

# Voices



A newsletter published by The Maryland Multicultural Coalition,  
State Chapter of the National Association for Multicultural Education



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November 2008

## From the President

by Deborah Misiag,  
MMC/NAME President

**A**s the fall leaves begin to turn and the air gets crisp. As the colorful apples and round pumpkins fill the farmer's markets and shopping carts at the grocery store; I would like to welcome you back for another year. The Maryland Multicultural Coalition is gearing up for another great year. Over the summer the executive board held a retreat to plan activities, decide on a school system to co-sponsor the annual spring conference and discuss recruitment and retention of members. In early November we will be introducing a blog to you that you can go to for up to date information about our state conference, the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) annual conferences, other websites, books, resources for teachers and an interactive discussion. Although the blog is not quite ready to view, you can take a sneak peek at [mdmc@edu-blogs.org](mailto:mdmc@edu-blogs.org). If you want to join

see "President" on page 2

## COVE Anti-hate Summit

**T**he Maryland Coalition Opposed to Violence and Extremism (COVE) presented its annual Anti-Hate Summit in College Park, Maryland in October. Participants included human rights organizations and activists, educators, law enforcement personnel, community leaders, and students. The keynote speaker was Michael German, ACLU Policy Counsel and author of *Thinking Like a Terrorist: Insights of a Former FBI Undercover Agent*. Mr. German spoke about his experiences in infiltrating neo-Nazi hate groups in the U.S. and about the need for new approaches to counter terrorism.

The program included a panel session on handling hate incidents on campus, and workshops on How to Respond to Hate Incidents and Crimes, Immigrant Hate Issues, Hate Trends in Cyberspace, Hate Against Muslims, Arabs, and Sikhs, and Law Enforcement Perspectives on Hate Crimes/Hate Incidents. The history of COVE was also presented. The mission of COVE, formed in 1979, is to pursue activities that oppose, resist, and eliminate bigotry, prejudice, violence

and extremes based on diversity factors such as race, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation and disability. The organization is also committed to fostering an understanding and tolerance among diverse groups in the community. For more information, contact the Summit Chair, Charlotte Beckenstein, at [cbeckenstein@howardcountymd.gov](mailto:cbeckenstein@howardcountymd.gov). □

## Save the date

**W**icomico County Public School District located in Salisbury, Maryland will be hosting the Annual Statewide Multicultural Education Conference on April 25, 2009. The conference will focus on the goals and objectives of NAME and offer more than 20 presentation sessions. The theme of the conference is **Success: Every Student Everyday**. Save the date for an enjoyable time with colleagues and friends promoting and advocating academic achievement for all students!!

— Judylynn Mitchell, Ed.D.  
Conference Chair

## President...

...continued from page 1

in the discussions, you must request a password from the site [edublogs.org](http://edublogs.org). We hope that this blog will be of benefit to educators and community activist across the state.

In November, Marylanders will head to New Orleans for the 18th Annual International Conference for NAME. On-line registrations will be taken until November 9th at the [name@name.org](mailto:name@name.org) website. The theme of this year's conference is **Beyond Celebrating Diversity: ReActivating the Equity and Social Justice Roots of Multicultural Education**. We hope to see many of you in New Orleans.

If you know of someone who is interested in joining NAME and thus the Maryland Chapter of NAME (MMC) please encourage them to contact me at [dmisiag@yahoo.com](mailto:dmisiag@yahoo.com) or have them go directly to the [name@name.org](mailto:name@name.org) site to become a member. We would like to increase our membership this year. We have nearly 100 members in the state and would like to go over that number by the end of the school year. Each year we get between 200–500 Marylanders attending our spring conferences. We would like to see them become members of our organization as well.

We hope that this year brings you success and rewarding experiences as you do the work to support Multicultural Education and Cultural Proficiency in your community and educational system. Have a great year. □

## Holocaust Education Institute and Holocaust Education Center

Several Maryland educators participated in a 3-day summer institute on Best Practices in Holocaust Education. The event was sponsored by the Baltimore Jewish Council, the Jewish Museum of Maryland, the Maryland State Department of Education, and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum. The Institute featured two days of presentation on topics such as educators response to the holocaust, liberation of the concentration camps, 21st Century genocides in Rwanda and Darfur, classroom strategies for teaching about the Holocaust, and

a visit to the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. The Institute will be offered again during the summer of 2009.

