

Big Hands

A monthly newsletter from the [Center for Civic Engagement](#)



Matt Charros' long walk across the U.S. for Multiple Sclerosis – story on page 2

In this newsletter:

- October Volunteer Events
- October Dialogues
- Alternative Fall Break with the Kostopulos Dream Foundation Halloween Party
- SLICE: Kids Crew
- The V-Men Movement
- Matt Charros walks across the country
- Hundred Dollar Difference
- Service Learning Scholars
- Meet the Staff

We Want to Recognize You! Service Learning Scholars

We want to recognize the service, volunteering, service learning and activism that you do! Service Learning Scholars is a program designed to give you recognition for your work and engage you in active reflection on what it means to serve, why to serve, and how best to serve. Scholars keep records quantifying their service and a journal of reflections. They attend a couple reflection sessions each semester and receive cords at graduation.

Want to learn more? Come to an informative meeting:

- 10/12 Mon at 10am
- 10/12 Mon 2pm
- 10/13 Tues 2pm
- 10/14 Wed 11:30am

Meetings at the CCE, Walker 1.

Scholars levels:

- Gold: 300 hours
- Silver: 200 hours
- Bronze: 100 hours

Who are we?



Get to know us on page 3!

*** Please email Julie to designate your SL course for this Spring**
jjille@westminstercollege.edu [\(Click here for the form.\)](#)
Up to \$250 assistance for service-learning designated courses

Alternative Fall Break with Kostopulos

Looking for a valuable experience this Fall Break? We invite you to join the Kostopulos Dream Foundation for a day of costumes and fun at the Halloween Mini Camp. The Kostopulos Dream Foundation allows teens with special needs to expand their social circles, while learning how to use community resources. Students volunteering their time would spend the day helping the Kostopulos crew finish their haunted house and sharing it with their families. No social work or psychology background is required.

When: Saturday, 10/17 of Fall Break

Where: We'll meet on campus and take the party van over together

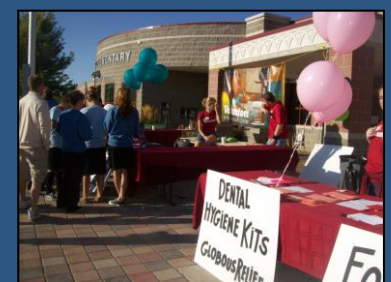
Who: You! All that's required is a big heart and a desire to make someone's day awesome.

How: Email us to sign up at civicengagement@westminstercollege.edu (Spots are limited so sign up quick!)

Can't help that day? There are many more Kostopulos events that could use your help. Visit us for more information!



From the U of U / Westminster partnership service day 9/19





From a meeting of the V-Men committee



[Check out the petition! \(Click Here\)](#)

The V-Men Movement – What My Strength is For

In 2008, I cried at the Vagina Monologues. I cried because of the reality of sexual violence that overwhelmed me. I also cried because I was so inspired by a passion I felt around me. As the crowd jumped to their feet and erupted in applause, I looked around and felt a sense of unity. I saw men and women fighting together for a unified cause. Unity is paramount for the success of the V-Day movement. If men can recognize the importance of their role in fighting to end sexual violence, the impact will be incredible.

The V-Men Committee seeks to build a coalition of 1000 men dedicated to a non-violent relationship with women. We will also host lectures, conversations and films when we can for men to explore how to do this.

V-Men is a growing facet of V-Day, a global organization that has sparked a flame for millions of people all over the

world to fight against violence towards women and girls. Westminster Students have been at forefront of the campaign against violence in Utah, with an annual showing of the Vagina Monologues and a series of events in February. V-Day at Westminster has raised about \$50,000 since 2003 the Salt Lake City Rape Recovery Center.

- Robin Hill, Guest Writer

Upcoming Events:

Oct. 7 – Dialogue on Sexual Violence (6pm – 8pm) at the Sorensen Center 1383 South 900 West, Salt Lake City

Students needing a carpool or willing to drive should meet in front of Shaw at 5:30pm

Nov. 5 – “Tough Guise” film screening (Jackson Katz) (7:30pm)

Located at the Center for Civic Engagement

Matt Charros & Dog Walk the U.S.A.

