

Star

View



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Sheena Byrne
Filling lives. Filling lives.

Volunteers Whistle While They Work

Approximately 70 volunteers of the UST community participated in the fourth annual President's Day of Service, Saturday, Feb. 9.

Organized by Director of the Office of Volunteer Opportunities Ellie Collier, with help from student coordinators Sheena Byrne, Murray Myers, Tom Mendez and Mary Ann Shaw, the day included four service projects.

By the end of the day, volunteers had prepared a meal at the Open Door Mission, sorted groceries from the Souper Bowl of Caring at the Houston Food Bank, planted trees at Jackson Middle School as part of the Trees for Houston project, and mulched and planted trees at the Houston Arboretum.

UST President Robert Ivany kicked off the volunteer morning with inspirational remarks during breakfast in Crooker Center Cafeteria. After breakfast, volunteers boarded buses to head to one of their projects.

The Day of Service gives students, faculty, staff and alumni the opportunity to come together in service of the community.

"Giving back to the community is a win-win situation," Mendez said. "Not only do I grow in character, but I develop a closer relationship with my fellow volunteers, as well as those I am helping."

Dr. Ivany designated the annual Day of Service after he was inaugurated in January of 2005.

Enrich Your Mind at CIS Film and Documentary Series



A collection of mainstream and independent films will take audiences to rowdy soccer stadiums and to faces filled with tragedy, anger and fear in Central and Eastern Asia at the UST Center for International Studies Film and

Documentary Series. The February films, some acclaimed and some virtually unknown, were chosen for their international relevance by a board of CIS students and faculty. Spotlighting a variety of topics from politics and economics to culture and the environment, the films will play from 12:30 to 2 p.m. Tuesdays in Tiller Hall, Room 116. Coming up:

Feb. 19 • Europe
History of Soccer:
The Beautiful Game

Some believe soccer is a matter of

life or death. Some believe it is more than that. This documentary is a celebration of the sport. Packed with never-before-seen footage, the film illuminates legends Pelé, Diego Maradona and Zinedine Zidane.

Feb. 26 • Central and East Asia
Japan and China: The Unforgotten War;
India: The Sex Warriors;
Burma: State of Fear

These documentaries offer a unique perspective on current events and challenges facing citizens of Central and Eastern Asia.

Seeing Double in Cameron School



Awa and Amy Dosso

With dreams of one day opening up a business together, 25-year-old twins Amy and Awa Dosso left their home in Africa's Ivory Coast to pursue MBAs at UST's Cameron School of Business.

The sisters journeyed to Houston in the fall of 2007 to familiarize themselves with the city and take English language courses before beginning graduate school at UST this spring.

Amy and Awa received their undergraduate degrees in engineering and marketing, respectively, from the Houphouët Boigny National Polytechnic Institute in Ivory Coast.

After graduation, both worked for a year, Amy as a project manager for the cabinet of their country's prime minister, and Awa as a marketing activation manager for Coca-Cola. They decided to attend the UST upon a recommendation by their older sister, Fatou Dosso, who received an MBA from the Cameron School in 2004.

Amy and Awa agree that the close-knit community and the opportunity to have classroom

discussions with professors are the most rewarding aspects of the program.

"We have interesting discussions in class and we try to learn from one another," Amy said. "At my former university, you didn't have the chance to discuss things in class or have the opportunity to say what you want. Things are very different here. The teachers are very patient and you are able to ask questions."

Amy is focusing her graduate studies in management information systems and Awa in finance. Despite their busy schedules, they still manage to find time to pursue shared interests, such as interior design and cooking, especially native African dishes and French pastries.

Both plan to return to Africa after graduating and ultimately want to open an event planning business together in their native country, specializing in weddings and corporate events. The market for such services, they said, is still untapped in Africa and they believe an event planning business would do well there.

SAVE THE DATE

Bebop Band Concert



The Tom Borling Bebop Band will perform at 7 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 18, in Cullen Hall. Tom Borling, piano, will be joined by Ben Atkinson, David Caceres, Edward Lewis, Alexis Valk and Ed Lowe. All music concerts are free and open to the public.

A Night at the Museum



Campus Ministry will host a night at the museum to visit the Virgin de Guadalupe exhibit, Tuesday, Feb. 19 at the Museum of Natural Science. A reception will be held beforehand at 5 p.m. Sign up in Student Activities Office.

Save a Life Tour on campus



The "Save A Life" simulator will be on campus from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, in the Old Bookstore, Crooker Center to show how alcohol affects reaction times and motor skills while driving. Free and open to the UST community.

Opera Workshop Performs



Join the Music Program for an Opera Workshop: "A Night of Mozart Opera Scenes," 7:30 p.m. Feb. 22-23 and 3 p.m. Feb. 24, in Cullen Hall. The performance will include selections from Mozart's "The Magic Flute," "La finta Giardiniera" and "Le nozze di Figaro."

