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# THE BUTLER CENTER NEWSLETTER

## THROUGH THE ARCHIVE: A LOOK BACK AT THE BUTLER CENTER THROUGH THE YEARS.



I recently had the pleasure of organizing the Butler Center's photo archives from 2023-2014. As someone who's been with CC for two years and the Butler Center for a mere six months, the experience was enlightening. Beyond that, as a former history major, I know that archives are important because they speak not only to our past, but to the things we value enough to preserve and the image we want to present to the world.

To this end, I thought I would share a snippet of our archive with you - exploring what it says about who we are, where we've been, and where we hope to go!

First, we see what you might expect from the Butler Center if you've attended one of our events or heard about us in passing: good food, big smiles, and lots of fun. We know two things to be true - first, good food builds community and brings people together, and second doing ADEI work or even just existing as someone with a marginalized identity can be draining which makes time for celebration and fun vital. Whether it's karaoke nights, herritage day events, or international dinners, celebration remains a key tenet of our motto "educate, advocate, celebrate!"

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Second, what jumped out to me was the community that makes TBC work. In our archive we see so many familiar faces that continue to play vital roles in supporting our students and the work we do. Many familiar faces stood out to me - from Naomi Rene Trujillo helping with our Pride booth, to Chaplin Kate Holbrook helping with our Feria Latina event, to our biggest cheerleader, Rosalie Rodriguez, offering her constant support! There are just a few examples of how we've been supported by the commitment of our CC community over the years and we're so gratful that we've been able to sustain and grow these realtionships and partnerships. It's vital to recognize that many people outside the Butler Center are just as passionate about ADEI work and supporting our affinity based students! That shared passion has greatly contributed to the success of this office.

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Finally, we know that ADEI work isn't always smiles and laughs. Our students engage in the hard work of education and advocacy - speaking up for their own selves and identities as well as for all affinity based and underprivileged communities. Pictures of our students from the Black Lives Matter protests are a particularly poignant reminder that our work here is never done. The battle to secure universal rights and equity, as well as to promote ADEI education, is ongoing and will always be at the forefront of our work. The hard work must continue.

Reflecting on our past can help remind us of what we stand for and who we want to be in the future. We strive to be a place that students can celebrate themselves, their identities, and their communities, a place where people can come to learn about ADEI and bettering their own antiracist practices, and a place where we can protect marginalized students and advocate for the expansion of rights, acceptance, and equity.

## **STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**



## Nina Antonio

She/Her - International Political Economy Major and Education Minor

#### What do you do at the Butler Center?

The International Student Engagement Program (ISEP) at the Butler Center aims to help international students assimilate to this new environment while also making sure to appreciate and celebrate the various countries that each student comes from. With this goal in mind, as an International Student Peer Mentor, I work with my teammates Latra Demaci, Cerella Zhao, and of course our wonderful advisor Christian Gonzalez to organize events for the international student community and collaborate with other students/staff to enhance the overall sense of belonging at CC.

#### What are you studying and what do you want to do after CC?

I am studying IPE, but I ultimately want to become a teacher, which is why I'm minoring in Education. Directly after graduating from CC, I hope to get a Master's in Education, hopefully pertaining to administration or education policy. All of this work will hopefully culminate into developing better education, housing, and welfare for the Philippines, where I was born.

#### What is one interest you have outside of school?

An interest that I have outside of school is singing. In the Philippines, singing was a natural part of my life – in church, at parties, or just at home with my sister. It has constantly brought people together throughout my life. Singing often reminds me of times with my family, so I think I truly started to appreciate it after I left home for college. I appreciate the artistry and vulnerability that goes into writing and singing songs, which I think is why it's been and will always be such a big part of my life.

## **STUDENT SPOTLIGHT CONTINUED**

#### Nina Antonio

## She/Her International Political Economy Major and Education Minor

#### What does ADEI work mean to you or why did you get into this?

To me, ADEI work means constantly teaching, learning from, and uplifting one another. Fostering a diverse, open, and equity-focused community is one step towards ADEI, but having an environment that people from all backgrounds can learn from one another is truly the end goal. In addition to being a peer mentor at the Butler Center, I'm also a cochair of Asian Student Union. Taking on both roles was and is a priority for me because of how important the organizations are to our campus. To me, it's not about getting everything right or understanding someone's perspective straight away, but the effort that's put into becoming aware and celebrating others' ideas. But to be completely honest, my definition of ADEI is always evolving. I think it's an ever changing subject and my idea of it is still developing as I learn more about myself and about others.

