COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS
AN OMA/CPGC COLLABORATION
Cultural Appropriation

[re]ACT: Community Conversation Series
Sponsored by the Office of Multicultural Affairs (OMA) and Center for Peace and Global Citizenship (CPGC)

Friday, October 23, 2015 CPGC Cafe, Stokes 104

SESSION OVERVIEW
A topic of discussion and debate in the media, universities, and other institutional spaces in the United States, agreement as to what defines a culturally appropriative act has been hard to come by. We offer the Haverford community an opportunity to engage with what cultural appropriation might mean in our contemporary moment.

[re]CC COMMITTEE
- Stephanie Zukerman, CPGC Program Coordinator
- Tamar Hoffman ‘16, CPGC Intern
- Benjamin Hughes, OMA Program Coordinator
- Oluwatobi Alliyu ‘16, OMA Intern
- Clara Abbott ‘18, OMA Intern

COLLABORATIVE PARTNERS
- Dr. E. Gabriel Dattatreyan, Visiting Asst. Professor of Anthropology FACILITATOR
SESSION NOTES

OPENING REMARKS

- https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TN2WaZAUy2U - Showed this light, funnier video entitled, “Costume Fails”

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- What were people's thoughts on this video about “Costume Fails”? 
- What is culture?
- What is the difference between race and culture?
- What role does history play in cultural appropriation?
- What is the difference between cultural exchange and cultural appropriation?

DISCUSSION POINTS:

- Too limiting to argue that only white people can commit cultural appropriation?
- We need to account for mixed identity and mixed culture when talking about cultural appropriation.
- Cultural appropriation takes other forms besides just Halloween
- Cultural appropriation happens when history is ignored
- Cultural appropriation not just clothing: also hairstyle, music, language/speech
- Argument about what role privilege plays in cultural appropriation

DISCUSSION CONCLUSION(S):

1. Encouraged to think below the surface about buzzwords like “Cultural Appropriation” and start informal dialogue outside this setting