

## Division of Student Affairs

The APEX/Athletics  
 Career Services Center  
 Child Care Center  
 Counseling Center  
 International Student Services  
 Office of Campus Life  
 Office of Community Engagement and New Student Programs  
 Office of Financial Aid  
 Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs  
 Peer Educator Program  
 Student Disability Services  
 Student Health Center  
 Urban Male Leadership Collective  
 Veterans/Military Affairs

## Sign Up for Spring Intramurals Season

Basketball and soccer Intramurals games will be played on Tues., Wed., Thurs. afternoons—starting April 16. To register, email [christopher.gonzales@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:christopher.gonzales@lehman.cuny.edu).

Co-ed basketball and indoor soccer leagues are forming, and all members of the College community are welcome to participate. Register with Chris by Mon., April 15. The basketball league is 3-on-3 and for soccer it's 6-vs-6. Sign up as an individual, or as a complete team. And yes—you can play both indoor soccer and basketball.



## Reel Abilities Film Festival Debuts at Lehman

The compelling story of a blind woman who wants a child, one man's dream to climb a mountain and an actor's hilarious tale of a Broadway audition were among the award-winning films presented at the first New York Disability Film Festival held in March at Lehman College. Partnering with ReelAbilities.org, the Office of Student Disability Services hosted the two-day event to promote awareness and appreciation of the lives, stories and artistic expressions of people with different abilities. The films challenged the way people with disabilities, America's largest minority, are often perceived. The films were followed by a discussion and Q&A session.

"We got a tremendous response," says Office Director Merrill Parra. "We could see that, through film, we can help change people's attitudes—and we hope to make this an annual event." Lehman is the only CUNY College to serve as a ReelAbilities venue partner, and this was the first time the festival was hosted by college in the Bronx.

Over two evenings, three feature films and six short subjects explored a wide spectrum of disabilities and topics. The program drew interest from faculty, staff, students and the college community.

Among the filmmakers present to discuss their work were Roberto Perez Toledo, director of *Six Points of Emma*. He traveled to New York from Spain to talk about the challenges he encountered filming in the Canary Islands. The Belgium film, *Come as You Are*, the European Film Awards "People's Choice" chronicled the journey of three young men as they move into adulthood.



The Film Festival audience was captivated by Steven Wampler (above, with Director Merrill Parra). The film "Wampler's Ascent" follows his five-day journey climbing El Capitan mountain. Wampler was born with cerebral palsy and has the use of one arm.



David Block's charming documentary, "Dancing Outside the Box," is about wheelchair ballroom dancing. The filmmaker, who is visually impaired, was accompanied at the Film Festival by his lead actor, Ray Leight, a wheelchair user. When they were asked about techniques used to teach wheelchair ballroom dancing, Leight invited an audience member to join him in a spontaneous demonstration. In the photo (seated, l-r) are Leight, Block and actor Mary Archebold with Dean John Holloway and Director Parra.

# Consciousness Raising at Albany Conference

By Michael Bell

**W**ith high spirits and great expectations, six Lehman student leaders boarded a bus for an eye-opening weekend at the CUNY Black, Puerto Rican, Hispanic, and Asian Legislative Caucus Conference in Albany.

The event recognizes students who were assigned to the district offices of State legislators in the Caucus. A variety of forums were presented to raise awareness on issues that affect New Yorkers.

"It was inspiring to gain understanding of important issues," said Acharo Smith, a dance major at Lehman who attended the forums. "I was very glad to see people fighting for causes and especially the cause of keeping the arts alive and well in our schools."

Jennifer Esteves, a Lehman freshman in political science, said she was happy to meet Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández at the CUNY reception.



*Caucus Conference students with the Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Frank Sanchez, Lehman President Ricardo R. Fernández, and Director of Corporate and Foundation Relations Paulette Zalduondo Henriquez.*

"I learned a lot from listening and observing what my peers and the panel members had to share," she said.

"What really struck me was the Central Park 5 forum," said David Tavarez, a business administration major. "It opened my eyes to how much needs to be done in our justice system before we can say something like this will not happen again. I

spoke to one of the victims, and nothing can give him back the years when he was wrongfully imprisoned."

Acharo Smith echoed this sentiment. "I felt empowered when I left Albany," he said, "like I can change the world in an area I'm passionate about."

Back at Lehman after attending the conference, student representatives are encouraging their fellow students to

examine important issues that affect New York State and find ways to improve services—at CUNY and in our communities.

*—The author, a sophomore in African and African American Studies, is active in the Student Government Association and Urban Male Leadership Program. He completed tracks 1 and 2 at the Herbert H Lehman Center for Student Leadership Development.*

## 'Take Back the Night' Event April 24 Has New Logo

**T**ake Back the Night (TBTN) is an annual event held on college campuses and rape crisis centers worldwide to shed light to the unacceptable prevalence and personal consequences of sexual assault, interpersonal violence, and sexual abuse. Every April, Lehman hosts its TBTN event, and this year it is scheduled for April 24.

Offices from Student Affairs, including the Counseling Center, work with student groups and other organizations to help make this important event come to life.

To that end, the Division of Student Affairs and Office of Student Life sponsored a contest to select a new logo for Lehman's Take Back The Night event.

After reviewing many excellent submissions, the TBTN Committee, chaired by counselor Nicole Madonna Rosario, selected the work of Student Government Association President Rafael Abbondanza.

Abbondanza's logo will be featured on TBTN flyers, tote bags, and other media advertising for the event. Again this year, the program will include survivor stories, a political discussion, theatrical performances, a candlelight march/vigil and a "speak out."

We hope to see everyone at the Lovinger Theater on Wednesday, April 24 from 5-8 pm!



