"We must let go of the life we have planned, so as to accept the one that is waiting for us." -Joseph Campbell





Mayor Says City Delivering on Economic Diversity

In a recent open letter to citizens of Huntsville, Mayor Tommy Battle proudly acknowledged that his team had kept an important promise made in 2008.

"Six years ago," noted Battle, "we made a commitment to our community that we would diversify our economic base, and we have delivered on that promise."

He added that the fulfillment of the promise was possible due to "working together to invest in our infrastructure, education and quality of life amenities."

Battle went on to attribute the city's claim to Alabama's two largest economic development

entities to Huntsville's "competitiveness and promising future as a leading economic driver" and key successful business destination.

In early January 2015, Polaris Industries, Inc., announced that Huntsville would be the site for

its \$142 million advanced manufacturing campus, an action that could mean some 2,000 new jobs for the Rocket City, along

with an array of suppliers.

On February 17, 2014, city, state and legislative officials announced that the guns and ammunition operation Remington



Outdoor Company, had chosen to move to Huntsville, bringing with it the potential for more



Those jobs, Battle said last year, would be "wellpaying" and the livelihood for numerous skilled tradesmen, engineers and support personnel. Opening for the Remington

facility was calculated around summer 2015. "2014 was an

than 2,000 jobs

within a decade.

incredible year for our city," said Battle. "Huntsville's successes in economic devel-

opment over the past year were unmatched, and we've continued our work to keep riding that momentum into 2015."

Friday, January 16, 2015

NEW ALUMNI OFFICERS: The Huntsville-Madison County Alumni Chapter of the Alabama A&M University Alumni Association, Inc., recently elected new officers effective 2015. Pictured (l-r) are: Sandra S. Stubbs, AAMU director of alumni affairs; Chiquita Suggs, treasurer; Jennifer Ingram, secretary; Pamela Thompson, immediate past president; Clarene Teague-Johnson, president; Sandra Lyles-Jackson, vice president; and Dr. Terrance Vickerstaff (conducted the swearingin program) Huntsville Progressive Alumni Chapter member and regional vice president, AAMU Alumni Association, Inc.

Learning Expo 2015 Set at Davidson Center

The U.S. Space and Rocket Center's Davidson Center will be site for "Learning Expo 2015," an all-day event of speakers, workshops, panels and entertainment.

The Expo will be held January 31 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. at One Tranquility Base in Huntsville, Ala., near the Marriott. There is no admission charge.

Organizaers say the activity is the largest education event in North



Alabama, as well as the only chance area families and residents have to get all the local education information they need in one place in the course of a single day.

Best-selling children's author and illustrator Jarrett Krosoczka ("Lunch Lady" series) will be the keynote speaker.



The Valley Weekly



Local Film Students Complete Hollywood Trip

A group of film students from area colleges recently returned from an 11-day trip to Hollywood, the Rose Parade and the Rose Bowl, where they captured how these events are produced for their subsequent documentary, "Huntsville 2 Hollywood 2015-Volume 1."

Throughout the visit, the students amassed more than 10,000 photosgraphs, according to Leon Burnette, trip coordinator and head of the Media Arts Institute of Alabama.

"In the coming months, we will begin working on finishing the Huntsville2Hollywood coffee table book, our documentary and our photo exhibit at Huntsville Botanicals Gardens and Lowe Mill."

Burnette said the students will also begin to visit middle

and high schools around the state and county, as part of an entertainment and digital media career presentation called Huntsville2Hollywood.

"We have been asked by the Tournament of Roses to come back next year and to bring another group of students to the Rose Parade," said Burnette. "They were really impressed by our students and our work."

Burnette added that the trip will become an annual activity and will be expanded to top students at HBCUs throughout Alabama.

"In addition, I will be taking eight students to work on the 2015 Emmy Awards and eight student to New York this summer to explore jobs in the public relations and live event industries. HNUSR Board Adds New Members

The Huntsville Network for Urban School Renewal, Inc. (HNUSR), a Huntsville-based nonprofit whose mission is to coordinate the services of a number of community organizations to help mitigate poverty related factors that limit the academic achievement of children from low income communities, has announced four new members of its Board of Directors.

The HNUSR board welcomes Mr. John A. Robinson III, Huntsville, Ala.; Dr. Charlotte Lockhart, Atlanta, Ga.; Dr. Patricia Elzie, Atlanta, Ga.; and, Dr. Diana Bourisaw, St. Louis, Mo.

Dr. Diana Bourisaw has recently served as the Chief

Academic Officer for Pearson. Before coming to Pearson, Dr. Bourisaw was the Deputy Chancellor for School Improvement and Student Achieve-

dent Achievement for the State of Florida. She is the former Superintendent of Schools for St. Louis Public Schools and the Fox School District (Missouri), and has been a state board member, public and private school board member, building principal and teacher. Dr. Bourisaw currently serves on



Dr. Patricia Elzie now owns and operates a private real estate investment group in Atlanta, GA after spending more than 30 years in the field of education.

