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THE MARYLAND EQUITY & INCLUSION LEADERSHIP PROGRAM SUCCESSFULLY LAUNCHES 2019 CLASS

February Gathering will Engage Participants on a Systemic Analysis of Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Issues

Baltimore, MD – the Maryland Equity & Inclusion Leadership Program (MEILP) successfully rang in the 2019 Program class in January with 33 dedicated professionals representing many industry sectors from across Maryland. The cohort will reconvene on February 28 to engage in an immersive day-long session on the historical and socio-political contexts of diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) issues in our society. The historic Reginald F. Lewis Museum of Maryland African American History & Culture is serving as host for the day’s gathering.

Tara Taylor, MCCR Director of Education & Outreach, observes that, “This year’s program participants are thoughtful and passionate about challenging themselves and their organizations to find new and different ways to embed diversity and equity practices in to their work. MEILP harnesses the potential of program participants by challenging each of them to create and develop their own projects to address their organization’s particular challenges - the projects will push them to learn from their peers, examine their own biases and implement meaningful systemic change.”

“The January kick-off session involved an energetic combination of fun relationship-building activities and deep thought-provoking discussions about diversity, equity, and inclusion,” states Rae Tan, Ph.D., MEILP Academic Director and Assistant Professor with the College of Public Affairs at the University of Baltimore. “I was also beyond impressed by our 2019 program participants: they collectively brought a rich trove of diverse knowledge, perspectives, and voices to the program, and have already greatly enriched the learning experience for everyone, facilitators and participants alike. I’m excited to see what the program will bring for all in the months ahead!”

The MEILP 2019 cohort will meet monthly in various locations across the State to build strong interpersonal connections while exploring an array of different topics and activities, including intra- and intergroup perspectives and practices, as well as building DEI capacity and

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sustainability in their workplaces. For more information on the program schedule, please visit <http://meilp.ubalt.edu/index.php/program-schedule/>.

About the Program

A partnership of the [Maryland Commission on Civil Rights](#) (MCCR) and the [University of Baltimore Schaefer Center for Public Policy](#), MEILP aims to develop, engage, and support current and emerging leaders from private, public, and nonprofit sectors who are interested and committed to helping their organizations become more diverse, equitable, and inclusive at various levels. This program is ideal for developing and experienced professionals who want to design, lead, and promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) initiatives within their respective organizations.

If you or your organization is interested in becoming a program and/or scholarship sponsor, please visit <http://meilp.ubalt.edu/index.php/sponsors/>.

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