

Multicultural Affairs Resource Guide

The Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) fosters a diverse community where scholarship, faith formation, identity development and leadership are foundational to the holistic development of students. In collaboration with campus and community partners, OMA supports the academic achievement of multicultural students and assists in enhancing the understanding that all UD students have of themselves and others through co-curricular experiences.

OMA Initiatives

- **Academic Success**

The academic success of students is supported through a variety of initiatives. Pick up a student planner, speak with OMA staff, attend study tables, participate in the PEERS mentoring program or get involved in other ways. OMA staff members provide holistic individual support and can help you meet your academic goals. We work in collaboration with academic and student service offices to provide programming supporting the academic, personal and social well-being of students. You can contact any OMA staff member to schedule an appointment or stop by the office located on the first floor of Alumni Hall.

Office of Multicultural Affairs

Alumni Hall, First Floor

8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

937-229-3634

oma@udayton.edu

oma.udayton.edu

- **OMA Study Tables**

Study tables occur Wednesday evenings (approximately every week 6 p.m.-10 p.m. in the OMA lounge, library and computer room). OMA study tables provide students with the opportunity to study collaboratively and receive academic tutoring from faculty members.

- **OMA Faculty/Staff-Student Mentor Program**

The faculty/staff-student mentor program promotes the academic success and engagement of multicultural students through increased faculty/staff interaction outside of the classroom. This type of engagement has been consistently found to promote student persistence, educational aspirations and degree completion. Faculty/staff mentors provide encouragement and support for students while helping them identify and achieve their goals. Mentors and mentees meet for a total of two to four hours each month, forming a positive, mutually beneficial relationship.

- **OMA Diversity Peer Education Program**

Diversity Peer Educators are a committed and diverse group of University of Dayton students who are determined to advance UD's values of excellence, diversity, inclusion and social justice. Educators are trained to use the Intergroup Dialogue model to facilitate workshops for their peers. Students will gain a deeper understanding of themselves and others while developing valuable leadership skills. For more information, visit oma.udayton.edu.

- **Leadership Development and Support**

The Office of Multicultural Affairs supports students holding a formal or informal leadership position in a multicultural student organization on campus. Students are encouraged to participate in the following:

- AYIL Leadership Academy – A one-day leadership retreat focusing on the development of student leaders.
- Kindred Presidents – Monthly student leader meetings to discuss programming initiatives and student organization concerns.

- Leadership One-to-One Meetings – Monthly individual meetings held between student organization leaders and the Associate Director of OMA. Students receive support as they continue to grow as effective leaders on campus and beyond graduation.
- Colors of Leadership Conference – This conference informs and motivates diverse students to achieve their full leadership potential.
- **OHANA Newsletter**
Published bi-monthly, the OHANA newsletter informs about upcoming events and provides a forum for education and thought. The newsletter also includes a spotlight on students, campus partners and organizations. Contact OMA to submit an article, announcement or to request additional information.
- **OMA After-Hours Access**
All who are granted access to the Office of Multicultural Affairs agree to reasonable use of its resources and space. After hours' use is granted at the discretion of OMA staff. Visit oma.udayton.edu to submit room reservations or request after-hours access.
- **OMA Days**
OMA Days are opportunities for students, faculty and staff to share lunch, in community, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. approximately three to four OMA Days are held each year in conjunction with a holiday or other special day. OMA Days are instrumental for building community.
- **P.E.E.R.S. Mentoring Program**
The P.E.E.R.S. (Program to Engage and Exchange of Resources for Students) mentoring program is dedicated to establishing a community of learners who are active partners in creating shared learning. In this program, first-year students are paired with a continuing student. In addition to continued contact throughout the academic year, all mentors and mentees meet the first Friday of every month throughout the academic year in Kettering Labs.
- **Cultural Heritage Months**
The Office of Multicultural Affairs is committed to recognizing the histories, cultures, experiences and contributions of diverse populations. OMA supports UD's academic mission by providing educational opportunities that assist students in exploring new experiences and enhancing understanding of their cultural identity. In collaboration with faculty, staff, students and the Dayton community, OMA seeks to provide thought-provoking co-curricular programming supporting the personal development of all students, while influencing the campus climate.
The following national cultural heritage months are celebrated at UD:
 - Hispanic Heritage Month – Sept. 15-Oct. 15
 - Native American Heritage Month – November
 - Black History Month – February
 - Asian and Pacific American Heritage Month – April (recognized nationally in May)
- **REAL Topics**
The Office of Multicultural Affairs provides REAL Topics forums to provide an interactive and comfortable space for UD community members to engage in healthy discussion about current and critical issues in popular culture. Participants can build relationships, gain valuable resources and further their growth and development. Real Topics are offered in collaboration with faculty, staff, students and the Dayton community.
- **Get connected with us on OrgSync** (Office of Multicultural Affairs), Facebook – OMA (Office of Multicultural Affairs), Twitter - @UDsOMA, SnapChat - @UD_OMA and Instagram - @UDS_OMA.