International Fashion Show

By Douglas Jones | Digital Editor

At Parkland, it's like a fashion show a great chance for students from around the world to share their fashion and design work. The event was hosted in Wichita, Kansas, on February 6th, 2019. The competition included 27 models from 27 countries. Some models were Mali, Argentina, Nigeria, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Tunisia, Indonesia, Zambia, and Mexico. At the event, students modeled different clothing before and after Americanization. The models consisted of both men and women. Models walked the runway and highlighted their unique cultural diversity here in the Student Union, and along with the fashion designs from all over the world, the show included upbeat music for the audience. Audience members, alike, were ready to support the performers. With great hostesses everywhere, students were provided with a successful and entertaining fashion show on the stage. The overall, the international fashion show was successful, fun, and provided for the students. It was a beautiful and highlighted the various cultural diversity that Parkland has to offer.

Check out a photo gallery from the fashion show on page 2.

Successful Student Voices Event

On Friday, March 1, the first Student Voices event was hosted. It was an event focused on giving more voice to the students of Parkland College as a part of Black History Month. The California, located in the Student Union, was filled with both models and audience members. Audience members were students and faculty. So it was a great opportunity to provide a platform to support the performers. With great hostesses everywhere, students were provided with a successful and entertaining fashion show on the stage. The overall, the international fashion show was successful, fun, and provided for the students. It was a beautiful and highlighted the various cultural diversity that Parkland has to offer.

Check out a photo gallery from the fashion show on page 2.

Opinion: Parkland Pride Travels to MBLTACC...and Survives

By Jonathan Westfield | Editor

During February of Spring 2019, the Parkland Pride club and MBLTACC hosted a series of virtual events. The series included a virtual fashion show, multiple panel discussions, and a third event that occurred in-person at the MBLTACC office building.

The first event was a virtual fashion show, which took place on February 15th. The fashion show featured various models from diverse backgrounds, showcasing clothing from different cultures and countries around the world. The models walked the runway, modeling different outfits and styles. The event was hosted on a virtual platform, allowing attendees to connect and enjoy the fashion show from the comfort of their own homes.

The second event was a panel discussion on social justice and diversity. The panelists included representatives from various organizations and communities, discussing topics such as intersectionality, allyship, and the importance of representation and inclusion.

The third and final event was an in-person event that occurred at the MBLTACC office building. This event included a networking session, a keynote speech, and a silent auction. The keynote speaker was a prominent LGBTQ+ leader, who shared their experiences and insights on the LGBTQ+ community and its struggles.

Overall, the events were successful in bringing together the Parkland Pride community and MBLTACC members to discuss important issues and celebrate diversity.

The success of these events highlights the importance of fostering a safe and inclusive environment for all students at Parkland College, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. These events not only provided an opportunity for students to connect with each other but also brought attention to the challenges faced by the LGBTQ+ community and encouraged dialogue and understanding.

In conclusion, these events were a testament to the power of community and the importance of creating spaces where people with diverse backgrounds and experiences can come together to learn, grow, and support each other.

For more information, please visit the Parkland Pride Facebook page or contact the organization directly.
Voices

When asked about the idea behind the event, Jackson shared that some of the events that are often hosted can seem like a lecture rather than being interactive. “We are not hearing and learning from each other and so I wanted us to have a platform for that,” Jackson said. “We always talk about the same people when we talk about Black History Month, but we have really awesome students here at Parkland and people in the community that are making history all the time, that are doing some cool things.” Furthermore, the event was also meant as an opportunity for the students to improve their public speaking skills, which Jackson describes as being important when it comes to professional development. “We as academic coaches work with students on how they can be more successful academically but also how they can be successful when they leave Parkland in terms of securing work,” Jackson said.

The same skills that you need in terms of employability skills, that you need to get a job, are the same skills that you need to be a good student in terms of being able to articulate your views, your wishes, and the ability to be creative so that you can prob-lem solve this event. So the kind of incorporates all of these things and it’s fun.”

