

THE WESTERN CENTER
FOR SOCIAL IMPACT
AND INNOVATION

ANNUAL REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR
21/22



Highlights

Over the course of the year, despite the challenges the COVID-19 pandemic presented, the Western Center boasted a **125% increase in program participation: 3,178 participants** over all events, and 1,761 unique visitors to the space physically.

Social Impact and Justice Scholars reported 264 hours of service.

Various social media accounts and resources were successfully upheld and launched :



YouTube



Western College Legacy Seminar Series

The biennial theme is **Reparations as Restorative Justice.**

Winning Reparations: John Tateishi and The Successful Campaign for Japanese American Reparations (March 8)

Tateishi provided insight into how the victory of receiving reparations from Ronald Reagan was won and which lessons can be carried forwards in today's African American and Indigenous reparations struggles. Tateishi played a key role in this win as the National Redress Director for the Japanese American Citizens League and as an internment camp survivor.



John Tateishi

From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the 21st Century (April 5)

Darity and Mullen discussed their award winning book *From Here to Equality: Reparations for Black Americans in the 21st Century*. A. Kirsten Mullen is a folklorist and founder of Artefactual and Carolina Circuit Writers. Dr. Darity is the Samuel DuBois Cook Professor of Public Policy, African American Studies, Economics, and the founding director of the Samuel DuBois Cook Center on Social Equity at Duke University.



Dr. William Darity, Jr. and
A. Kirsten Mullen

Sponsored by:



Western College
Alumnae Association

Themed Programming Highlights



Dr. Rodney Coates

Our collaborating scholar is Critical Race and Ethnic Studies Program Director and 2021 President's Medal winner, **Dr. Rodney Coates**. Alongside sociologist Dr. Jacqueline Daugherty, Dr. Coates co-taught WST301, a course on place-based exploration of truth-seeking and repair concerning the region's history of racial and economic injustice. Dr. Coates also co-hosted co-curricular activities.

The Role of Philanthropy in Supporting Democratic Values and Justice by Rob Reich

reviewed ethical and political dimensions of philanthropy and how giving may better support democracy. Held via zoom.

Restorative Justice at the University by Dr Kyra Shahid, a Miami Alumna, was an engaging conversation in which she shared her insights as a higher education DEI consultant. Held via zoom.

Born phrie, A Journey of Embodied Memory told the story of phrie's journey to self liberation, using an understanding of world history and geography to deeply connect with self and planet.

THE ROLE OF PHILANTHROPY IN SUPPORTING DEMOCRATIC VALUES AND JUSTICE: A CONVERSATION WITH AUTHOR AND POLITICAL SCIENTIST ROB REICH
October 19 @ 6:00-7:15pm
Via Zoom

Was it weird to watch 2 billionaires in a private space race this summer, while people on earth face several existential crises?

Join this Stanford professor and author of *Just Giving: Why Philanthropy is Failing Democracy and How It Can Do Better*, as he discusses the ethical and political dimensions of philanthropy and considers how giving might better support democratic values and support justice.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED

JUST GIVING
WHY PHILANTHROPY IS FAILING DEMOCRACY AND HOW IT CAN DO BETTER
BY ROB REICH

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Restorative Justice at the University
November 11, 2021
6:00-7:30pm Via Zoom

As part of the current push for racial justice in our society, universities across the country are responding to demands for truth-seeking and repair. The Western Center for Social Impact will feature a conversation with Dr. Kyra Shahid to engage the Miami Community in this vital conversation.

Dr. Shahid, a Miami alumna, will share her insights as a higher education DEI consultant. She specializes in racial healing and culturally restorative educational development. Dr. Shahid brings a wealth of knowledge on restorative justice and reparations.



Registration Required



born phrie:
a journey of embodied memory

March 1, 2022 at 5:00pm
in Leonard Theatre (PBD 121)

In this public talk, phrie will share the story of her journey to self liberation. Through a process coined "place-based identity reclamation", she uses the Ohio River Valley as the site of investigation for understanding world history and geography for a deeper connection with self and planet.

"The truth is that we're all born free. It just takes a little shift in perspective. We must remember that and seek ways to remind each other: phrie is more than a name. It's an affirmation to all." — phrie

This talk is part of the Western Center's biennial theme, *Reparations as Restorative Justice*.

