



# Whitman Today

Wednesday, September 29, 2021

## Division of Diversity and Inclusion Update



The Division of Diversity and Inclusion has been actively contributing to institutional efforts to advance diversity, equity and inclusion at Whitman College.

**International Student and Scholar Services** is supporting Whitman's largest-ever international student cohort, 177 students total, which includes 60 first-year students from 36 different countries.

**The Office of Religious and Spiritual Life** conducts regular weekly programs like the "Big Tent" gatherings to bring together community members who share a religious, non-religious, or spiritual identity.

**The Intercultural Center** continues to develop and grow the Inclusion Fellows Program, with several new fellows joining this year, as well as working on the support and development of our diversity clubs and affinity groups.

**The Division of Diversity and Inclusion** is working through the transition of the new Vice President for Diversity and Inclusion, Dr. John Johnson. In addition to getting to know campus community members and providing them with training and resources, the search is underway for two new staff members: a director of equity and compliance/Title IX coordinator and an executive assistant.

[Read the full report.](#)

## Volunteer in Walla Walla



Do you have time in your schedule that you could commit to volunteering alongside incredible Walla Walla community organizations? Last week's Walla Walla 102 event shared introductions to all the SEC Community Engagement volunteer programs, including the new Food Justice Project, Adopt A Grandparent, Bilingual United, the Buddy Program, Friends Mentor Program, Story Time Project, Whitman Teaches the Movement and Artful Connections. You can [learn more about the programs](#) and still join one or two by [submitting the universal application](#). For info on Artful Connections and the Food Justice Program, send an [email Abby Juhasz](mailto:email Abby Juhasz), assistant director for community engagement. Break out of the Whitman bubble and volunteer!

## Announcements

### Columbus/Indigenous Peoples' Day Discussion: Part 1 Video Available

If you missed Part 1 of the Indigenous Politics class discussion of the history and politics of Columbus Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day, you can [watch the recording online](#) and be ready to join them for Part 2 tomorrow at 10:15 a.m. [on Zoom](#).

## LIAISON PAIRS PROJECT

**BREAK INTO SUMMER**  
10.02.2021  
REID CAMPUS CENTER  
280 BOYER AVE

FACILITATED BY GUEST ARTIST  
TORANIKA WASHINGTON

**STUDENT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED**  
LEARN ABOUT HIP HOP  
BUILD COMMUNITY  
CONNECT

GET INVOLVED: [DEGRASPG@WHITMAN.EDU](mailto:DEGRASPG@WHITMAN.EDU)

### 5th Element Hip Hop Event Volunteer Opportunity: Liaison Pairs Project

Join Toranika Washington, CEO of Somatic Soul Food - Movement Consulting, leadership coach and choreographer, and the 5th Element Project team as they connect you with members of the Pacific Northwest Hip Hop community in advance of the [Break into Summer 2 v. 2 Bboy/Bgirl Crew Battle](#) at Reid Campus Center October 2.

On Friday night, October 1, volunteers will meet with a liaison partner, develop an action plan and prepare to hit the floor of the event on Saturday. Help get that social dynamic popping! Email Peter de Grasse [degraspg@whitman.edu](mailto:degraspg@whitman.edu) to sign up for the liaison pairs project or Saturday workshops and dance party.

## COVID-19 Case on Campus

*Positive COVID-19 cases in our campus community are noted in Whitman Today in compliance with state regulations. We also update the data in our [COVID-19 Dashboard](#) every Monday.*

In accordance with Washington state Labor & Industries employer requirements, we are notifying the campus community that in the past 24 hours, a person with Whitman access was confirmed positive for COVID-19. This person is now in isolation for 10 days in accordance with our campus and CDC guidelines. Though the likelihood of transmission is low due to our [campus COVID-19 protocols](#), it is possible that others may have been exposed to COVID-19. There is nothing you need to do at this time aside from following our campus COVID-19 protocols. Anyone identified through the contact tracing process as a close contact (within 6 ft. for at least 15 minutes over 24 hours) will be personally notified.

## Happening Today

- 4 p.m. [RSL Presents: Big Tent Gatherings \(Buddhism\)](#)  
*Inviting all Buddhist identifying students of Whitman College to the Glover Alston Center for new connections, conversation and ice cream sundaes!*
- 4:30 p.m. [Friends Program Training](#)  
*Mandatory training for people interested in the Friends Program, providing more information about volunteering and how to do so respectfully and responsibly.*
- 5 p.m. [Love Letter to Migizi](#)  
*ASWC invites students to this fundraiser for Camp Migizi, an Indigenous two spirit led collective of mostly queer anarchists who stand for Indigenous rights and BIPOC solidarity.*
- 6 p.m. [Environmental House Hosts Trivia Night](#)  
*Cookies, Kahoot Trivia, and a stuffed orca? Join in the fun of environmental justice and ecology-focused trivia about Walla Walla and abroad!*
- 7 p.m. [Heidegger's Hausfreund and the Re-enchantment of the Familiar](#)  
*Associate Professor of German Studies and Philosophy Julia Ireland will discuss philosopher Heidegger and poet Hebel, presenting an ethical alternative to how we might dwell in a world of devastation.*

Whitman Events Calendar

Have an event you'd like to share with campus? Submit the information to the [Events Calendar](#).

"Whitman Today" is produced by the Office of Communications and is emailed Monday through Friday to Whitman College staff, faculty and students. All times are listed in Pacific Daylight Time.

Submissions are welcome! If you have a professional or personal accomplishment to celebrate, an event to publicize or other content to share with the Whitman community, email [whitmantoday@whitman.edu](mailto:whitmantoday@whitman.edu). Submissions should be 125 words or less. The deadline for submissions is noon for the following day's newsletter, though submissions may be held for a later date according to space and editorial needs. By submitting to Whitman Today you also authorize use on Whitman's social media unless otherwise specified.

Previous issues of Whitman Today are [archived on our website](#).