The purpose of the event was described as positive and empowering while being a confidence builder for the students. As a part of the audience, you wouldn’t be able to artic-ulate all of those things, as well. As each of the students left the stage you couldn’t help but notice the impact their words had on you. Through every story belonged to the students here at Parkland. Although we had seven years I have been fortunate to work in positions that have allowed me to stay grounded and to better understand the diverse needs of the community. From working with CU Special Rec, the Urban League of Champaign County, as aPatrol Officer/ School Resource Officer with the Champaign Police Department, as a former member of the Champaign Unit 74 School Board, to my current position as the Coordinator for the Champaign County Regional Planning Commissioner’s Youth Assessment Center, I have been able to impact and improve the lives of many of those I have been fortunate to come in contact with.”

Greene: “I believe in the idea behind the event. New event was described as the thanks have been appreciated, Jackson said that, ‘This is your all’s day school, this is why we have stages and spaces for students to show how incredible they are.”

Trustees

improved at Parkland from your perspective

Westfield: “As a recently appointed Trustee it would be hard to say what needs to be improved at Parkland. Many improvements have occurred over the past few years and more are slated for the future. I would say that I am impressed with the recent improvements to the Aviation and Advanced Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS) certification now being offered and the great potential that they offer for students. Additionally, I encouraged by Parkland’s efforts to increase its education marketing services in order to attract more diverse students.”

Greene: “The easy answer would be to find a way to increase enrollment and retention. That being said, I acknowledge that enrollment in community colleges is driven by the economy. So, when it comes to areas of improvement that we may have more control over, I would like to find a way to increase the number of students pursuing our career and technical programs. There are wonderful career oppor-tunities just waiting for students in these areas and I believe we should explore all avenues that may connect us to future students who may not even realize these programs exist at Parkland. Although we focus quite a bit on reaching career and technical program students while they are in high school, I also believe there may be significant opportunities for finding traditional opportunities for those who may be ready to make a career change. Our community needs an exceptionally trained workforce and Parkland can make that happen.”

Westfield: “When I submitted my letter of interest for appointment to the board, I stated that my desire to serve on Parkland’s Board of Trustees was based on the belief that for a community to succeed it must have committed members that have a vested interest in its success and a willingness to work to make that happen. This skill has held true for me today.

For nearly twenty-seven years I have worked in positions that have allowed me to put myself through school. I worked upwards to three jobs at a time to pay for my undergraduate stud-ies. Although I went on to earn my bache-lor’s degree from the University of Illinois and my law degree from Southern Illinois University, I am most thankful for the excel-lent education Parkland provided at a price tag I could afford. Those first two years formed the foundation upon which the rest of my educa-tion was built. I believe all students should have the same opportunity to be successful in the future of the college. I have continued to serve the Board or about how to best continue to serve the Board, I stated that my desire to serve on Parkland’s Board of Trustees was based on the belief that for a community to succeed it must have committed members that have a vested interest in its success and a willingness to work to make that happen.”

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FROM PAGE 1

Pride

was the more relaxed and we watched MIB II. That was all we needed to say anything. We redlined to a Vietnamese restaurant, where we adopted a student from MBLTACC who was sitting alone. Their name was Nhan and he came from, Osaka on his own. Nhan was going to drag show at Club Boomers after dinner. Pride member Priscilla and I joined Nhan and had a fun night. Once we got back to our hotel room, we relaxed and watched ME! That movie was not the best, but it was okay.

Being at MBLTACC was the more relaxing part of the journey. There were plenty of drag show speakers and workshops. Most of us from the group really liked the speaker Pagones. Pagones is Trans activist, educato, and filmmaker from Chicago, IL. They talked to us about Gender binaries from an Intersex perspective. “If there are infinite ways for our bodies to look, our minds to think, personalities to act, wouldn't it make sense that there is much more diversity in biology too?” Pagones said. They brought up a lot of thought-provoking points and they were really relaxed -occasionally tangential riffing. Pride member Kay almost cried during Pagones’s speech. Nyle DiMarco was another speaker we were looking forward to meeting. Nyle DiMarco is a visually fluid deaf activist who won America’s Next Top Model and Dancing With The Stars. During his speech, he played a part in dancing with the star where they cut all the music out while Nyle was dancing. It was magical, because for a second everyone in the audience became aware of Nyle’s experience of dancing without sound. It was a shame that some workshops were closed due to people canceling. That was all we needed to stay and eat. The person behind the counter wasn’t very positive energy, and it was nice to be around friends. Nhan and I sat by side of one of the restaurants called the Monarch, and it was cute. This one group of people in the restaurant couldn’t stop staring at us, like they had a problem with our group. One man in particular looked straight at us at almost the entire time, even as we all left. I gave him the cold shoulder and he stared right back as he was walking out.

