

Office of Community Service

Annual Community Events Staff (ACES) by Georgie Wynn '16

ACES kicked off the semester with the Souper Bowl Food Drive which collects perishable food donations to provide weekend lunches to children in Hartford. In collaboration with Project Packs, members collected donations to give to the Backpack Program at Hands on Hartford. ACES members asked shoppers at local grocery stores to purchase and donate perishable food items to donate such as juice boxes, yogurt and pudding packs. The donations and money we collected filled over six shopping carts, providing two weekends of meals for the Backpack Program.

Throughout February and March, we collected dresses for the Princess and the Prom, an organization that collects formal

dresses for girls to wear to their high school Prom. ACES members encouraged Trinity students to donate formal dresses by tabling at Mather Hall and advertising across campus. We

The 22nd Annual ACES Auction, held in Mather Dining Hall on March 6th raised \$1605. The proceeds were donated to the Tiwalte School, a school for girls in Northern Mali that Fatty Al Ansar '17 is starting. ACES members called local restaurants, venues, and businesses for donations, which were auctioned off to raise money for this charity project. Gift certificates to restaurants, movie tickets, and footballs sign by the coach of the Patriots, Bill Belichick P'15, were among items on the auc-

tion block. Kristina Smithy '14 and Marin Abernethy '14, members of the Movable Joints improvisation group on campus, entertained the audience as the event's auctioneers.

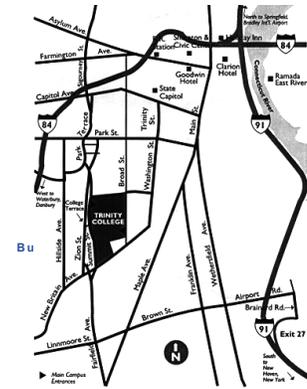
The last event of the semester that ACES was involved with was Samba Fest. This event is held at the Riverfront Plaza in downtown Hartford and draws in a large crowd from the surrounding neighborhoods as well as the Trinity community. Samba Fest was a great and fun way to end the semester and brought a lot of the organizations together as one with the community. There was a lots of music and a great overall feel good vibe at the Samba Fest this year, and we hope to continue this tradition along with all of our other events

Praxis by Diana Ryan '14

Praxis, the community service based dorm, closed the semester out with a bang! Our members volunteered with a variety of campus organizations like the Coop, Habitat for Humanity, and Peter's Retreat as

well as local community partners like Hartford Hospital and the Hartford Public Library. In addition to individual community service projects, we continued to volunteer as a group at least once a month.

In February, we volunteered at the Wadsworth Athenaeum for their Second Saturday's event, where they welcome families to enjoy free hands-on arts projects. *Continued on Page 4*



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Special points of interest:

- Check out Habitat's Spring Break trip to Miami!
- Read about the TREEHouse's faculty lecture series
- Learn about Best Buddies' Spread the Word Campaign

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Spring Selected Highlights

February

1

Soup-er Bowl Food Drive: Food drive held at a local supermarket the day before the Super Bowl that benefited the Hands on Hartford Backpack Program. Two cartfuls of goods were collected, supplying enough food for two week-ends!

20

Red Cross Blood Drive Sponsored by Psi Upsilon

March

6

22nd ACES Annual Auction for Charity:

Raised \$1605! Proceeds were donated to a project of Fatty Al Ansar '17 who is building a school for girls in Northern Mali.

11

TREEHouse Lecture Series: Winter Too Hard—Climate and Survival in Four Wabanaki Stories by Thomas Wickman

13

Best Buddies Spread the Word to End the Word Campaign: 650

members of the Trinity community pledged to stop using the “R” word

16-22

Alternative Spring Break with Habitat for Humanity: Trinity students spent their spring break



building houses with Habitat for Humanity affiliates in Lafayette, LA.

April

8

TREEHouse Lecture Series: Landscape Photography—Iceland in Pictures by Christoph Geiss

11

Relay for Life: More than 400 participants in the overnight event that raised more than \$20,000 to support the American Cancer Society.

22

TREEHouse Lecture Series: Intersections Between Environmental Health and Human Health by Joan Morrison

21-25

Earth Week: With the support of several academic departments, Green Campus and ConnPIRG host a lectures, movie screenings, and a variety of activities to raise environmental consciousness on campus.

28

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner: Over 100 student volunteers were honored at a formal dinner in the Washington Room.

May

Dump & Run: A campus-wide clothing and reusable item drive coordinated by Green Campus. Thousands of items were collected and donated to local shelters.

Graduation Pledge: Graduation seniors pledge to be more “socially responsible” in their future careers.



**American
Red Cross**

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Fall 2014 Upcoming Events

September

6

Activities Fair: Representatives from more than 30 community service organizations on campus spend the afternoon recruiting new members.

