New history book examines 'immigrant' festivals

A recent book by Rachel Buff, history, juxtaposes two communities that, at first glance, seem unlikely bedfellows—the Native American community of Minneapolis and the West Indian immigrant population of Brooklyn, N.Y. In Immigration and the Political Economy of Home: West Indian Brooklyn and American Indian Minneapolis, published by the University of California Press, Buff reveals important parallels between the two in terms of perceptions of citizenship, community and political power.

Buff uses two important festivals in the respective group's lives—powwows and Carnival—to draw historical and cultural links between the two in their immigration or migration to urban areas following World War II. She also examines the dynamic between the generations, and the ways in which people are changed by—and in turn change—their environment. In using the powwows of Indians in Minnesota and the annual Carnival parade and celebration in New York, Buff finds an apt metaphor and manifestation of all these factors. Both are traditional festivals that have been re-shaped and changed in response to the new environment; both are important institutions in the expression of historical identity and culture that can be used to organize communities around the issues of municipal empowerment and antiracist struggle. Both incorporate strong musical traditions, Native American drumming and West Indian steel pan music, that serve as touchstones for a culture.

While there had already been a Caribbean immigrant community in New York during the war, its number greatly increased after the Immigration and Nationality Act of 1965, which repealed quotas on national origins. The migrations of Indians to Minneapolis occurred in a different way. During the 1950s, Buffington writes, "Congress implemented a policy known as termination: the complete severing of the trust relationship between Indians and the federal government." Reservations were to be broken up and Indians assimilated in local communities or relocated to designated cities. Indians would also lose their dual citizenship. Though this policy was eventually abandoned due to rejection by Native Americans who wished to retain their tribal lands and identities, many people did move, notably to Minneapolis. They did not, however, assimilate into the general population. Both Buffington and ghettoes, unemployment, alcoholism and other ills continue to exist. A positive, if belated, aspect of this migration was a political and cultural revival among Indians, an example of which are the powwows, which have grown to large proportions, attracting Indians from numerous groups and states, as well.

Immigration and the Political Economy of Home provides new insights into how immigrant people find ways to survive.

Buffington to travel as a Fulbright Scholar

Robert Buffington, history, will travel several thousand miles to another USA for a summer as a Fulbright Scholar. In this case, the initiative came from the University of San Andres in Buenos Aires, Argentina, where Buffington will teach and do research with the backing of the prestigious Fulbright award. A teacher of Mexican and Latin American history at BGSU, Buffington will lead a graduate course on Mexican cultural history at San Andres in June and July. He will also work with a colleague there, Lila Caimari, to research—and ultimately write about—how discussions of crime and criminality helped forge the national identities of Mexico and Argentina in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. The 19th century was a "crucial period" in the construction of modern nation-states worldwide, and around the turn of the century, Mexico and Argentins were among the emerging powers that represented at international forums on crime and punishment. Buffington noted. But the Mexican and Argentines came to those conferences from differing circumstances, he said. The Mexicans were coming from a multicultural society with a sizeable Indian population. They were looking at how to "redeem" and discipline both the Indians and the mixed-race members of the society, said Buffington, the author of Criminal and Citizen in Modern Mexico, a book published two years ago. The Indians were the "degraded" race, viewed in stereotypical terms (laziness; for instance) and as holding back the country culturally, he added. So the Mexican discussion was not only about how to discipline in a racially mixed society, but also how to transform the Indians into social assets, he said.

In Argentina, meanwhile, the big issue was immigration. In the 1870s, the country was opening its pampas, with considerable agricultural potential, for settlement. But Argentina was relatively underpopulated and the natives were pushed aside, leaving no labor force, Buffington explained. Enter the immigrants, and at a percentage higher in relation to population than in the U.S., because wages were better in Argentina, he said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international capital city, Buffington said. Many of the immigrants were Italians, Spaniards and Eastern Europeans, and many gravitated to Buenos Aires, creating social problems in what, by 1900, had become a major international cap...
job postings

FACULTY


Contact Human Resources at 372-4211 for information regarding the following.

CLASSIFIED

(Employees wishing to apply for this position may request a "Request for Transfer Form" from Human Resources.)

The deadline to apply is 1 p.m. Friday, April 5. Audio-Visual Service Supervisor 2 (C-25-V). Recording Services (recording specialist). Pay grade B. Advertised on and off campus.

ADMINISTRATIVE

Health Promotions Coordinator (S-014). Women’s Health, Student Health Services. Administrative grade 15. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Staff Physician (S-015). Student Health Service. Review of applications will continue until the position is filled. Head Men’s Ice Hockey Coach (02-023). Intercollegiate Athletics. Review of applications will begin April 8 and continue until the position is filled. Head Athletic Trainer (02-019). Intercollegiate Athletics. Deadline: April 10. Third Assistant Women’s Basketball Coach (02-013). Intercollegiate Athletics. Deadline: April 10. Associate Director for Programs and Services (S-003). Bowman-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 16. Review of applications will begin April 12 and continue until the position is filled. Program Coordinator (S-014-069). Bowman-Thompson Student Union (re-advertised). Administrative grade 14. Review of applications will begin April 12 and continue until the position is filled. Residence Hall Director (S-010). Office of Residence Life. Administrative grade 13. Review of applications will begin April 12 and continue until the position is filled.

Student Union
dedication event tickets

Tickets to the Bowman-Thompson Student Union dedication event on April 27 are now available for purchase. Call 2-2424 for more information and ticket purchases.