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Other Programming Highlights

This year we hosted **Tracy Mack-Parker as our Visiting Scholar**. Tracy is an attorney, the founder of Citizen Philanthropy, and a former senior advisor at Pew Charitable Trusts and the Philanthropy Workshop. She co-taught WST 341 with Dr. Daugherty. The course theme was citizen's philanthropy. Tracy partnered with the Center for Career Exploration and Success on a workshop titled Ways to Work for Social Change. Wilks Center for Leadership and Service co-sponsored a two part writing workshop with Tracy titled Crafting Your Story to Mobilize Others to Action.



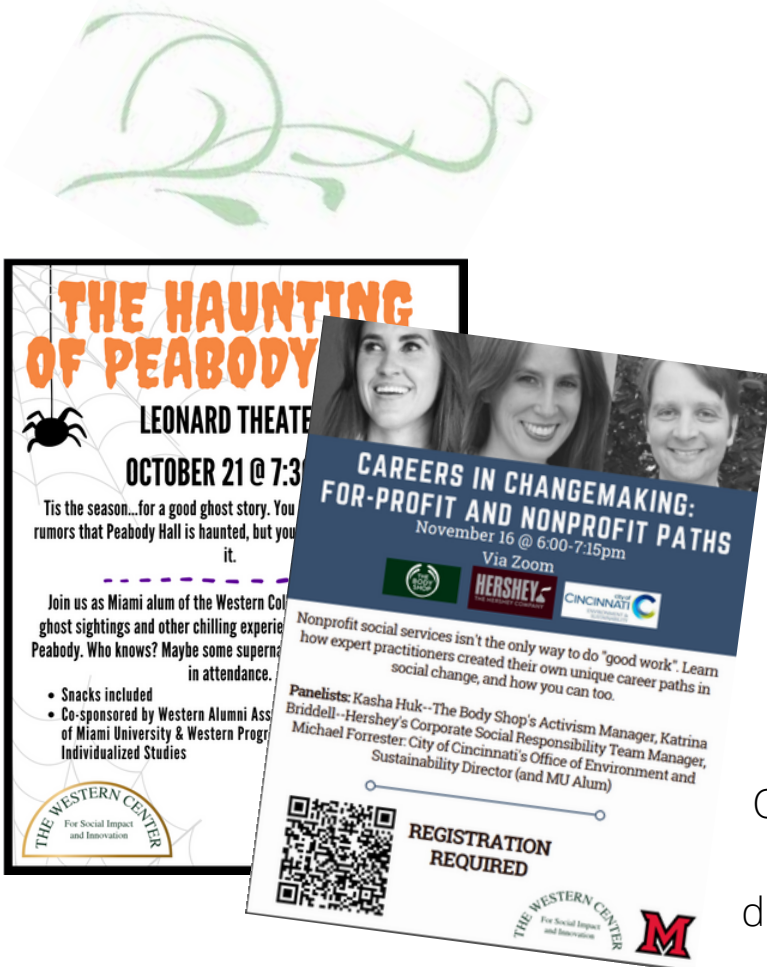
Tracy Mack-Parker

The Haunting of Peabody Hall

Alumni and students came together to share scary stories they've experienced in Peabody Hall and the Oxford area. This event was co-sponsored by the Western Alumni Association.

Careers in Challenging For-Profit and Nonprofit Paths

A discussion held by panelists *Katrina Briddell-Hershey's* Corporate Social Responsibility Team Manager, and *Michael Forrester*- City of Cincinnati's Office of Environment and Sustainability Director and MU Alumnus. They discussed how they molded their careers and the the role of B-corps in social change work.



Building Western Community

Every week, Western Center student workers host various weekly programs both inside and outside of the physical space. Events are broadcast to Western Program students, WEST LLC members, and Peabody Hall residents via email in the form of a newsletter every Monday.



Presenting the
Weekly Happenings
of Peabody 022
Weekly Newsletter

THE WESTERN CENTER
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Billy Simms,
Center Coordinator
simmsws@miamioh.edu

Weekly Peabody resident-focused programming in 2021-22 included:



Dungeons and Dragons
roleplaying game



Tea & Conversations with
Western students and
faculty



Disc Golf on
Western Campus'
course

The WEST Living Learning Community (LLC) welcomed its second cohort of first-year students to life in Peabody Hall. WEST students took a 1-credit hour class that helped them to better define their academic, personal, and professional goals at Miami, and received priority access to some Western Center programming.

Partners & Acknowledgments

We would like to take the time to recognize and thank the following campus and community partners that have made our events possible:



Edge of the Farm Conservatory



Western College
Alumnae Association

Special thanks also to our partners at the Miami Valley Immigrant Coalition and the Creative Writing Program.

The Western Center is grateful for the generous support provided by the Western College Alumnae Association and the Western Alumni Association of Miami University.

