

13th Annual Black Issues Conference

It's not Just A Black Issue: Politics, Leadership, Civil Rights

Saturday, February 11, 2012.

Concurrent Session I: 10:30am - 11:20am

The Law...What it is and How it Applies to You! 308
- Walter Madison

The Racist Cleveland Indians Symbol: A Time for Social Change. 315
- Dr. Spintz Harrison

Is Geography Destiny? Geographic Divides and Equal Opportunity in America 316
- Bradford Frost

An Everyday Battle: Fighting For Human Rights Around The World 314
- Desha Jackson, Divaughn Conner, Thyran Nowden, Rakim Solomon

Concurrent Session II: 11:30am – 12:20pm

The Black Athlete Experience: Inclusion and Politics 314
- Ashley Baker

The Impact of Media 308
- China Sellers & Michael Henrich

ARTivism: Art and Movements for Social Change 315
- D. Jones & Natural

Realizing Your Leadership Potential 316
- J. David Reeves

Lunch and Keynote: 12:30pm – 1:50pm (Grand Ballroom)

- Slide Show
- Performance (BG High school/ Middle School)
- Welcome and recognition of guests
- Awards presentation
- Spoken Word - *Natural*
- Keynote Address

Concurrent Session III: 2:00pm – 2:40pm

Ethical Leadership for Change in Diverse Organizations 208
- Dr. Pauken

Political Participation: Running for Political Office Within Local Government 206
- Mayor Michael Bell

Are Leaders Born, Made or Neither? 201
- Sidney R. Childs

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Closing Panel Discussion: 2:45pm -3:30pm (BTSU – Theatre 206)

Walter Madison J.D

Dr. Patrick Pauken

Cordell Walton (President of BIG)

Kathryn A. Williams, Esq.

Dr. Christina Lunceford

Special Session: High School Student Track: (Sky Bank Room 201)

10:00am – 11:00am

Presentation by Admission/ Student Financial Aid

11:10am – 12:20pm

The Animal in You: Discovering Your Leadership Style

Allia Carter, Assistant Director in the Office of Service-Learning

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Description of Concurrent Sessions

The Law... What it is and How it Applies to You!

This session will focus on describing the 4th Amendment and what it means to citizens. The presenter will show the proper means of engagement between the citizen and the police, and how citizens can protect themselves. The presenter will initiate dialogue and facilitate interaction with attendees of the session, affording them the opportunity to ask questions during the session. Presenter: Mr. Walter T. Madison, Attorney at Law, Walter Madison LLC.

The Racist Cleveland Indians Symbol: A Time for Social Change.

We are advocating social change! Since 1970 at least a thousand primary and secondary schools and universities have changed their racists' American Indian logo or mascot. However, professional sporting organizations refuse to change their Indian related mascot because they claim to honor and respect American Indian peoples. The focus of this presentation will be the Cleveland Indians and their reasons for refusing to eliminate Chief Wahoo as their Indians mascot.

Presenter (s): Dr. Spintz Harrison, Instructor, Department of Ethnic Studies, BGSU
Rene Tricou, Undergraduate Student BGSU

Is Geography Destiny? Geographic Divides and Equal Opportunity in America

This talk will offer a close examination of the exogenous factors and predictors for life success in America. A discussion of how those factors influence our understanding of equality, equal opportunity and the American Dream offer a central way of framing the challenge of achieving equal opportunity in America.

Presenter: Mr. Bradford Frost, Detroit Revitalization Fellow and Special Assistant for Community & Economic Development, Detroit Institute of Arts

The Black Athlete Experience: Inclusion and Politics

This session will explore the Black athletes experience as it relates to inclusion and politics within athletic governance structure. This presentation will provide an opportunity for participants to engage in a discussion regarding the idea that Black athletes lack a voice in a political process that governs their lives. The session will include thoughtful and meaningful recommendations for how Black student athletes can involve themselves in this political structure. It will also address the lack of Black representation at the leadership level and explore how this may impact the Black student athletes experience in the governance structure. The presentation is based on the books "The New Plantation" by Billy Hawkins and "Forty Million Dollar Slaves" by William C. Rhoden.

