AFRICAN AMERICAN STUDENT AFFAIRS (AASA)

AASA’s mission is to facilitate a support system that helps students achieve academic excellence and an enriching African American cultural experience at the university. AASA provides opportunities for students to learn more about leadership, social justice and creating community. This mission is achieved through a focus in four key areas: building community among enrolled students; providing personal and leadership development opportunities; advancing the ongoing development of a culturally competent campus; and supporting diversity initiatives.
PROGRAMS INCLUDE

**AASA DIASPORA DINNER**
The African American Student Affairs (AASA) Diaspora Dinner gathers students, faculty and staff from across the Diaspora of African peoples. The event allows individuals to come together annually to celebrate the rich heritages found within those in the Diaspora and engage in thought-provoking discussions.

**BLACK HISTORY MONTH**
Black History Month is a month-long celebration of Black experiences with guest speakers, workshops and lectures. Healing spaces are created throughout the month by AASA staff, student leaders and community members.

**BLACK BACCALAUREATE**
This special ceremony is our annual celebration of the achievement of African American scholars at Arizona and includes the opportunity to personally acknowledge all of those who have helped support students through their academic journey, as well as performances and words of encouragement from key university and community leaders.

**BUILDING LEADERS AND CREATING KNOWLEDGE (B.L.A.C.K.)**
This Learning Community First-Year retention program focuses on helping students achieve academic success, engage in discourse on social and cultural identity, participate in community outreach and cultivate leadership skills. Students live together in a Living-Learning Community in the Pima Residence Hall.

**STUDENTS SAY**

**Nadia Groce**
“I love coming to AASA, it brings a home away from home feeling to me. I have endless support from all the people who come to AASA. We are a family, we always have each other’s back.”

**Brysen Young**
“My experience at AASA has been worthwhile. I have been granted the opportunity to grow professionally and academically while fostering everlasting bonds.”

**Emani Spencer**
“Getting more in touch with my beautiful Blackness and those who share in the Black Experience with me has been one of the greatest gifts of my life thus far. That gift wouldn’t have been given to me had it not been for AASA, and I am beyond grateful everyday.”