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This documentary brings into sharp relief issues that have only become more urgent in the intervening years: the connection between economic and civil rights, debates over strategies for change, the demand for full inclusion of African Americans in American life and the fight for dignity for public employees and all working people.

Sponsored by the University Libraries  
Diversity & Inclusion Committee and  
the Office of Multicultural Affairs



Office of Multicultural Affairs

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300 College Park  
Dayton, OH 45469-0318

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Fax: 937-229-4331

# The Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs

Patty Alvarez, PhD, director

<http://oma.udayton.edu>

Join us on [Facebook](#) at  
OMA (Office of Multicultural  
Affairs)

follow us on  
[twitter](#)  
at

[www.twitter.com/UDsOMA](http://www.twitter.com/UDsOMA)

The Office of Multicultural Affairs is pleased to announce that applications are being accepted for the Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs. In August 2013, Mr. Destry Fallen '86 established an endowed scholarship in recognition of his wife, Mona Guerrier Fallen, who passed away in 2013 at the age of 47.

Mona Guerrier Fallen's legacy will be felt through this scholarship and all of the scholarship recipients. We deeply appreciate the generosity of Destry Fallen and all of the individuals who have contributed to the scholarship. The application deadline is January 17, 2014.

Mona Guerrier Fallen received a Bachelor of Arts in 1991 from the University of Dayton. As a way to supplement her educational costs, Mrs. Guerrier Fallen worked for the Department of English, served as a Resident Assistant and was a grant writer for University Advancement. She received her Juris Doctor from the University of Cincinnati in 1996. Mrs. Guerrier Fallen served as an Assistant United States Attorney for over 13 years. Her husband, Destry Fallen, established the Mona Guerrier Fallen Endowed Scholarship for the Office of Multicultural Affairs to honor Mona Guerrier Fallen's commitments to the University of Dayton, to educational opportunities, and to remember her positive and enthusiastic approach to life.

## GUIDELINES

Award consideration, as outlined by the donor, will be given to undergraduate students who meet the following criteria:

1. Recipients must have financial need.
2. Additional consideration should be given to first-generation college students. However, all undergraduate students with financial need will remain the first priority.
3. Awards will be made by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) at the University, in consultation with the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, to a recipient(s) who identifies with one of the primary populations served by the Office of Multicultural Affairs. These populations include Black or African American, Hispanic or Latino/a, Asian American, Native American or Multiracial students.
4. The fund is to be used only for student financial aid, e.g., tuition, room and board, books, and study abroad opportunities.

Undergraduate student applicants must:

- Possess a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.5 and be in good non-academic standing with the University.
- Submit all application materials.
- Have a record of leadership and service on campus.
- Reflect the Marianist value of commitment to community through involvement in diverse campus communities.

If you have any questions about the application process, please contact OMA at 937.229.3634 or at [oma@udayton.edu](mailto:oma@udayton.edu). For additional information regarding the scholarship requirements and to complete the application, please visit [http://www.udayton.edu/studev/oma/academics/mona\\_guerrier\\_fallen\\_scholarship.php](http://www.udayton.edu/studev/oma/academics/mona_guerrier_fallen_scholarship.php). Please submit the application materials online by January 17, 2014.