

THE BUTLER CENTER

NEWSLETTER

REMEMBERING NEX BENEDICT IN OUR OWN TRANS COMMUNITY



The Queer and Trans Collective held a memorial service and teach-in for Nex Benedict, a trans and two-spirited indigenous teen from Oklahoma who was killed as the result of transphobic violence. Their death is attributed not only to transphobia from their peers, but to the transphobic rhetoric of school officials and the rhetoric of bathroom ban legislation.

Deka Spear, Elder Debbie Howell, and Chaplin Kate Holbrook collaborated to host a memorial service and a space for CC's LGBTQIA+ community to mourn in community. After the main speakers, students and community members were invited to come up and speak. The Queer CC community shared their rage and grief, read poems, and shed tears.

March 26th, 2024

@butlercentercc

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The moment was heartbreaking and cathartic. This gathering was a reminder that we have a duty to protect Queer youth, to celebrate Queer life and joy, and to make space for grief. Violence against one is violence against all and this gathering gave us the chance to stand together in solidarity against such hatred.

Following the memorial service, Chaplin Kate hosted a grief space for students to converse and grieve in community.

A memorial for Nex Benedict is set up in the QTC gathering space for anyone who would like to visit it.

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT



Alisha Bloom

She/Her

Computer Science Major, Art Studio Minor

What is your role at TBC? I am a Programming Intern for the Identity and Cultural Programming Center and work specifically with Table Talk and the Multicultural Student Leadership and Empowerment (MSLE) 😊

What are you studying and what do you want to do after CC? I am a computer science major! I hope to get a job in the tech field: data analysis, information tech, or software engineering but we'll see what ends up happening.

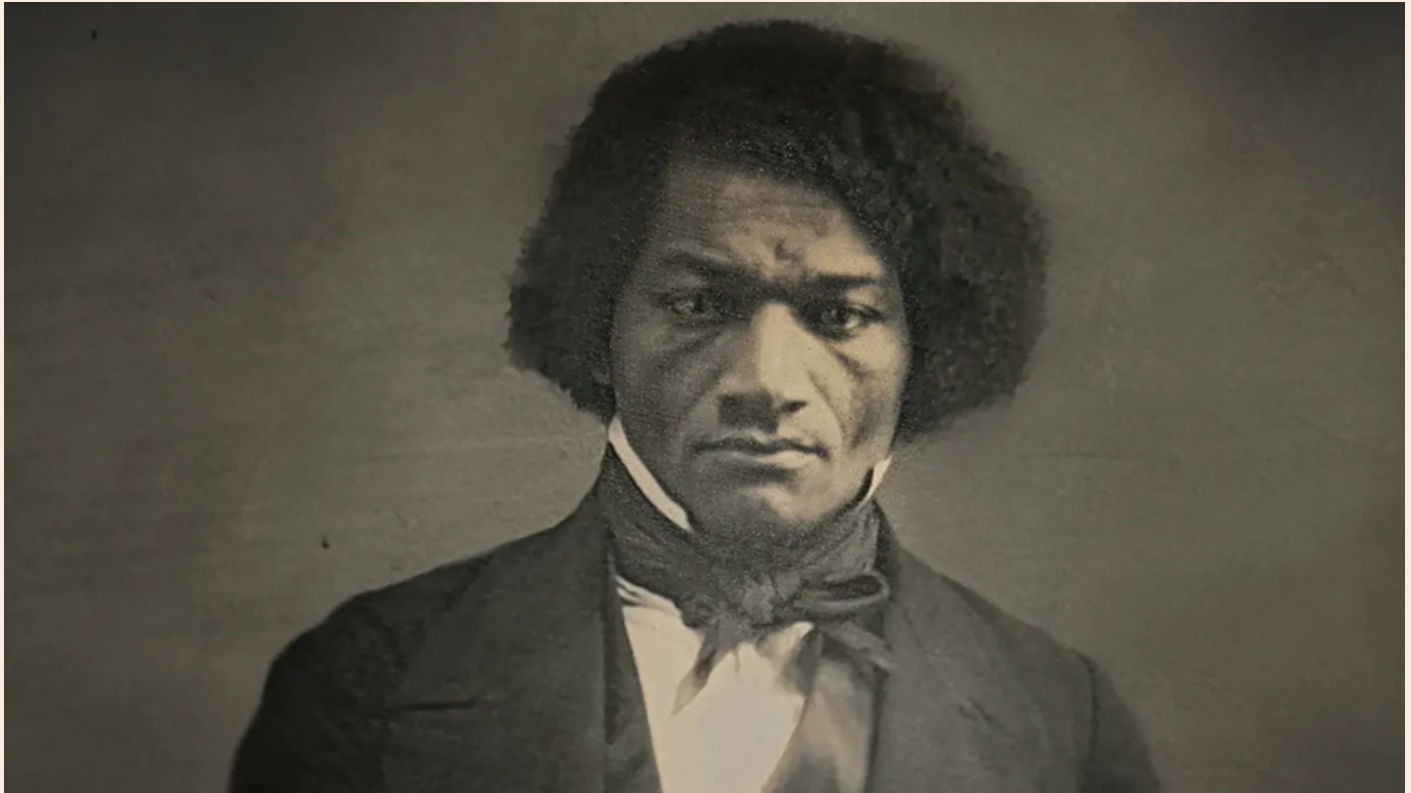
What is one interest you have outside of school? One interest I have outside of school is listening to music! Right now I'm really into corridos tumbados and Kendrick Lamar haha.

