

# Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this special section, contact Louisiana State Bar Association Director of Member Outreach and Diversity Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, (800)421-5722, ext. 129, or email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org).

## Updates

### Advance registration through Feb. 10 for Conclave on Diversity

Advance registration of \$50 will continue through Feb. 10 for the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) fifth annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession. The conclave is scheduled for Friday, March 2, at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal St., New Orleans. The theme is "The Professional Workplace: Conquering the Myths and Creating a Competitive Advantage." The conclave has been approved for 7.83 CLE hours, including 1 hour of ethics and 6.83 hours of professionalism. Lt. Gov. Jay Dardenne is the networking luncheon keynote speaker.

A room block (from March 1-3) has been reserved at the New Orleans Marriott for seminar attendees only. To reserve a room, members must be registered for the seminar. To register, call (888)771-4429 and ask for the Louisiana State Bar Association group block rate. All reservations must be guaranteed with a major credit card by Feb. 17. Any requests received after Feb. 17 will be handled on a space and rate availability basis.

For more information, a list of sponsors, to download a registration form or to register online, go to: [www.lsba.org/GoTo/conclave](http://www.lsba.org/GoTo/conclave).

### Nomination deadline is Jan. 27 for 2012 Human Rights Award

Nominations are being accepted for the 2012 Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) Human Rights Award. The nomination deadline is Jan. 27. The award will be presented at the LSBA Annual Meeting in June 2012.

The award recognizes outstanding efforts made by a bar association, a law firm or law department, an individual attorney or judge, a court or a community organization

or individual in promoting diversity in the legal profession, particularly efforts ensuring the full and equal opportunity of all persons for entry and advancement in Louisiana's legal profession.

For more information and to submit a nomination, go to: [www.lsba.org/diversity](http://www.lsba.org/diversity). Or contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org).

### Interviewing employers deadline is Jan. 31 for Minority Legal Internship Fair

The Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Minority Involvement Section is hosting its fourth annual Minority Legal Internship Fair on Saturday, March 31, at Loyola University College of Law, 540 Broadway Building, 540 Broadway St., New Orleans. The fair begins at 8 a.m. Employers interested in interviewing participants must register by Jan. 31 by calling (504)619-0115 or online at <https://law-lsba-csm.symplicity.com/employers>. Employers also have the options of staffing an information table or collecting résumés. For more information, contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129 or email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org); or LSBA Program Coordinator/Marketing and Sections Christine A. Richard, (504)619-0105, email [crichard@lsba.org](mailto:crichard@lsba.org).

### Share experiences anonymously for future professionalism CLE discussions

The Louisiana State Bar Association (LSBA) is developing a bank of hypotheticals/vignettes for use in future

CLE discussions. The LSBA will facilitate interactive workshops and discussions to evaluate actual race, age, ethnic, cultural, gender, sexual orientation, generational and disability experiences of attorneys and judges. The LSBA hopes to generate frank discussion of the issues and delve into the hard, not-so-politically-correct conversations to advance cultural competency and become more inclusive and professional.

If you have experienced a cultural competency misstep or witnessed one, consider submitting the scenarios to the LSBA for incorporation (anonymously) into future CLE discussions. Submit stories on the expandable form available at the following link: [www.lsba.org/lspbdocuments/568.pdf](http://www.lsba.org/lspbdocuments/568.pdf). For more information, contact LSBA Member Outreach and Diversity Director Kelly McNeil Legier, (504)619-0129, email [kelly.legier@lsba.org](mailto:kelly.legier@lsba.org).



### Article: "Are there real legal risks of workplace diversity programs? Diversity Programs: Debunking 3 Myths" by Weldon Latham

Latham is senior partner in the Washington, D.C., regional office of Jackson Lewis, L.L.P., chair of the firm's corporate diversity counseling group and counsel to the PepsiCo Global Diversity and Inclusion Governance Council and the Omnicom Group Diversity Development Advisory Committee.

The article was published in the September/October 2010 issue of *DiversityInc.* © DiversityInc. Referenced with permission.

The article begins on page 106 of the issue. Read the article online at: <http://www.scribd.com/doc/39788390/diversityinc20100910-dl>.

**THE PROFESSIONAL WORKPLACE:**

# CONQUERING THE MYTHS AND CREATING A COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE

*Fifth Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession*

**MARCH 2, 2012**

**NEW ORLEANS MARRIOTT • 555 CANAL STREET**

**J**oin the LSBA, the Louisiana Supreme Court, and a host of local and specialty bar associations across the state for a full day of workshops and discussions to fulfill your professionalism requirement for the year. During the conclave, highly credentialed speakers will provoke discussions regarding the scope and meaning of cultural competency, the professional and financial importance of a diverse and inclusive legal profession for practitioners, judges, and the administration of justice, and practical tips to create a more inclusive legal profession. The program will include a three-hour interactive workshop, breakout sessions, and panel discussions, as well as a networking luncheon featuring Louisiana's own Lt. Governor, Jay Dardenne, as the keynote speaker.

*For more information, contact Director of Member Outreach and Diversity, Kelly McNeil Legier, (Kelly.Legier@lsba.org; 504-619-0129).*

**To register or view the schedule,  
visit [www.lsba.org/diversity](http://www.lsba.org/diversity)**

