

Griot

Black/African American
Cultural Center

STARTING OFF THE YEAR THE RIGHT WAY

- WELCOMING STUDENTS WITH FREE FOOD FEATURING DJ NUNEZ
- CSU GATHERED THE UNIVERSITY FOR A SCHOOL WIDE EVENT
- UNC, POPSICLES, AND ROPE JUMPING
- RECEIVING RESOURCES AND FREE ICE CREAM



**Introducing the
new staff
Of 2016-17**



**Duan the
professional
meat griller?**



**CSU's large
crowd of
anticipation**

A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR



Another academic year is upon us. I am excited to see what this year holds...I am sure lifelong memories. Already this semester I have met so many students who are challenging the status quo, sharing bright ideas, and engaging in critical dialogue to make their college experience more well-rounded!

We, as a people, have been faced with so many adversities over the last couple of years, and I hope we can stand together and face those as a united front. We may not all agree all the time, but I believe respect, listening to understand and educating ourselves on the complexities of life is definitely a start in the right direction. Things that may look so obvious may not be so obvious!

Our office is not perfect and neither are we who work here, but we are here ready and willing to make a difference and be the change we want to see. I welcome you to join us or even challenge us, if you have not done so already! Another academic year whether it is your 1st or last, we are here together let's make it a record awarding one!

Bridgette Johnson

Ms. B

B.E.S.T

B/AACC EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

ALEYA JONES



**LEAD PEER
COORDINATOR**

4th year

Human Development and
Family Studies

“The only way to deal with
an unfree world is to be-
come so absolutely free that
your very existence is an act
of rebellion.” - Albert Camus

DAWNAE DENT



**LEAD PEER
COORDINATOR**

4th year

Human Development and
Family Studies

“Fear has two meanings:
'Forget Everything And
Run' or 'Face Everything
And Rise' - Zig Ziglar

ADRIAN JONES



PEER MENTOR

5th year

Social Work, Ethnic Studies
Minor

“In a world where you can
be anything, be yourself!”
- Etta Turner

JOEI ROBERTSON



PEER MENTOR

4th year

Animal Science

“If you can't fly then run, if
you can't run then walk, if
you can't walk then crawl, but
whatever you do, you have to
keep moving forward.”
-Martin Luther King Jr.

JHASMYNE COOPER-MOORE



PEER MENTOR

3rd year

Human Development and
Family Studies

“I have a birth mark shaped
like a burrito, or a bandaid
depending on how you look
at it.”

ZELLE MOORE



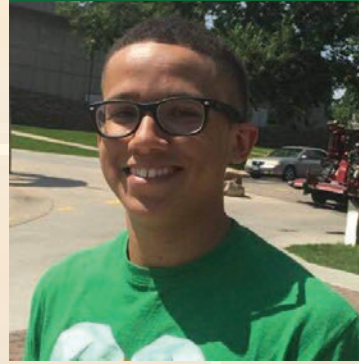
PEER MENTOR

3rd year

Social Work, Women's
Studies Minor

“You'll find that life is still
worthwhile, if you just
smile.” - Charlie Chaplin

VANCE PAYNE



PEER COORDINATOR

3rd year

Mechanical Engineering

“Don't quit. Suffer now and
live the rest of your life as a
champion” - Mohammed Ali

ARISSON STANFIELD



**PEER MENTOR/
COORDINATOR**

3rd year

Philosophy of Religion &
Counseling Psychology

“Hoping to escape suffer-
ing, it is to suffering that
they run. In the desire for
happiness, out of delusion,
they destroy their own
happiness, like an enemy.”
-Santideva

B.E.S.T

B/AACC EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

ADIAM TESFAELASSIE



PEER MENTOR

3rd year

Economics & Sociology

“Promote what you love instead of bashing what you hate.” - Unknown

SELAM TEWAHADE



PEER MENTOR

3rd year

Health and Exercise Science & Applied Computing Technology

“Happiness is a choice”.
-Valerie Bertinelli

TRICIA ALEXANDER



PEER MENTOR /
INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ASSISTANT

2nd year

Nutrition and Food Science, Dietetics Concentration

“Dipped in chocolate, bronzed in elegance, enameled with grace, toasted with beauty. My Lord, she’s a black woman”. - Yosef A.A. Ben-Jochannan

YASMINE AMON



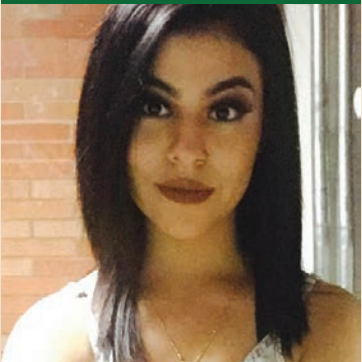
GRIOT EDITOR

2nd year

Apparel and Merchandising

“Sometimes God pushes us to our limits. It’s because he has greater faith in us than we have in ourselves”.
-Unknown

