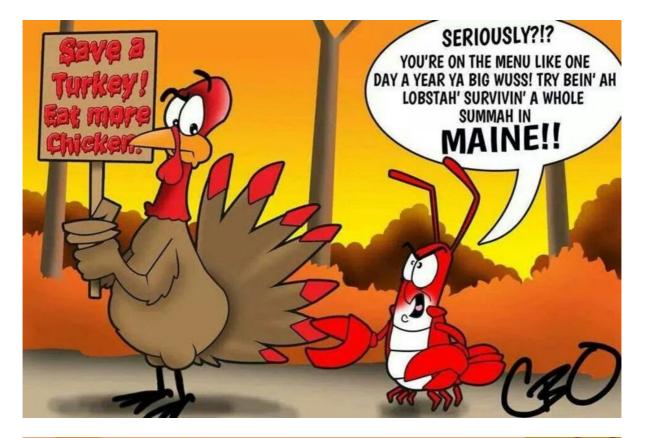


Candlelight Vigil 6 pm November 20 Fogler Library Steps





## Hey Y'all!

Are you as excited about the long break as I am?! I am excited that I will be surrounded by my mom, dear friends and we are going to celebrate by eating lots of delicious Indian food (from India!).

Continuing our conversation on inclusion, I want to take a moment and thank all of our Veterans for their work, sacrifices, commitment, obedience, and care. I am grateful. Last week we took a day to honor our Veterans. I had the privilege of going through a <u>Green Zone Training</u> here at UMaine. If you are looking for ways to support the Veteran staff, faculty and students here on campus, I encourage you to sign up. You can do so <u>HERE</u>.

Today, we take a moment to recognize Trans Day or Remembrance, November 20th. It is a day to remember the lives of Trans folx lost due to violence or death. It is 2023, friends, and in this year alone, we have lost a total of <u>434 Trans people</u>. Our own UMaine graduate, Wynter Appleford, draws in us into understanding and charges us with action through their article "<u>Transgender Day of Remembrance 2023</u>."

I hope you will take time to join us for a vigil to remember the lives lost, today on the steps of Fogler Library at 6pm. This even is hosted by UMaine's Wilde Stein. Scroll down for a list of agencies to support monetarily or even learn more about.

On a joyous note, I learned that for the first time, there were two trans women who proudly represented their countries at the Miss Universe pageant. Regardless of my personal opinions about the show, I am proud that all women have the agency to be an equal representation on that grand stage! So check out the stunning Miss Portugal, Marina Machete, and Miss Netherlands, Rikkie Kolle. Also, Miss Nepal, Jane Dipika Garrett , the first plus size (umm a rather normal regular sized individual, really) to grace the stage as well.

Friends, Thanksgiving is just over the bend. I know you must be gearing up to spend time with family, friends or spend time relaxing. Align with your values of inclusion and center <u>Native American Heritage Day</u>. Be safe on the road. Be kind to each other. Find ways to center the meal with your own traditional favorite foods to help recenter this time to celebrate bounty, harvest, friends and family. Sincerely,

Anila Karunakar (She, her, hers)

## anila.karunakar@maine.edu Director for Diversity and Inclusion











The University of Maine is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

## Shades of Belonging: Painting Our Homes

Paint what or where your home is with us!

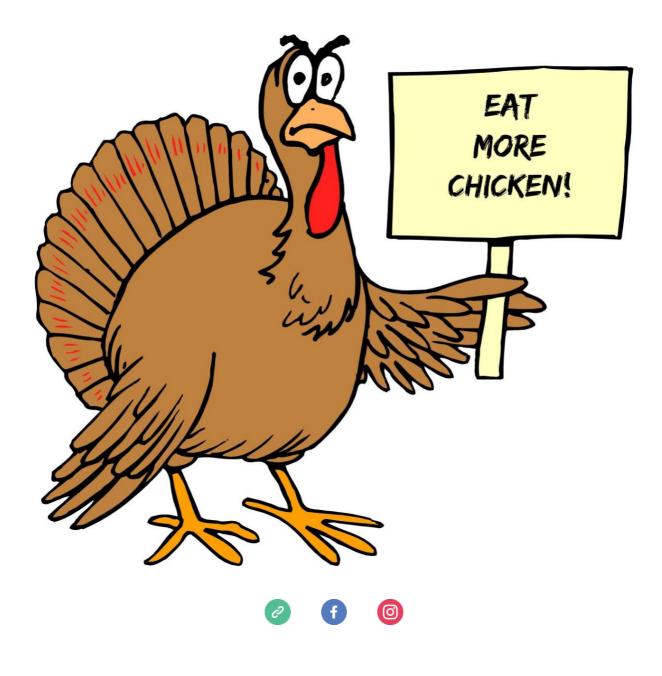
## Catered with Applebee's

December 6 from 12 to 2 pm Rainbow Resource Center and Intersectional Feminist Resource Center 2nd Floor of Memorial Union





YOU



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