

# The NEWSLINE

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## Multiculturalism vs. Diversity

*Written by: Maria G. Fabregas-Janeiro*

I grew up, like most of all of us in a monoculture environment; at least that is what I thought my whole life! My life was simple, and I did not have to deal with intercultural, multicultural, or diversity issues, I did not understand the meaning of those words. My family and all my friends looked very similar, acted and behaved the same way, we lived in a safe and protected place. I never was worried or pressured to interact with people that did not look like me or act like me. I never had the curiosity to think that it could be possible, there were different people from different cultures, I definitively grew up in a monoculture bubble!

When I moved to the United States, for the first time I started hearing terms like minorities, diversity and a lot more that I do not remember anymore. I met people from China, the Middle East, Native Americans and African Americans, among others. I started realizing that my culture was not the only one or at least it was not the center of the universe. I started realizing that my values, sense of time, family and people interactions were not universals.

To make things worse, my English skills were very limited, and it was my only way to communicate and interact with people in the United States. It was hard for me to be understood, and it was hard to fit in. I did not feel welcome. I unconsciously decided to isolate myself from the rest of the people, and started just interacting with people from my own culture. It was just so much easier; it was very comfortable and less challenging. I was just living in a multicultural environment without making any effort to live in a diverse society.

After my experiences, I understood that even when many people, dictionaries and textbooks make no difference between a multicultural and diverse environment. I NEED TO DO IT!

Authors like, Caleb (1978) defined multiculturalism as recognizing the presence of diverse ethnicities, races and/or groups in an organization or society. According to this definition, there is no doubt in my mind that OSU is a multicultural institution. However, to become a diverse institution, we need to do more. Each one of us needs to recognize the presence of different groups and BE WILLING TO INTERACT WITH THEM, Iowa State University, and this is could be a challenge!

Americans and foreign students, faculty, and staff members, we need to challenge ourselves. We need to start interacting with people who are different from us. I challenge you! Give yourself the opportunity! It will be hard, because we need to understand that our culture should not be the one that rules the world; it is not the only culture that is right. It will be hard, because we will need to learn how to be respectful. It will be a challenge, because I am not used to eating what they eat, I am not used to talking like they talk. It will be a challenge because it is hard to

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# Family and Graduate Student Housing Office

## A note from the FGSH Coordinator

Greetings! As we progress further into the Spring semester, I want to take time to remind everyone of contract renewals. Please remember that whether you are continuing your education or leaving OSU at the end of May, you must inform the FGSH Office of your future plans for the 2012-2013 academic year. This year, we have made some exciting new updates to the renewal process. One of the biggest changes is that renewals will now be done completely online--this means that you will be able to renew your housing contract from any computer with an internet connection. Another major change is that all secondaries (non-family member roommates) will also complete the renewal process; this will allow secondaries the opportunity to ensure that their information is correct in our system. Renewals for all neighborhoods will occur at the same time; the online contract renewal form will be open to everyone from April 2-13, 2012. We will be sending more information out to you regarding how to complete your online contract renewal as we get closer to the end of March. For those of you who will not be continuing your education at OSU after May 2012, you need to give the FGSH office at least one month notice and plan to vacate by no later than May 31, 2012. If you are planning on placing your apartment in summer storage for the summer, you will need to sign a storage agreement contract and renewal. Thank you for choosing to live in Family & Graduate Student Housing. We look forward to having you here next year!



**Sarah Wilkey**  
FRC & FGSH Coordinator



## Help OSU Conserve Energy

- As often as possible, wash your clothes in cold water. Experts agree that modern laundry detergents wash just as well in cold as in hot water, but without the cost to heat the water.
- Daylight Savings Time is all about the "lights." Whenever possible, use one light bulb instead of multiple bulbs. A single 100-watt incandescent bulb produces the same amount of light as two 60-watt bulbs - but uses 20% less energy for some extra savings. And to save even more, use compact fluorescent light bulbs.

