

VENTURA COLLEGE
Minutes of the Diversity and Culture Task Force
Date: Dec 2, 2020 4:00-5:00 pm ZOOM

Present: Mariana Branda, David Carlander, Gigi Fiumerodo, Eric Martinsen, Carmen Ruiz-Cuevas, Peter Sezzi, Steve Turner, Lynn Wright, Jenchi Wu

Diversity in Culture: Virtual Event Week of April 12, 2021

Marketing –

Student art by Sara Esparza: digital “Save the Date” being published on Social media and updated on Diversity in Culture webpage

Update: Collaboration from MC and OC-

MC: Multicultural Day Tues, April 13th

Poet Laureate Luis Rodriguez as keynote and all day online events

OC still in planning/ had mentioned OC Live (see examples below)

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BSi9KN8AZQM>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UhlG7etYrNQ&feature=share&fbclid=IwAR3YqUHJOz7IzhBVWrgDZ6sBJpmwvFpYu1aA1gQrILpNI4ZxXut-8NVJEZA>
- OC willing to collaborate with speakers- their ideas included:
 - Photographer Luis Garza
 - BLM speaker
 - “Drive in movie”

Our discussion:

Mariana mentioned if we could use a film and have the filmmaker lead a panel or discussion.

Potential snags were mentioned, if speaker signs a contract specifically with a campus or with VCCCD- if the events can be marketed at all three colleges and community.

Steven mentioned the MC comedy night was open to the public and there were 70-80 folks on the Zoom. Realization the need for IT support and need to regulate traffic.

Defining Social Justice at our event-

Steven mentioned how will we be defining social justice for our event. Eric suggested our big events focus on racial justice and our secondary events could be the intersectionality of all the differing types of social justice. Peter added to include our big keynote speakers but also our local contributors from past festivals. Mariana recalled of the umbrella of diversity the festival represents while shedding light on community issues.

Virtual Poetry Slam-

Gigi mentioned correspondence with Fernando with concerns using “Anti-racism” as a prompt and it may not reach or connect with our student culture.

Discussion was centered on the notion of “Anti-racism” as a segment of the prompt for the poetry slam. David mentioned that while teaching Kendi he noted students were identifying Anti-racism pertaining to the black community and not other communities, such as Latinx or Asian Americans. He said he anticipated students making connections that they did not make.

To continue, Eric stated that great art is rarely inspired to an “anti” anything and something with a “pro” could bring better poetry. Steve also mentioned the need to serve HSIs and the need to build bridges and promote healing. Mariana added that discrimination is very different with Latinx communities than with African American communities. We need to use Kendi as a tool to find a way to heal.

Gigi will connect with Eric, David, and Fernando to get the prompt for the poetry slam and get a timeline for proposals.

Speakers: Updates:

- **Dr. Gina Garcia** Eric reported she accepts the \$4000 offer and will provide 60-90 minute keynote and 60-90 minute workshop. Group approved
- **Gabby Rivera** David thinks she may accept the \$4000 offer. Group approved
- **Matt Sedillo** In correspondence with Gigi, Fernando said Matt is requesting half his fee to do workshops and performance -\$3000. Group approved
- Group also discussed bringing in past speakers for the \$200 stipend fee, which may include Sade Champagne.
- Steve suggested possible evening events – comedy night.

Update of Fiscal concerns-

Gigi will contact Brenda for information on paperwork (above \$2000 needs purchase order)

Lynn and Carmen will work on contracts- will need 6-8 weeks for processing

New vendors will need to be entered with W-9, all speakers will need requisitions, and some POs.

Tech considerations-

The group agreed we need IT support and will invite the DE3 to join the task force.

Spring 2021 meeting schedule- 1ST AND 3RD Wednesdays at 4:00

Next meeting Wednesday, Jan 20, 2021

<https://cccconfer.zoom.us/j/91487435445>