# May 14 Event to Celebrate Students Volunteers

When Lehman students do volunteer work, they're giving of themselves to the community—and the most important factor in keeping that spirit of giving alive and well is to recognize volunteers for their contributions, dedication, and hard work.

Each semester, Lehman students volunteer for a multitude of services through the Office of Community Engagement and New Student Programs. They help deliver gifts to senior citizens, feed the hungry, raise awareness of domestic violence, and participate in community beautification efforts such as planting trees in Bronx parks. Students volunteer nationally and internationally as well as locally throughout the year.

Civic Engagement Recognition Day will be held in the Faculty Dining Room on Wed., May 15 from 4 to 6 pm. Volunteers who have given more than 20 hours of service and who continuously work to develop their sense of global citizenship will be honored. This will also be the inaugural day of the President's Service Corps members.

This year's Community Partner of the year and Community Member of the year will also be announced at the ceremony

"Recognition is motivation and we want all volunteers to realize that they



*Among the Lehman L.I.F.E. students who were honored at the 2012 Civic Engagement Recognition Day are the volunteers, above, who worked with migrant farmworkers and undocumented youth in Apopka, Florida during last year's Alternative Spring Break. This year students volunteers worked during the break in Chicago, Staten Island, Puerto Rico, and Kenya.*

are valued individually," says Office of Community Engagement Director Amanda Dubois. "While we know many of our volunteers, some students give of their time in ways that we are unaware of. If you know of any Lehman students who have volunteered for more than 20

hours of service for the 2012-2013 academic year—and you would like to see them recognized for their civic commitment—please contact our office so that we can properly track and record their hours. Email [amanda.dubois@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:amanda.dubois@lehman.cuny.edu).

## Calling All Lehman Entertainers! Uncle Sam Needs You

The Office of Veterans and Military Affairs is looking for "a few good men and women" who would like to volunteer some of their time to entertain veterans at the Bronx VA and service members at local military installations.

"We're looking for amateur or professional singers and comedians who are available to perform twice a year for Memorial Day and Veterans Day events," says Office Director Barbara Thompson.

This concept is based on the USO Tours model that started back in World War II with Bob Hope, in which celebrities—actors, singers, professional athletes and cheerleaders—traveled to military installations around the world

to entertain the troops. These tours continue to this day to bring "a little bit of home" to U.S. troops.

"Here at Lehman, we're so fortunate to have a wealth of talent in our student and employee population," Thompson says. "This is a way for the Lehman College community to say "thank you for your service" to these heroes who have enabled us to

live in the land of the free and the home of the brave."

All students and employees are welcome to join. If you are interested in being a member of this troupe, please let me know by email or phone: [barbara.thompson1@lehman.cuny.edu](mailto:barbara.thompson1@lehman.cuny.edu) and (718) 960-7188.



# Wellness Education and Promotion Program Is Expanding

By Audrey Manalang

Lehman's Wellness Education and Promotion Program, or "Well Ed," as we like to call it, is growing. In the past, we've been known for our workshops to FYI and SEEK students on a variety of health topics. We also participate in campus outreach programs such as Nutrition Day and AIDS Awareness Day.

But now we have expanded our program to include health education interns who are developing more events and programs to benefit the entire college community. For example, Juana Minaya, a Master's degree student in Health Education, is doing research on date rape to make us more aware of the effects that alcohol, marijuana, and other drugs can have on college students' success.

Juan Cruz, an undergraduate major in Health Education, has been revamping our Condom Use and Safer Sex workshop by integrating the latest HIV and STD information. Last but not least, Oumie Mahmud, also a Health Education major, will develop and implement a Nutrition Label Awareness workshop.

This new work builds on what we have done in the past, such as hosting the 5-A-Day Fruit and Vegetable



At the Well Ed Program's recent Sleep Awareness event: (l-r) Bipika Joshi, Joy Maraj, Juan Cruz, Oumie Mahmud, Audrey Manalang, Charity Obeney and Dugeidy Ortiz.

Challenge, the Pound the Pavement Pedometer Challenge, and the De-Stress for Finals events with hot chocolate (Fall semester) or frozen yogurt (Spring semester).

Most recently, in an outreach effort directed to all Lehman students, we are offering more opportunities to get to know us and the services we provide by giving out healthy refreshments and different modes of health-related entertainment.

We welcome volunteers to help us out with our events or to work with us in developing additional wellness programs that will benefit students. So come by the Old Gym, Room 116 whenever you're free, to meet the friendly faces of the Well Ed Program: Director Dugeidy Ortiz, Coordinator Audrey Manalang, Senior Peer Educator Joy Maraj and Peer Educators Bipika Joshi, Jeremy Guerra and Charity Obeney.

## Registered Dietitian Meghan Baron Joins Student Health Center

Good nutrition plays an increasingly integral role in the health and wellness of Americans of all ages. We need to be making smarter choices for ourselves and our families about ingredients and portion sizes—whether we're at home or at work, at the supermarket or eating out at a restaurant.

"Whether you want to reduce your cholesterol, control your blood pressure or blood sugar or just look better in your jeans," says Student Health Center Director Cindy Kreisberg, "a Registered Dietitian can give you healthy sound nutrition advice to reach your goals."

To that end, the Health Center now employs a registered dietitian, Meghan Baron, one day a week to give Lehman students an opportunity to have a one-



Meghan Baron

on-one consultation about their nutritional issues.

Baron received a B.S. degree in Nutritional Science from Rutgers University and her R.D. from the New York Institute of Technology. She is also certified in Adult Weight Management and a Food Safety Manager.

Students are initially seen for 30 minutes and have 15-minute follow-up visits. Baron will be at the Health Center from 10 am to 6 pm on April 9, 17 and May 1 and 8.

To make an appointment, call (718) 960-8900.