She has served as a classroom teacher and in administrative positions with Norfolk City Schools, Metropolitan Nashville

Public Schools, Prince Georges County Maryland Schools, Cobb County Georgia Public Schools, and Marietta City Schools. Dr. Elzie retired from Marietta (Georgia) City Schools, where she was system-wide testing director and supervised the district's counseling and gifted programs.

Dr. Charlotte W. Lockhart currently provides Curriculum Support for the Fulton County (Georgia) School System. Her duties include assisting teachers in organizing and implementing



resources specifically for girls and as a result founded the Jewels Club, which promotes the philosophy that girls are capable of becoming whatever they prepare for in life by making wise decisions. It is the club's belief that each girl is a special member of their family and of their community and has something unique to offer.

John A. Robinson III is Managing Partner with Twickenham Concepts, a Huntsvillebased consulting firm for senior leaders of local



and regional government contractor organizations and commercial enterprises. He is also a Member of the Huntsville Committee

of 100, serving on its Education Task Force. Mr. Robinson is an astute business leader with 50 years of experience working in leadership positions in various companies including IBM Corporation, SCI Corporation, GDC Systems Marketing, Georgia State University, Ellett Brothers, Inc., Group Development Corporation, and Alatec, Inc.

"The HNUSR has always enjoyed a strong seasoned Board comprised of established experts in education and other relevant disciplines and we are pleased to further enhance our Board with the addition of such well-respect-

ed professionals," said Van L. Strickland, chairman of the HNUSR Board of Directors. "These individuals bring deep





Strickland added, "The Board and management of HNUSR would also like to express our sincere appreciation to Ms. Gloria Batts and Dr. Dorothy Huston, two founding board members who recently left the Board, for their service to the Board and many contributions to the organization."



Ivory W. Reedus, LUTCF

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Editor-in-Chief Dorothy W. Huston

Assistant Editor Georgia S. Valrie

Editorial Assistants Linda Burruss Gary T. Whitley

Layout & Design James Huston

Photographer Eugene Dickerson

- Contributing Editors -

Hortense Dodo Dave Herron William L. Huston, Jr. Daryush Ila TuVy Nguyen Bonnie Spencer JaLissa Williams

Website Administrator Calvin Farier

Editorial Consultant Jerome Saintjones

Mailing Address:

The Valley Weekly 415A Church Street-Suite 100 Huntsville, AL 35801 (256) 651-9028 www.valleyweeklyllc.com Copyright 2014 Items for consideration for publication in The Valley Weekly should be submitted at least TWO weeks in advance to above address or by e-mail to info@valley-weeklyllc.com. Items do not necessarily reflect the views of the Valley Weekly, LLC.

The Valley Weekly

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The Hollands







Dorothy and Bill

"Let us remember the great commission, walk together and build each other up.... - Pastor O. Wendell Davis Union Chapel Missionary Baptist Church We had the opportunity this past week to be blessed with personal and written communication with many family and friends. As we set the platform for this year, January has both Latin and Roman roots. In Latin, January is named after Janus, the god of beginnings and transitions. January also has its beginnings in Roman mythology, coming from the Latin word for 'door' since January is the door to the year. I hope each of you are having a good beginning to this new year. *Blessings!*

Typically, for me, two hours are a long time to sit for a television show or movie. On this past Saturday afternoon, we went to see the movie "Selma." When we consider the conditions around the world, caring people of all cultures, denominations, races, ages, colors and persuasions should be concerned about the violence and lack of respect for human dignity around the world. My January prayer is for world peace!

Many of us *lived* "Selma" or know people who were personally involved, whether physically, spiritually, mentally or otherwise. I grew up about 60 miles southwest of Selma, too close for comfort! I believe there is a special place prepared for 'special' people. Go, see it, and decide for yourself.

We had the opportunity last week to dine with Dr. Daryush Ila, Associate Vice Chancellor for Research at Fayetteville State University in North Carolina; Dr. & Mrs. Larry Holland, retired/esteemed professor of physics at AAMU; and eminent Brazilian physicist and operatic singer, Dr. Adelaide de Almeida, widow of the late Dr. Robert Zimmerman--all of São Paulo, Brazil. While in Phuket's, we ran into one of Huntsville's loveliest couples, Mr. & Mrs. Robert & Wilson. Dr. Patricia Wilson (now retired) and I were colleagues at AAMU. It is always a delight to see Bob and Pat, keeping the courtship in their marriage. *Ah, modeling the way.*

As we approach the commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King's 76th birthday, let us, in the spirit of Pastor O. Wendell Davis' Sunday sermon on January 11, 2015: "Remember the great commission, walk together and build each other up."

