

# Just Like Me

## Enhance Your Awareness of Cultural Diversity

This professional development program for educational office professionals in the northwest area is hosted by the Washington Association of Educational Office Professionals.

Saturday, October 8, 2016, 9:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Check in and settle in between 9 and 9:25 a.m.

Join us in Lombard Hall on the Central Washington University campus.

(601 E. University Way, Ellensburg)

The Washington Association of Educational Office Professionals are inviting you to join four unique presenters for a day of cultural immersion and the opportunity to establish personal goals for developing a positive cultural perspective. Whether you are working with diverse people around the Nation, around the corner, or in the next office, you can succeed in a multi-cultural environment by leading with a global mindset.

The goal of this workshop is to help participants understand the powerful effects of cultural awareness. The very foundation of communication involves the ability to stand back from ourselves and become aware of our values, beliefs and perceptions. Cultural awareness recognizes that we are all shaped by our background, which influences how we interpret the world around us, how we perceive ourselves and how we relate to other people.

Presenters will increase our knowledge regarding social interaction, customs, celebrations, and acceptable greetings and cultural sensitivity. Training highlights will include:

- with understanding individual differences,
- working together effectively, and
- learning the value of working in a stimulating environment that highlights ethnic diversity.

We will aim to sharpen your observations and encourage critical thinking about cultural stereotypes, and will promote the concept that cultural diversity is a reality that can be fostered, appreciated, and perpetuated in our personal and professional lives.

#### Please join us!

Six clock hours will be offered. Separate clock hour fee is payable the day of the workshop. The workshop is approved for 7.5 PSP hours

Coffee, tea, and water will be available during the day, and there will be door prizes! We'll enjoy an international lunch together (cost is included in your registration).

Seating is limited; to assure your place at the workshop, postmark your *registration by Tuesday*, *September 27*. If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Terri Cerna at 509-234-4866, 509-234-2021, or tcerna@nfsd.org.

#### Amira Alsalami

Amira Alsalami has been a Refugee Programs Specialist and Arabic interpreter for World Relief (Richland, Washington office) in Tri-Cities since 2008.

She is from Iraq and was a professor at Baghdad University, with BA in the English Language and MA in Applied Linguistics. In 2006, Amira had to flee Iraq to Jordan. Two years later she was accepted to resettle as a refugee to the U.S.A., and is now a citizen.

Amira is a member of the Tri-Cities Islamic Center and a teacher at its Sunday school. Her interest is cultural interaction which she believes is the most powerful means to understand each other. Amira participates in cultural activities such as:

- World Relief Annual Cultural Concert
- Walla Walla Multi-cultural Festival
- International Language Day and the Cultural Festival in Richland

She has given many presentations about Iraqi culture, and Islam. We are honored to have Amira Alsalami as a presenter.

### Dr. Ismael Vivanco

We proudly welcome Dr. Vivanco as a returning presenter. Ismael Vivanco moved to the U.S. as a young child and worked as a migrant in fields until the age of 16. His experiences taught him the value of hard work and more notably, the importance of education. Dr. Vivanco has studied in the U.S., Mexico, and Spain. He received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Western Washington University, Master's and teacher certification from Heritage University, and superintendent credentials and Doctorate of Education from Washington State University.

Ismael now serves as the Superintendent for Entiat and Palisades School districts. He currently serves as Regional President for the Washington Association of School Administrators (WASA).

Dr. Vivanco is very proud of his Mexican heritage, is committed to supporting and giving back to the community, and has been involved in several regional, state, and national organizations, and in activities like:

- Mariachi Northwest and Apple Blossom Festivals
- School Supply Giveaways and Student Career Fairs
- Bi-national Teacher Exchange Program with Mexico and Spain

#### Volha Isakava

Volha Isakava holds a PhD in Slavic Languages and Literatures from the University of Alberta (Canada). She teaches Russian language and culture, and is a Russian program advisor. Her specialty is Russian cinema and popular culture.

