

BBQ 2013 Upstages Previous Barbecues

By Mirchaye Sahlu

Washington D.C - UDC hosted its 8th annual back to school barbecue on the Dennard plaza. The plaza was filled with different tables representing some of the schools clubs and organizations as well as outside vendors such as 7 Eleven, Kenyan Jewelry shop and WKYS 93.6 radio station. Dr. James Lyons, interim president, made a brief welcome speech to the students and staff in general. He affirmed he was pleased to be a part of the UDC community this year and that he attends on staying a part of the family.

Originally from Buffalo, NY, Charis Hemphrey, senior Journalism major said: “The barbecue is awesome; it’s nice to see everyone out here and the DJ’s are good. My burger was kind of grisly, but it’s ok. Overall, it’s just nice to have a school spirit, that’s what matters most.”

This barbecue’s main objective was not only to bring Flagship students together, but also students from the Community College and David A. Clark School of Law. Nur Mannan, international student from Malawi, third year law school student said: “I think this barbecue is a fabulous way to get to know undergrad students, get together with friends, and enjoy the good food and all the free stuff provided by the different companies at the vendors table. And, this year is much better; we have a better barbecue compared to last year.”

Megan Stokesberry, a native from California, part-time law student, “ This year is my first barbecue and I think it’s great, it’s fun, everyone’s friendly, food’s delicious and it’s a great opportunity for the law students to get to know the undergrad students. “

Taz Mannan, international students from Malawi, Junior, Business management major: “I think the barbecue is well organized this year, the table set-up and the music are appealing. Also, the fact there are other vendors such *7 Eleven* and others is a very good attraction. I like this barbecue compared to last year’s, I feel like it’s bringing students closer together, we have more international students this year and it looks more diverse as opposed to last year. Everyone’s sharing their culture and getting to know one another.”

Asked about what made this year’s barbecue more special than last year’s, Project Specialist, David Gaston, also the main organizer, said: “All I can say is organization is the key to planning anything. This year’s barbecue is more vibrant because we took our time to sit down at committee meetings and organize it way ahead of time, and that’s the way it always should be”.

The barbecue not only offered good food and company, but also entertainment. Hosted by Comedian Eddie Bryant, performers like, X-Factor finalist, Marcus Canty and Black Alley rocked the stage on the Plaza. All in all, UDC had a day to never forget.