Student Presentations:
November 16, 2021
Dixon Center
10:00 am – Noon

"Healing our World Through Prophetic Vision and Activism"

Online Proposal Submission Deadline:
5PM, Friday, October 29, 2021
On Tuesday, November 16, 2021, we will honor the legacy of Mother Frances Xavier Cabrini with a series of Cabrini Day events expressing the theme, “Healing our World Through Prophetic Vision and Activism”.

Prophetic vision is about seeing how things could be. “Mother Cabrini sought to transform hearts – so that the actions and patterns which emerged from them – would also be transformed.” Hers was not a sentimental view of education—but rather a way of life where the heart is the core of our identity, infusing our intellect, our memory and our will with meaning and passion.” (https://www.mothercabrini.org/spirituality/cabrini-novena/)

These are difficult times and, in such times, it’s important to mourn those we have lost and to reflect deeply on what we want to reclaim as we work toward healing and reconciliation in our communities, in our nation, and in our world. This Cabrini Day theme is centered on ‘prophetic vision’ or seeing how things could be with our hearts and minds as we engage in activism and choose new ways.

Prophetic vision aimed toward social justice and restorative practices has a strong tradition in the Catholic faith, the Black church, and many other Christian traditions. The concepts are equally prominent in other faith traditions: Judaism, Islam, and others. While the term prophetic may be linked to religious faith traditions, seeing or considering how things might be more just, more peaceful, more sustainable need not be linked to a particular faith. We only need open minds and open hearts.

For this Cabrini Day we invite you to explore your ‘vision’ and activism in relationship to the effects of the four pandemics (Ladson-Billings, 2021)—the COVID-19 pandemic, the pandemic of systemic racism, the economic crisis, and the climate crisis—that together lay bare the long-standing and deep disparities in our systems and ways of life in local, national and global communities. We encourage research on the effects of these four pandemics, what we have lost and those we mourn, and what we have learned as we open our hearts and minds to how things could be.

We ask you to consider these and any other topics you deem appropriate related to “Healing our World: Prophetic Vision and Activism” as potential course assignments that could be linked to presentations for Cabrini Day. Also, please remind your students, and include in your syllabus, that Cabrini Day is not “a day off.” Rather, it is a day devoted to educational activities linked to our mission that occur outside of the classroom and which all students are expected to attend. Here are some possible topics to consider:
Topics to Consider and Encourage

- **Anti-Racism and Universal Design for Learning (UDL)**
  How do we transform anti-racism and UDL into social justice activism for the common good?

- **Common Good and Democracy**
  What will democracy look like for the next generation to come? Or, what are other ways to promote the common good?

- **Rethinking Social Justice**
  How do we put social justice into action steps for a more democratic society for all?

- **Climate and Environmental Justice**
  How does climate change impact current and future generations?

- **Upstander and Ally for Justice**
  How to turn from ally to activist for justice?

- **Telling the Stories of Loss, Injustice, and Activism During the Pandemic**
  Open forum with students, faculty and staff

- **Thinking More Critically About Injustice Through Loss with Police Violence and How That Impacts One's Overall Mental Health**
  How do we heal and trust through our prophetic vision for a world where communities and law enforcement coexist in harmony?

- **Trauma Informed Practices in All Disciplines Following the Pandemic**
  How has the world changed in the face of the pandemic?

- **Healing Through the Use of Multicultural Literature**
  Texts used and lessons shared

- **Working for Social Justice Through Education**
  Service based learning; presenting partnerships that change our world, locally, domestically, nationally

- **Interdisciplinary Focus on the Work of the MSC Around the World**
  Presenting on the work and life of Mother Cabrini and how her legacy has shaped healing around the world

**Suggested Ways Students Can Present Their Work:**

- Fine art, performance art, fashion, dance, cultural art exhibits, entertainment, multi-media, conversations, games, posters, recitation

Any faculty members who have research interests related to this year’s Cabrini Day theme and would be interested in becoming involved in the day’s activities should contact the co-chairs.

The Cabrini Day Committee will be in touch via email and the Cabrini Day website with periodic updates on Cabrini Day as we clarify the schedule of events for the day. Meanwhile, we hope to see you and all of your students on Tuesday, November 16.

**Cabrini Day Co-Chairs:** Crystal Anderson, Lyn Berenato, Mary Budzielowicz, Ron Whitaker

**Members:** Bev Bryde, Tom Conway, Sloan Dantzler, Fr. David Driesch, Zakia Gates, Lilly Hatheway, Guilherme Lopes, David Madway, Kate Pearson, Susan Pierson, Martha Ritter, Michelle Szpara, Ray Ward
Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini arrived in New Orleans in 1892, with a charge to help poor Italian immigrants at a time of intense xenophobic, anti-Italian sentiment in the city and in the nation.

A year earlier, a local lynch mob had murdered 11 Sicilian immigrants. Yellow fever had also decimated the local immigrant community. Mother Cabrini got to work quickly, establishing an orphanage at 817 St. Philip Street in the French Quarter.

Born as Maria Francesca Cabrini on July 15, 1850, in Sant’Angelo Lodigiano, Italy, she dealt with poor health as a child but was an excellent student. As a young adult she taught at an orphanage for several years before taking her religious vows in 1877.

She co-founded the Missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart of Jesus congregation, which focused on caring for poor children, and as the institute grew she was encouraged by Pope Leo XIII to continue her mission in the United States, which had an increasing number of poor Italian immigrants.

In 1889 Mother Cabrini and six other sisters came to the U.S., eventually setting up 97 missions across the country, including in New Orleans.

As her school and orphanage in the French Quarter continued to take in more poor children, she acquired land on Espiritu Avenue and had another orphanage built in 1905. The building served as an orphanage until 1959, when it became Cabrini High School, the all-girls Catholic institution, still operated by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

Mother Cabrini became a naturalized citizen of the U.S. in 1909 but died just eight years later in Chicago due to complications from dysentery. Pope Pius XII made her the first naturalized U.S. citizen to be canonized in 1946.

The patron saint of immigrants, Mother Cabrini is venerated for her lifelong commitment to the care and education of poor, sick, and orphaned children, particularly those of Italian heritage who struggled after arriving in America.

ARTIST: NEX RICHARD  STORYTELLER: NICK WELDON, THE HISTORIC NEW ORLEANS COLLECTION

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PMPPL
CABRINI DAY 2021
“HEALING OUR WORLD THROUGH PROPHETIC VISION AND ACTIVISM”
EVENTS OF THE DAY
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2021

8:30 - 9:00 AM
Liturgy in Honor of Mother Cabrini
(Bruckmann Memorial Chapel of Saint Joseph)

9:00 - 9:30 AM
Mother Cabrini Procession
(Outside from Chapel to Library)

9:30 - 10:00 AM
Visit Cabriniana Room
(Holy Spirit Library)

10:00 - 11:30 AM
Student Poster and Other Presentations “Healing Through Prophetic Vision and Activism”
(Nerney Field House, Dixon Center)
*Presentation Form provided soon

11:30 - 1:30 PM
Lunch Celebration in Cav’s Corner

2:00 - 3:30 PM
Keynote Speaker and Awards Presentation
(Grace Hall Atrium)

3:45 - 4:30 PM
Explorations of Prophetic Vision and Activism Session: These include several sessions to choose from such as scavenger hunts, small discussion groups, and interfaith dialogue.
(Classrooms)

5:00 - 7:00 PM
“Healing Modalities in Your Profession” - Poster Session and Panel Discussion
(Mansion Foyer and Dining Room)