BRITHANY GUTIERREZ



INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY ASSISTANT

2nd year

Ethnic Studies

“Don’t burn yourself keeping others warm”. - Unknown

ALLY JOHNSON



PEER MENTOR

2nd year

Psychology

“It’s not who you are that holds you back, it’s what you think you are not”.
-Denis Waitley

JORDAN LOGAN



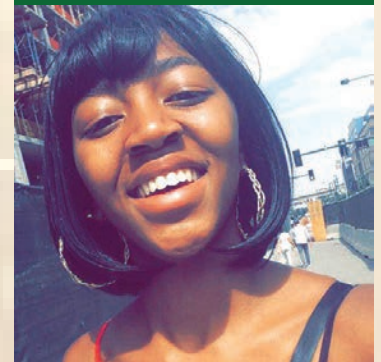
PEER COORDINATOR

2nd year

Communications

“Real G’s move in silence like lasagna” - Lil Wayne

RATU MARUTLE



PEER COORDINATOR

2nd year

Chemistry

“I love to solve Sudoku puzzles.”

B.E.S.T

B/AACC EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT TEAM

TINA NGUYEN



GRAPHIC DESIGNER

2nd year

Fine Arts

“I carry around blending brushes for those who approach me with unblended eyeshadow. I like to help people.”

AHONSI OHIMAI



PEER COORDINATOR

2nd year

Biological Sciences

“Do you know who I am? I don't know how to put this, but I'm kind of a big deal. People know me”. –Ron Burgundy, Anchorman: The legend of Ron Burgundy

SAMETRA WOODS



PEER COORDINATOR

2nd year

Political Science

“Our lives are defined by opportunities, even the ones we miss.” –Benjamin Button

Septemeber / October

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						17 SPDS TAILGATE
18	19	20	21	22	23 R.O.P. RETREAT	24 R.O.P. RETREAT
25 R.O.P. RETREAT	26	27	28	29	30	OCT 1ST
2 HOMECOMING PAGEANT	3	4	5 R.O.P. SKATE NIGHT	6	7 (HOMECOMING PARADE) B/AACC 40TH ANNIVERSERY	8 CSU HOMECOMING B/AACC 40TH ANNIVERSERY
9 CSU HOMECOMING B/AACC 40TH ANNIVERSERY	10	11	12	13	14	15



WELCOME B/AACC BBQ

*Written by: Yasmine Amon
Photos taken by: Yasmine Amon and Tina Nguyen*

The Welcome B/AACC BBQ was a fantastic time filled with good food, laughter, old friends and new faces. Despite the recent weather of cloudy days and drizzling rain, we still managed to have an amazing time once the sun came out! Not only did we enjoy juicy burgers and the famous beans from our Director

Mrs. Bridgette, but we enjoyed the strolls performed by the beautiful members of the Delta Xi Nu Multicultural Sorority, Inc. and the energetic members of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. While some attendees engaged in activities such as volleyball and football, others watched or participated in dance offs. First year students were able to meet and mingle with others while former students were reunited with each other. African American and Black culture was expressed through the students associated with Black Student Alliance, Africans United and United Women of Color, who proudly wore their shirts in support of their respected organizations. The members of United Men of Color gave a shout out with the well-known call and response, “UMC” “We All We Got!” Our Assistant Director, Duan, displayed his heritage by wearing a Kenyan Dashiki. Regardless of what you wore, did or ate, we all hope you had an enjoyable time! We wish you all, students, faculty and staff the best of luck this academic year.



RAM FEST



This year, Ram Fest was headlined by The Head and the Heart, which is an Indie Folk Band from Seattle, Washington and our two opening acts were performed by R City and Colman Hell. The event was held on the intramural fields, right outside the Rec Center and as soon as the doors opened, people rushed to the stage to be front and center. Students as well as community members, staff, family members and young children enjoyed the music and the food provided by local food truck companies. As an Event Programmer for Ram Events, I saw everything from a different point of view. Being backstage, I was able to see how much fun everyone was having which made the hard work pay off and it was especially great to see the concert so close up! The concert overall was a huge success thanks to our many volunteers who came and

helped us on the day of the event, and the previous days which made setting up a lot easier and quicker. Ram Events is an event programming board by the students, for the students here at Colorado State. Ram Fest can be multiple different events, but for the past few years it has been a series of concerts. The main reason for Ram Fest is to bring the CSU community together. This is an opportunity to meet new people from and around campus and create new relationships. It allows students to have fun at a concert that is

close and at a lower cost and the best thing is that we were able to get a very popular group to perform, as they were sold out at Red Rocks that following Sunday. Overall, the concert was a success and I was very grateful to be a part of such an amazing opportunity!

