## **DEI Monthly Message: February 2025**

February is Black History Month, an annual celebration of the achievements and contributions of African Americans and their powerful role of shaping U.S. history. The idea of celebrating the accomplishments of African Americas began in 1926 when <u>Carter Woodson</u> created Negro History and Literature in an effort for young Black Americans to be taught more of their heritage and about the achievements of their ancestors.

On the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the first Negro History Week, Black History month was created and has been celebrated and recognized by every U.S. President since then. Each year a theme is chosen for Black History Month and 2025's theme is 'African Americans and Labor,' highlighting the ways Black Americans have contributed to industries like entrepreneurship, organized labor and agriculture.



LSC celebrated Black History Month on Wednesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> with a presentation by <u>Anthony Galloway</u>, a nationally-recognized trainer and speaker on anti-racist student leadership and the power of culture in community change.

## **Chances to get involved:**

• Pantry updates & needs: Size 4 & 5 diapers, rice, canned beans

## **Upcoming events:**

• **Bite-sized Equity is back!** Join us (nearly) for 30 minutes of building knowledge around topics like biases, authentic apologies, having difficult conversations & more! Sessions will be held from 8-8:30 on Wednesday mornings on Zoom. Session dates are February 26, March 5, 19, 26, April 9, 16, 23 and 30, and May 7. If you would like

me to share calendar invites, just ask. This is the Zoom link for all sessions!

• Clothing Swap: This fan-favorite will be back on Student Success Day (2/25) from 11-1pm and is open to students and employees! If you have gently used clothing that you'd like to donate, please bring it to the CEI (M125) 2/20-2/24 between 8 and 4pm. Have something that isn't clothing—let's chat & I can let you know if the swap is a good place for it!



• Draw a Larger Circle: Expanding Inclusion in the Workplace Summit: On March 13<sup>th</sup> from 9-3pm, LSC, in partnership with the Duluth Chamber and the College of St. Scholastica, is proud to present the inaugural Equity & Inclusion Summit focused on enhancing inclusion in both the workplace and the greater Duluth community. The central theme of this summit will be learning what it means to draw a larger circle. Our speakers will task attendees to look internally at how you can draw a larger circle in your life—both personally and professionally.

Featured speakers and activities include:

- o Jesse Ross Coach, Speaker, Consultant
- o Dr. Chiamaka Enemuoh Lifestone Health Care & Duluth Chamber Board Chair
- o Voices of Resilience: New American Perspectives Panel
- The Urgency of Awareness by J Pfarr Consulting
- o Cam Kruger & Raven Kruger Transgenda podcast
- o Sara Cole Duluth Area Family YMCA
- And more!

The Summit will take place at The College of St. Scholastica in the Benedictine Commons. Registration information can be found <a href="https://example.com/here.">here.</a> Funds are available to cover the cost of attendance.



• **LSC Cultural Fair:** Join us March 25<sup>th</sup> from 11:30-1 in the CEI (M125) for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual LSC Cultural Fair featuring students and employees alike! If you're interested in hosting a table, please let Sarah Lyons know.

We welcome all cultural backgrounds to participate and share your story: students and employees who identify as indigenous, immigrants, refugees, 1.5 and second generations, adoptees, folks with strong ties to other countries or cultures, etcetera—in other words, <u>anyone</u> interested in participating is **more than welcome**!