

Focus on Diversity

For more information on items in this section, visit www.lsba.org/diversity.

Registration still open for March 21 Diversity Conclave

Registration is still open for the seventh annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession, “Inclusive Professionalism: Harnessing the Power of Our Differences,” set for Friday, March 21, at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside Hotel, 2 Poydras St., New Orleans. The registration price is \$90. The event is approved for up to 7.5 credit hours, including ethics and professionalism.


For the first time, the program features four morning breakout sessions, one of which is an invitation-only session for managing partners, “The Louisiana Call

to Action: Sponsorship, The New Normal for Mentoring,” co-hosted by the Minority Corporate Counsel Association. The other morning sessions include “Blind Justice? Lessons Learned from the Trayvon Martin and Jordan Grahan Cases,” co-hosted by the Louisiana District Judges Association, the Louisiana Judicial Council and the Louisiana Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers; “Leadership with Intention: Institutionalizing Diversity and Inclusion in Your Organization;” and “Navigating Recent Supreme Court Precedent Regarding Same-Sex Marriage and Benefits,” sponsored by The Williams Institute.

The workshop also features nationally recognized diversity expert Verna Myers (Verna Myers Consulting Group L.L.C.), who will provide an interactive workshop on “What If I Say the Wrong Thing?”

Dr. Arin Reeves (Nextions) will serve as the keynote speaker at lunch.


Panel discussions with attorneys, corporate counsel and judges will provide participants with information on the impact of diversity, inclusion and bias on the legal profession and the administration of justice.

For more information and to register online, go to: www.lsba.org/goto/2014diversityconclave. 

“Suit Up for the Future” program application deadline is April 15

Rising high school juniors and seniors and recent graduates interested in participating in the fourth “Suit Up for the Future” High School Summer Legal Institute and Internship Program must submit applications and all supporting documents by April 15. The program, presented by the Louisiana State Bar Association and the Just the Beginning Foundation, is aimed at high school students interested in the legal profession.

Students will participate in a one-week legal institute and a two-week internship (shadowing attorneys at law offices and field trips to courts and other locations) from June 9-27 at various venues in New Orleans. Students who complete the program will receive a \$250 stipend.

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted online, emailed or postmarked by April 15. Mail to: Louisiana State Bar Association, Attn: Diversity Committee, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans, LA 70130. Email to lsbadiversity@gmail.com. Students may access the online application at: www.lsba.org/goto/suitup. 

Mark your calendar!

Seventh Annual Conclave on Diversity in the Legal Profession

**INCLUSIVE PROFESSIONALISM:
Harnessing the Power of Our Differences**



**MARCH 21,
2014**


**Hilton
New Orleans
Riverside
2 Poydras St., New
Orleans, LA**

For up-to-date information,
visit www.lsba.org/Diversity

Inclusive Professionalism Facilitators Training set for April 7 and May 7


The Louisiana State Bar Association's Diversity Committee has scheduled two more "Train the LSBA Facilitator" programs to equip speakers in facilitating discussions to foster inclusive professionalism. The programs are 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Monday, April 7, at the Shreveport Bar Association office, 625 Texas St.; and 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Wednesday, May 7, at the Red Cross Board Room, 2640 Canal St., New Orleans. Both programs have been approved for up to 7.58 CLE hours, all pro-

fessionalism. To register for the programs, contact Outreach Coordinator Michelle Neal at (504)619-0151 or email michelle.neal@lsba.org. 

Diversity Committee hosting Networking Reception for law students on April 10

The LGBT Subcommittee of the Louisiana State Bar Association's (LSBA) Diversity Committee is hosting a networking reception for students from the state's four law schools from 5-6:30 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, at the Louisiana Bar Center, 601 St. Charles Ave., New Orleans. The reception offers networking opportunities to law students and professionals interested in LGBT issues to create career oppor-

tunities and support systems for the law students. Another reception will be scheduled in Baton Rouge in the fall. LSBA members and judges are encouraged to attend. Robein, Urann, Spencer, Picard & Cangemi, A.P.L.C., is sponsoring the receptions. RSVP by April 4 by contacting Sonjanita Jordan at (504)619-0115 or email sonjanita.jordan@lsba.org. 



The Kullman Firm

The Kullman Firm, A.P.L.C., with offices in Louisiana, Alabama and Mississippi, is making great strides in its diversity initiatives and demonstrating through its actions its deep commitment to diversity and inclusion. The firm will soon launch its Kullman Law Scholars Program (Law Scholars) for incoming law students.

The Law Scholars Program will be an intensive, two-week program for rising first-year law students from racial and ethnic groups underrepresented in the legal profession. The program, which will be held in July each year before the students begin their first semester of law school, will be developed in partnership with Tulane University and Loyola University law schools and will be designed to prepare diverse students for success in that very important first semester of law school.

Law Scholars will provide students

with an overview of the first-year law school curriculum, provide guidance on time management and organization, and teach students how to effectively read and brief cases and prepare for class, as well as provide instruction on the skills of issue-spotting, outlining and synthesizing legal concepts. It will expose students to legal research and writing, and provide them with an opportunity to take a law school exam and obtain feedback. In addition to the skills-based workshops, students will learn about professionalism and networking, and have the opportunity to be mentored by Kullman Firm attorneys and other legal professionals in the community. Ultimately, this program will provide Law Scholars with the information, inspiration, skills training and the confidence they need for success in their first semester of law school.

Law Scholars will provide the firm with an opportunity to connect with diverse

students before they begin law school and to continue that relationship throughout their law school careers. The firm plans to maintain relationships with the Law Scholars throughout their law school careers by providing them with information, encouragement and advice (possibly via webinars/podcasts) on topics related to academic success or professional development. The Law Scholars will provide the firm with a diverse pool of applicants for summer clerkship positions, and the firm may commit to hiring at least one Law Scholar as a law clerk each year.

The Kullman Firm's latest diversity initiative serves to maintain a flow of capable diverse students within the legal pipeline. It also stands as a model of commitment to diversity that other firms should consider following.