## Apartment Maintenance

The Facilities Management Office is the office that handles maintenance issues. If your apartment requires maintenance you should contact the FMO at 744-8510. The FMO is open 8am-8pm. In case of a maintenance emergency after 8pm or on weekends, contact the Physical Plant Action Desk at 744-7154

## Newsline Online

Interested in receiving your newsletter electronically? Send an email to sarah.wilkey@okstate.edu with your name and email address. You will still receive a paper version.

Sarah Wilkey, FGSH & FRC Coordinator, may be reached by phone at 405-744-6539 or by e-mail at sarah.wilkey@okstate.edu

Family and Graduate Student Housing  
100 Iba  
Stillwater, OK 74078  
405-744-5353

Family Resource Center  
719 N. Walnut  
Stillwater, OK 74078  
405-744-6539

### ***Multiculturalism vs. Diversity cont.***

understand them. It will be a challenge because interacting with people from other cultures simply is unnatural (Bennett, 1993)

However, many people like me understand that the effort to become a diverse person and help OSU to become diverse institution is worth it. Are you aware that between 10 and 40 percent of the people that are assigned to work outside the United States have to be recalled or dismissed because of because their poor performance (Bahawuk & Brislin, 1992)? Do you think that this is because they are technically unprepared? No way!

The problem is and will be always (if we do not become a diverse person) the difficulty to work with people from other cultures. Challenge yourself! Give yourself the opportunity to live in a diverse environment! Promise me one thing, next time you see a person who is not from your own culture, greet him/her, try to make conversation, and try to put yourself in their shoes. I promise you that will be hard but worth it.

#### *References*

Bennett, M. J. (1993). *Towards ethnorelativism: A developmental model of intercultural sensitivity*. In R. M. Paige (Ed.), *Education for the intercultural experience* (pp. 21-71). Yarmouth, ME: Intercultural Press.

Bhawuk, D. P. S., & Brislin, R. (1992). *The measurement of intercultural sensitivity using the concepts of individualism and collectivism*. *International Journal of Intercultural Relations*, 16(4), 413-436.

Caleb, R. (1998). *What Makes a School Multicultural?* Retrieved from [www.edchange.org/multicultural/papers/caleb/multicultural.htm](http://www.edchange.org/multicultural/papers/caleb/multicultural.htm)

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## **FGSH Garden Plots**

Enrollment for the 2012 FGSH Community Gardening season is about to begin. For those of you who may not know the FGSH Community Garden Program allows residents to lease a garden plot within the FGSH Garden for the 2012 growing season. The garden provides an excellent opportunity for residents to grow healthy and nutritious food, socialize with other gardeners and enjoy the outdoors. To enroll in the program and reserve your plot, primary residents must come to one of the two Community Garden Registration Nights. Registration will be held at the FRC in Room 112 on Tuesday, March 6 and Friday, March 9 starting at 7pm. During the registration time residents will learn of the Garden's policies and procedures, tools that will be available and how to use them, and of the garden programs offered this year through the FRC.

For residents who choose not to take part, it is important to remember that the FGSH Community Garden is for those who enroll in the program. The tools used at the garden and vegetables grown are the property of the FRC and the FGSH Community Gardeners. Please respect the hard work of the gardeners by refraining from tampering with or taking any of the produce or tools from the garden.

*Newsline*, a FGSH publication, is produced and published monthly by Amanda Lanning, Communications & Marketing Residence Director. She may be reached by phone at 405-744-6539 or by e-mail at [amanda.lanning@okstate.edu](mailto:amanda.lanning@okstate.edu)

# Apartment Assistant News

## Neighborhood Gatherings

### BRUMLEY

Sunday, March 18 • 6pm at the Brumley Hall  
Spring Crafts / Romanian Food: Salads, meatballs, desert & Drinks.

### WILLIAMS

Saturday, March 24 • 5pm at the FRC  
Outdoor games / Cookies, cakes, fruits and drinks.

