

# UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

# DIVERSITY

## LECTURE SERIES

FALL 2010  
SPIRITUALITY  
& HEALING

## SEPTEMBER



### CULTURAL COLLISIONS

Comedy/Spoken Word with Joe Hernandez-Kolski

Welcome Back Week Event for all First-Year Students

Sunday, September 12 • 6:30–7:45 and 8:00–9:15 p.m.

Multipurpose Rooms, Campus Center, Biddeford Campus

A two-time HBO Def Poet, Joe Hernández-Kolski is an actor/writer committed to creating work that challenges the audience while making them laugh. In Cultural Collisions “Pocho Joe” uses spoken word poetry and comedy to explore the changing face of America. He pokes fun at his own ethnicity, our pop culture, politics, and himself as a male feminist. His blend of comedy, social commentary and personal stories attracts fans from all different backgrounds. Dr. Cornel West of Princeton University (Joe’s alma mater) says, “Joe’s work offers a fresh perspective that is both honest and insightful.” Born and raised in Chicago, Joe now resides in Los Angeles where he works as an artist and teaches Hip-Hop Culture and Spoken Word Workshops to youth.



### THE SPIRIT OF UNE: Religious & Spiritual Life on Campus

Monday, September 13 • 4:30-7:30 p.m.

Café Function Rooms, Decary Cafeteria, Biddeford Campus

### PRESENTATIONS:

“Big Questions–Worthy Dreams” Shirley Bowen, Diocese of Maine 4:30–5:15 p.m.

“Islamic Eid ul-Fitr Ramadan Celebration” UNE Muslim Student Association 5:30–6:00

“Jewish High Holidays” Rachel Shapiro, Southern Maine Hillel 6:30–7:00 p.m.

“Closing: Harmonious Crystal Bowl Sound Healing” Rachel Shapiro 7:00–7:15

The Interfaith Spirituality program will also provide information on local resources and feature representatives from area churches and synagogues as well as other religious/faith/spirituality support services in Southern Maine. Enjoy special Rosh Hashanah and Eid foods.



### GLOBAL UNITY THROUGH GLOBAL DIVERSITY

Presentation by Billy Mills, Olympic Champion

Wednesday, September 29 • 7:00 p.m.

Multipurpose Rooms, Campus Center, Biddeford Campus

Billy Mills, a Native American (Oglala Lakota (Sioux)), was a virtual unknown when he became the first and only American to win the Gold Medal in the 10,000 m in the 1964 Olympics on the U.S. Track and Field Team. Mr. Mills will share his powerful journey, weaving stories of his young life as an orphaned child living in poverty while encountering the ignorance of racism, to his enormous success a world class athlete. Billy Mills was inducted into the United States Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1976, and the U.S. Olympic Hall of Fame in 1984. He is the subject of the 1984 film “Running Brave”, starring Robby Benson. Mills also serves as the spokesperson for Running Strong for American Indian Youth, an organization that helps support projects that benefit the Native Americans, especially youth. He also co-wrote “Wokini” with Nicholas Sparks, which is now titled, “Lessons of a Lakota”.

Co-sponsors: Applied Exercise Science Club, Athletic Training Club, Health & Wellness, and Multicultural Affairs

## OCTOBER

### THE SCALPEL AND THE SILVER BEAR: The First Navajo Woman Surgeon Combines Western Medicine and Traditional Healing

Presentation by Lori Arviso Alvord, M.D.

Wednesday, October 6 • 12:00 p.m.

WCHP Lecture Hall, Portland Campsus

Inter-professional Education Collaboration

Lori Arviso Alvord, M.D., is half Navajo and grew up on the edge of a Navajo reservation in New Mexico. Dr. Alvord will discuss her path to integrating high-tech medical procedures and modern medicine with the traditional Navajo healing principles and a philosophy of balance and harmony known as “Walking in Beauty.” Dr. Alvord went to Dartmouth University on a scholarship, and then medical school at Stanford University. When she returned to New Mexico to practice medicine at the Gallup Indian Medical Center, she soon realized that her patients were frightened of her manner and technical ability and that she needed to merge her state-of-the-art skills with her traditional culture. In the process of becoming a “white man’s doctor,” Alvord discovered that among the indigenous customs her medical training forced her to ignore were valuable healing practices that are sorely needed in allopathic medicine.



### OUT OF THE DEPTHS: Presentation by Native Elder Isabelle Knockwood A personal account of a residential school experience and the effects of Prime Minister Stephen Harper’s apology many years later.

Tuesday, October 12 • 12:00 p.m.

