



CMC News

October 2013

President
Gina Davis

Executive Director
Eugene Dumas

Treasurer
Nodee McNeal

Board of Directors
Glen Barwegan
Ruby Donahue
Micheal Mireles
Cynthia Pryor
Monica Regan
Melisa Watson

The Center for
Multicultural Communities
202 S. Halsted
Chicago Heights, IL
60411
708-709-3797
cmcdirect@gmail.com

Message from the Director

Even though we are more than a decade into the 21st century, some people still seem to have problems because the traditional social order has, and continues to be, disturbed. The reaction of some after a very fine Indian woman won the 2013 Miss America pageant is compelling evidence that racism is still America's "cancer". And, it is not in remission, as ex-senator Bill Bradley once said. This is one of the reasons CMC continues to work to end racism. Whether it's in the workplace, education or housing, racism should be "persona non grata" in a society as advanced as ours.

Our recent activities include a visit to the Taste of Thornton celebration, two seminars on "Advantages of a Multicultural Society" with Diversity Inc., a presentation on Coping Skills for a Multicultural Society, and a booth at the Prairie State College vendor's fair.

~ Eugene Dumas

Attendance at The Taste of Thornton

Various CMC representatives spoke with those who visited our table. We explained to them our work in the region to eradicate racism and foster egalitarianism. Visitors were supportive and accepted information about our activities. Some expressed a desire to have CMC conduct workshops for their organizations.

Seminars for Diversity Inc.

Discrimination continues to be a problem in housing throughout the region and the nation, despite the passing of many fair housing laws. The first major federal legislation was passed in 1968. Diversity Inc. asked CMC to conduct seminars that explain the genesis of the problem. We agreed, and taught about the distorted, self-serving concept of "race" that began in America, the continuing significance of this concept, and some advantages of a multicultural community. Eugene Dumas conducted the first seminar in South Holland. The second one was conducted in Hazel Crest with Jim Wessendorf and Eugene. Both seminars received positive feedback.

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Future Events

- Oct. 22 – seminar at Moraine Valley Community College
- Nov. 4 – co-hosting a seminar featuring James Meredith at Prairie State College
- Nov. 20 – seminar in Joliet, IL
- Dec. 4 – seminar for 27 teachers in Harvey, IL.

Quote of the Month

Our quote for the month comes from the book: Color Blind, The Rise of Post-Racial Politics and the Retreat from Racial Equity, by Tim Wise, page 191.

“Only by facing reality and resolving to do better might we have any hope of undoing racism and all of its effects. Only by committing ourselves to color-consciousness – meaning and awareness of the consequences of color in a historically white-dominated nation – can we even theoretically begin to alter those consequences.”

An Open Invitation

Come and join us as we work to enhance cultural competence and promote racial harmony. You may do so with a tax-deductible contribution. Or, become a member by taking a workshop.

Some Workshops

- Race, Society and Daily Life
- Understanding & Respecting Individual Difference
- Coping Skills for a Multicultural Society

Call or email today to find out more!