### MORRISON

Saturday, March 24 • 6pm at the FRC  
Bingo / Subs and salad.

### PROSSER

Saturday, March 24 • 6pm at the FRC  
Crochet with loom / Pizza, chips and donuts.

### DEMAREE

Saturday, March 31 • 7pm at the FRC  
Karaoke Night / Nigerian cuisine

### STEVENS

Saturday, March 31 • 7pm at the FRC  
Bingo / Subs and salad.

### WEST

Saturday, March 31 • 5pm at the FRC  
Introducing American Culture: Easter Looking for Eggs / Hot dogs, sticky rice, fruit and sodas

## Health & Safety Inspections to begin

FGSH is currently conducting our annual Health and Safety Inspections. An FGSH Apartment Assistant will be entering your apartment to check the condition of several key areas in your residence to ensure that everything is in working order. These checks will allow us to ensure that routine maintenance can be performed if necessary. Please be assured that we are performing these checks to keep your apartment as well-maintained as possible. These checks are mandatory for every apartment in FGSH. Due to the number of checks we must perform, we cannot schedule individual appointments for each apartment. If you are not home, the AA will leave a notice so that you know the inspection was completed. Thank you for your cooperation as we perform these important maintenance checks.

**Brumley**  
Neighborhood

**Rania Basyouni & Nabil Rashdan**  
Bldg. 125, Apt. 5  
744-1389  
rania.basyouni@okstate.edu

120, 121, 122, 123, 124, 125

**Demaree**  
Neighborhood

**Andrea Moore**  
Bldg. 41 , Apt. 5  
744-3452  
landrea@okstate.edu

S36, S37, S38, S39, S40, S41, S42

**Morrison**  
Neighborhood

**Mitch & Tiffany Tillison**  
Bldg. 247, Apt. 204  
744-3776  
mitch.tillison@okstate.edu

245, 246, 247, 248

**Prosser**  
Neighborhood

**Agus Widarjono & Dewi Sri Sudewi**  
Bldg. 20, Apt. 9  
744-1213  
agus.widarjono@okstate.edu

N16, N17, N18, N19, N20, N21, N22, N23, N24, N25, N26, N27, N28

**Stevens**  
Neighborhood

**Foad Mahdavi & Pia Guyman**  
Bldg. 75, Apt. 1  
744-2783  
pia.guyman@okstate.edu  
mahdavi@okstate.edu

S70, S71, S72, S73, S74, S75, S76, S90, S91, S92

**West**  
Neighborhood

**Ky Le & Vinh Nguyen**  
Bldg. 89, Apt. 5  
744-3145  
ky.le@okstate.edu

S80, S81, S82, S83, S84, S85, S86, S87, S88, S89

**Williams**  
Neighborhood

**Wafa & Mahmoud Mistarihi**  
Bldg. 103, Apt. 3  
744-4931  
mistari@okstate.edu  
wafam@okstate.edu  
N12, N13, N14, N15, N101, N102, N103, N104, N105

# FGSH News

## The BUS--Campus and Community Transit

The BUS is the campus and community transit service operated by the Department of Parking and Transit Services at OSU. The BUS provides fixed-route transit services throughout Stillwater and the OSU campus. Two routes provide service on the main campus every 7 minutes from 6 am to 7pm and every 15 minutes after 7pm. The BUS also provides public transportation in Stillwater to all citizens from 6:30am to 7pm Monday through Friday. The BUS fares are as follows:

OSU Students, Faculty, and Staff ..... Free with ID  
General Public ..... 50 cents (\$0.50)  
Child Under 5 ..... Free when accompanied by paying passenger  
Child/Young Adult age 5-18; Seniors age 60+ ..... 25 cents (\$0.25)  
Persons with ADA Disability Card & Persons with Medicare Card ..... 25 cents (\$0.25)  
Exact fare required; fares are for one-way trips. Return trips require additional payment.  
For route information, visit [www.transit.okstate.edu](http://www.transit.okstate.edu).