St Francis Room, Library, Biddeford Campus

Isabelle Knockwood, a revered tribal elder of the Mi’kmaq Nation, will deliver the Maine Women Writer’s Collection annual Donna M. Loring Lecture. From the late 1800s through well into the 20th century, First Nations children in Canada (like those in the U.S.) were forced or coerced into attending residential schools, whose purpose was to eradicate indigenous culture. The myriad abuses perpetrated at these bleak institutions were only acknowledged in 2008, when Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper issued an official apology to the residential school survivors on behalf of Canada and all Canadians. Ms. Knockwood, who attended the Indian Residential School in Shubenacadie, Nova Scotia, from 1936 to 1947, and is author of Out of the Depths will take the audience on a guided tour through the experience of residential schooling. The focus of her presentation will be on the question of how Stephen Harper’s apology affected the survivors of the Shubenacadie residential school.

### GAY & CHRISTIAN? The Intersection of LGBT and Christian Cultures

Tuesday, October 19 • 12:00 p.m.

St. Francis Room, Biddeford Campus

As part of UNE’s annual Coming Out Week events, Joel Wentz, professional staff in the UNE Department of Housing & Education, will discuss his graduate research study on how gay and lesbian college students establish their identities while enrolled in private, Christian universities. Results from his research will be highlighted, followed by Q & A and an interactive discussion regarding how LGBT and Christian cultures interact in our society. The speaker recently graduated with his M.A. in Student Affairs at Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana, and has presented on this topic at both the NASPA and ACSD national conferences, as well as various church communities.

### ISLAMIC FAITH & HEALING IN SOMALI CULTURE

Wednesday, October 27 • 12:00 p.m.

WCHP Lecture Hall, Portland Campus

Interprofessional Education Collaboration

Khadija Guled, a social worker and case manager with the Refugee & Immigrant Case Management program at Community Counseling Center in Portland, Fatuma Hussein, founder of the United Somali Women of Maine in Lewiston, and Mahmoud Hassan, Somali Community Specialist at the Portland Public Schools Multicultural & Multilingual Office, will discuss cultural barriers to healthcare in the Greater Portland Somali community as well as the principles of spiritual healing in Islam.

## NOVEMBER

### DIWALI: Festival of Lights

Featuring classical Indian Dance & Indian Photography Exhibit

Monday, November 8 • 12:00 p.m.

Multipurpose Rooms, Campus Center, Biddeford Campus

Diwali, also popularly known as the Festival of Lights, is an important 5-day festival in Hinduism, Sikhism and Jainism, signifying the triumph of good over evil. This program, facilitated by Indhra Rajashekar, founder and artistic director of the Eastern Cultural Heritage Organization (ECHO), will discuss the importance of the holiday and spirituality in Indian classical dance and music. Join UNE students of Indian descent in celebrating Diwali with music and dance performances, photography, food and a brief presentation about the holiday.



### NEW FACES OF AMERICA

Multicultural Theatrical/Multimedia Presentation

Wednesday, November 3 • 12:00 p.m.

Ludcke Auditorium, Portland Campus

Inter-professional Education Collaborative

The New Faces of America is the second in a series of nationally acclaimed, one-woman shows that uses a contemporary multimedia/storytelling format to present current diversity and social issues. The performance presents characters (taken from real interviews) of seven incredibly different backgrounds. The show examines issues that are currently happening to people all across America, and is presented in a unique theatrical/multimedia format. Faces offers a truly multicultural portrayal of Americans and “edu-tainment” at its best. Faces tells the stories of: A Female Bi-racial College Student, A Southern Gay Minister, A Young Female Veteran from the Iraq War, A Native American Teenager, A Young Migrant Worker, An Appalachian College Student, and A Deaf African-American. The presentation will be followed by a post-show discussion.

## DECEMBER

### WINTER SOLSTICE: Celebration of Light Labyrinth Walk

Thursday, December 9 • 11–4 p.m. Finley Fitness Center, Portland Campus

Wednesday, December 15 • 4–8 p.m. St. Francis Room, Biddeford Campus

In conjunction with Stress Relief Week events.

Solstice means standing still sun. The winter solstice marks the shortest day and the longest night of the year. The sun appears at its lowest point in the sky. Following the winter solstice, the days begin to grow longer and the nights shorter. A labyrinth is an ancient symbol that relates to wholeness. It combines the imagery of the circle and the spiral into a meandering but purposeful path. The Labyrinth represents a journey to our own center and back again out into the world. Labyrinths have been an important part of many cultures spiritually for thousands of years and have long been used as meditation and prayer tools. Join Multicultural Affairs, Health and Wellness and Counseling Services for a quiet, meditative “celebration of light” during the busy end-of-semester/holiday season.

**All programs are free and open to the UNE community and public**

The UNE Diversity Lecture Series is sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs & Diversity Programs in collaboration with UNE students, faculty and staff. For more information, contact dgaspar@une.edu or (207) 602-2461.

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