



Photo by Karly Hamburg

Senior marketing major Alejandra Mondragon of Lambda Tau Omega enjoys a conversation with FOX star James Brown before the Hurricane Katrina Relief Talent Show held last night in the Bart Luedeke Center Theater. The event was organized by Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity.

'OUT'

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uality. It also allows straight people to show their support.

National Coming Out Day is celebrated every Oct. 11 in commemoration of the 1987 march on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The first celebration was held in 1988.

This year's theme for National Coming Out

Day is 'Talk About It.'

"Every single time we talk about our lives as GLBT Americans, we are another step closer to equality," Joe Solmonese, the president of the Human Rights Campaign said.

Matthew Hanson, the president of GSA, said National Coming Out Day is a time to honor individuality.

"National Coming Out Day is a celebration of being who you are and being

out and proud," he said.

According to Rutkowski, the Rider community benefited from the University's celebration of National Coming Out Day.

"It educates and shows that we are all here, your brother, sister, friend and professor," he said. "We are not the strangers down the street. There are gays and lesbians everywhere."

Rutkowski added that students were also able to learn that they have a place to go.

'RIFE'

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to each other.

"Some musicians call creative improvisation 'the flow experience' or being in the now," Rife said.

Creative improvisation is a common theme found in music from all time periods, even today's music such as jazz and pop. One of the earliest uses of creative improvisation was Bach. He used creative improvisation and then figured he should write his compositions down, Rife said.

"It was terrific to hear clear talk about how to listen for improvisation," said Ruth Lesh of Lawrenceville, NJ. "I appreciated it a lot."

Rife gave advice to his fellow

musicians during an open forum at the end of his presentation.

"Listen to players you love and practice a lot with their CDs," he told the audience. He also advised parents to "let the youth be creative with their playing even if it's banging the drums at 3 o'clock in the morning."

Others' creative processes were sparked by Rife's presentation.

"The presentation was marvelous as usual," said Gene Anderson of Lawrenceville, N.J. "My mind was working as I listened to Mr. Rife play. I was thinking of someone writing a melody to my poems and lyrics and performing them."

The Lunchbox Lecture Series continues on Wednesday, Oct. 26, with a presentation from political science professor Dr. David Rebovich.

"It showed the students who may be battling with coming out that there is a group of students who have successfully come out, and other students who are here to help," said Hanson.

Information pamphlets were also available at GSA's table, which provided guidelines for coming out as well as how to support a friend who is coming out.

Hanson added that GSA created this event to be enjoyable as well as educational.

"We also wanted to make this a fun event for students to think about what it means to come out of the closet both literally and mentally," he said.

Rutkowski said GSA sponsored this event in accordance with the organization's primary goal.

"GSA provides a safe environment for gay, lesbian, bisexual and straight individuals to get to know each other and to provide support," he said.

RIDER

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