11

16th Annual Do It Day: A half-day event that engages students, faculty and staff members in service projects at different sites around Hartford

27

Source To Sea River Clean-up: Green Campus takes part in the Connecticut River watershed clean-up.

October

1

Green Campus and Biology Club Annual Plant Sale

19

Halloween on Vernon Street: A half-day event that gives hundreds of local children and their families a fun and safe Halloween experience

22

The Death Penalty, with guest speaker Robert Nave, executive director of the Connecticut Network to Abolish the Death Penalty and an Amnesty International State Death Penalty Abolition Coordinator

November

8

Habitrot: 5k run sponsored by Habitat for Humanity to raise funds for their Alternative Spring Break trip

20

Jamnesty Event on Women's Rights and Empowerment with Amnesty International

19-20

The Great Pie Project: Praxis bakes hundreds of pies and donates them to nonprofit organizations in Hartford

24

Thanksgiving Food Basket Drive: Turkeys and all the trimmings are donated to 100 families of children who attend the M.D. Fox Elementary School

December

ACES Sponsor a Snowman Drive: 100 holiday gifts are collected for the children of the Hartford Interval House

Best Buddies by Garry Ng '15

Best Buddies is a student organization that creates opportunities for people with intellectual and development disability (IDD). At Trinity, our main goal is to have as many students paired up with a buddy with a disability and provide them with a friend or a mentor.

Held in March, the annual campaign to Spread the Word to End the Word (STW) is the highlight of our chapter's spring semester. Each year, we encourage people to sign a pledge to stop using the "R" word because of the negativity associated with it. This year, we collected over 650 signatures from the Trinity College community.

The capstone of the STW campaign was an event where we invited three buddies to speak about their experiences as an individual with intellectual disability and how Best Buddies has influenced their lives. Their stories touched us all and inspired us to continue our partnership.

During the event, Best Buddies also made custom mason jars with the quote "label jars, not people" on it. Overall, it was a very successful event and the Best Buddies e-board would like to thank everyone who helped support this event.

Lastly, we want to thank Giuliani Lopez '11 M'14 for his support and guidance throughout the year. Without him, Best Buddies would not be what it is right now; so best of luck to him in the future.

Sophie Long '17 has been elected by the e-board as the new College Buddy Director starting next school year. We are confident that she will do a great job next year and that Best Buddies will be in good hands. Trinity chapter of Best Buddies will continue to expand its popularity throughout campus and strive hard for new and creative activities.

Amnesty International by Melindy Dorcin '17

In the wake of the 2014 Sochi Olympics, Amnesty International started off the semester by raising awareness on various human rights issues in Russia. In January, we teamed up with EROS and tabled at Mather to raise awareness about the environmental and human rights activists targeted by the Russian government, and members of the LGBTQ community threatened by the Gay Propaganda Laws.

In February, Amnesty held a movie screening for the HBP film *Pussy Riot: A Punk Prayer* at the Fred. The movie focuses on the arrest of two Pussy Riot band members Maria Alyokhina and Nadezhda Tolokonnikova. The film provided a glimpse at the Russian judicial system, and discussed the ideologies and policies that the band valued and hope

for Russia in the foreseeable future.

Throughout the month of March, we continued to hold our weekly meetings in the Community Service Center. We also hosted a letter writing event at the Underground Coffeehouse. The event was a great success bringing in many letter writers – both avid Amnesty International members and some new faces. The letters were sent out to encourage foreign leadership to deal with issues such as the protection of the rights of water activists in Mexico, protestors in Venezuela, detained activists in China, and students and lawyers detained in Sudan, among many other

issues.

April proved to be a busy month! We held a panel discussion on the protests in Venezuela which featured members of the faculty from Trinity College and the University of Connecticut. The panel analyzed the conflict in Venezuela, paying special attention to the human rights ramifications of those involved within the country, and those surrounding it.

This spring semester proved to be an interesting, fun, and productive time for Amnesty International. We all look forward to continuing our work in the fall semester!

Praxis, cont.

The theme for this event was living art, which allowed our volunteers to aid families in the creation of characters inspired by any of the works on display. Our Praxis members even had the opportunity to create their very own characters!

Throughout the semester, our commitment to service continued as usual, but we placed special emphasis on recruitment for the next year. During the months of March and April, we developed a number of ways to get the word out about our fantastic group. We chalked and

posted flyers all across campus, calling attention to our recruitment table at Mather and our new online application. As a result, we've welcomed 16 new members who are excited to build community and participate in volunteer projects on campus and in the Hartford community. We also welcomed Shanice Hinckson '15, who will be leading the group as the new Praxis coordinator.

