



# NIOT Weekly Digest



**NIOT Weekly Digest – April 1, 2016**

**\*\* NEXT NIOT MEETING IS ON April 7, 2016 from 3-5 pm at the BTSU, Room 315 \*\***

**April 7, 2016**

BTSU Room 315

**May 12, 2016**

BG City Chambers

**June 9, 2016**

BTSU Room 315

**July 7, 2016**

BG City Chambers

## **Digest Contents:**

- Upcoming Diversity Events
- Upcoming Volunteer Opportunities
- NIOT T-Shirts
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- Video Library
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## UPCOMING DIVERSITY EVENTS

To see the latest announcements and event posters, and to learn more about the events listed below, please visit our web page at [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown)

- [Ethnic Student Center: Spring Dialogue Series](#) hosted by the Office of Multicultural Affairs
- Dining Services, [Diversity & Inclusion Newsletter](#)
- [Women of Color Alliance](#)
- April is [Asian American Heritage Month](#). Be sure to view the flyer for a list of events.
- [Together We Ball](#), April 9, 2016. An event to promote positive relationships between the multicultural community and law enforcement.
- April 16, 2016 [5K & Dog Walk, Sexual Assault Awareness Month](#)
- [Obanami, Cherry Blossom Festival](#), April 16, 2016 4:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.



In our society we are surrounded with language and behavior that has developed through a history of stereotypes and prejudices. The iSTAND Advocacy Training program was created by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Center for Leadership to help teach participants practical skills for addressing micro aggressions in our society and to stand up and advocate for others.

The iSTAND presentation is presented by the Student Leadership Assistants. The presentation takes 75 minutes to complete. To request an iSTAND presentation for your office, please visit and complete a request form at <https://orgsync.com/8315/forms/58656>.

**UPCOMING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITES** **NIOT volunteers and supporters are encouraged to show their support by wearing their NIOT t-shirts and buttons to BGSU and Bowling Green city events.**

- Together We Ball - Volunteers are needed for set up at Noon on Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at the BGSU Student Recreation Center. For more information, please contact Sheila Brown at 419-372-2642.

### **NIOT BG T-Shirts**

**The NIOT BG T-Shirts are now available at the BGSU Bookstore for \$9.99 + tax.** The Bookstore is working on an online order process (once the link is available, it will be shared). T-shirts are also available in the community at the United Way office located at 111 S. Main Street in downtown Bowling Green.

### **NIOT BG ON FACEBOOK**

**NIOT BG is on Facebook. Follow us (by liking the page) at Not In Our Town Bowling Green for photos, latest news, and updates.** Here is the direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Not-In-Our-Town-Bowling-Green/411179839042009> LOTS OF NEW PICTURES! COME LIKE THE PAGE AND LEARN MORE ABOUT NOT IN OUR TOWN BG!

### **GIVING TO NIOT BG**

**Information about Giving to NIOT BG** is now available on the website: [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown). Please consider making a gift today.

### **VIDEO LIBRARY**

**BGSU and BG now have a video library of NIOT films.** A full listing can be found here: <http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town/video-library.html> These DVDs are available for check out and can be reserved by emailing [niot@bgsu.edu](mailto:niot@bgsu.edu).

### **SUBMISSIONS TO BE INCLUDED IN THE WEEKLY DIGEST**

Do you have content that you want to send to the NIOT-BG community? Your submission must be related to the mission of NIOT and support both the BGSU and BG communities. Submissions for the Weekly Digest must be made no later than 5pm, Thursday. All submissions will be reviewed. This is not a guarantee that your submission will be published in the Digest. Here are a few ways to send your submission.

Email [NIOT@bgsu.edu](mailto:NIOT@bgsu.edu) the following information:

- a URL of your event or website to be included in the Digest
- a PDF to be included in the Digest
- a JPEG to be included in the Digest

## **BONUS - OPINION EDITORIAL**

Dear Leslie and Gary,

After the Interfaith Breakfast yesterday, I returned home feeling "full" following the rich experience we shared in those moments, especially the morning of the attacks in Brussels. What a privilege to be in that setting and with that group with the sobering news.

Lines from 2 old hymns from my own faith tradition popped into my head: "My Lord, what a morning!" and "I stand amazed in the presence..." So I sat down and did a reflection on what I took away and what I will do with what I received. I had to share this somewhere, so thought you two might be the best place. I beg your indulgence!

- "I stand amazed in the presence" of people who have allowed themselves to be shaped by the best of the spiritual traditions that they have grown up in or have embraced as adults. Their strength and clarity came through in their various expressions of how they apply this to living and promoting peace in their daily lives.
- I was challenged, again, to relook at how I am in the world and how I respond to the challenges and opportunities to "learn to love each other before we die" (Cleric Richard Holloway's view of why we are here....)
- When I think of the great technological advances that I so freely partake of in transportation and communication, knowing what is possible when creative, committed people put their minds to producing these amazing results, I continue to wonder what it will take for us to apply those same gifts to what's possible in our everyday human interactions. I'm asking myself, "What can I do in my own community to continue engaging on that track?" A few ideas are emerging, focusing on the "Peace through Hospitality" theme.
- Accepting those advances has moved our world from "us and them" to "we." How do I live responsibly with that reality?
- The conservative religious tradition that I grew up in focused heavily on having the answers and finding comfort in the certainty from that rather than asking and sharing the questions for the sake of honest struggle and growth and learning to live with uncertainty that is part of the human experience. I continue my own work on how to "Honor the best of my past" while constructively navigating my way through the realities of our diverse communities without fear.

I left inspired by the gifts of diverse communities and the possibilities that exist when I commit to bringing the best of who I am to each day, knowing I'll do that better some days than others! I wonder about how we keep the interaction on this theme alive. I will raise this in contexts where I am actively involved.

I wanted to express my deep appreciation to you both for the leadership you continue to provide, that results in such experiences as the Interfaith Breakfast. I know the time you spend is on top of your already-full-and-overflowing plates and thus a sacrifice you make for us in BG and the values you hold dear. I commit to being accountable for what I experienced.

With thanks....

Anonymous



<http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town.html>