

The Minneapolis Community & Technical College Community presents:

# Culture Café

Join us in a discussion regarding

## “Sexual Diversity”

**THEATRE  
OF THE  
OPPRESSED**

Wednesday,  
November 12, 2008  
1:00 PM to 3:00 PM  
Helland Student Center

The Theatre of the Oppressed will open the Culture Café event with an improvisational theatre presentation addressing issues around sexual diversity. Afterwards, there will be an opportunity for discussion. Topics will be steered by MCTC students, faculty and staff and may include: What is sexuality? Culture Differences and Sexual Perceptions. Dimensions of Sexuality. Sexual Orientation – Defining orientation vis-à-vis spiritual beliefs. Is there a “right way to be” sexually?

The Theater of the Oppressed, established in the early 1970s by Brazilian director and activist Augusto Boal, is a form of popular theater, of, by, and for people engaged in the struggle for liberation. More specifically, it is a rehearsal theater designed for people who want to learn ways of fighting back against oppression in their daily lives. The Theater of the Oppressed is a participatory theater that fosters democratic and cooperative forms of interaction among participants. Bridging the separation between actor (the one who acts) and spectator (the one who observes but is not permitted to intervene in the theatrical situation), the Theater of the Oppressed is practiced by "spect-actors" who have the opportunity to both act and observe, and who engage in self-empowering processes of dialogue that help foster critical thinking. The theatrical act is thus experienced as conscious intervention, as a rehearsal for social action rooted in a collective analysis of shared problems of oppression. This particular type of interactive theater is rooted in the pedagogical and political principles: 1) to see the situation lived by the participants; 2) to analyze the root causes of the situation; and 3) to act to change the situation following the precepts of social justice.

Culture Café is a series of learning experiences at MCTC that will educate and inform us about the cultural nuances of our college community. Cultural Café is a place and time wherein intellectual and social diversity is exhibited through multicultural and intercultural discussions and activities.

W.A.Y. is a collaborative effort of students, faculty, staff and community organizations to bring wellness education and services to the MCTC campus. Their focus is a holistic approach wellness that includes seven dimensions: physical, mental, emotional, social, spiritual, occupational, and environmental.



*Sponsored by Multicultural Student Success & The Dean of Students Office*