

A Trip Around the World with Windi Singers



Moore Hall's
Multicultural

Assistant of the Year Award



Manhattan, Kansas

Our first stop is in Manhattan Kansas where we find Windi Singers, Multicultural Assistant (MA) of Moore Hall. The Ma in Moore Hall is responsible for educating all residents and addressing their needs in the areas of diversity, communication with staff and other residents, and providing assistance to ethnically diverse students. Windi's administrative tasks include attending weekly staff meetings, weekly MA meetings, and bi-weekly one-on-one meetings with her direct advisor. She is also responsible for being on duty and filing appropriate paper when needed.

I feel that I've been incredibly fortunate to be able to work with Windi this year. Her passion to make the world a better place comes through in everything she does. One can't help but feel uplifted being around her. Windi really cares about diversity issues, and I think Moore Hall has become much more aware of these issues through her hard work this year. In short--she's wonderful!



-Elizabeth Townsend, Moore Hall Secretary





Sydney, Australia

Our next stop is Sydney, Australia where we can find Windi using programs as a tool to inform residents about various aspects of diversity. One issue that was a major concern for Windi was the use of language in the hall. She made a program called "Inappropriate Word Jeopardy." This program made residents aware of their language and how it can harm a community's inclusiveness. Many students were unaware that some words they were using could be harmful to other residents. The Jeopardy style board game increased awareness quickly and efficiently to change the behavior of many residents. Every time she presented the program she had a large turn out and it created many good discussions. This program was held multiple times in the hall. Many staff members have changed their language and noticed a change in the language of residents.



A passive interactive program done by Windi was a bulletin board in the first floor lobby. There were stars provided at the front desk and residents were asked to write the name of an African American or someone who assisted with the black rights movement on it. It was then attached to the bulletin board, which was eventually completely covered with stars. She did this bulletin board during the month of February to recognize National Black History Month. This was done to raise the awareness around Moore hall of Black History Month and to honor those who have been influences throughout the years.





Tanzania, Africa

Our next stop is Tanzania, African where we can find Windi addressing other important issues. Windi wanted to address the awareness of homosexuality within the hall. During National Coming Out Month, Windi felt that there was a fair level of intolerance in the building of homosexuality. She put on a program called "What Color is Your Star." Her hopes were to open the residents minds and for them to gain a better understanding of the "coming out" process. She did this program for Moore Hall Executive Team, Moore Hall Staff, and as an all hall program.

All participants received a different color star when they arrived at the program. Each color represented the level of acceptance of the participant's family, friends, career, and aspirations. Each item was written on a point of the star. As the program went on the participants were instructed to either tear off, fold back a point or leave it alone. If a point was folded back they had little support from that area in their life. If it was torn off they had no support from that area of their life, and if it was left alone they had complete support. The color of the star designated how much one was accepted in the "coming out" process, from completely to not at all and all degrees in between. This program helped residents to realize how difficult it is for homosexuals to disclose to their family and friends that they are gay.

Many residents expressed their appreciation and how it opened their mind to the homosexual community. A resident approached Windi after attending this program. She told Windi that she was afraid that she was a



folded back point and was afraid of being tore off. Windi helped calm the resident and explained to her how to best handle the situation.



Berlin, Germany

Our next stop is in Berlin, Germany where we can find Windi having fun. Not only is she involved in diversity aspects of the hall, but she is also concerned with creating an environment where all residents have the opportunity to get to know each other and have fun at the same time. One of these opportunities was the Moore Hall Olympics. Her task was to create a number of fun and teamwork oriented relay races. This allowed residents from all the floors to come together and work as a team, from three-legged races to egg tossing.

Windi Singers has a true passion for diversity and the residence halls. She has done a lot of programming as well as held Diversity Team meetings. While all of this was extremely interesting and informative, Windi excels in her approach to decreasing ignorance and offensive language. I have never seen someone so dedicated to making sure everyone around her knows exactly what they are saying and how it could affect the people around them. Windi has truly made Moore Hall a comfortable and inclusive environment for all residents!

-Shea Olsen, Moore Hall Resident Assistant

Windi not only fulfills her duties as a MA, but also assists many RA's. She has helped them to put on



diversity programs, and diversity oriented bulletin boards. She lets the staff and leaders of the hall know she is ready and willing to assist them in any way possible. Moore Hall RA's are required to do a group diversity program. To do this they were to utilize Windi and her resources. She helped them to put on four very successful programs.



Dublin, Ireland

Our final location on this tour is in Dublin, Ireland where you can find Windi sitting around a plate of cookies, a glass of milk, and residents. This program was called "Story time with your ma." It was an opportunity for a group of residents to sit down with Windi and talk about diversity issues. Residents were able to ask any questions or talk about concerns that they had regarding diversity within the hall and their lives.

The thing I appreciate about Windi is her passion and excitement for life and everything in it. She wears her heart on her sleeve at all times. My favorite quote is "I have had the most amazing day of my life!"

-Jayme Uden, Residence Life Coordinator of Moore Hall

Windi is a good inspiration at Moore Hall Governing Board Meetings when she has her MA moments during the general body meetings. She informs residents about current diversity issues around campus and around the



world. She not only has these moments during HGB meetings, but also RAMA staff meetings. Some of the issues she covered were black history month, women in science, the lunchroom divide, and many others. Many of these stories inspired residents to make a change in their behavior. During these moments she also promotes diversity events going on across campus.



Windi's passion for diversity inspired her to develop a Moore Hall diversity team. The team is composed of residents who have a passion and a concern for diversity.

Windi is an amazing person in general. You can just feel her love for people when you are by and talk with her. She stresses very much that you respect other residents and that everyone feels accepted in the halls. She brings a lot of passion in to her programs. Windi has made me change some of my views as well.

- Brandon Brewster, Moore Hall Social Chair

From the first day I met Windi I knew she had a passion for diversity. She loves nothing more than to get up in front of a crowd and talk about diversity. Every time she speaks she is so passionate about it that you think she might explode. You can see and feel the energy flowing throughout her body. Windi is an incredible staff member and friend. Moore Hall would not be the same without her.

-Heather Hanssen, Moore Hall Resident Assistant



Windi's passion for diversity shines through in her every action and every word. She constantly has an open ear and is willing and ready to listen to any concerns. Through her programs and involvement in HGB Windi has made Moore Hall a better place for everyone.