Rath wins Spirit of BG Award

Transfer student finds life at the University a little easier because of Marlene Rath, this month’s classified staff Spirit of BG Award winner. This valued employee moves the office of Registration and Records go beyond the call of duty to accommodate transfer students. Rath makes personal contacts with other offices to see that the transition is smooth and successful.

Dean candidates’ forums announced

The University is currently conducting a number of dean searches. So that the community may meet the candidates during their two-day interviews, open forums, followed immediately by receptions, have been arranged for each.

April 2—College of Health and Human Services

Steven Lab, associate dean, College of HHS and chair, human services, BGSU. Open Forum, 2:15-3 p.m., 315 Bowman-Thompson Student Union.

April 4—Vice Provost for Research and Dean of the Graduate College

Heinic Bulmahn, interim vice provost for research and dean of the Graduate College, BGSU. Open Forum, 2:30-3:15 p.m., 315 Bowman-Thompson Student Union.

April 8—College of Health and Human Services

Linda Petrosino, associate dean, College of HHS and chair, communication disorders, BGSU. Open Forum, 2:15-3 p.m., 316 Bowman-Thompson Student Union.

in brief

Monday, April 1

Faculty Senate/Provost Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m. Multi-Purpose Room, Bowen-Thompson Student Union. Presentation of five Faculty Recognition Awards. Guest Artist: Dennis Clarno on clarinet, 8 a.m., Bryan Recital Hall, MMAC.

Tuesday, April 2

Dissertation Defense. “Influence of Microencapsulation on Stability and Reactivity of Triphénylpyr·llium gallate as Cationic Photoinitiator,” Elena Y. Kusnerova, chemistry, 10 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Overman Hall.

Faculty Senate, 2:30 p.m. McFall Assembly Room, Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur will speak. Classical Guitar Ensemble, directed by Pedro Alonso, 7-8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, MMAC.

Wednesday, April 3

Annual Bag Lunch. “The Power of Many: Speaking Out Against Sexual Violence,” presented by the Transfer Student Project, noon-1 p.m., the Women’s Center, 107 Hanna Hall. In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

La Mesa Oblicua Lecture, noon-1:30 p.m. 201A Bowman-Thompson Student Union (Sky Bank Room) Sponsored by the Center for Multicultural and Academic Initiatives. Call Manny Vaddio at 2-2642. Seminar. “Macro and Micro Internet.” "For Free Web Utilization.: 10-11:30 a.m., Perry 100 Lab (2nd floor, Technology Bldg).

Thursday, April 4

Humanities Lecture Series. “Cur·rent Issues in Wellness.” 9 a.m.-1 noon. Union Theater.

Teleconference. “First Year of College: Assessing What We Value.” 1-1:45 p.m. 101 Ollscamp. Co-sponsored by the Office of the Vice Provost for Academic Services and the Division of Student Affairs.

International Film Series. “Everybody’s Famous.” 2001 Dutch film directed by Dominique Deruddere. 7:30 p.m. Gish Film Theater.

Poetry Reading. Brenda Hillman, poet and author of Loose Sugar. 7:30 p.m. Pratt Chapel. Sponsored by the Creative Writing Program, Mid-American Review and the English Department.

Brass Choir-directed by Victoria Brown. 8 p.m., Kobacker Hall, MMAC.

Friday, April 5

Visiting Scholar in Ethnic Studies Lecture, “Wellfare Reform in Ohio: A Five-Year Retrospective,” with William John Wilson, Harvard University. 9 a.m.-3 p.m., 207 Bowman-Thompson Student Union. For more info, call 2-9125.

Wellness Presentation on alcohol and other drug issues. 1-2:30 p.m., 314 Bowman-Thompson Student Union (Bovée/CPS Room). Presentation by PADE (Takon Alcohol and Drug Education) and Sexual Health Team Peer Educators.

Saturday, April 6

Concert, Gospel Choir, 7-9:30 p.m. 101 Ollscamp. Call 2-0462.

BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition II Opening Reception, 7-9 p.m. Willard VanDemark Gallery, Fine Arts Center.

Sunday, April 7

Faculty Artist Series. "Fantasy and Facades," by John Sampen, saxophone, and Marilyn Shudue, piano and composer. 3 p.m. Great Gallery of the Toledo Museum of Art.

UAO Film Series. "Oceans 11." 9:15 p.m. Union Theater.

Union Theater.

Tuesday, April 8

Jazz Week Performance. Vocal Jazz Ensemble, 8 p.m., Bryan Recital Hall, MMAC.

Continuing Events

April 4-5

Trenchless Technology Symposium, 7:30 a.m.-6:30 p.m., April 4; 8 a.m.-noon, April 5. Bowman-Thompson Student Union, Registration fees. Call Alan Atiah, 2-3834.

April 3-7 and April 12-14

Theater, "Into the Woods." A musical by Stephen Sondheim and James Levine. 8 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays. Eva Marie Saint Theater, University Hall. Reserved seats are $10 for adults, $5 for children under 12. Call 2-3719.

Thursday, April 7

MFA Thesis Exhibition 1, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday; 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Special times for groups or classes are available by appointment. Call Jacqueline S. Nathan at 2-8325.

Thursday, April 12

Planetarium Presentation. "Mars Quest." Showings at 8 a.m. Tuesdays and Fridays, 7:30 p.m. Sundays. $1 donation suggested.

Through April 16

BFA Senior Thesis Exhibition 2, Dorothy Uber Bryan Gallery, Fine Arts Center. Open 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday, 1-4 p.m. Sunday. Special times for groups or classes are available by appointment. Call Jacqueline S. Nathan at 2-8325.

www.bgsu.edu/faculty_staff/online

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