**Keep up with the FRC on Facebook! Search “OSU Family Resource Center” and like our page. Make sure to check daily to find important FGSH information and for chances to win prizes!**

## Newsline Online

Interested in receiving your *Newsline* electronically?  
Send an e-mail to [sarah.wilkey@okstate.edu](mailto:sarah.wilkey@okstate.edu) with your name and the e-mail address you want to use. You will still receive a paper version.

## Shopping Shuttle (free for all FGSH residents)

**Sign up for the shuttle at the Laundry Mart 30 minutes prior to the shuttle’s departure.**

### Monday & Wednesday Schedule

5:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..... To Sultan International Market  
6:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
7pm (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
7:10pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments  
7:30pm (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
7:40pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments  
8:10pm (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments  
8:40pm (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments

### Saturday Schedule

9am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
9:30am (Pick Up @ Brumley Office) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
9:40am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments  
10:00am (Pick Up @ Laundry) ..... To Walmart & Food Pyramid  
10:10am & 11am (Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments  
11:40am (Final Pick Up @ Walmart/Food Pyramid) ..... Return to FGSH Apartments

Enrique Sanchez,  
Community Relations  
Residence Director may  
be reached by phone  
at 405-744-6539 or  
by e-mail at [enriqjs@okstate.edu](mailto:enriqjs@okstate.edu)

# Youth & Family Programs

## Youth and Family Programs Schedule Spring 2012

Kindergarten Kids Club (age 4-5) .....	Monday-Friday, 4 - 6pm
After School Adventures (ages 6-11).....	Monday-Friday, 4 - 6pm
Book Club (ages 9-12) .....	Monday, 6:30 - 7:30pm
Toddler Time (ages 2-3) .....	Tuesday & Thursday, 9:30 - 11:30am
Teen Club (ages 12-17) .....	Tuesday & Thursday, 6:30 - 8pm
Cowboys & Cowgirls 4-H Club (ages 9-17)* .....	Wednesdays, 4:30 - 6pm
Family Story Hour (ages 0-4): .....	Friday, 10 - 11am
Practical Parenting.....	Friday, 11:30am - 12:30pm

## Youth & Family Programs Update

At this time, all Youth and Family programs are full. If you are interested in signing up your children on the waiting list, please send Amie an email.

## Program Cancellations & Holidays

There will be no Book Club on Monday, March 5 in lieu of a FRC staff meeting. There will be no Youth & Family Programs Monday, March 19 through Sunday, March 25 in observance of the OSU Spring Break Holiday. Regular programs will resume on Monday, March 26.

## Family Dinner & Game Night

Please join the Youth & Family Programs Staff as they host Family Dinner & Game Night on Tuesday, March 13, from 7 to 8:30pm. Children of all ages and their families are invited to enjoy a free meal and participate in games for the whole family. Due to the nature of this program, children must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. Teen Club will be cancelled in lieu of the event.

## Wondertorium Field Trip

The Youth & Family Programming Staff will be taking children ages 8 to 11 to the Oklahoma Wondertorium on Sunday afternoon, March 11. The Wondertorium is Stillwater's children's museum featuring hands-on exhibits appropriate for children under 12 years of age. This field trip is only open to children currently enrolled in FRC programs. Permission forms will be sent home Thursday, March 1, during After School Adventures.

