Wednesday, April 24, 2024

Dear SAS Honors Program Students,

“I saw my life branching out before me like the green fig tree in the story. From the tip of every branch, like a fat purple fig, a wonderful future beckoned and winked. One fig was a husband and a happy home and children, and another fig was a famous poet and another fig was a brilliant professor, and another fig was Ee Gee, the amazing editor ... and beyond and above these figs were many more figs I couldn’t quite make out. I saw myself sitting in the crotch of this fig tree, starving to death, just because I couldn’t make up my mind which of the figs I would choose. I wanted each and every one of them, but choosing one meant losing all the rest, and, as I sat there, unable to decide, the figs began to wrinkle and go black, and, one by one, they plopped to the ground at my feet.” This is a quote from Sylvia Plath’s novel, *The Bell Jar*. I haven’t read the book, though it is on my list. However, this quote resonates profoundly with me, striking a cord buried deep in my soul and amplifying the sound throughout my body, sending it into my mind and memories. Words tuned to my life. I am ambitious. I have an abundance of interests. These interests ripened into dreams, a lot of dreams and not enough time to accomplish them all. My fig tree grew, bearing its fruit. One fig was an author, another a dentist, and another a teacher, an influencer, a journalist, an animator, a dermatologist, a book illustrator. Like the character in the novel, some of my figs have shriveled over time and others feel out of reach, but I won’t let them rot at my feet. I will reach up and grab the figs no matter how far they are—the various lives that I want, the versions of me that can be, that I have been nurturing all this time. After all, figs are one of my favorite fruits.

Some of the new events: Attend today’s IRW Lecture. Come out to the Spring Career & Internship Fair. Spend Rutgers Day and Reading Day at the Zimmerli. Apply to be an SASHP Peer Tutor.

Warmest regards,
Halima Niazi
Your Newsletter Editor
EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Power of Black Women’s Leadership in Politics

Join the Institute for Research on Women today @ 7 PM for "The Power of Black Women’s Leadership in Politics” with U.S. Senator Laphonza Butler. The event will take place at the Kathleen W. Ludwig Center. This event is free and open to the public. Register [here](#) to attend.

Spring Career & Internship Fair

The annual Spring Career & Internship Fair is on Friday, Apr. 26 @ 11:30 AM - 3:30 PM! This fair will take place at Jersey Mike’s Arena on Livingston Campus and is open to the general public. Over 150 employers will be attending this event to network with candidates and discuss full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities from various fields.

Rutgers Day 2024 with the Zimmerli

Rutgers Day is on Saturday, April 27, from 10 AM to 4 PM! Come visit the Zimmerli Art Museum from 11 AM to 3 PM for a variety of activities to celebrate. There will be a scavenger hunt, gallery activity sheets, and a drop-in art workshop.
EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Study Break at the Zimmerli

On Reading Day (Tuesday, April 30), from 12 to 5 PM, Rutgers students are invited to an exclusive, one-of-a-kind study space to prepare for finals. In addition to designated quiet areas for studying, students can enjoy free study break activities like art activities, gentle yoga and meditation sessions, and chair massages. There will also be free coffee, tea, and snacks! Find more information here.

Seniors: Rites of Passage Ceremony 2024

The Rites of Passage Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, May 8 @ 3-5 PM at Jersey Mike’s Arena. It is a pre-commencement celebration to honor Black and Latine-identified students who have completed an undergraduate or graduate degree at Rutgers University. The day features distinguished speakers, student awards, performances, and the Kente Stole presentation. Learn more and register here.

SASHP Peer Tutoring Fall ‘24 Recruitment

SASHP Peer Tutor applications for the Fall 2024 semester are now open. Tutors will help other Rutgers students in their chosen subject for two hours/week either virtually or in-person. This is a great opportunity to build community service and leadership. The deadline to apply is Sept. 13, 2024. The application is on a rolling basis, so apply ASAP through this link.
EVENTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

#RUCourageous: Call for Submissions

The Fellows in Racial Justice (RAJU) are excited to announce the launch of the #RUCourageous initiative at Rutgers University. This social action project aims to amplify diverse voices and shed light on the intricate dynamics of race within our community. They invite you to share your story about discrimination and resilience in the face of racism, to be included in a video which will premiere at Racial Justice Summit at Rutgers-Camden. Undergraduates who participate will also be eligible to win the Lomench Endowment Award and a $500 cash prize. Submit here by the deadline of May 3.