Born in Yalta, her interest in Russian film comes from her father (a documentary filmmaker) and mother (who served as a cinema critic). Her current project deals with popular genre films from post-Soviet countries and the impact of globalization on national cinemas. Dr. Isakava was a teenager in Minsk, the capital of Belarus, during the events that culminated in the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991.

Spending any amount of time with Dr. Isakava, one comes away taken by her energy and enthusiasm. She knows how important Russia and the Russian language are to our future.

Dr. Isakava joined the CWU College of Arts and Humanities two years ago as a tenure-track assistant professor in the World Languages Department.

#### Zer Vue

Zer Vue is an ELL educator and advocate. She has taught elementary through high school levels and strives to help families navigate the education system. Mrs. Vue is a Hmong American, co-chair of SEAeD (Southeast Asian Education Coalition).

Following her parents' footsteps, she learned the value of community support and advocating for underserved populations. She was immersed in her parents' support for the Southeast Asian (SEA) community in gaining access to healthcare, education, and economic stability. Her older siblings developed the first Lao Family Community Center of Spokane in the 1980s. When asked why she does what she does, she says, "Living with a family of humanitarians, it is difficult not to want to jump in and assist others." Mrs. Vue grew up learning about Hmong language and culture, and later taught basic English to adults—creating her desire to teach ELL.

She is a board member of the Hmong Association of Washington, and works to preserve the Hmong culture and balance it with the intersectionality of today's world. Being the first female Hmong Commissioner of Washington State, she strives to build the capacity of her own community and hopes to empower the next generations to embrace and explore their identity and cultural values to be the best of themselves.

Postmark your registration by Tuesday, September 27 (an additional \$20 must be added to registrations postmarked after September 27). Pre-registration for this workshop is necessary since we will not be able to accommodate same-day or walk-in registrations. Send your registration form and fee to Terri Cerna. If you have questions about the workshop, please contact Terri at 509-234-4866, 509-234-2021, or tcerna@nfsd.org.

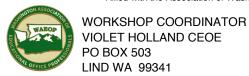
Cancellation Policy: Cancellation requests must be received in writing no later than October 1 in order to receive a refund (\$25 of the registration fee will be retained by WAEOP). Substitutions are allowed. If you are unable to attend and someone else can come in your place, please contact Terri Cerna. Cancellations received after October 1 cannot be refunded.

This is a fragrance-free event. Please refrain from using scented products. The location is a tobacco-free zone—no smoking or use of smokeless tobacco or e-cigarettes permitted on the property. Workshop registration does include lunch.

> This workshop is hosted by the Washington Association of Educational Office Professionals. WAEOP is affiliated with the National Association of Educational Office Professionals.

Po	ostmark registration by Tuesday, Septe	mber 27 for the	best price and to assu	re your place.
PO BOX 82		TERRI CERNA PO BOX 829 CONNELL WA	-	
Name			Day phone ()	
Address				
City and Zip Code			Worksite	
E-mail address			In which WAEOP area do you work?	
School district			Building/Department	
Are you a member of NAEOP? ☐ Yes ☐ No Do you have your CEOE? ☐ Yes ☐ No		Lur	Lunch will include meat. If you want a vegetarian meal please check this box. □	
60.00	WAEOP-member registration			
	Add \$15 if you are <i>not yet a member of WAEOP</i> —If a participant who is not a WAEOP member decides to join prior to the completion of the workshop, the non-member portion of the registration fee will be applied to the WAEOP membership fee.  Add \$20 if registration is <i>postmarked after September 27</i> (members <i>and</i> non-members). Sorry no walk-in/same-day registrations.			
	Total enclosed (check or money order payable t	o WAEOP)		
	Six clock hours will be offered. Separa The workshop	ite clock hour fee is p is approved for 7.5 P		op.
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Area in whi			nal   State Department	☐ High School ☐ Retired
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Do you pre	fer to have your name excluded from WAEOP New	vs articles, the website	e, and other media presentation	on? 🛘 Yes 🗘 No
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Allied with the Association of Washington School Principals



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#### **CURRENT RESIDENT**

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WHEE Central Washington University, Lombard Hall 601 E. University Way, Ellensburg, WA