The Oklahoma Wondertorium is a Children's Museum located here in Stillwater. Museum exhibits include explorations in science, art and water play. Museum hours are Tuesday through Saturday 10am-5pm and Sunday 1-5pm. Admission is \$6 per person. Family memberships are also available. Learn more by visiting the museum website: <http://www.okwondertorium.org/>

Amie Allen, Youth & Family Programs Coordinator, may be reached by phone at 405-744-6539 or by e-mail at [amie.allen@okstate.edu](mailto:amie.allen@okstate.edu)

# Community Development

## Community Development Programs Schedule for Spring 2012

Intermediate English with Soha**	Monday, 9:30 – 10:45am
English Grammar with Soha**	Monday, 11am – 12pm
Everyday English with Maria**	Monday, 12:30 – 1:30pm
Around Stillwater w/ Carmen & Courtney	Monday, 1:30 – 3:00pm
Tricks of the English Language with Caitlin	Monday, 3 – 4pm
Arabic Language w/ Farag & Mona**	Tuesday, 10 – 11:30am
English Conversation with Caitlin**	Tuesday, 11:30 – 12:30pm
Advanced English with Dana	Tuesday, 1:30 – 2:45pm
Book Club with Carmen	Tuesday, 3pm – 4pm
English in the Media with Carmen	Tuesday, 4 – 5pm
Situational English with Zhanna**	Wednesday, 9:30 – 10:30am
English Grammar with Zhanna**	Wednesday, 10:30 – 11:30am
U.S. History with Adran**	Wednesday, 12:30 – 1:30pm
Cooking Demo w/ Courtney, Carmen & Caitlin**	Wednesday, 1:30 – 3pm
Current Events Conversation with Courtney	Wednesday, 3 – 4pm
English Basics with Courtney**	Thursday, 9:30 – 10:30am
Heath & Nutrition with Mai**	Thursday, 10:30 – 11:30am
Pronunciation Skills with Caitlin	Thursday, 1 – 2:15pm
Listening & Speaking Skills with Dana	Thursday, 2:30 – 3:45pm
Experience Korea w/Helen Hyeyoung Park & Jin Young Im	Thursday, 5:30 – 7pm
Reading Skills with Zhanna**	Friday, 9:30 – 10:30am
Basic Spanish/English Conversation with Maria**	Friday, 10:30 – 11:30am
Craft Class with Courtney and Dana**	Friday, 1:30 – 3:15pm
Writing Skills with Courtney	Friday, 3:30 – 4:30pm
Survival English with Ron Avants	Saturday, 6 – 7:30pm
Intermediate English with Ron Avants	Saturday, 7:30 – 9pm

\*\*Child care is provided

## Professional Development Workshop

Need help getting organized and handling stress better? Come learn with us during a workshop series with Veronica Sutton, Outreach Specialist from the OSU Academic and Career Development Center. Veronica will be speaking on anxiety and stress management on Monday, March 19 and then on Tuesday, March 20 she will be speaking on organization and time management. The workshop will be 1-2pm on Monday and Tuesday in the FRC Great Room.

## National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum

Join us on a trip to Oklahoma City to visit the National Cowboy and Western Heritage Museum on Saturday March 10, from 12:30 to 6pm. The museum collects an internationally renowned collection of Western art and artifacts. There is limited seating so sign-up quick at the FRC front desk!

## Edible Book Festival

Stillwater Public Library is hosting their annual Edible Book Festival on Saturday March 31. We will meet at the FRC at 1:30pm to attend the festival from 2-3pm. This is a celebration of books and food. There is limited seating available so hurry and sign-up at the FRC front desk!

*All classes will be canceled the week of March 18 - 24 in observance of OSU Spring Break. Classes will resume normal on Monday, March 26.*

Jessica Agnew,  
Community  
Development Residence  
Director, may be  
reached by phone at  
405-744-6539 or by  
e-mail at  
jagnew@okstate.edu

Programs made possible  
by funding and services  
provided by Family  
and Graduate Student  
Housing, OSU Student  
Activity Board Fee and  
the Stillwater Literacy  
Council.

