Understanding cultural similarities and differences is essential for effective communication while serving as global citizens. In honor of Diversity Month and United Nations Day, the Hilbert College Office of Multicultural Affairs will hold a week of celebratory activities focused on cultural awareness.

The weeklong celebration will provide Hilbert faculty, staff and students an opportunity to interact with one another outside the classroom and to learn more about other cultures and diversity. Programming will also provide students with a deepened understanding of social justice and human interactions and help to inspire personal and professional growth. Hilbert’s Cultural Awareness Week is planned by various college constituencies to provide a holistic representation of programs and to strengthen diversity, community and inclusion on campus.

Goals:
- To expose students to diverse perspectives and promote advocacy for social justice among students.
- To promote and encourage awareness of diversity throughout the community by offering a wide range of programs, services and activities.

Learning Outcomes:
- Students will become interculturally aware and acquire an openness to diversity (based on liberal learning outcomes).
- Students will learn the importance of respecting cultural differences and similarities.
- Students will discover a sense of community and become more integrated into the Hilbert campus through the celebration of culture.

Committee Members:
- Barbara Bonanno
- Katie Donahue
- Dr. Kate Eskew
- Craig Harris
- Denise Harris
- Erika Haygood
- Bridget Hodges
- Dr. Anthony Hughes
- Jon Hulbert
- Tim Lee
- Jeannie MacDonald
- Jerrell Mason
- Kate Munroe
- Tarra Ognissanti
- Shawn Pierce
- Daniel Roland
- Dr. Amy Smith
- Kolleen Sullivan
- Laura Wilson

Committee Chair: Dr. Tara Jabbaar-Gyambrah, director of multicultural affairs

The opening program, the “Wall of Peace & Inclusivity,” is an inspirational piece that supports Cultural Awareness Week’s theme – “Celebrating Differences.” Faculty, staff, and students will have the opportunity to take time to reflect upon what it means to be inclusive and understand the importance of respecting cultural differences. Using a piece of cloth provided, students will create a visual representation of what diversity means to them and answer the following questions:

1. What brings us all together as a community at Hilbert?
2. How do you promote respect for differences?

Fabric squares will be available in the offices of Student Life and Academic Services and the Student Success Center. Completed fabric squares must be returned by Sept. 20 to Denise Harris, vice provost of student engagement, in the Student Life Office in Franciscan Hall.
**CALENDAR FOR THE WEEK**

**Thursday, Oct. 6, 2011**

### Unveiling of Exhibit “Wall of Peace & Inclusivity” and Reception

**Welcome:** President Cynthia Zane  
**Guest Speaker:** Dr. Darren O’Hern  
3 p.m., McGrath Library’s First Floor

![Biography](image)

**Biography:** Dr. Darren M. O’Hern has worked in international educational contexts and higher education for more than 10 years. He earned a doctorate in social and philosophical foundations of education from the University at Buffalo. Dr. O’Hern has published book chapters and articles in the areas of environmental education and development in Kenya and China and has given guest lectures on public policy and education in international contexts. He also has experience teaching and working in community education in Eastern and Southern Africa and has traveled extensively throughout the African continent. Recently, Dr. O’Hern worked with Iraqi higher education administrators and professors on international scholarly exchange, study abroad programs and comparative higher education.

**Presentation:** In recent years, rapid changes and growth in information technology, the transfer of knowledge and finances, the international movement of peoples due to economic pressures and forced migration, and linguistic, cultural and ideological convergence have broken old barriers and established new challenges across the globe. In concert with such changes, attention has been given to issues of diversity, social justice and inclusivity in institutional and social settings. How can educational institutions and tomorrow’s leaders incorporate such perspectives for use in our contemporary global society, and why are such endeavors so important? Reflecting on several years of living abroad and the difficulties faced when returning to the U.S., Dr. O’Hern discusses these issues in the context of Hilbert’s commitment to respecting individual differences and the newly unveiled “Wall of Peace and Inclusivity.”

**Sponsored By:** Career Development Center, McGrath Library and Multicultural Affairs

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**Friday, Oct. 7, 2011**

### Vive La Casa Service Learning Trip

10 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.  
Shuttle will meet behind McGrath Library

Join us for a day of service at Buffalo’s Vive La Casa. To participate, contact Barbara Bonanno, director of campus ministry and mission integration, at bonanno@hilbert.edu by Oct. 4. Transportation will be provided if needed.

**Sponsored By:** Campus Ministry

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### Cultural Jeopardy

5 p.m., Palisano Lecture Room (101 Bogel Hall)

Join us while we play an exciting game of Cultural Jeopardy. Come test what you know about diversity and be prepared to have some fun as you learn more about cultures.

