2016 Fall Newsletter

About Us...
Ambassadors and The Council of Latino Admission Volunteers For Education (CLAVE) Coordinators created this newsletter to give students insight into African-American and Latino student life at Northwestern University.

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If Solange Knowles wasn’t someone you knew as more than just Beyoncé’s sister before, it’s highly probably that 2016 changed your perception of her. Hopefully you’ve learned to put some Respek on her name, as she is one of THE blackest. most beautiful. and most amazing artists to grace our presence. Her late September release *A Seat at the Table* features several “woke” pro-black bangers including “Mad,” “Don’t Touch My Hair,” and “Borderlines (An Ode to Self-Care),” but one of the greatest masterpieces of this of this beautiful body of work was “F.U.B.U.,” which stands for “for us, by us.” This track near-perfectly captures the essence of being Black in America today, and explicitly states that this is not a track meant to be sung by everyone, because it’s not for everyone. In the spirit of claiming what’s for us and by us, Heather Browning, Assistant Director of Multicultural Student Affairs, created a space Solange would be proud of: a space for Black women, by Black women.

Held on Wednesday, October 26 from 6:30-8:00 in Foster Walker’s west basement lounge (a residence hall), F.U.B.U. provided an opportunity for NU Black femmes to get to know each other in a relaxed environment while eating pizza and simply discuss the difficulties of existing at a predominantly white institution (PWI). Additionally, it gave students a chance to meet some of the other Black women who serve as resources to students as NU staff. Besides Heather, these women included Brittany Williams, Assistant Director for Events Planning at Norris University (the student center), Tenisia “Tee” Adams, Residence Director for Goodrich and Bobb McCulloch (residence halls), and Dr. Olivia Hoskins, a psychologist for Counseling and Psychological Services (CAPS). Students discussed topics such as the meaning of “F.U.B.U.” (the song) for them, the feeling of having to educate non-black friends about their blackness and hold them accountable as allies, and even buying hair products! Though there were a lot of differing opinions on some topics, one thing that everyone seemed to agree on was that the space was extremely needed and probably should have happened long ago. Black femmes deserve a space to be 100% authentically themselves, say what’s on their mind, air their grievances, and most importantly, commune with one another. We’re already looking forward to our next gathering, for us by us!
In Photos: Festival LatiNU

The lotería cards were an opportunity for students to share stories about their culture and identity and to demonstrate that any level of artistry and any story deserves to be heard.

Students join performers at Festival LatiNU.

Student made lotería card paintings.

CLAVE coordinator Xiomara paints a lotería card.

Find more content on our website: admissions.northwestern.edu/clave/
In the 90’s there was a show called *In Living Color* and, though it featured a diverse cast of talented comedians, it was unmistakably, overwhelmingly and intentionally Black. The comedians that weren’t Black, were mostly People of Color. The show is credited with launching the careers of Jamie Foxx, J. Lo, and even Jim Carrey; and it made the Wayans brothers way more famous than they were before. It was an amazing platform showcasing the talent of People of Color and other comedians who supported the vision, and its focus was on the day to day tribulations of Black folks. It was truly groundbreaking.

*In Living Color* went off air in 1994, but today we have something that is, perhaps, even better. We have *Living in Color* (LIC), an organization created to celebrate the work of artists of color at NU. “Living in Color is a space for those who live in color to express themselves through various mediums on an array of topics. The term, lives of color, focuses on the heterogeneous, always fluid lived experiences of us and other ‘others’”. It was founded just last year but already has a huge following of artists, activists, and students of color on Northwestern’s campus and beyond into Evanston and the greater Chicagoland area. The organization was started as a collective that hosts an annual artist showcase which featured—you guessed it—the talented People of Color and other artist allies on Northwestern’s campus and the Chicagoland area. The artwork itself is focused on People of Color. This year’s theme was “*Language: in between the lines.*” The focus was on “curating a multicolored, multifaceted consideration of Language in art...spotlighting multilingual artists but expanding the conception of linguistic variety, including artists who work with language in unconventional ways, not strictly verbal.” Some of the artists featured in this showcase were bands Vintage Kid and Cabrona, LIC’s very own Darcelle Pluviose, CLAVE’s very own Xiomara Contreras, and up and coming singer Princess Nokia from NYC! Xiomara’s pieces were of women of color who inspired her, including one piece featuring all of the mothers in her family and maps of where her family is from. In the other piece, she featured artists, activists, poets, and musicians who used their Languages of choice (poetry, music, words in Spanish or English) to move and inspire people. It was an event that truly spoke to all who attended.
I began working as an Ambassadors Coordinator in the spring of my freshman year for my work-study job. I absolutely love Northwestern and I wanted to work in Admissions to help recruit others like me to come and further investigate all Northwestern has to offer.

Why Northwestern? Why come to somewhere colder?

My greatest involvement is with our National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE) chapter as chapter president. It is a family and it has personally helped me stay grounded. I also am involved with a Black Christian bible study group on campus called House on the Rock (HoTR), which meets once a week for an hour and is a part of the larger, national Christian group InterVarsity.

How long have you been an Ambassadors Coordinator and why did you decide to work in admissions?

When I visited Northwestern, I completely fell in love with the school. It had the diverse and collaborative community I wanted, the major of my dreams and the perfect metro-suburban location. So why Northwestern? Because from my experience Northwestern, with its reputation, course offerings and community, provides the perfect forum for both personal growth fueled by those you meet and academic exploration in a number of subjects.

So I know you are an engineer, but you have time to do things outside of school right?
Crossword Puzzle

DOWN
1. Sound made by combining two vowels in one syllable
2. Repeated or habitual relapse, as into crime
4. A secular festival observed by many African Americans from December 26 to January 1 as a celebration of their cultural heritage and traditional values
5. A leader who seeks support by appealing to popular passions
9. Talkative; full of trivial conversation
10. Someone who can perceive things not present to the senses
12. A figure of speech in which apparently contradictory terms appear in conjunction
13. The coldest season of the year
14. A color intermediate between blue and red
20. Specialized vocabulary
21. A small native Eurasian and African cat that is typically gray with black markings and a bushy tail, noted for its ferocity

ACROSS
3. Fear of foreigners or strangers
6. Of a vivid red to reddish-orange color
7. Extreme excess
8. Sweetly or smoothly flowing; sweet-sounding
11. More than is needed, desired, or required
15. Something located at a time when it could not have existed
16. A group of lions that have formed a social unit
17. Stubbornly refusing to change one’s opinion or course of action
18. Avoiding waste
19. Fleeting, of short life or duration
20. Devoid of significance or interest
22. Harmful to other living things
23. The lowest point in the fortunes of a person or organization
24. A feeling of extreme joy