



Week for Diversity and Inclusion

24 - 28 October 2011

Event	What day?	What time?	Where?	Who?	What's it about?
Visual Communication Project	Monday - Friday	Launching at 13:00 hrs	AUK Main Entrance	Xhevahir Kolgjini, AUK Faculty	An open space for AUK community to visually express, communicate and build upon own meaning of diversity.
Food Festival	Monday - Friday	8:00 AM – 9:00 PM	Ma Belle	Ma Belle & AUK Student Government	Diverse international recipes are served to “taste” diversity through food.
Inspire Diversity	Monday - Friday	Fall Scheduled Classes	AUK Classrooms	AUK Faculty	Faculty commitment to specifically address and discuss issues of diversity within classes.
Public Forum “Public Art and Communication”	Monday, 24	12:00 noon	AUK Main Auditorium	Albert Heta, Contemporary Artist from Stacion - Center for Contemporary Art Prishtina	Discussion of the project “Time to go visiting - No Visa Required”.
Public Forum “Locality in the context of Cosmopolitanism”	Tuesday, 25	12:00 - 1:00 PM	AUK Main Auditorium	Lume Kadriu, Institute of Albanian Studies & University of Prishtina	Two seemingly controversial notions find its meeting point in the process of globalization and become reflected within Kosovo traditional restaurants.
Harmony Concert and Cultural Heritage Exhibition	Wednesday, 26	8:00 - 9:30 PM	The National Theater	Ethnically Plugged Band, Venac Ensemble, Gypsy Groove Band Goranska Grupa, AUK Choir, Exhibition Artists, New Ethnologists NGO	Celebrating diversity by bringing together cultural values of Kosovo through the eyes of young people.
Documentary “Beyond the Rainbow” and Discussion	Thursday, 27	5:00 PM	Chill Room (Blue Building)	Ismet Sijarina, Movie Director & Invited guests from the LGBT community	A courageous and pioneering documentary portraying the stigma, fear and hopes that Lesbian, Gay, Transgender and Bisexual (LGBT) community in Kosovo experience.
“The Fascist Within Me” Workshop	Thursday, 27 Sign up with Florina Zhubi, Faculty Office	2:00 - 4:00 PM	AUK Room 401	Dr. Moshe Landsman, Professor at Kaye Teachers College (Israel) & University of Prishtina; Edona Maloku Bërdyna, AUK Faculty	A great exercise to get an insight of own values and frames of references. Questions our beliefs, stereotypes and prejudices through an analysis of the Self.
Public Forum “Liberation of Oppressed Groups”	Friday, 28	12:00 - 1:00 PM	AUK Main Auditorium	Dr. Moshe Landsman, Professor at Kaye Teachers College (Israel) & University of Prishtina	Discussion about intervention models that assist groups to move away from fatalism and exercise critical consciousness.



***Special Thanks to the US Embassy for funding the Harmony Concert and Cultural Heritage Exhibition



“Bringing people together”

AUK Week for Diversity and Inclusion

October 24 – 28, 2011

“Bringing people together”

American University in Kosovo (AUK) is expanding its potential for a welcoming and inclusive community. Within a week of activities we will acknowledge, celebrate, and explore domestic and international ethnic, national, cultural, sexual, gender identities and more. Programming ranges from forums with national and international speakers, art projects, performances, discussions and workshops, organized within AUK or the outer community.

Let's bring ourselves together and contribute in producing a unified experience of diversity celebrations!

AUK Diversity Team

AUK Week for Diversity and Inclusion

October 24 – 28, 2011

“Bringing people together”

American University in Kosovo (AUK) is proud of its diversity. From its establishment in 2003 as the only private and not-for-profit university, AUK has hosted and educated students from the majority of Kosovo ethnicities (Albanian, Serbian, Turkish, Bosnian and Roman), nationals from over 20 countries around the world, special needs students, students from diverse sexual orientations, and more. Our experience has shown us that we can contribute to Kosovo’s development through educating for positive change, and we do this not only by acknowledging and celebrating diversity among our students, but also by inspiring it through faculty and staff. Our faculty in particular is a combined resource of local, regional and international backgrounds. As such, they shape our institutional model and make diversity a meaningful daily experience for all its members.