**Sponsored By:** Residence Life and Student Activities
Saturday, Oct. 8, 2011
Cultural Potluck: “Diverse Desserts”
2 p.m., Residential Quad (rain location - St. Joseph Hall)

Come enjoy desserts from around the world. Be sure to bring your taste buds as you experience new foods that you may have never tried before.

Sponsored By: Residence Life and Student Activities

Monday, Oct. 10, 2011
Round Table Discussion: “The Meaning of Words”
3:15 p.m. – 4:30 p.m., 216-218 Paczesny Hall

The panel will discuss the power language has as it relates to differences. Dr. Amy Smith will moderate the session in dialogue with panelists Dr. Don Vincent, Dr. Jim Golden and Dr. Tara Jabbaar-Gyambrah. If you are interested in attending, please RSVP to Dr. Smith at asmith@hilbert.edu by Sept. 28.

Sponsored By: Honors Program

Tuesday, Oct. 11, 2011
Cultural Bazaar
2 – 5 p.m., Paczesny Hall’s West Herr Atrium

Come learn more about cultural differences and similarities. There will be information tables and several performances. Prizes will be given away each hour but you have to be in attendance to win!

Featured Tables:
Abilities Awareness
Big Brother Big Sisters of Erie County
El Buen Amigo
Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of WNY, Inc.
Hilbert’s Kenya Krew (international service learning)

Hilbert Students In Free Enterprise (SIFE)
Ilya’s Bellydance & Henna Studio
School of Irish Culture
10,000 Villages (Tentative)
Woodland Visions Native Arts

Cultural Showcases and Presentations:
“Exploring Egypt and Jordan”
Workshop Facilitator: May Shogan, International Institute of Buffalo
2 – 4 p.m., 139 Paczesny Hall (Honors Lounge)

Biography: A native of Jordan, May Shogan received a bachelor’s degree in business administration with a minor in French from the University of Jordan. Having worked at the Arab Bank Ltd., in Amman, Jordan, she moved to Buffalo in 1988. At that time, she joined the University at Buffalo Women’s Club, which assists families of university students from other countries in adjusting to their new lives in the U.S. She joined the International Institute of Buffalo in 1989 as a professionally trained Arabic interpreter in the Buffalo area’s courts, hospitals, immigration and businesses. In 1995, Mrs. Shogan began as a language coordinator at the International Institute, where she worked closely with immigrant and refugee clients. In the past few years, she’s been a domestic violence, medical and school advocate for refugee families in the Buffalo School District. She’s now serving as director of the International Institute’s international exchanges and education programs and education coordinator. For more than 10 years, she’s conducted cultural competency and diversity training for schools, colleges and social services agencies. Mrs. Shogan served on the Center for Middle East Studies Board of Directors, where she developed an Arabic language and cultural program for children. She’s serving on the North Tonawanda High School International Ambassadors Club Advisory Board and on the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Community Steering Committee.

Presentation: Get ready to explore the countries of Jordan and ancient and modern Egypt. Learn about the people, traditions, music, and food. Try on ethnic clothing and learn to say a few words in Arabic. See a slide show of the most famous and historical places in that part of the world.
Caribbean Extravaganza Steel Drum Band
2 – 3:30 p.m., William E. Swan Auditorium

Caribbean Extravaganza Steel Drum Band is originally from Trinidad & Tobago, which is an island off the coast of Venezuela. The country is one of the most prosperous island nations in the Caribbean, primarily due to its offshore petroleum, natural gas production and processing. The band is part of a musically inclined family, of which their late father, Cyril Diaz, was a famous musician in Trinidad. The Trinidad & Tobago government honored their father by giving him the prestigious Hummingbird Award, the highest award in the country; for his contribution in promoting his Caribbean culture and music.

Caribbean Extravaganza began their musical career by performing with their Dad, and later expanded on their own. Leaving Trinidad for the Bahama Islands in the early 1970’s. They were discovered there by then Western New Yorker, John J. Piazza, who sponsored them to come to the United States to perform in his restaurant, "The Showboat", located at the foot of Hertel Avenue, on the west side of the city of Buffalo, New York.

The original band was formed 44 years ago in 1967. The band is made up of family members: Prince Pablo, the leader of the group. He plays double seconds steel drums and sings. Pablo’s brother, Bobby Dee, is the musical arranger, business manager and choreographer. He plays the lead steel drum, which is called the tenor. You’ll also find him very frequently on the keyboard. Sherrie Charles, a cousin of Bobby Dee; sings, plays keyboard and percussion. Sherrie's son, Curton Charles, also plays the tenor steel drum. Sherrie’s daughter, Queen Shemika, as most know, she gained fame last September in New York City on the Live! With Regis & Kelly Show. She is the Guinness Book record holder for the lowest female limbo, going down to 8.5”. In addition, Mayor Byron W. Brown of Buffalo, NY proclaimed Friday, October 8, 2010, as "Shemika Shannon Charles Day” in the city of Buffalo. Last, but not least, is Pablo's young son, Darr-Mor. He plays percussion and is 12 years old.

