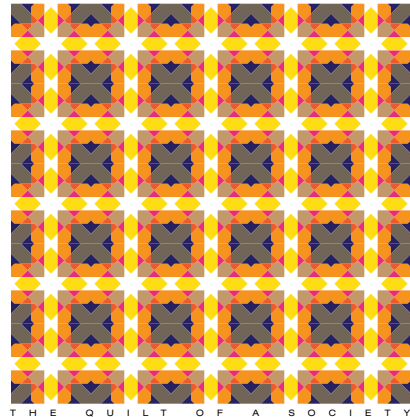


COMMUNITY NARRATIVES :: CAUS DIVERSITY INITIATIVE EXHIBITION



THE QUILT OF A SOCIETY

Based on your lived experiences, what does diversity mean in your life?



"For us, diversity is really about empathy. We realize each person we encounter has feelings, memories, goals, problems, and dreams; no matter the person's philosophy, or how different they may look. I came from a Southern Baptist upbringing and Arthur from rural West Virginia, so we were frequently faced with difficult circumstances because of a lack of understanding and exposure. In our nineteen years together, our travels and experiences have allowed our sense of empathy to grow into a way of life. Because of that, we enjoy the diversity of everyone we meet."

Brad Whitney with partner Arthur



"We all have our own stories and our own paths that led us to each other, to one common ground - rugby. - being a part of a rugby team is not about a box to "fit into" or a list of requirements to check off. We are a team of women from every corner of the map - different religious, social, and cultural backgrounds. It is about the sport we play and, the never ending support we give each other on and off the field."

Sarah Woynicz



"Diversity is about all of us! All there is, The differences that separate individuals from one another, what we can see and what we cannot. Diversity is one of the most important factors to enrich and beautify our society and one's experience in the journey of life. Thanks to the rich Diversity in my Country Colombia, I learned to love, accept, welcome and treat all my fellows, with the same respect and dignity; my personal journey has given me the great opportunity to meet beautiful and diverse people from all over the world. "No matter where I am, or how far I go, I will always embrace Colombia's big diversity, its culture and my roots with pride."

Ingrid Skenderian



"Both sides of my family are Vietnamese immigrants, refugees from war. My culture was foreign and embarrassing in America, so I used to only speak English. I'm learning Vietnamese again today, but I think back regretfully on all of the years that I let myself be satisfied with fluently understanding my native tongue, but not knowing how to reply. I am the first trueborn American generation of my family, but still tied to the label of "Asian immigrant"; I am the intermediary of the past and the present."

Cat Do



"It is the commitment to diversity that is most important. Because of the University's commitment to diversity I have been able to access all paths and buildings in my wheelchair. I know that adjustments would be made to accommodate me, allow my teaching and engagement in activities. I have seen this growth over my time with the school."

Ellen Braaten