This year, AUK wants to further expand its potential for a welcoming and inclusive community. Aware that diversity means many things to many people, we want to continue sensitizing and educating students, faculty, and staff to the multidimensionality of diversity. Furthermore, in committing toward representing a positive role-model to the community at large, AUK will be hosting a **Week for Diversity and Inclusion, October 24-28, 2011**. Within a week of activities we aim to acknowledge, celebrate, and explore domestic and international ethnic, national, cultural, sexual and gender identities. Programming will range from forums with national and international speakers, performing and visual art projects, community based discussions and workshops. This range of activities is planned in a manner that produces a unified experience of diversity celebrations.

Our aim is to make the Week for Diversity and Inclusion an annual week of events. Our goal is to set up a group of young activists made up of motivated students, staff and faculty that will continue working on diversity issues throughout the year in an effort to continue awareness-raising. In doing so, the Diversity Team will address and facilitate dialogue for topics of interest or concern as they arise. This will be a work in progress that is shaped by each and every participant.

Let’s bring ourselves together in this initiative and make a contribution toward bettering our communities!

Harmony Concert and Cultural Heritage Exhibition

Date: Wed, 26th, 20.00 hrs, National Theatre

This event aims to celebrate diversity by bringing together cultural values of Kosovo through the eyes of young people. This joint activity will focus on representing the immense wealth of cultural heritage in the country through an interesting combination of AUK and outer community representatives. This specific event will be funded by the US Embassy in Prishtina and it is coordinated by Edona Maloku, Faculty advisor for the Week for Diversity and Inclusion, and Hana Cakuli, Coordinator for AUK Cultural Events. Following, is a short description of the performance and visual arts program:

1. **THE HARMONY CONCERT** will gather diverse groups performing music and dance acts of traditional cultural performances as well as a marvelous combination of these performances with other international music streams. The concert will include:
 - a) **Ethnically Plugged Band**, a band consisting of some of the greatest Kosovar musicians playing traditional Albanian music brought into classical and jazz instrumental style. Its violinist leader, Festim Thanaj, is currently number one violinist in the country;
 - b) **Gypsy Groove Band**, a Roman band that plays traditional Roman music with an orchestration in Jazz Reggae music style. They are one of rare Roman bands that have managed to communicate and transmit its traditional values to a diverse and broad audience, and have been appraised for their unique music style.
 - c) **Venac Folk Dance Ensemble**, a Serbian ensemble performing traditional folks dance.
 - d) **The AUK Choir**, the cultural component of the AUK community, which has by now taken a broad involvement of students, faculty, and outside AUK talents from diverse cultural background. This mixed group has inspired a special repertoire that the Choir performs through six languages: Albanian, Serbian, English, German, French, and Arabic (Egyptian).
 - e) **The Gorani Group** – Gorani Group of performing, dancing and reading will bring a variety of their cultural heritage into the show. Except for the concert, the Goranis will be part of the exhibition with their traditional clothes shown after the Harmony Concert.

2. **THE CULTURAL HERITAGE EXHIBITION** will show a collection of the best pieces of AUK student community who portray their cultural values and heritage through visual arts (photography, painting, crafts, etc.). The Exhibition will award three first prizes to the most original and innovative works of art. Apart from showing cultural heritage through the eyes of others, the exhibition space will also provide experiential opportunities to the guests by tasting traditional food at the Food Corner, and trying out ethnic Albanian, Turkish and Gorani traditional costume wears at model statues. The exhibition area will also be equipped with 3 individual presentation spots, where guests can watch three short documentaries on Pagan Rituals in Kosovo.