#### What is one cause you're passionate about?

A cause that I'm passionate about, which I briefly mentioned earlier, is housing in the Philippines. The stark contrast between the rich and the poor in the Philippines is something that I've seen since I was very young. As I grew older I joined an organization called Gawad Kalinga whose mission is to alleviate poverty in the Philippines by building villages, fostering communities, and creating sustainable livelihoods for impoverished Filipinos. What I love most about the organization is that they make long-term change – in November of 2018, we were able to break ground on a village in Dalaguete, Cebu, giving over 20 families a new village to live in and a community to serve. The village continues to flourish despite facing hardships such as Covid-19 and lack of government assistance, and I was able to visit the families last summer. Being able to see the village and the kids grow throughout the years has been such an honor and a driving force for my education here at CC. As I stated earlier, I hope to further develop the village as well as many more villages with the information and experiences that I gain here at CC.

#### What is one fun fact people might not expect about you?

I've played a sport called touch rugby since I was 10 years old, so that makes this year my 11th year of playing!

## **EVENT SPOTLIGHT**

ADEI TEAM, BUTLER CENTER & SOCIOLOGY PRESENT:

# The Antiracism Book Club Author Talk: Joel Sati, JD, Ph.D



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PSST... If you haven't picked up your FREE copy of *We are not Dreamers* there is still time to get it from the bookstore!

### THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1, 2024 12:30PM-2PM GATES COMMON ROOM - PALMER HALL LUNCH PROVIDED

Joel Sati, J.D, Ph.D, is an Assistant Law Professor at the University of Oregon School of Law. Professor Sati's research and teaching interests are in Criminal Law, Immigration Law, Crimmigration, Privacy Law, and Jurisprudence.

Professor Sati was born in Nairobi, Kenya, and has lived in the United States since 2002. He is an undocumented immigrant himself and has been an immigrant rights activist since 2012, working on campaigns at the federal level and across various states. He is one of authors of *We Are Not Dreamers* and will be discussing his chapter and research.

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **T-TIME PRESENTS:**

# ROLLERSKATE

### **NIGHT!** FRIDAY, JAN 26

MEET OUTSIDE WORNER PICK UP AT 8:30PM DEPARTURE AT 8:45

#### ВАСК ВУ 11РМ

Join T-time for a night of rollerskating at Skate City on Academy!

Food and drink tickets and rentals will be provided. \*\*For trans, nonbinary, genderqueer and questioning students.

**RSVP HERE!** 

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING T-TIME EVENT FOR TRANS, NONBINARY, GENDERQUEER, AND QUESTIONING STUDENTS

#### QUEER AND TRANS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS:

# THRIFT N' DINE DINNER PARTY

COME THRIFTING WITH OTHER QUEER AND TRANS STUDENTS AND HAVE A LOVELY DINNER AFTERWARD!\*





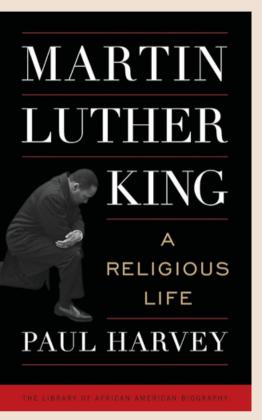
Meet outside Worner Pick up at 1pm Back by 5pm



\*Food will be paid for and everyone will be given a stipend for clothes :)