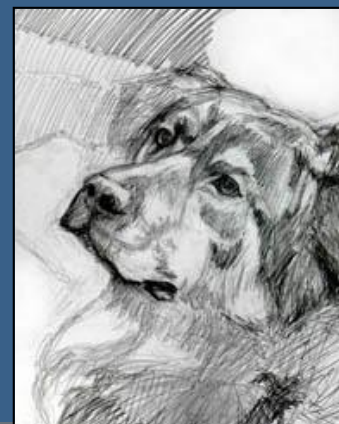
About eight years ago, Matt Charros's sister was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. Multiple sclerosis is a chronic, often disabling disease that attacks the central nervous system. The disease is thought to be a disorder of the autoimmune system where the immune system attacks itself, affecting the how various parts of the body respond. Since then, Matt has decided to carry the cause of MS across the country. Literally. He is on a journey that will take him from Quoddy Point, Maine, the most eastern point of the U.S. He will walk nearly 2700 miles with his dog Onyx as his only constant companion. Charros' walks to raise awareness of the disease, and to raise money for an art therapy studio he wants to open. The studio would work with MS and other patients who experience movement issues in an artistic manner. He said the art, specifically pottery, could improve motion of MS patients. "The studio is a place to do art, primarily pottery. It is very therapeutic," he said. "It kind of empowers people who have had a bleak outlook on life." To monitor his progress, or to donate to Charros' studio, visit his Web site, www.walkofalifetime.org.

Matt, a Westminster alumnus, will be visiting us!

Come chat with Matt over Snack of the Week at the Alumni House next Thursday, October 6th between 1pm and 3pm.



Matt Charros and his dog Onyx (Charros is also an artist)



The Center for Civic Engagement

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Drop by and say hello!

First S.L.I.C.E. Project: Kid's Crew Takes Off!

Lindsay Brickell, Holdunn Rotuski, Christine Garcia and Devon Gere head up SLICE project to get students involved with Primary Children's doing medical, education and music activities with the children. Their first volunteer meeting had over 70 people attend! Look forward to their on campus activities. If you have questions, or want to volunteer, email: hsr1016@westminstercollege.edu

October Lectures & Dialogues

[Click for more info:](#)

[People's Summit on Poverty, 10/3](#)

[The War on Drugs, 10/6](#)

[Dialogue on Sexual Violence, 10/7](#)

[Matt Charros' Long Walk, 10/8](#)

[Civil Liberties and Immigration](#)

[Reform, 10/15](#)

[A Solution for Sex Trafficking, TBA](#)

[Learning Leadership in Community](#)

[\(SLICE\), 10/23](#)

October Volunteer Events

[Click for more info:](#)

[Soup Kitchen, 10/3](#)

[End Genocide at Dolcetti, 10/8](#)

[Utah Local Festival of Arts, 10/10](#)

[Make Strides against Breast](#)

[Cancer, 10/10](#)

[American Red Cross, 10/3-10/10](#)

[Utah Book Festival, 10/21 – 10/25](#)

[Mobiles and Muffis:](#)

[The Party, 10/26](#)

Making the Hundred Dollar Difference

What can you do with a hundred dollars?

Maybe you could lead a rally petitioning for a civil right you're passionate about. Maybe you could host a sports and health day for kids from an at risk neighborhood. Maybe you could fundraise for a local environmental organization.

Really, the possibilities are endless – they depend on you, what you care about and the difference that you want to make in your community.

We invite you to become passionate about your community and to do something to affect it. That's why we're offering you the Hundred Dollar Difference challenge. It's a smaller scale alternative to the S.L.I.C.E. program, with many of the same benefits: a budget, assistance planning your event, the advertising and institutional support of the CCE, and access to great training workshops and resources.

Come visit, email or call us to find out more!

We'd like to introduce ourselves...

Please come by and visit us, we would like to get to know you!

Where exactly is the Center for Civic Engagement?

We're in Walker 1. That's the same building as the copy center, the Inclusion Center and the Environmental Center. It's also in between Gore and Hogle and across from Giovale library.



Julie Tille, Director of the Center for Civic Engagement

Julie has worked with the Center for Civic Engagement for 9 years. As Director, she is responsible for administration, budgeting, and overall coordination of Center activities. Julie is a Colorado native with three beautiful children, with love of Elway and chocolate.

Kayla, CCE Student Assistant

This is Kayla's first year at the CCE. Kayla manages the Center's blog, Americorps information, and coordinates with other campus organizations. Kayla is a philosophy student from Logan, Utah. She loves cooking, jogging, reading, selling makeup, shopping and decorating.

Amanda, CCE Student Leader

This is Amanda's second year at the CCE. She leads the S.L.I.C.E. (Student Leaders in Civic Engagement) program and the Hundred Dollar Difference program, manages Center publications, plans volunteer activities and works with clubs. Amanda is a philosophy and Spanish student from Colorado with a love of music, mountains, and Star Trek.

Deanna, CCE Student Assistant

This is Deanna's first year at the CCE. She leads the Service Learning Scholars reflections, manages the website and Facebook, plans volunteer activities and works with sports teams. Deanna is an aviation student from El Paso with a love of animals and hardcore stuff like snowboarding and driving Jeeps.