WRITTEN BY: ALLY JOHNSON
PHOTOS TAKEN BY: HANNAH PLAYER



United Women of Color is an organization at Colorado State University, that is meant to serve underrepresented women of color, but welcomes all women. We, as UWC, push to be a voice for all of the phenomenal women on campus that may feel silenced and unheard on a daily basis by maintaining a space that encourages dialogue and open discussions. Our organization focuses on giving space for a woman to truly express who she is and know that she will be supported and empowered through that process. We also plan events to educate others on campus and the surrounding community, as well as engaging in bonding activities and events among fellow members. At the beginning of each semester, we host an open



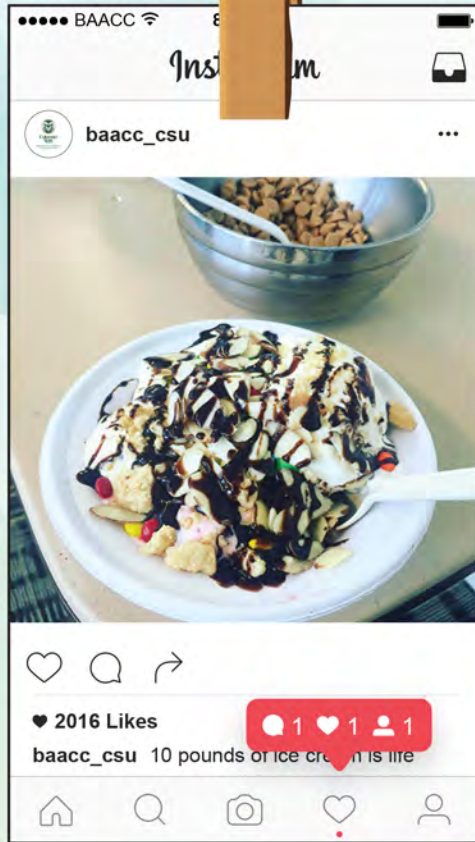
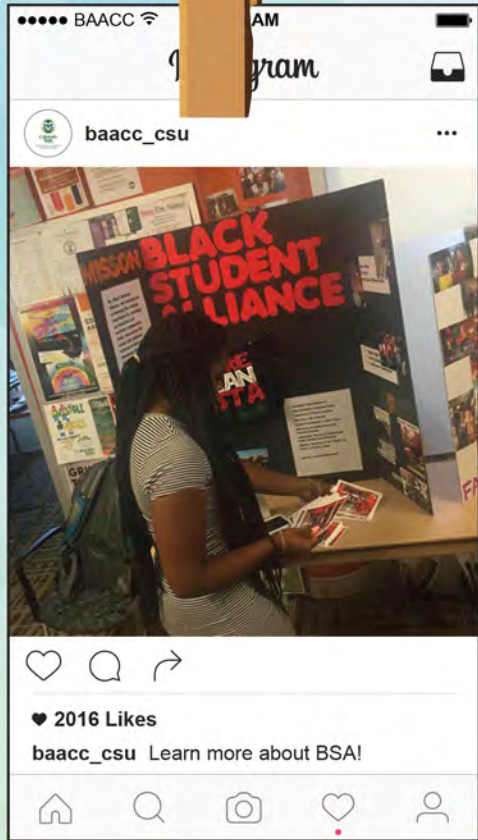
UNITED WOMEN OF COLOR POPSICLE SOCIAL

*UWC, Phenomenal Woman That's Me
Written by: Jhusmyne Cooper-Moore*

house event to welcome students back to campus and inform them of who UWC is, and our purpose. This year's open house took place on August 30th on the plaza as a Popsicle Social with music, dancing, games, double Dutch, and of course popsicles! The atmosphere was filled with good vibes, positivity, and fun as those in attendance gathered in the community to have a good time.

All in all, the Popsicle Social was a very successful opening event as we gained the interest of some new and amazing women on campus. United Women of Color will host weekly meetings every Tuesday from 5:15-6:15pm. This semester is looking to be a bright and bold one filled with new adventures, experiences, connections, and yet another opportunity to be phenomenal.





ICE CREAM SOCIAL AND RESOURCE FAIR

at the opportunity to meet new students and build relationships. The space was illuminated by the smiles of all those present. People from all walks of life, some of whom had never been to the B/AACC office, were mingling and learning to enjoy the presence of those who they just met. The Ice Cream social was not only a Student Resource Fair but, also many of the tables were occupied by the student organizations that run out of the B/AACC office. Students were able to become acquainted with one another and come together because of the appreciation of values and not simply because of their common choice in academic institutions. From Colors, which examines the complex and vibrant interplay of gender, sexuality, race, and identity to Africans United which works to develop a unique community of African cultures and backgrounds; curious students were given a space to explore interests, that may not be academic in nature, but may be core to their very sense of being. The Ice Cream Social was special because it distilled potently the few ingredients necessary for a strong community: opportunity, vulnerability, a common goal, and just a little bit of sugar.

Written by: Ratu Marutle
Photos taken by: Ivan Hubbard

The Black/African American Cultural Center brought in a new energy for the first day of September with the eventful Ice Cream Social. Most of the campus' resource centers were present and ec-