Following the 3-year efforts of a Task Force created by the Maryland Legislature, a Center for Holocaust, Genocide, Human Rights, and Tolerance Education will be established at Towson University. The Center is now working to secure funding, and it will provide resources, and educational programs for Maryland educators, researchers, students, and community members. Website of the University of Minnesota Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies at [www.chgs.umn.edu](http://www.chgs.umn.edu). Included on the website is a powerful power point presentation on “Upstanders” — individuals who spoke out against tyranny in recent times and during the Holocaust. Search for “upstanders” multimedia presentation. □

## Anti-bullying Law

The Maryland Legislature passed revisions to the Maryland State Anti-Bullying Law during its 2008 session. The law requires every local school system to develop and implement a policy related to bullying, and adds a section that permits teachers, as well as teachers and students, to report bullying incidents. A statewide Workgroup has been established to develop a model policy and guidelines for implementing the law. For more information, contact Chuck Buckler ([cbuckler@msde.state.md.us](mailto:cbuckler@msde.state.md.us)) or Dominic Romano ([dromano@msde.state.md.us](mailto:dromano@msde.state.md.us)) at the Maryland State Department of Education. □

### Voices

The newsletter of the  
**MARYLAND  
MULTICULTURAL COALITION**

Deborah Misiag  
President

Tom Owen  
Editor

For questions or suggestions,  
or to submit articles,  
call 410-272-1085, or email  
[towen01@comcast.net](mailto:towen01@comcast.net)



**National Association for Multicultural Education**  
**5272 River Road, Suite 430**  
**Bethesda, MD 20816**

## **Membership Application**

**Join NAME** by sending the following form to the National Association for Multicultural Education's national office. This form may be saved as a Word document and typed onto directly, or printed out and filled in by hand. If you are applying for an institutional membership and would like to designate a second person, please attach a sheet with that person's contact information. If you are paying by credit card,\* please do not forget to sign the form.

**\*Note:** You can also join or renew your NAME membership online with credit card, visit [www.nameorg.org](http://www.nameorg.org) for more information.

### **CONTACT INFORMATION:**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M.I.: \_\_\_\_\_

Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Position/Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Institutional/Organizational Affiliation: \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### **Mailing Address (if your title and/or institution is part of your address, include it here):**

Street address, line (1): \_\_\_\_\_

Street address, line (2): \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

**If somebody referred you to NAME, please list that person here:** \_\_\_\_\_

☐ **NAME has my permission to include my name on mailing lists**

(provided only to groups that support NAME's goals)

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**Preferred Chapter Affiliation:** \_\_\_\_\_

(refer to the NAME website for a current list of active chapters)

**MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY** (note new categories, please check one):

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular (\$100) | <input type="checkbox"/> Student (\$40)            | <input type="checkbox"/> International (\$65) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Retired (\$60)  | <input type="checkbox"/> Community Activist (\$40) |   |

**Institutional Memberships**

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> P-12 (\$250)                                       | <input type="checkbox"/> Higher Ed (\$500)                                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Corporate (\$1,000) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit A (\$125)<br>Operating Budget <\$25,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Profit B (\$250)<br>Operating Budget >\$25,000 |  |

**Lifetime Memberships**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime (\$2,000) | <input type="checkbox"/> Subscribing Lifetime (\$400/yr over 5 yrs) |
|---|---|

**PAYMENT MADE BY:**

- ☐ Check (U.S. currency, drawn on U.S. bank) or money order enclosed, made payable to **NAME**; or
- |                               |                                     |                               |                                      |                                   |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Visa | <input type="checkbox"/> MasterCard | <input type="checkbox"/> AMEX | <input type="checkbox"/> Diners Club | <input type="checkbox"/> Discover |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

(Only Visa and MasterCard are accepted.) If paying by credit card, please fill in the following information, then **print the form, sign and date it**, and send it to the NAME National Office.