Presenter (s): Ms. Ashley Baker, Director, Student Athletic Services BGSU
Brittaney Jarvie, Student Athletic Services Intern

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The Impact of Media on Perceptions of Politics, Leadership and Civil Rights

This interactive workshop engages audience in discussion with media personnel on the impact of the local media on how we think about and our responses to issues concerning politics, leadership, and civil rights.

Presenter (s): China Sellers and Michael Henrich, TV News Anchor/Reporter, WNWO TV.

Ethical Leadership for Change in Diverse Organizations

The workshop will engage participants in a discussion of the roles they play (or "hats" they wear) in their organizations and in society as a whole, and how these roles can effect change.

Participants will explore both professional and personal ethical leadership.

Presenter: Dr. Patrick Pauken, Vice Provost for Governance and Faculty Relations BGSU

ARTivism: Art and Movements for Social Change

M.K Asante, Jr. notes in his book *It's Bigger Than Hip Hop*: "The activist (artist +activist) uses her artistic talents to fight and struggle against injustice and oppression—by any medium necessary. The activist merges commitment to freedom and justice with the pen, the lens, the brush, the voice, the body, and the imagination. The activist knows that to make an observation is to have an obligation." This BIC session aims to look at the evolution of "artivism" as it relates to Black issues of the past, present and future. Though artists have maintained a voice in social movements, we must consider whether or not that voice is reaching the masses and/or having the desired impact towards progress.

Presenter (s): D. Jones, Instructor, Department of Theatre & Film and Assistant Director, Arts Village Learning Community
Natural, President, "urban nu-sense"

Political Participation: Running for Political Office Within Local Government

The Mayor of Toledo shares with participants about the experience, challenges, and rewards of running for and holding political office. This session emphasizes the importance of political engagement at the local level and outlines the processes involved in running for a mayoral office. The presenter highlights the importance of getting involved in local governance as act of leadership and a means of positively impacting the quality of life within our local communities.

Presenter: The Honorable Michael Bell, Mayor of Toledo, OH

Realizing Your Leadership Potential

This workshop will focus specifically on the non-academic, but critical elements essential to developing oneself into a well-rounded, critical thinking, well balanced individual. Many often fail to reach their full potential because they fail to recognize that they are not independent from natural laws within the universe. Working with nature rather than against it, and understanding how each of us ties into the universal structure can greatly increase one's leadership skills, probability of success throughout life, whether in school, family or work—we all have the potential to be more than we are.

Presenter: Mr. J. David Reeves, National President, Blacks In Government

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Are Leaders Born, Made, or Neither?

Participants will engage in an interactive session with a focus on exemplary leadership practices. This includes an opportunity to explore multiple leadership styles and examine strategies to meet the overall challenge of leadership.

Presenter: Mr. Sidney R. Childs, Executive Director TRIO Programs, BGSU

The Animal in You: Discovering Your Leadership Style

This is a highly interactive session which allows students an opportunity to gain an understanding of their personal leadership styles through the use of Dr. Gary Smalley and Dr. John Trent's temperaments of leaders. Dr. Smalley and Dr. Trent base their personality temperaments around animal characteristics. Not only are these temperaments entertaining, but easy to remember and communicate. Attendees will find this session extremely beneficial when dealing with family members, friends, and/or people in general as the workshop will have participants practicing the essential skills of teambuilding, creative thinking, and conflict resolution.

Presenter: Ms. Allia Carter, Assistant Director in the Office of Service-Learning, BGSU

Rachel Willingham, Civic Action Leader, Office of Service-Learning

Undergraduate majoring in Communication Studies, BGSU

An Everyday Battle: Fighting For Human Rights Around The World

Should we have the right to make our own choices? The presenters will engage participants in a discussion on the importance of various aspects of human rights. The presenters will focus on common issues of human sexuality, racism, freedom of speech, and women's right. The session will also explore how issues of human rights impact the lives of individuals in the United States and people from other nations around the world.

Presenters: Desha Jackson, Divaughn Conner, Thyran Nowden, Rakim Solomon,

Undergraduate Students, BGSU