The Caribbean Extravaganza Steel Drum Band has traveled extensively throughout the United States, Canada, Newfoundland, Japan, South Korea and Dubai of the United Arab Emirates. They have performed for military bases, sheiks, politicians, universities, colleges, schools, country clubs, local and state fairs, and several other venues.

Visit www.caribbeanextravaganza.com to learn more about this unique band.

Red Dragon School of Martial Arts
3:30 – 4 p.m. Paczesny Hall’s West Herr Atrium

If you would like to learn more about the art of Tai Chi, join us for this exciting session. Participants will learn a little about the history of Tai Chi and be able to demonstrate some essential moves for relaxation.

Visit www.reddragonschool.net to learn more about the martial arts school.

“So You Think You Can Dance?” - Come Try Some Salsa for the Soul!
4:15 – 5 p.m., Paczesny Hall’s West Herr Atrium

If you want to learn more about Latin dance, then this session is for you. Participants will learn about the history of salsa and merengue and put it into action by dancing with a partner. The session will be led by Sarah Haykel, who fell in love with salsa dancing nine years ago and so began her immersion into salsa dancing. She has studied L.A. style, casino and Cuban style Rueda and, most recently, New York mambo. Mrs. Haykel also dances and instructs bachata, merengue and cha cha cha. With her teaching partner from Maui, she created a salsa for beginners DVD, and has performed professionally in a Rueda de Casino group.

Mrs. Haykel’s teaching experience includes private and group lessons, working with both children and adults. Her strengths lie in teaching her students the fundamental techniques of salsa dancing and connection to the music. Mrs. Haykel’s dance interests include break-dancing, hip-hop, West African, Middle Eastern, Samba and improvisational dance. These styles lend a unique flavor to her salsa dance styling, which she relates to her students as well.

Dance, for Mrs. Haykel, has continued to serve as a healing and healthy outlet. Through dance, she would like to inspire others to connect more fully with themselves, other people and the world in a healthy, fun, safe way!

Sponsored By: Admissions, Campus Ministry, Career Development Center, Common Ground Club, McGrath Library, Multicultural Affairs, Student Activities, Student Success and Retention, Student Government Association and Title III.
**Wednesday, Oct. 12, 2011**

**Film Viewing: “Avatar”**

3:15 – 6:45 p.m., Palisano Lecture Room (101 Bogel Hall)

If you enjoy sci-fi films and stimulating dialogue, then this is the event for you. “Avatar” is a dynamic film that teaches us life lessons about the power of differences and similarities. It will keep you at the edge of your seat! Discussion will be led by Dr. Yvonne Downes and Professor Sharon Sisti. Refreshments will be served.

*Sponsored By: Departments of Criminal Justice and Human Services and Multicultural Affairs*

**Zumba**

7 p.m., Paczesny Hall’s West Herr Atrium

Zumba is a Latin-inspired dance fitness program. The class will involve dance and aerobic elements while moving to music such as salsa, hip hop, samba and much more. Have fun learning new moves while breaking a sweat!

*Sponsored By: Student Activities*

**Thursday, Oct. 13, 2011**

**English Department’s Visiting Artist Series**

“Laughing Without an Accent...From Abadan to Hamburg”

**Featured Speaker:** Firoozeh Dumas  
7:30 p.m., William E. Swan Auditorium  
Reception and book signing to follow presentation

**Biography:** Firoozeh Dumas was born in Abadan, Iran, and in the 1970s moved with her family to Southern California. She attended UC Berkley where she met and married a native of France. Dumas grew up listening to her father, a Fulbright Scholar, recount the many colorful stories of his life in Iran and America. In 2001, she decided to write her stories as a gift to her children, resulting in *Funny in Farsi: A Memoir of Growing Up Iranian in America*, which was on the *San Francisco Chronicle* and *Los Angeles Times* best seller lists and was a finalist for the PEN/USA award in 2004 and a finalist in 2005 for an Audie Award for best audio book. She was also a finalist and was the first Middle Eastern woman ever considered for the prestigious Thurber Prize for American Humor (she lost to Jon Stewart).

*Sponsored By: Admissions, English Department’s Visiting Artist Series, Honors Program, Institutional Advancement, Leadership Development, McGrath Library, Multicultural Affairs, and Residence Life.*