**You may also make credit card payments directly online.**

Total amount to be charged: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cardholder's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE MAIL OR FAX THIS FORM WITH PAYMENT TO:**

**National Association for Multicultural Education**  
5272 River Road, Suite 430, Bethesda, MD 20816  
Phone: 301-951-0022  
Fax: 301-951-0023  
e-mail: [name@nameorg.org](mailto:name@nameorg.org)  
website: <http://www.nameorg.org>

Federal ID Number: 72-1193-754

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# First Annual Summer Institute

## National Association for Multicultural Education

**T**he First Annual Summer Institute of the National Association for Multicultural Education (NAME) was held at Temple University at the Howard Gittis Student Center on July 11, 2008. The theme of the conference was **Today's Children, Tomorrow's Leader: Strengthening America Through Socially Just Corporate**



**Carl Grant, keynoter, Founding Member of NAME and former executive director of NAME.**

### **rate, Political and Educational Partnerships.**

The day began with the dynamic Dr. Carl Grant, keynoter and one of the founding members of NAME. He expounded on the theme and challenged the assembly to make a personal investment and commitment to the ideas of social justice. He extended an urgent invitation for members to join and to be a part of NAME. He stated, "We must be constructively engaged and forge a partnership that is powerful and critical as we deal with problems and issues of social, political and economic development." Dr. Grant went on to say that Social Justice is Fairness. Social Justice contends

that one should not be advantaged or disadvantaged by natural fortune or social circumstance in

choice or principles. The key dimension of social justice is Equality, Participation and Recognition. In closing, he stated that active social justice citizenship is called for where all stakeholders are encouraged to participate in order to bring about equality and equity for all but especially for those who are experiencing the least among us.

Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago gave the keynote address at the luncheon. Dr. Bonilla-Santiago, professor at the Department of Urban Studies and Community Planning and Director of the Center for Strategic Urban Community Leadership at Rutgers University, brought a unique perspective to the conference. In her ad-



**Dr. Gloria Bonilla-Santiago of Rutgers University, keynoter at luncheon meeting.**



**A few of the participants at the NAME Summer Institute.**

dress, she stated that we must learn how to promote multiculturalism in our teaching. As leaders, we must have the courage to take a position and engage others who believe in the same principles of social justice. She challenged the assembly to look for the common good in others, build alliances, bring people together and become focused on what matters. She concluded her remarks by saying that an important way to achieve the goals and mission of NAME is to build leaders by engaging communities and parents in the education of their children. "We must learn to build alliances with everyday people."

There were number of informative and scholarly concurrent workshops during the institute. Dr. Rose Duhon-Sells, NAME Founder, gave the closing remarks. She thanked the participants and gave special recognition Tchet Doman Director of Multicultural Affairs at Temple University, for spearheading the First Annual Summer Institute of NAME. The day was fun, exciting and brought real meaning to the work of NAME.

— Dr. Rita L Robinson

## Mix It Up At Lunch Day

**N**ovember 10 is National Mix It Up at Lunch Day, a campaign that supports students in identifying, questioning, and crossing social boundaries that separate them in school, and also helps students build an inclusive, welcoming learning environment. On this date, specific activities are designed for students to sit with groups at lunch that are different from their traditional groups, and to learn from each other. Last year 172 Maryland schools participated in Mix It Up Day, which is sponsored by Teaching Tolerance and the Southern Poverty Law Center. For information, resources, and suggested activities, visit the web at [www.mixitup.org](http://www.mixitup.org)

— Linda Shevitz,  
Educational Equity Specialist, MSDE

## **NEW RESOURCE:**

# A Practical Guide to Accelerating Student Achievement Across Cultures

**The Education** That Is Multicultural and Achievement Network, with input from the Achievement Initiatives for Maryland Minority Students (AIMMS), has developed and published a new resource document, **A Practical Guide for Accelerating Student Achievement Across Cultures: Strategies for Administrators, Teachers, Students, and Parents**. It is organized around five core competencies — Participating in Intercultural Communication; Reducing Prejudice; Establishing Culturally Supportive Learning Environments; Designing and Implementing Curriculum

and Instruction for Education That Is Multicultural and Minority Achievement; and Designing Tests, Measurements, and Assessment for Achievement Equity. Strategies are presented for each competency related to Personal, Cognitive, and Social dimensions. The Guide is accessible online, and can be downloaded by visiting the Maryland State Department of Education's website [www.maryland-publicschools.org](http://www.maryland-publicschools.org). On the website's homepage, link to Item #6 under "Highlights," or link to <http://www.marylandpublicschools.org/MSDE/newsroom/publications>. □