The best part of MBLTACC was the Drag show at the end of the event hosted by ‘Penny-Tration,’ who called Wichita, ‘Wichetera.’ Our group got seats in the front row and there were many drag queens, and some whom we had seen our last night at Club Boomers. The drag king from before was definitely hitting on Priscilla. Drag queens were sitting all in the middle dancing and the camera operators couldn’t keep up. It was a long moment, with a crowd of people after party at Club Boomers. It was great that we got the chance to say goodbye to Nhan in the morning and he bought us souvenir T-shirts for the road. He was very sweet.

On our way back, things were relatively smooth until we got close to the border of Missouri and Illinois. I was in the car with Jessica that time. We stopped at a subway/gas station. We saw a truck outside covered in Confederate flags, and Jessica suggested maybe we stop somewhere else. While all of us felt uncomfortable, we decided to stay and eat. The person behind the counter was behind the counter was very positive energy, and it was nice to be around friends. Nhan and I sat by side of one of the restaurants called the Monarch, and it was cute. This one group of people in the restaurant couldn’t stop staring at us, like they had a problem with our group. One man in particular looked straight at us at almost the entire time, even as we all left. I gave him the cold shoulder and he stared right back as he was walking out.

Less than an hour or so later, we encountered an officer who pulled beside us and looked into our car. We were going 20 miles over the speed limit to avoid sliding off the icy road. The officer looked around us, Priscilla started laughing, and Jessica suggested maybe we stop somewhere else. While all of us felt uncomfortable, we decided to stay and eat. The person behind the counter was very positive energy, and it was nice to be around friends. Nhan and I sat by side of one of the restaurants called the Monarch, and it was cute. This one group of people in the restaurant couldn’t stop staring at us, like they had a problem with our group. One man in particular looked straight at us at almost the entire time, even as we all left. I gave him the cold shoulder and he stared right back as he was walking out.

Three of us from the group were all over the place while Nyle was dancing. It was great that we got the chance to say goodbye to Nhan in the morning and he bought us souvenir T-shirts for the road. He was very sweet.

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Cobra Sports

Parkland Selects Tapscott, Rose Jr. as February Athletes of the Month

By Chad Beyler

Yaakema Rose Jr. with 27 points, six rebounds, two assists, and two steals and second half, Rose Jr. joined by teammate Emmanuel Jr. to help the Cobras to a 27-point victory over the Warriors 75-57 and seven-game winning streak. Rose Jr. helped overcome a 35-1 first-half shooting percentage by Parkland. Despite the Cobras holding the lead for much of the first half, Rend Lake went on a 9-2 run to tie the game at 19-19 with 1.3 remaining in the first half. Rose Jr. then went on a 7-0 run and tied the half, including a tip-in basket at the buzzer, helping the Cobras hold the lead for the third time in the game and a 35-27 advantage at halftime.

Prior to today's game, head coach Anthony Figueroza and staff recognized four graduating seniors of the Cobra Women's Basketball team with a pre-game ceremony.


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The Prospectus is the Parkland College's campuswide student newspaper. It is a publication by students for students with a space conducive to the learning environment.

The Prospectus publishes weekly during Parkland's spring semester and online during the summer.

Sources: 
Chicago Tribune

According to Biography, Marjory Stoneman Douglas was a journalist and environmentalist who helped defend the Florida Everglades. Born on May 27, 1993, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. As a journalist, she advocated for the environment as well as women's rights. In 1987, she became known for her book, Everglades: River of Grass which was published in 1947. She was a writer and editor of the Miami Herald. Douglas also founded the National Rifle Association's Women's Sports Foundation, the Gun Rights Amendment of 1993, and the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School. In 1993, she received the Presidential Medal of Freedom.