## JUNIATA COLLEGE



**Campus Ministry Newsletter** 

April 2016

#### "Never Again"

Around the country, April has been designated as Genocide Awareness Month, as it marks the anniversaries of multiple acts of genocide including the Holocaust, the Armenian genocide and Rwanda. This year at Juniata, we recognize these events in our world's history during Genocide Awareness and Action Week, April 10-15th. During this week, speakers will come to campus and various programs will be held to commemorate and honor the victims and survivors of genocide, to raise awareness, and to advocate against future acts of injustice and violence.

Throughout the week, various guest speakers, professors and students will share their experiences, stories and research on various topics of genocide from the cultural genocide against Native Americans to Rwanda and the Holocaust.

Monday night, Juniata will welcome Dr. Ronald Suny, a professor of History and Political Science who will be speaking on why, when, and how the Armenian genocide in the Ottoman empire occurred, and Turkey's continued historical amnesia. On Wednesday evening, alumna Zeljana Varga will present about research she is conducting with the National Holocaust Museum, and share her own family's story from the war and genocide in Bosnia. On Thursday, there will be an evening dinner fundraiser for Burundi, sponsored in coalition with PAX-O, Juniata's social justice club on campus. Alumna Lily Kruglak and student Liliane Umuhoza will be the guest speakers at the dinner.

The week will end on Friday evening with a Freedom Seder, hosted by Hillel, and a candlelight procession to the museum where the Juniata College Concert Choir will sing. Most events during this week are open to the public and more information can be found on Juniata's website. "Mankind must remember that peace is not God's gift to his creatures; peace is our gift to each other"
- Elie Wiesel



Juniata students and staff in New Orleans for an Alternative Spring Break service trip.
They volunteered in community gardens in the Lower Ninth Ward.

# Implementing "Faith Zones"

Over the weekend of April 8-9, delegations of students, chaplains and administrators from Pennsylvania Consortium of the Liberal Arts (PCLA) schools will participate together in a two-day workshop at NYU's Faith Zone Multi-faith Training Program. Juniata will be sending two students to participate in this program where they will be able to create and deliver Faith Zones workshops back on campus to increase interfaith literacy and support.

Based upon the Safe Zone model, which is used to educate groups about the LGBTQ community, Faith Zone sessions take an approach that integrates theory and practice. Topics covered include reflecting on personal experiences with faith and spirituality, examining the global and local context for various religious traditions represented at our institutions, as well as discussing tips for creating safe and welcoming environments in offices, residence halls, student groups, or classrooms.

Through attending this conference with other PCLA schools, our students will have the opportunity to learn about interfaith practices across campuses and will participate in developing cross-institutional knowledge and relationships. From attending the Interfaith Leadership Institute in January to participating in the interfaith Alternative Spring Break trip to New Orleans, Juniata students have shown commitment to interfaith work this year. This training will enable our students to be further involved in the interfaith movement and will lay the groundwork for future interfaith programming and awareness on our campus.

#### **Upcoming Events on Campus**

Juniata Presents: Sirius Quartet

Friday, April 8—7:30 pm Rosenberger Auditorium

Relay For Life

Saturday, April 16—10 am— 10 pm Campus Quad

Juniata Theatre: Solo

Wednesday, April 20—8:00 pm Suzanne von Liebig Theatre

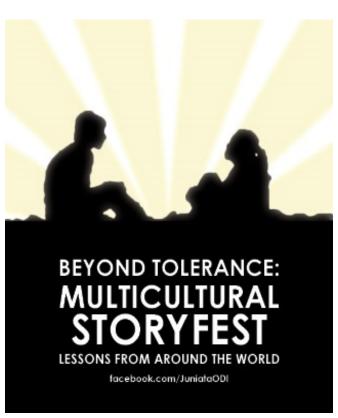
Liberal Arts Symposium

Thursday, April 21—9 am—4 pm

### **Mountain Day of the Mind**

Liberal Arts Symposium (LAS), one of Juniata's most celebrated academic traditions, honors the research and performance of Juniata students. For one day during the spring, classes are cancelled and students, staff, and faculty gather to attend oral presentations, poster sessions, art displays and performances. Working closely with a faculty member throughout the year, students complete field or laboratory research on a topic of interest. From topics on racial justice, to Paganism, to genomes, students are encouraged to think creatively and pursue relevant and innovative research.

Liberal Arts Symposium, however, not only celebrates the research accomplishments of Juniata students. Throughout the day artists display their work, the Jazz Ensemble performs and students share various original readings and stories. Additionally, in the afternoon, Multicultural Storyfest welcomes international students to share stories from their homeland through cultural dance, narration, and song. As



Juniata gathers on this day to learn from one another and celebrate accomplishments, it is evident how LAS exemplifies Juniata's commitment to community, diversity and academic achievement.



#### **Empty Bowls**

The Tenth Anniversary of Juniata's Empty Bowls event, which occurred on April 2nd, raised a little over \$5,000 for local food banks and the backpack program for Huntingdon Area Elementary Schools. With close to a thousand hand-made ceramic bowls from Juniata's pottery students and over 30 different soups donated by local businesses and individuals, the event was a success.