What does ADEI work mean to you or why did you get into this? ADEI work is crucial to every facet of our lives, especially living in the United States where it has been historically overlooked and continues to be overlooked today. Particularly within computer science, a field dominated by white men, it is very important to me to challenge the norms and bring awareness to the implicit biases that impact the way technology is created/who it is made for. The Butler Center has been a great opportunity for me to get experience with leading change and creating meaningful connections that will help me as I center ADEI work wherever I end up.

What is one thing you'd like to see changed about CC or our local community? One thing I would like to see changed about our CC community is the sense of connection, especially regarding our tolerance to one another. This encompasses being open minded to the experiences of others and challenging our preconceptions. If we are able to work on this, we would all have a better time at CC :p

What is one fun fact people might not expect about you? I was born in Dhaka, Bangladesh and moved to the United States when I was 4 years old! Since then I've lived in 5 different states.

FREDERICK DOUGLASS IN IRELAND



By Thecla Shubert

In honor of Irish-American Heritage Month, we'd like to share one of our favorite moments of history where the American and Irish experiences intersect.

Frederick Douglass was a former slave, self-taught reader and orator, and a vital and vibrant leader in the Abolition Movement. In 1841, after receiving increased threats from US opposition following the publication of his book, Douglass went on a European tour culminating in his visit to Ireland. Many scholars have written about the Irish identity – as both as colonizers and colonized people who navigated an identity that many considered to be nonwhite. At this time, many in Ireland were rampant supporters of the American Abolition. Famously Daniel O'Connell was the great liberator of Ireland and spoke vehemently about global freedom. Douglass, amongst the Irish, would become known as the Black O'Connell. O'Connell spoke of Douglass saying, "I heard his denunciation of slavery, I heard my master curse him, and therefore I loved him."

Douglass wrote at length about the horrific poverty he saw in Ireland, "I see much here to remind me of my former condition." Another abolitionist likewise said, "In America the slave is called a slave – he is black, and is flogged. In Ireland he is called a laborer, he is white, and is only starved."

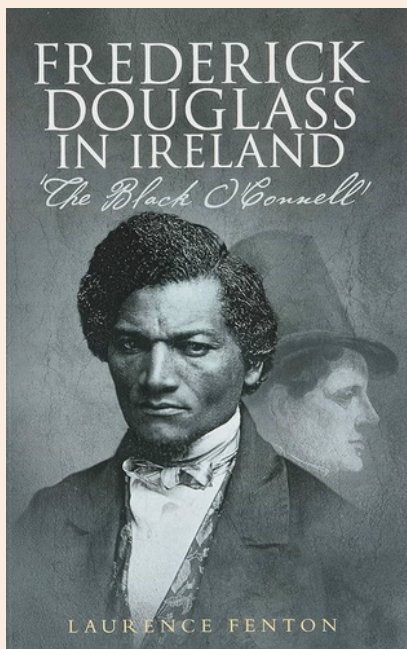
Douglass also spoke with immense fondness for his time in Ireland, saying, "I gaze around in vain for one who will question my equal humanity, claim me as his slave, or offer me insult. ... America only received me to her shores as a brute. She would not receive me as a man."

FREDERICK DOUGLASS IN IRELAND

Overall, Douglass attributed much of his awareness of the global cause of humanity to his trip to Ireland, which awoken him to the fact that women's suffrage, abolition, and liberty, were issues across the world.

Likewise, these stories remind us that the story of colonization is far more complicated than we often imagine. Although some of the Irish served in the British army or acted as colonial forces in the Caribbean, many stood firmly alongside their global allies in the first for universal liberty.

