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Penn State-Behrend Goes Global

Unfamiliar cultures presented to students, faculty, staff

by Danielle M. Murphy
Collegian Staff

The fourth annual Cultural Fiesta was hosted by Penn State-Behrend on Wednesday, April 7 from 11 a.m. until 5 p.m. in the Wintergarden. The Cultural Fiesta is held annually to "celebrate different cultures; it's a time to bring different groups together to share and to learn," said Jackie Wade, Residence Life Coordinator.

The Fiesta offered a variety of ethnic food, music, dance, and tradition from around the world. Display tables filled with pictures, food, and crafts highlighted Native American, Jewish, Estonian, Greek, Italian, African, and other cultures. Al Vogan, Assistant Manager of Housing and Food Services said, "It's been very nice, people have been getting a better taste of different backgrounds. Myself included."

"I think it's an outstanding way for Penn State to spend our money," said Chris Tower, a third semester International Politics major. "The Jewish horseradish stuff was powerful--it moved me."

Live entertainment was also provided as performers shared the music and heritage of their ancestors. Visitors were entertained by the music of local

resident Frank Polenta's five-member German band and Native American drummers. Dancers as well as the sounds of Scottish bagpipes followed by a performance by the Irish Cultural Center Dancers also participated.

The evening was concluded with a performance by the African-American Cultural Center Drum and Dance Performance Troupe. As the first and oldest Black dance company in the city of Buffalo, N.Y., the troupe has entertained an estimated audience of 100,000.

"It's been very nice; people have been getting a better taste of different backgrounds, myself included."

--Al Vogan, Asst. Manager of Housing and Food Services.

"I'm really proud of the way it came together," said Wade. "It was exciting to be a part of."

On-campus groups who participated in the event were the Association of Black Collegians, Asian Student Organization, Human Relations Programming

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Kristie Guldner/Photographer

Dancing in the light: Native Americans demonstrate their traditions of dance in full dress. They were a part of the Cultural Fiesta, a mix of different ethnic heritages held in the Wintergarden from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. yesterday.

Behrend women Take Back the Night Campus march demonstrates determination

by [illegible]

...movement about sexual violence took place on Thursday, April 1, 1993. The event opened sexual violence awareness month, and the theme was "The Art of Surviving: Enriching Mind, Body and Spirit."

The theme was presented in the evening, creative and innovative ways that captured the attention of all who were in attendance.

The program began with a speech by Kelley, highlighting statistics such as 20% of rape victims know their attackers, 10% of rape victims report to the police, and 80% of all rapes occur

before the victim is 18. Kelley was followed by Jennifer Flanagan, a senior

"In the last 50 seconds one more woman has been raped."

--Colleen Kelley, Asst. Professor Speech Comm.

inspiring in creative writing, when mother has been raped few times

"My art plays a huge role in surviving rape. I know I wouldn't be here today without my writing." Flanagan, who had been molested at age 10 and raped at age 13, read some of her poems and related how they were inspired and what they mean to her. Excerpts such as "I could feel your eye, futile jelly, giving" referring to when she resisted rape, and the notion of a boyfriend being able to dismiss 95 minutes of rape by simply saying "I love you" made the readings very emotional for many

of the participants, many shedding tears.

The final speaker was Diana Zemniak, a graduate student at Edinboro and co-president of the local NOW chapter. She read a selection dealing with a woman's building anger as she narrated a particular morning when she looked at every man as if he could be a rapist or abuser.

The rally began at 7:00 p.m., and a candlelight march started around 7:30, with Channels 12,

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