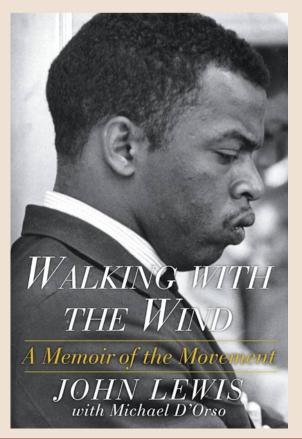
### January 23rd 2023

# WEEKLY PAIRINGS - BOOK RECOMENDATIONS Martin Luther King Jr. Day



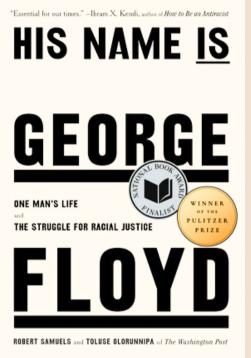
In honor of last week's Martin Luther King Jr. Day, we're highlighting books about civil rights and BLM leaders and figures. First, Martin Luther King: A *Religious Life* by local author and UCCS professor Paul Harvey. As the title suggests, this book delves into the spiritual and intellectual influences of MLK - from his time at seminary and the preachers who shaped his rhetorical style, to his exposure to Gandhi, communism, and other international ideologies. As the book explores King's rise in the Civil Rights movement, it also explores his often overlooked (or intentionally forgotten) radicalism and how his increasing radicalism echos in the Black Lives Matters movements today. Harvey's concise biography shows Kings not as a one dimensional poster boy, but as a far more complex figure.

John Lewis, former congressman for Georgia and civil rights leader shares his story in *Walking with* the Wind: a Memoir of a Movement. John Lewis grew up on a cotton farm, but eventually became "one of the movement's most charismatic and courageous leaders." He was head of SNCC - the more radical Nashville based Student movement to King's SCLC - and was a vital figure in the Selma marches, Bloody Sunday, and the Freedom Rides. This autobiography is an intimate look at the Civil Rights movement, including moments like Lewis rewriting his speech for the March on Washington in a back room of the Lincoln Memorial minutes before he was set to deliver it because other leaders deemed it too radical. A true must-read for anyone interested in Civil Rights History.



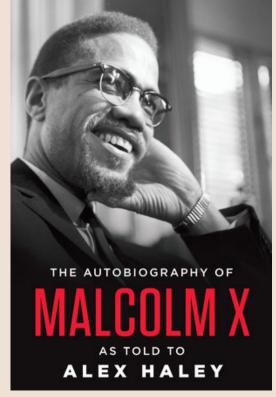
#### January 23rd 2023

## WEEKLY PAIRINGS - MEDIA RECOMENDATIONS Martin Luther King Jr. Day



Winner of the National Book Award and the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, *His Name is George Floyd* is a "landmark" biography by Robert Samuels and Toluse Olorunnipa, two Washington Post journalists. This biography makes the bold choice to not merely examine Floyd as a symbol of the Black Lives Matter movement, but as a boy who's life was "suffocated by systemic pressures" and racism from the onset. This book examines the Floyd family's ties to slavery, sharecropping, segregation, and historic over-policing of primarily black communities, and Floyd's own attempts to break free from addiction. It paints a picture of systemic racism and inequalities that tie together the abolition movement, the civil rights movement, and the Black Lives Matter movement all through the story of one family. While Floyd became an unforgettable symbol of the BLM movement, his story didn't start there - nor did the story of systemic racism within his community.

The Autobiography of Malcolm X, coauthored by Alex Haley, is a religious and ideological narrative that details Malcolm's philosophy of Black Pride, Black nationalism and pan-Africanism. This autobiography, which was listed as one of Time's ten most important books of the twentieth century, details Malcolm's perspective on the "lies and limitations of the American Dream" as well as the systemic racism and the way non-white citizens are denied this dream. The book also offers an intimate look into his childhood, describing his mother's struggles with mental health and Malcolm's early run ins with crime. The book further details his ministry with Elijah Muhammad, his work with the Nation of Islam, and his pilgrimage to Mecca. This book is a radical and personal look at the life of an often forgotten or villainized Civil Rights and Human Rights figure.



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## **ALSO CHECK OUT:**

COLORADO COLLEGE Student Government Association (CCSGA)

# STUDENT TRUSTEE: Apply Now!

Swipe to learn more!

DEADLINE: January 26th,2024 @ 12pm WANT TO WORK WITH CCSGA? <u>APPLY</u> <u>HERE</u>

> Ament CSGA)

Questions? Émail us at @coloradocollege.edu

What does a Student Trustee do? Through your position as Student Trustee, you are afforded a unique and meaningful opportunity to **shape CC's** future. You will have the opportunity to **represent** the **student body**, take part in the governance of the college, and **contribute** toward making CC the best liberal arts institution in the nation for present and future generations.