

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT

Weekly Newsletter

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YOUR First 8 Weeks

To help you stay focused and get connected, we've put together a guide to help you focus on what is important throughout the first half of the semester to set you up for success now and into the future. See below to find a guide to your SIXTH week!

Week 6: My Identity

Who are you and how do you define yourself?

For many students, the college experience – courses, coursework, new environments, and exposure to faculty, staff, and your fellow students - is an opportunity to explore and question various pieces of your personal identity and how you exist in this world. We encourage you to dive into those explorations, and think about what parts of your identity matter most to you.



College is a time to be exposed to new ideas and cultures, both in the classroom and from your peers. Your understanding of yourself, and the pieces of your identity that are most important to you, will continually change throughout your life as you experience new things. We hope you take advantage of different opportunities to explore your place in this world, not just this week but throughout your time at MassBay and throughout your life. This week there will be multiple workshops and events dedicated to exploring and discussing various aspects of our students' identities. Whether you hold those pieces of identity personally or not, each workshop is a chance to learn about yourself and the world you live in.

THIS WEEK YOU SHOULD FOCUS ON:

Attend events, check out resources and expose yourself to new ideas:

Disability Pride

- Disability Employment Awareness Month: Career IRL (In Real Life) **Oct 15 | 1:00 PM** | [Zoom Link](#)
- Check out this NY Times Article: [Disability Pride: The High Expectations of a New Generation](#): Members of the A.D.A. generation are quicker than earlier ones to claim disability as a crucial part of identity — and with pride. The A.D.A., after all, erased some of the stigma.
- Check out this Ted Talk: [I'm not your inspiration, thank you very much](#): Stella Young is a comedian and journalist who happens to go about her day in a wheelchair — a fact that doesn't, she'd like to make clear, automatically turn her into a noble inspiration to all humanity. In this very funny talk, Young breaks down society's habit of turning disabled people into "inspiration porn."

Come to Identity Week Trivia Night!



Tuesday, October 13 | 7:30pm

[Zoom Link](#)

Students of Color Program

Meet the new Students of Color coach!



Walgler (WaWa) Charles

Wawa was born in Haiti but grew up in Orlando, Florida. He recently graduated from Emmanuel College in Boston where he majored in Sociology with a concentration in Criminology.

During his senior year of college and after speaking with a few mentors, WaWa gained interest in the field of Higher Education.

Currently, he is enrolled in the Higher Education Master's program at Boston University. In WaWa's free time, he loves playing video games and is known as a 'sneakerhead', he loves collecting sneakers, although his sneaker collection consists of mostly Nike's and Jordan's!

Students of Color Program Together Tuesday Events:

- *A lot on your mind and only the beginning of the week?*
- *Want to connect with the other Students of Color?*
- *We have two Together Tuesdays to de-stress:*

October 20 & October 27 | 4:30 - 5:30 PM | [WEBEX LINK](#)

Hispanic Heritage Month

- Check out the [Library Guide](#) on Hispanic Heritage Month!
- [Latinx Affinity Group Panel at MassBay](#)

As part of the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month, we cordially invite you to join us for a virtual panel discussion presenting members of OLA (Opportunities for Latinx Advancement), who will share their perspectives, personal experiences, and successes as Latinos in this country.

Date: Thursday, October 15, 2020
Time: 3:00pm
[Webex Link](#)

Students Parenting During a Pandemic Support Group

Facilitated by Jessica Post, LICSW - MassBay Personal Counselor.

This is a 6 session group that will meet once a week on **Thursdays at 12pm** beginning on October 15, 2020.

Topics will include:

- Tips for supporting children during remote learning while you study.
- How to talk to your children amid the unpredictability
- Brainstorming ideas for safe holiday activities, including Halloween and Thanksgiving.
- Exploring ways to nurture SELF CARE, to recharge in this chaotic time.

Explore Career & Transfer Options

- **Career IRL: Humanities & Social Sciences Academy**
Get career ready! Find out how Career Services can support you in building your career plan and advancing your success.
Tuesday, October 13 | 12-1pm
[Link to Register](#)
- **Connecting for Success in a Digital World: Humanities & Social Sciences Academy**
Learn about LinkedIn and other tools that will help you establish a professional network and a positive digital footprint.
Wednesday, October 14 | 3-4pm
[Link to Register](#)
- **Career Panel: Humanities & Social Sciences Academy**
Meet professionals in industries related to your Academy. Panelists will share their career journeys, answer questions and provide an opportunity for you to hear about jobs and internships.
Thursday, October 15 | 11am-12pm
[Link to Register](#)
- **UMass Campuses Virtual Transfer Fair**
Thursday, October 15 | 2-4pm
[Link to Event Information](#)

National Coming Out Day is October 11th!

- The Library has created a subject guide for National Coming Out Day which has online resources, documentaries and films, and the history of National Coming Out Day for all students to explore.
 - [Link to Guide](#)
- Explore resources from the HRC and other organizations to help support you choose when, how, and if, to come out and live openly at home, at school, at work and in your community.
 - [HRC Resources for Coming Out](#)
 - [Matthew Shepard Foundation Resources for Coming Out](#)
- Check out this Series of Ted Talks Cn Coming Out and Sharing One's Authentic Self:
 - [Ted Talk Series](#)
- Join our Equality Alliance on campus, fill out the club interest form at www.massbay.edu/clubs to get connected!

International Lunch Hours

- For several years, the International Club has hosted a monthly International Lunch Hour on Friday afternoon to highlight our International students and learn more about the countries and cultures they grew up with. This semester the lunches will be a virtual cooking class with our international students. You will enjoy a LIVE, step-by-step presentation that will teach you how to prepare authentic Mexican guacamole, Lassi (Yogurt) drink from India, and many more! We'll provide you with the recipe list ahead of time so that you're prepared to get cooking the day of the presentation.
- Don't miss the opportunity to listen to other international students present their country, food, and culture. We are excited to be gathering together again in our global community.
 - **Mexico:** Friday, October 2, 2020 ([LINK](#))
 - **India:** Friday, November 13, 2020 ([LINK](#))
 - **Iran:** Friday, December 4, 2020 ([LINK](#))
 - **Australia:** Friday, February 5, 2021 ([LINK](#))
 - **Venezuela:** Friday, March 5, 2021 ([LINK](#))
 - **Italy:** Friday, April 2, 2021 ([LINK](#))
 - **Nepal:** Friday, May 7, 2021 ([LINK](#))

Continue your own explorations

Look for groups and organizations that will allow you to continue exploring new pieces of your identity.

Begin to Prepare for Midterms

October 26-30

One piece of identity you currently hold is *Student*.

- Make sure you are preparing for midterms next week by catching up on any missing assignments or readings.



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@massbaystudentengagement



MassBay Student Engagement