

# the Gazette

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## EAT, DRINK, AND BE MANY!

by Kelly Morrisey

This week marked Dalhousie's second Annual Cultural Diversity Festival, an event working to foster tolerance by exposing people to different customs and cultures.

Numerous workshops, seminars, and displays representing a vast array of ethnic groups, including Spanish, African, Russian, East-Indian, Sri Lankans, aboriginals and Malaysia-Indonesia-Singapore were set up around the Student Union Building all week, "By providing the stimulus, we can try to peak curiosity and thus create awareness which can further lead to the changing of attitudes," said Ada Christopher, the chair of the festival.

Reactions to the event have been mainly positive. To those asking, "why should we think this is important when we don't even have unity amongst ourselves?", Christopher would reply, "Why should we resist integration which is inevitable anyway?" She feels that if varying opinions are not expressed, it will be like saying "yes" to racism.

The festival aims to uncover these different opinions by confronting them with knowledge about various ethnic groups, rather than merely continuing to sweep these issues under the proverbial rug.

This week is chosen for the festival to coincide with the United Nations International Day to eliminate racism on March 21st. By celebrating unity, as well as diversity, through cultural performances, food, drama, dance and artwork, the festival hopes to create an awareness of the numerous cultures on campus.

Everyone is welcome to attend closing ceremonies, followed by a celebratory party and dance, on Friday, March 19th. "In order for the festival to be a success, we need interested people to participate," said Christopher. "But even if we touch just one person, we've done our job."



### Schedule of Events

#### THURSDAY

**SUB LOBBY**  
11:30 am to 12:30 pm  
Live Jazz

2:30 pm to 5:30 pm  
Armenian Students Display

**EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS**  
1:30 pm to 3:00 pm  
"I'm not prejudiced am I?"  
Room 224/226

5:00 pm to 7:30 pm  
"Unity and Diversity"  
Room 224/226

7:30 pm to 9:00 pm  
Twin Odyssey: The Aboriginal and Black Experience in Nova Scotia  
Room 224/226

**THE CHALLENGE OF UNITY IN DIVERSITY**  
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
Drama/Workshop/Singing  
Refreshments to be served  
Room 224/226

#### SPANISH NIGHT

8:00 pm  
Entertainment: Samba Nova  
Food, Entertainment, Dance  
Demo  
Green Room

#### FRIDAY

**SUB LOBBY**  
11:30 am to 12:30 pm  
Live Entertainment  
A dramatic piece by Anne-Marie Woods

**EDUCATIONAL WORKSHOPS**  
8:00 pm to 7:30 pm  
Dr. Leone Bass  
Beth Isreal Synagogue

**CULTURAL FASHION SHOW**  
5:30 pm to 7:30 pm  
"A display of different fashions from faraway lands and cultures."  
Grawood

**CLOSING CEREMONY AND CELEBRATION PARTY**  
D.J. and Food provided  
Green Room

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