# March 2012

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
				1 9:30am English Basics 9:30am TT 10:30am Hlth & Nut. 1pm Pronunciation 2:30 Listening Skills 5:30pm Experience Korea 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	2 9:30am Reading Skills 10am FSH 10:30am Spanish 11:30am PP 1:30pm Craft Class 3:30pm Writing Skills 4pm KKC, ASA	3 9am SS 6pm Survival English 7:30pm Intern. English	
4	5 9:30am Intern. English 11am Grammar 12:30pm Everyday Engl. 1:30pm Around Stillwater 3pm Engl. Language Tricks 4pm KKC, ASA 5:30pm SS	6 9:30am TT 10am Arabic 11:30am English Conversations 1:30pm Adv. English 3pm Book Club 4pm Media English 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	7 9:30am Situational Eng. 10:30am Eng. Grammar 12:30pm U.S. History 1:30pm Cooking Demo 3pm Current Events 4pm KKC, ASA 4:30pm 4-H 5:30pm SS	8 9:30am English Basics 9:30am TT 10:30am Hlth & Nut. 1pm Pronunciation 2:30pm Listening Skills 5:30pm Experience Korea 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	9 9:30am Reading Skills 10am FSH 10:30am Spanish 11:30am PP 1:30pm Craft Class 3:30pm Writing Skills 4pm KKC, ASA	10 9am SS 6pm Survival English 7:30pm Intern. English  <b>12:30pm</b> <i>National Cowboy &amp; Western Heritage Museum</i>	
11 <i>Wondertorium Field Trip</i>	12 9:30am Intern. English 11am Grammar 12:30pm Everyday Engl. 1:30pm Around Stillwater 3pm Engl. Language Tricks 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm BC# 5:30pm SS	13 9:30am TT 10am Arabic 11:30am English Conversations 1:30pm Adv. English 3pm Book Club 4pm Media English 4pm KKC, ASA <b>7pm Family Dinner &amp; Game Night</b>	14 9:30am Situational Eng. 10:30am Eng. Grammar 12:30pm U.S. History 1:30pm Cooking Demo 3pm Current Events 4pm KKC, ASA 4:30pm 4-H 5:30pm SS	15 9:30am English Basics 9:30am TT 10:30am Hlth & Nut. 1pm Pronunciation 2:30 Listening Skills 5:30pm Experience Korea 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	16 9:30am Reading Skills 10am FSH 10:30am Spanish 11:30am PP 1:30pm Craft Class 3:30pm Writing Skills 4pm KKC, ASA	17 9am SS 6pm Survival English 7:30pm Intern. English	
18 <i>6pm Brumley</i>	19 <i>1pm Professional Development Workshop</i>	20 <i>1pm Professional Development Workshop</i>	<b>No Programs - Spring Break March 18-24</b>				24 <i>5pm Williams</i>  <i>6pm Morrison &amp; Prosser</i>
25	26 9:30am Intern. English 11am Grammar 12:30pm Everyday Engl. 1:30pm Around Stillwater 3pm Engl. Language Tricks 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm BC# 5:30pm SS	27 9:30am TT 10am Arabic 11:30am English Conversations 1:30pm Adv. English 3pm Book Club 4pm Media English 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	28 9:30am Situational Eng. 10:30am Eng. Grammar 12:30pm U.S. History 1:30pm Cooking Demo 3pm Current Events 4pm KKC, ASA 4:30pm 4-H 5:30pm SS	29 9:30am English Basics 9:30am TT 10:30am Hlth & Nut. 1pm Pronunciation 2:30pm Listening Skills 5:30pm Experience Korea 4pm KKC, ASA 6:30pm TC	30 9:30am Reading Skills 10am FSH 10:30am Spanish 11:30am PP 1:30 Craft Class 3:30pm Writing Skills 4pm KKC, ASA	31 9am SS 6pm Survival English 7:30pm Intern. English  <b>2pm Edible Book Festival</b>  <i>5pm West</i> <i>7pm Demaree &amp; Stevens</i>	

FSH-Family Story Hour

KKC-Kindergarten Kids Club

TT-Toddler Time

ASA-After School Adventure

SS-Shopping Shuttle

TC-Teen Club

PP-Practical Parenting

BC#-Book Club for Youth & Family

TOEL-Tricks of the English Language