Students Vote for Leaders on Feb. 18, 19 on Academic Mall

Student elections will be held Monday, Feb. 18 and Tuesday, Feb. 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. on the Academic Mall. Students must bring their student ID to vote. Elections are for



the Student Government Association officers, Student Activities Board officers, Council of Clubs Chair and class senators. Graduating seniors may now vote, excluding the class senate race.

Students Fatten Their Pockets at UST's Fat FAFSA Festival

Filled with music, food and financial aid information, Fat FAFSA proved to be a rewarding way for students to begin the spring semester. In a Gladiator Joust Club Tournament, in which student organizations competed for cash, the Drama Club won the first place prize of \$200 and the Black Student Union was awarded \$150

as second place winners.

Three students went home with money in their pockets after joining others in a frantic attempt to grab dollar bills from the air in the money machine's "whirlwind of dollars."

Brandi English was the first-place winner, grabbing \$81 in 30 seconds. Pedro Boitel followed in

second place with \$73 and Jose Carranco in third with \$62.

More than 40 students climbed aboard a laptop-filled bus to fill out FAFSAs. Jeuel Ventura won a \$500 Fat FAFSA Scholarship.

Sponsored by the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid, Fat FAFSA is held every year on Fat Tuesday.



Drama Club



BSU



English



Boitel



Carranco



Ventura

Bishop Fisichella Delivers 2008 Msgr. William Steele Lecture

Bishop Salvatore Rino Fisichella, Auxiliary Bishop of the Rome Archdiocese, will deliver the Msgr. William Steele Lecture at 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, in Nold Auditorium, St. Mary's Seminary. He will discuss "Living as a Catholic in a Post-Modern Culture."

Bishop Fisichella is the Rector of the Pontifical Lateran University in Rome and is considered one of the leading lights of current Catholic theology. He has published numerous articles and books in the field of fundamental theology, and he edited the prestigious Dictionary of Fundamental

Theology with Fr. Rene Latourelle, S.J. His publications show his wide array of interests and his pastoral desire to be in dialogue with the modern world.



Bishop Fisichella had an especially positive influence throughout Western Europe through his dialogue with the late Italian journalist, noted Church critic and professed atheist Orianna Fallaci. Despite her views,

she asked Bishop Fisichella to be at her side as she died.

"Their improbable friendship illustrates an important current percolating in contemporary Western culture, a budding détente between institutional Christianity and some of its sharpest Enlightenment-inspired critics, motivated by a deep sense of shared peril," said John L. Allen in a story he wrote as senior correspondent for the National Catholic Reporter that was published Aug. 24, 2007

This "budding détente" serves as the foundation for this year's Msgr. William Steele Lecture.

Lenten Lecture: “The Indomitable Bishop Fulton Sheen–America’s Bishop



Bishop Fulton Sheen, a beloved leader and driving force in leading the American Catholic community after World War II, will be the subject of the third lecture in the 2008 Lenten Lecture, presented by Sr. Madeleine Grace, CVI, UST associate professor of theology.

Her lecture, “The Indomitable

Bishop Fulton Sheen – America’s Bishop” will be at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 20, in Scanlan Room, Jerabeck Center.

The most well-known American bishop was widely popular for his talents in addressing both Catholics and non-Catholics a decade before ecumenism.

Immigration: Fact or Fiction, Panel Discussion with McFadden

Center for International Studies will host a panel discussion on “Immigration Reform: Fact or Fiction” moderated by UST President Emeritus Joseph McFadden at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21, in the Ahern Room, Crooker Center. Participants will be Charles Foster–Tindall and Foster, PC, speaking on “Lack of

Legislation: Immigration Today; Dr. Stephen Klineberg– Rice University, speaking on “History of Immigration to the Houston area and the demographics of the Issue;” and Stan Marek–Marek Family of Companies, speaking on “Perspective of a Business Man Doing Business: Interstate Business Operations Today.”



Students Test Your Singing Skills at UST Idol Tryouts, Hosted by SAB



Students are invited to showcase their musical talents at UST Idol Tryouts, sponsored by the Student Activities Board. Tryouts will be from 12:30 to 4 p.m. Friday, Feb. 22, in Jones Hall. Participants must sign up by Wednesday, Feb. 20 in the Student Activities Office, in Crooker Center. Tryouts are open to all

UST students. Participants will have three minutes to perform an acapella piece; individual entires only (no pairs). Those selected will continue on to the first round in March. Winners of UST Idol will receive cash prizes.

For more information, contact Jennifer Monroy at sab_president@stthom.edu.

Relationship Workshop Available for Students

Students interested in improving their relationships with friends, family or romantic interests may contact Counseling and Disability Services about joining a new group dedicated to strengthening students’ relationships. The group will meet at 12:30 p.m. eight Thursdays, beginning Feb. 21. Call 713-525-3162 for more details.



Star View is published by the Office of Public Affairs as a means of informing the UST community about University and campus news. Call 713-525-3116 with questions and/or comments.

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