



Dear St. Ursula Academy Community,

As we embrace the season of spring, we would like to highlight the impactful work the Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) at St. Ursula Academy (SUA), along with various initiatives from our diverse community.

Diversity Advisory Committee's Mission:

The Diversity Advisory Committee (DAC) is committed to creating effective actions and solutions that promote anti-racism efforts, equity, equality, and inclusion within the St. Ursula Academy community. Our mission is to foster an environment that values diversity and ensures that every member feels seen, heard, and respected.

Black History Month Celebrations

In honor of Black History Month, SUA recognized and celebrated our Black alumnae. Their achievements and contributions serve as a source of inspiration for our community. Additionally, the Multicultural Club at SUA engaged in activities throughout the month, such as sharing facts about Black history and raising awareness about the importance of this celebration.

Women's History Month Observance

In honor of Women's History Month, SUA recognized and celebrated the remarkable accomplishments and contributions of women throughout history. The entire school community honored the countless women who have shaped our world and made significant strides in various fields.

The Women In Digital Arts class undertook a creative project to shine a light on influential women by designing a series of posters featuring remarkable women. These students and DAC sold these posters with the proceeds benefiting DAC initiatives. Additionally, during Sorelle (a weekly small-group meeting during the school day dedicated to strengthening the sisterhood among Arrows), students crafted cards for the women who have had a positive impact on their lives.

Stall Talk

The SUA Stall Talk initiative includes a poster displayed on the back of bathroom stalls throughout the school that offers information about a different topic every month.

During February, Stall Talk included a segment on Black History Month as well as ways to communicate with people who don't speak English. This information helped students prepare to make the visiting students from St. Ursula High School in Hachinohe, Japan feel welcome and accepted.

In March, Stall Talk presented a celebration of Women's History Month. It included a brief description of the month and inspiring quotes from iconic women. The poster included a Japanese translation to make it more inclusive of the Japanese students that were visiting.



Visiting Students

In March, the SUA community welcomed students from St. Ursula High School in Hachinohe, Japan! The students stayed with host SUA families for two weeks. During their stay, they experienced the day-to-day life of American high schoolers. They also attended and participated in the Spring Sports Pep Rally!

CK Kramer '25, a DAC member, interviewed visiting student Kanon (カノン). Kanon explained, "I think the class hours and school rules are quite different. I feel more free in America," when asked about something she didn't expect during her visit to America. In response to asking about her favorite part of America, Kanon shared, "I like the atmosphere; it's like a welcome party."

Another visitor from St. Ursula Hachinohe, Haruna Nakamura (なかむら はるな), talked to DAC member Cora Pearson '26 about the most interesting and/or shocking part of her trip. "I knew beforehand that American people were very friendly, but when I arrived, I found that they were even more friendly than I expected...I was surprised that they kept holding the door and waiting for me," Haruna explained. When asked what her favorite part of America is, she shared, "The food was really delicious...I liked it."

Classroom Initiatives

Individual classes at SUA took part in commemorating Black History Month by incorporating educational activities. Students explored and appreciated the rich history and culture of Black individuals. Some classes read poems about or written by Black people, contributing to a more comprehensive understanding of the impact and significance of Black history.

Students in Theology 1 researched and reported on various religions of the world, creating infographics that they displayed in the halls. Students investigated various perspectives as part of the Freshman curriculum. The project was an exercise in compassionate understanding and intellectual inquiry as expressed in SUA's mission statement. In learning about other religions, students can appreciate the differences, while celebrating the universal values that all faiths share.

2024 Climate Survey

SUA recently conducted its 2024 Climate Survey. This anonymous survey, distributed to all students by Dr. Shanda Gore and Mays & Associates, is a vital tool for the DAC to gather valuable insights into the current state of diversity at SUA. The survey allowed students to share their honest thoughts. The input will help guide DAC in developing strategic initiatives to make SUA an even more inclusive and diverse community.

These initiatives, perspectives, and experiences are essential in shaping the future of SUA.

Thank you for your continued support as we strive to foster a community that values diversity and promotes a sense of belonging for all.

Best regards,

Diversity Advisory Committee

St. Ursula Academy