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**SHIPPENSBURG  
UNIVERSITY**

Office of Multicultural  
Student Affairs

100 Gilbert Hall  
1871 Old Main Drive • (717) 477-1616  
[msa@ship.edu](mailto:msa@ship.edu) • [SHIP.EDU/MSA](https://ship.edu/MSA)

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**SHIPPENSBURG  
UNIVERSITY**



## EMBRACE DIVERSITY

It is the mission of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs (MSA) at Shippensburg University to aid in the overall experience of students by creating opportunities for inclusive interaction and engagement and building a supportive environment with services that promote social justice and cultural change.

We create opportunities for inclusive engagement which cultivate academic success and encourages personal and professional development. MSA educates, empowers, and advocates for the holistic development of all students at the university.

MSA is committed to academic achievement and retention with graduation being the primary goal. The MSA WEB Dubois Excellence Academy, the SET (Seeking Excellence Together) Study Incentive Program, The Learning Tree Book Exchange and Harambee (Let's Pull Together) Book Scholarship focus on motivating students to strive for excellence in their academic pursuits.



MSA supports the academic vision of the institution; to encourage students to strive to be their best self, strive to learn, strive to take their turn; and to recognize that education can, and does, change lives.

## DEVELOPING REAL LEADERS

MSA builds leaders by providing students with training and experiences from a global/multicultural perspective, ensuring MSA leaders are equipped to perform on a world stage.

The REAL (Rigorous Expectation of All Leaders) institute is designed for returning students who are members of the MSA Leadership contingent and/or returning students who have expressed a desire to be part of the leadership group. The PEERS (Promoting Excellence through Establishing Relationships for Success) institute is designed for first year students who demonstrate a commitment to self-exploration, academic excellence, diversity awareness and leadership development, scholarship, and community service.







## OUR CREED

### DIVERSITY...

It's not JUST a RACE thing

It's not JUST a GENDER thing

It's not JUST a RELIGIOUS thing

It's not JUST a CLASS thing

It's not JUST a SEXUAL IDENTITY thing

It's not JUST an ETHNICITY thing

It's not JUST a \_\_\_\_\_

It's a **HUMAN** thing

### MSA STRIVES TO

**SUPPORT** students of marginalized communities to increase their success.

**MAGNIFY** awareness and comprehension of diversity issues through programs, events and training.

**ASSIST** the campus community and aid student organizations that align with our mission in order to expand their efforts to cultivate an inclusive community.



### HOW DOES MSA DO IT

**KEEPING THE CONNECTION** | MSA leaders serve in high profile positions such as Orientation Team Leaders, Resident Assistants, Admission Ambassadors, and the Student Government Association. The impact of the MSA is seen and felt throughout the entire campus.

**INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICES** | MSA provides life coaching, referral services to support systems, and serves as a liaison and advocate. MSA is your home away from home.

**DIVERSITY EDUCATION AND TRAINING** | MSA offers a wide array of programs created to promote diversity, including but not limited to, The Cultural Immersion Experiences, Building Bridges Classroom Initiative, Dear People Players, and the Made To Order workshop development and training.

MSA staff tailors and presents diversity workshops, motivational speeches and lectures for the campus and community at large. Each student group within MSA also conducts small group activities designed to promote inclusiveness like The Student Round Tables, ACT, the SHIP Unity Project, The Great Debate, The Master's Class and The Uncensored Series.



### CULTURAL ENRICHMENT PROGRAMS |

MSA creates campus- and community-wide programs that educate, engage, and empower cultural awareness. We bring students together through food, festivals and fun as a mechanism to promote interaction and understanding. All our events are designed to celebrate and acknowledge contributions of underrepresented groups as well as commemorate national occasions. The programs are free and open to the public.

Latino Explosion | Hip Hop Campus Invasion | Diversity Festival | Kwanzaa | Free To Be Me and U Ballers Ball | Martin Luther King March for Humanity | Black Experience Tribute | Women's History Big Hat Brunch | African Fair | Asian New Year Extravaganza | Multi-Ethnic Fusion Festival

### COMMUNITY LINKAGE PROGRAM/ VOLUNTEER INITIATIVE |

Each One, Reach One, Teach One is a hallmark of MSA where avenues are provided for students to become involved with service-learning opportunities that provide community/global awareness and involvement as well as practical experiences working in diverse environments and a global marketplace.

African American Youth Summit | The Latino Youth Summit | The BROTHERS (Building Character, Retaining Men, Opening Minds, Teaching Tolerance, Helping Up, Empowering Lives, R) | Youth Summit DIVAS (Developing Dignity, Inspiring Intellect, Voicing Victory, Acquiring Assertiveness, Satisfying Self) | YES (Young Educated Sisters) | Feed A Friend Program | Roots African Village Project | Parent Partnership Program | Impact Fellowship Gospel Outreach Program

MSA also collaborates with a myriad of campus programs such as the Academic Success Program, Residence Life, the First Year Experience program, Drug and Alcohol Program, CUB, Pride Center, and more.

### MSA PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

**BUILDING BRIDGES** | Focuses on small group discussion and interaction as a means to openly and frankly discuss issues related to diversity.

**PEERS** | Promoting Excellence through Establishing Relationships for Success

Volunteers make a commitment to themselves and to others in the program to strive for excellence in every aspect of college life.

**SET** | Seeking Excellence Together  
Designed to improve academic achievement by providing incentives and reinforcements.

**LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT INSTITUTE** | Prepares incoming students for future leadership roles. This culturally competent leadership series prepares incoming students for future roles.

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH PROGRAMS |

Involves students in community efforts including local high school groups, churches, and civic organizations.

**LEST WE FORGET SERIES** | Teaches historical, cultural, and political perspectives about other cultures, ethnic groups, etc.

**ALUMNI NETWORK** | This initiative connects students from underrepresented groups with Alumni professionals in specific fields. Overcoming the odds is the foundation of this experience.

**PARENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM** |  
Going for the Gold is designed to include parents in initiatives that enhance student success. It takes a village to help students succeed and parents play an important role.

**HISTORICALLY AFRICAN AMERICAN GREEKS (NPHC) AND MULTICULTURAL GREEK COUNCIL** | MSA works in conjunction with the Office of Fraternity and Sorority Life to cultivate the Historically African American and Multicultural Greek experience at the university.