To bring the semester to a close, as our last monthly activity, Praxis participated

in this year's Samba Fest! We set up a booth for kids and adults alike to play with hula-hoops, blow some bubbles, and make their very own Samba Fest mask. We also hosted an end of year party to thank our current Praxis members and welcome the new students for the next year. We are confident that our new group will continue to make an impact on campus and in the community. For more information please contact the Praxis coordinator, Shanice Hinckson '15, at Shanice.Hinckson@trincoll.edu.

The Jones-Zimmermann Academic Mentoring Program By Erin Arbelaez

This year marked the start of the 5th cohort of students and the 26th consecutive semester of Jones-Zimmermann Academic Mentoring Program (J-Z AMP) at Trinity! J-ZAMP is a program that pairs Trinity College student mentors with middle school students at Hartford Magnet Trinity College Academy (HMTCA). The program began at Trinity in September of 2001 and is part of a larger mentoring community in the state, with sister programs at Sacred Heart University in Bridgeport and Yale University in New Haven. The three programs are funded through the generous support of the John and Marie Zimmermann Foundation and all have the same goal of helping students to succeed academically and encouraging them to pursue secondary education. The HMTCA students participate in the program in 6th grade, 7th grade, and 8th grade until they go on to high school. Since the



HMTCA students are in the program for 3 years together it enables them to form strong relation-

ships with each other as a cohort and with their mentors.

Each Tuesday and Thursday this semester mentees stayed after-school and worked with their mentors for an hour on homework and then did an enrichment activity together as a group. Having an hour to do homework allows the mentees to ask questions, get support from their fellow mentors and mentees, and visit teachers with their mentors to get extra clarity on their assignments. To determine the enrichment topics HMTCA students chose things they'd like to do and then they planned the activity with mentors and lead it for the rest of the group. This semester mentors and mentees have led us in trust games, drawing, a scavenger hunt, and making duct tape wallets.

Outside of the regular J-Z AMP program sessions during the week, the program also invites mentors and mentees on field trips once a month on Saturdays. In March mentors and mentees went to the Connecticut Science Center in Hartford to explore the different exhibits including the temporary Ancient Egypt exhibit that was very exciting to the mentees since they had been studying Ancient Egypt in Social Studies. On the first Saturday in May mentors and mentees went to Laser Quest in Newington as a celebration of the work they did this semester and the relation-



ships they've built. At the end of April the program ended with a family dinner in the Washington Room in Mather Hall where mentors, mentees, parents, grandparents, siblings, and HMTCA and Trinity College program supporters had dinner together and recognized the hard work of the mentors and mentees this year. J-Z AMP will begin again in the Fall!

If you are interested in becoming a J-Z AMP mentor next semester on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:00-5:00, please contact program coordinator Erinn Arbelaez at erinn.arbelaez@trincoll.edu or at 860-297-2160.

Trinity Recreation and Environmental Education House (TREEHouse) by Bridget Tevnan '15

As the weather cooled down, the campfire atmosphere (from the TREEHouse is on Fire events) was brought inside, where each week the house invited the campus community to help prepare and eat a home cooked meal. With recipes ranging from sweet potato burritos with guacamole and pizza made from scratch to stir-fry, falafel and vegetable kabobs there was plenty of creative, delicious food to go around. The TREEHouse was excited to welcome some fresh faces into the house and create an atmosphere centered on healthy food (often organic and fair-trade), good conversation, and great friends.

Throughout March and April the TREEHouse presented a lecture series featuring a diverse selection of professors and leaders on campus. Professor Thomas Wickman, assistant professor of history and American studies, told us about Wabanaki stories of Native American survivance in harsh climate. Professor Christoph Geiss, associate professor of physics and environmental science, gave students tips on how to

frame landscape photographs that not only capture a moment, but also inspire. Kevin Johnson, director of the Quest Program, discussed risk as a necessary component for outdoor adventure. To commemorate Earth Day we were joined by, Joan Morrison, professor of biology, who led a discussion on the intersections between environmental and human health. It was a pleasure to offer a space where academics from varied disciplines could meet with students to discuss their interests in pertinent environmental issues, fascinating cultures, and exciting hobbies. Thank you to the lecturers for making the TREEHouse Spring Lecture Series such a successful event!

The TREEHouse is by its very nature a collaborative. Members from Green Campus, the Rock Climbing Club, the Outdoors Club, the Brew Club, and students not affiliated with the aforementioned clubs come together to promote sustainable, active, and exciting lifestyles on campus. It's an organization that strives to demonstrate a commitment to en-

vironmental and social stewardship while also encouraging outdoor recreation and alternative social programming. We focus on cooperative event planning and try to work with other groups to use the house in ways that best reflect the needs and wishes of the Trinity Community.