Want to learn more? Check out this week's book recommendations



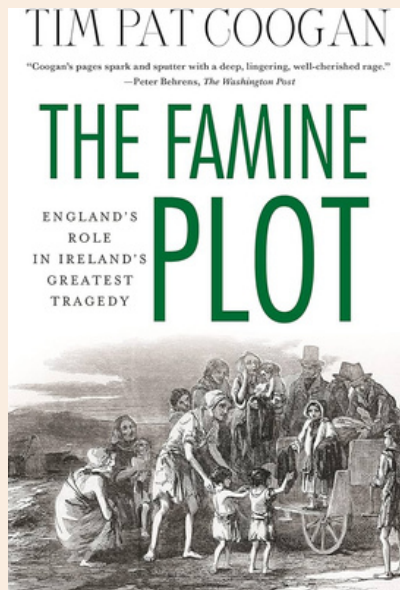
Frederick Douglass in Ireland: The Black O'Connell by Laurence Fenton details this story and the intersection between American abolitionists and Irish liberationists in more detail. The Irish Times called it "compelling" and applauded Fenton's voice as "informative and refreshingly unfussy."

To learn more about the nuance of the Irish Race and their identity as "nonwhite" readers are encouraged to check out ***Irish Nationalists and the Making of the Irish Race*** by Bruce Nelson. Nelson, an esteemed academic, connects the Irish struggle for equity and liberty to global movements, including South Africa and India, while also recognizing the role of the Irish people in colonialism in the Caribbean.

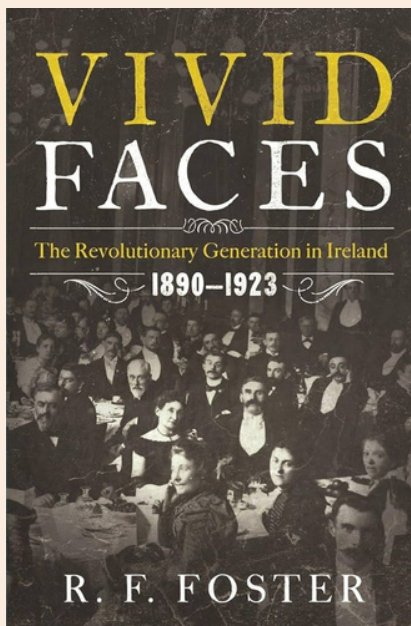
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FREDERICK DOUGLASS IN IRELAND



To learn more about systemic poverty and oppression in Ireland, readers should check out, Tim Pat Coogan's ***The Famine Plot: England's Role in Ireland's Greatest Tragedy***. Coogan challenges the idea that the famine was a natural tragedy and instead investigates how England consciously perpetuated it – making it almost (or some scholars would claim definitely) a genocide. Author Patrick Furlong called it "a most impressive study, ... for its breathtaking scope and Nelson's command or such a vast and varied scholarship." Patrick Maume likewise says "The whole book rests on a solid base of original research and analysis."



Finally, readers who are interested in Irish culture and the Irish Nationalist movement should read the renowned R. F. Foster's ***Vivid Faces: The Revolutionary Generation in Ireland***. This book paints a stunning, in-depth, and personal picture of the art, literature, culture, and rhetoric that shaped the revolutionary generation in Ireland. He walks readers through the lives of these revolutionists from the early days through the securing of independence. This work offers a very human depiction of the joy and tragedies of the revolution. Kirkus Reviews calls it "A bracing study of the rebels who secured Ireland's freedom from Britain nearly a century ago." And further says, "Readable and provocative. Students of contemporary Irish history have few better guides than the sometimes-dyspeptic but refreshingly agenda-less Foster."

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPONSORED BY THE BUTLER CENTER, CHAPLAIN'S OFFICE, ADEI TEAM/ACE GRANT AND CULTURAL ATTRACTION FUND:

DRAG SHOW: IT'S GIVING C*NT



FEATURING
Mario Wanna
Hysteria Brooks
Felony
Misdemeanor
Anna Cuntour &
CC Community
Performers

FRIDAY, APRIL 5TH

SHOVE CHAPEL
DOORS OPEN: 5:30 PM
SHOWTIME: 6:00 PM

PARKING:
FREE STREET PARKING ON
NEVADA/CACHE LA POWDRE/UINTAH
OVERFLOW PARKING:
ROBSON GARAGE

NO LARGE BACKPACKS OR BAGS. ALL BAGS SUBJECT TO INSPECTION
COLORADO COLLEGE IS A SMOKE AND TOBACCO FREE CAMPUS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual
Bipoc Student
Lunch
With Economics and Business

Thursday, April 4th. 12:30 pm
RTD Lounge - Worner 2nd Floor

The Economics & Business department invites all CC BIPOC students to attend the annual BIPOC student with department members (Celeste Diaz Ferraro, Michelan Wilson and Aju Fenn). Come chat with us, give us your feedback, learn more about the department and what department has been up to. All feedback is strictly confidential and will be anonymized. LUNCH PROVIDED!

Brought to you in collaboration with the Butler Center and the Department of Economics and Business

APPLY FOR STUDENT POSITIONS



Cultural and Identity Programming Intern

Work with:

- Heritage month events
- Table Talk
- Behind the Masc



Peer Mentor

Work with:

- Student Success School Program
- Queer and Trans Collective

Plus - follow us
on Tiktok and
instagram
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