

# NIOT Weekly Digest: March 6, 2015

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Sent Items

To: NIOT-BG@Lists.bgsu.edu <NIOT-BG@Lists.bgsu.edu>;

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CommunityInterfaithBreakfast.pdf;



## NIOT Weekly Digest – March 6, 2015

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### **MARCH MEETING & INTERFAITH BREAKFAST THANK YOU**

Thank you to those that were able to make the Thursday, March 5<sup>th</sup> meeting as well as this morning's Inaugural Community Interfaith Breakfast. Kudos to everyone involved in the planning process. A summary of these two events will be available in next week's Digest.

### **MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

The month of March is Women's History Month throughout the country. The BGSU Women's Center and the Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies program has planned a variety of events throughout the month for the

BGSU and BG community. A listing of the different programs can be found at: <http://www.bgsu.edu/womens-center/events-and-programs/womens-history-month.html>.

### **BG4Unity: LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

We invite YOU to take a stand against hate by supporting BG4Unity! BG4Unity is a community-based project that encourages people to use social media more responsibly to advocate against hate AND offer messages of hope to those affected by discrimination. Every day, thousands of hurtful and careless messages are shared on sites like Twitter, Yik Yak, and Facebook. BG4Unity strives to provide a contrast to this sea of negativity by spreading more positive, thoughtful, and constructive social media messages.

YOU can make a difference! Getting involved is FREE and easy:

1. Like them on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BG4Unity](http://www.facebook.com/BG4Unity)
2. Follow them on Twitter (@BG4Unity)
3. Share YOUR Message by posting a BG4Snapshot:
  - Write a message that challenges a stereotype or takes a stand against hate
  - Take a selfie with the photo.
  - Post it on their Facebook page and/or share it on Twitter with the hashtag #BG4Unity

### **NIOT BG ON FACEBOOK**

This week, NIOT BG unveiled its new Facebook page. Follow us (by liking the page) at **Not In Our Town Bowling Green** for photos, latest news, and updates. Here is the direct link:

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Not-In-Our-Town-Bowling-Green/411179839042009>

### **iStand ADVOCACY TRAINING**

The iSTAND Advocacy Training program was created by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Center for Leadership to help teach participants practical skills for addressing micro aggressions in our society and to stand up and advocate for others. Upcoming iSTAND Advocacy Training dates include March 19<sup>th</sup>, March 31<sup>st</sup>, and April 9<sup>th</sup>. Register here: <https://orgsync.com/8315/forms/127550> . For more information, please contact Claire Austin at [clairea@bgsu.edu](mailto:clairea@bgsu.edu) .

### **INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE**

The Center for Leadership is continuing with the Inclusive Leadership Certificate (ILC) that was first done in Fall 2014. It is now a partnership with the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The ILC is six-part program that will help you develop the attitudes, knowledge, and skills for inclusive leadership in an increasingly diverse world. Employers are looking for leaders who value and develop inclusive leadership skills. The ILC is the perfect way to incorporate that competency into your leadership toolkit, meet people who share your interests, and contribute to making BGSU a more inclusive community. The first session started on Monday, February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Register at <https://orgsync.com/8315/forms/127305> . For more information, please contact Claire Austin at [clairea@bgsu.edu](mailto:clairea@bgsu.edu) .

### **LGBTQ+ LEADERSHIP SERIES**

The LGBTQ+ Leadership Series is a semester-long curriculum of six sessions, each detailing a different aspect of the intersection of leadership and the LGBTQ+ community. Sessions range from focusing on leadership styles, the history of the queer sexualities and gender identities, identification of racism within the LGBTQ+ community, fostering allyship, and more. For more information, please contact Vern Cooper at [cooperv@bgsu.edu](mailto:cooperv@bgsu.edu) on attending.

## **GIVING TO NIOT BG**

As NIOT BG prepares to mark its second anniversary this April 2015, one of our goals is to ensure that this effort remains sustainable and viable. In order to ensure this, we need to develop more steady streams of funding. NIOT BG does not get any formal funding from the University and the City. Nonetheless, we have been able to make things happen through the generous donations and contributions of different university/city offices and individuals, as well as the in-kind efforts of many campus and community volunteers.

We are pleased to announce that we can now accept tax-deductible donations and contributions. We have been able to open a formal account through the BGSU Foundation. This will allow individuals and others to donate and contribute funds specifically for NIOT BG initiatives. We also understand that some members of the community may feel uncomfortable in donating funds to a BGSU account. We are working on finalizing an account with the BG Community Foundation and hope to have those details available in the next few weeks.

Information about Giving to NIOT BG is now available on the website: [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown). Please consider making a gift today.

## **NATIONAL NIOT NEWS**

NIOT BG is part of the broader Not In Our Town Movement. We are grateful for the support and encouragement that they have provided during this effort. Recently, the National NIOT released its 2013-2014 Progress Report and NIOT BG is prominently featured, especially on the cover with BGSU students (Kevin Lewis, Luke Grabski and Vivienne Felix). You can access the report via this link:

<https://www.niot.org/progress/2014>

## **#LIVENIOTBG**

NIOT has introduced a new hashtag **#LIVENIOTBG** as a way to highlight strategies and other ways that individuals are living by the NIOT pledge. Join us in spreading the positive message of NIOT through this new hashtag.

## **INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

NIOT has three working groups – Outreach Initiatives, Education & Programs and Marketing & Public Relations. We are looking for interested individuals to help with these efforts. If interested, please sign-up via this link: <http://tinyurl.com/lvexb9k>. The respective heads of the working groups on the next steps will contact you.

## **VIDEO LIBRARY**

BGSU and BG now have a video library of NIOT films. A full listing can be found here: <http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town/video-library.html> These DVDs are available for check out and can be reserved by emailing [rplaza@bgsu.edu](mailto:rplaza@bgsu.edu).

## **UPCOMING DIVERSITY EVENTS**

An added feature to the NIOT Weekly Digest will be a listing of diversity-related events in the BGSU & BG community for the upcoming week. If you have events that you would like listed, please contact Gary or myself (emails listed below).

*Note: BTSU = The Bowen Thompson Student Union*

*Due to Spring Break at BGSU, the calendar of programs is limited for this upcoming week.*

\*\* Please feel free to share this Weekly Digest with interested colleagues and friends. If individuals and groups want to receive the emails, they can sign-up at the NIOT website at [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown) or contact Gary or myself. \*\*

If you have items that you wish to be included for future editions of the NIOT Weekly Digest, you can submit to: [niot@bgsu.edu](mailto:niot@bgsu.edu).  
You can also contact the NIOT Co-Chairs, Ray Plaza ([rplaza@bgsu.edu](mailto:rplaza@bgsu.edu)) or Rev. Gary Saunders ([pastorgary@bgpresb.org](mailto:pastorgary@bgpresb.org))