With many of the leaders in the TREEHouse graduating this spring, the house looks forward to some of its newer members taking on leadership positions in the coming year. Fresh faces and new ideas are always welcome! 'Like' us on Facebook at the Trinity College TREEHouse page if you are interested in becoming involved or receiving notifications regarding upcoming events. Also, if you are on campus over the summer and interested in gardening or composting, please contact Bridget Tevnan '15 at bridget.tevnan@trincoll.edu.

Stop the Raids Shanelle Morris '16

Stop the Raids (STR) is an immigrant rights group dedicated to raising awareness about immigration issues on and off campus.

Last semester, STR screened the award winning documentary *Made in LA* at Cinestudio. The film focusses on three

women who make clothing for Forever 21 and their struggle to win safe working conditions, fair wages and dignity at the factory. This event was open to the public and there was a special appearance from Fatima Rojas, the union organizer for the food service workers at Trinity. Fatima shared

her experience as an undocumented worker and elaborated on how union organizing benefitted the lives of undocumented people like herself.

Stop The Raids also partnered with PRIDE to sponsor an immigration panel with leading political figures in the community

Stop the Raids, contd.

and Trinity professors. The panel focused on immigrants and how they affect the economy. Two Trinity scholars also shared their personal story of being an undocumented immigrant in the US. (Names of faculty/professors?)

Stop the Raids also partners with other immigrant activist groups such as Connecticut for a Dream (C4D). C4D asked for our support to sign petitions for immigrant students to be able to access institutional aid in order to attend college with less of a financial burden.

In Hartford, a large group of high school students, college students, and community activists met in the Hispanic Center downtown for a press conference. The press conference included community organizers and students who would benefit from affordable education. After the press conference, we hand delivered the petitions to the Board of Education.

Stop the Raids also attended several immigrant rights rallies. One of them called on President Obama to stop deportations. President Obama has

deported more people than any other president in U.S. history and residents in different parts of Connecticut hosted a caravan that concluded with a rally in Hartford. At this rally people from the community spoke out about how the deportations of their beloved family members have burdened their lives financially and emotionally.

If you are interested in joining Stop The Raids please contact Shanelle Morris '16 at shanelle.morris@trincoll.edu

Relay for Life by Sarah Wolcott '15 and Cody Patrina '15

Trinity held its 8th American Cancer Society's Relay for Life event on April 11. Throughout the year, the committee worked together to create a fun and inspiring event. We continually spread awareness about cancer and Relay for Life throughout campus using a combination of events and activities. . At the close of the event, we had successfully raised \$23,680.81 which was donated to the American Cancer Society to help find a cure.

Committee members painted the campus purple by chalking sidewalks, hanging flyers in and around dorms and the library, and tabled in Mather to have conversations about our cause with people as they walked by. Our biggest fundraiser before the event was an evening at the Tap Café. Holding this fundraiser on a Tuesday made it a huge success and we raised around \$800 which

went directly to our ultimate fundraising goal.

The week of Relay, we made a final push to increase our participants and overall donations. All of the committee's hard work ultimately paid off at the official Relay for Life event. We had 49 teams with a total of 413 participants. Some of the nights activities included the popular date auction, a lip sync contest and an a cappella concert. People could even pay for their friends to get "slimed" with green applesauce! During the Ceremony of Hope, we had a wonderful speaker,

Nancy Fleming, who shared her story about her son's battle with testicular cancer. The ceremony is a somber moment for us to reflect, remember and honor those who have lost their lives to cancer as well as celebrate those who have survived.

If you are interested in becoming a committee member or participating in the event please contact Sarah Wolcott '15 and Cody Patrina '15 at trincollrelay@gmail.com.





2014 Honors' Day Awards Recipients

The Samuel S. Fishzohn Award was established in 1966 in memory of Samuel S. Fishzohn, Class of 1925, a prominent figure in social work and welfare. Awards are given each year to at least two students: one who has demonstrated initiative and creativity in community service related to important social issues, and the other who has worked with dedication in civil rights, civil liberties, or race relations.

Civil Rights and Civil Liberties: Jessica L. Bosco '16

Community Service: Edgar Soto '15, Julia R. Duggan '16, and Alex Suarez '16

The Alexander A. Goldfarb Award for Community Service is awarded jointly by the City of Hartford and Trinity College to the Trinity student who, through community service, has done the most during this current year to benefit the City of Hartford and its citizens.

Recipients: Aarthi S. Ram '14 and Megan L. O'Brien '14

The St. Anthony Hall Community Service Award was established by the St. Anthony Trust of Hartford. It is awarded annually to a Trinity College fraternity or sorority member who has demonstrated initiative, creativity, and commitment in the areas of service, activism, and/or civic engagement during the academic year. In conjunction with this award, a financial contribution will be made in the recipient's name to support a nonprofit organization or community programming initiative of his or her own choosing.

Recipient's Connor D. McElligott '14 and Alex Suarez '16