



*The Enlightenment*  
Center for Multicultural Affairs  
February 2017

# Black History Month



The Center for Multicultural Affairs is excited to welcome back the students, faculty, & staff of the Fredonia community! We are excited to announce that the Fredonia Black Student Union has a high quality lineup of programs for the upcoming national history month. The theme of this Black History Month is:

**“Black: One Race, Many Traditions”**

To discover the meaning of this month, we invite the entire campus community to come enjoy programming that will feature opportunities for celebration, introspection, and discussion. Each event is an opportunity for all of us to jump-start a prosperous semester and build a more understanding campus community.



*Black Student Union presents:*

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

*"Black; one race, many traditions."*

## *Events:*

**Sunday January 29th, 2017**

"Coming to America" Opening  
Ceremony  
MPR at 7-10pm

**Wednesday February 1st, 2017**

"Leon Ford"  
McEwen 202 at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Tuesday February 7th, 2017**

"Still I Rise"  
McEwen 202 at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Tuesday, February 14th, 2017**

"African Dance Company"  
MPR at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Thursday February 16th, 2017**

"Open Mic Night/ Poetry Slam" w/ B2B  
Fenton 105 at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Monday February 20th, 2017**

"Black and Brown All Around"  
MPR at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**Wednesday February 22nd, 2017**

"Jane Elliott" Anti-racism activist  
King Concert Hall at 7pm

**Sunday February 26th, 2017**

"Unity Dinner" Closing Ceremony  
MPR at 7:00pm-9:00pm

**January 30th-February 28th, 2017**

"Memory Lane"  
McEwen Hall wall, next to the café

Follow us on Social Media:



BSUFREDONIA



BLACK STUDENT UNION

# The Story of Leon Ford



Photo courtesy of: <https://twitter.com/LeonFordSpeaks/media>

*Come hear  
Leon Ford tell  
his story on  
Wednesday,  
February 1st  
from 7-9pm at  
202 McEwen*

A story is only as powerful as the people it touches. Leon Ford born in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania March 16th, 1993 has an amazing story that has reached countless individuals around the world. He has a testimony that instills hope into all, transcending age, gender, race, and even political and religious beliefs.

He is a living embodiment of courage, using his story as a catalyst for a change. One day he was a teenager with his whole life ahead of him, and in one instant, his life changed for forever. A victim of police brutality, Leon's encounter with law enforcement led to him being shot five times at point-blank range, resulting in paralysis. Leon is the voice for so many who are now voiceless because they lost their lives to police brutality. He also uses his voice as an advocate for peace, literacy, mental health, trauma, violence, spinal cord injury research and many other issues. In this endeavor, Leon has taken the task of healing wounds by courageously addressing that they exist and by providing solutions to these severe issues all while using his influence to promote positivity.

When most people could have held on to hate and resentment, Leon Ford chose to live his life with a new resounded purpose. Leon is a student, father, writer, community activist, motivational speaker, mentor, advocate, and artist. His mission: to educate and to heal communities. Leon has spoken across the country, and in doing so, he has garnished a following that also extends internationally. In his resilience, Leon Ford has turned a tragic story into a testimony of love, compassion, and understanding. His story serves as an inspiration to millions of people around the world.

Source of Biography: <http://www.leonfordspeaks.com/>



# ROSA PARKS SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION



## Call for Entries

**Open to all  
Students**

**\$350 Award will be given to  
3 Recipients**

Use your talents: writing, speaking, drawing, singing, dancing, etc. to express your views and experiences with multiculturalism & the celebration of diversity.

**ENTRIES ARE DUE BY MARCH 3RD AT 4PM TO THOMPSON E125**

For guidelines and application details please visit

[www.fredonia.edu/cma/Rosa2017.asp](http://www.fredonia.edu/cma/Rosa2017.asp)

The Award Ceremony will be held April 12th 3-5pm, in the Horizon Room

*While you were gone...*



While the break was definitely relaxing and very much needed, our very own Pride Alliance Safe Zone rep Gloria Kutianski and graduate assistant Lee Coletti were able to attend Safe Zone's Train the Trainer workshop. The workshop was such a blast, and provided the opportunity to travel to the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley in Rochester, NY. However, there were participants from all over the country, and we definitely made new friends! These two are now certified to provide Safe Zone training on the Fredonia campus, so feel free to reach out to the CMA if you are interested in a training workshop!

# FROM THE G.A.'S DESK!



While the rest of Fredonia was kicking off the semester and beginning courses, I had the opportunity to attend the Creating Change Conference in Philadelphia, PA. This is a national social justice conference presented by the National LGBTQ Task Force. I was able to attend several workshops that were focused around recognizing one's own identities and the privileges these identities present. I was also able to attend workshops focused on creating and maintaining safe, inclusive spaces for queer and trans students of color (QTSOC). It was a wonderful experience that I highly recommend!

One of the workshops that stood out for me was titled "Supporting and Engaging LGBTQIA2S+ College Students in Rural Environments". I was able to discuss the challenges other students face in terms of resources, sense of safety, and brainstormed potential community partnerships. I was also able to compare my experience with other student affairs professionals and discuss actions we could take to provide a sense of community beyond the campus.

# Farewell Obamas



In celebration of Black History Month, we want to say farewell to the First African-American First Family!! It has been a privilege to experience history in the making.

We are eternally grateful for your dedication to recognizing and supporting different identities.

#ThanksObamas #ObamasOut

Next month we will be celebrating Women's history month, and in preparation of celebrating women here's a quote from the former First Lady of the United States, Michelle Obama...



“You may not always have a comfortable life and you will not always be able to solve all of the world’s problems at once, but don’t ever underestimate the importance you can have because history has shown us that courage can be contagious and hope can take a life of its own.”

-Michelle Obama



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**CMA Instagram: Fredonia\_cma**

**Multicultural Affairs Program Assistant: Khristian King**

**Secretary: Kim Miller**

**GA: Lee Coletti**

**Contact us for more information or stop by any day between 8:30 AM - 5 PM!**