Until next week,

Dorothy

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The Valley Weekly

Calendar at a Glance

JANUARY

18

Ladies Lounge presents "An Empowerment Affair" Amendment XXI 123 Northside Square Downtown Huntsville 6-8 p.m. Limited tickets at eventbrite.com

The 30th Martin Luther King Jr. Unity Breakfast sponsored by Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. Delta Theta Lambda Chapter Von Braun Center North Hall 8am Speaker: Dr. Cynthia M.A. Butler-Mc-

Intyre, 24th National President of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

African American Pioneers and Innovators Day at Sci-Quest in Honor of Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Sci-Quest Hands-on Science Center, 1435 Paramount Drive 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Admission: Children, \$9; Adults, \$10

Contact: Jennifer Deermer, 256-837-0606, jdeermer@sci-quest. org, www.sci-quest.org

FEBRUARY

Kappa Alpha Psi Decatur-Athens Alumni Chapter "Chocolate Elegance" Best Western Plus Vieira Ball-

room

Madison, Ala.

Music by DJ Fresh

Complimentary champagne

fountain & appetizers Semi-formal attire

Tickets available online Contact: (256) 289-3292

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Have you ever had an interest in video games and/or comic books? Did you ever have a character that you felt connected with?

If so you would like what we have in store for you. Greg Stargell is currently in the process of developing a comic book/ video game series with a main hero that he has developed called Da Spokesman. The photo shows the main characters in the story, which is divided into four segments: Minor League, Major League, International League, and Galactic League. With each segment, Da Spokesman progresses as he grows into the understanding of his life's transitions, his powers and, most importantly, himself.

Stargell said: "I have a professional background, but in this venture I wanted to do something more than just audios, videos, and seminars. As a fan of comic books and video games, I have developed Da Spokesman and The Awesomeness League as an avenue to reach a familiar au-

dience, to provide inspiration, to provide entertainment, and to help people unleash their inner awesomeness at the

same time. I absolutely believe that through this series, we have achieved these goals and so much more. I also believe the audience would be able to relate to one or more of the characters as the storyline progresses."

Da Spokesman and The Awesomeness League is currently in development of the third installment of the game, International League. The first two games, Minor League and Major League, are now available to the public.

When asked about future plans for Da Spokesman and The Awesomeness League, Stargell replied, "I plan on starting a crowd

funding campaign to raise money for the expansion into the mobile gaming arena and, depending on how much is raised, I might go into the animation arena, as well."

Active in the Huntsville community, Stargell is an alumnus of Alabama A&M University, where he acquired his bachelor's and Ph.D. degrees in physics. He also holds a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Iowa State University. In his spare time, he enjoys salsa dancing and doing comedic performances under the stage name, Greg "Da Spokesman" Stargell.

Be sure to check out Da Spokesman and The Awesomeness League and unleash your inner awesomeness!

For more information, go to: http://awesomenessleague.com/ daspokesman.

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January 16, 2015

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Newly elected Alabama State Representative Anthony L. Daniels on January 9, 2015, addressed a group of at-risk students at Whitesburg Middle School as part of the P.A.W.S. Initiative. At least three informed school principal Barbara Little that they were impressed by the presentation. Another expressed interest in attending Representative Daniels' alma mater, Alabama A&M University.



No representation is made that the quality of the legal services to be performed is greater than the quality of legal services performed by other lawyers.

Local Businesswoman to Address AAMU Engineering Students

The founder of Huntsvillebased LogiCore Corporation will address the College of Engineering, Technology and Physical Sciences at Alabama A&M University on January 29 at 12:30 p.m. in 233 Arthur J. Bond Hall.

Miranda Bouldin graduated from the Harvard Business School Management Program in 2014, and she serves on the Madison County Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and the National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA). She is also a member of the Rotary Club of Greater Huntsville.

In 2012, Bouldin founded the non-profit Inspire & Achieve Corporation to provide deserving students with financial assistance, personal growth and development, and to increase the number of students entering into STEM and Logistics related fields. Inspire & Achieve has scholarship opportunities through current partnerships with universities to include Alabama A&M, Auburn, UA Huntsville, and University of Alabama Tuscaloosa.

Bouldin founded LogiCore Corporation in 2002 as a womanowned small business. LogiCore is a premier Logistics and Technology Services and Solutions Company located in Cummings Research Park, Huntsville, Ala. LogiCore is a Prime Contractor for the Federal Government and provides life cycle logistics, operational logistics, in theatre operations, systems engineering, software engineering, informa-



tion technology, and programmatic services in addition to offering mission-essential systems integration expertise.

Bouldin's AAMU presentation is part of the Engineering Dean's Speaker Series.



Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation

#94612

The Rosetta James Scholarship Foundation provides financial scholarship to undergraduate students who demonstrate sound academic principles; commitment to community volunteerism, civic engagement and unselfishness to assist others in Huntsville/Madison County.

The Rosetta James Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization with a 0% Administrative and Fundraising Rate (AFR). For additional information, contact (256) 536-9717 or write P.O. Box 17452, Huntsville, AL 35810.



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The Valley Weekly

January 16, 2015

Eta Phi Beta Slates 17th Annual Cotillion

Sunday, January 18, 2015 – Alpha Omega Chapter of Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. will host an

Informational Tea for seventh, eighth and ninth grade

female and male students interested in the benefits of participating in its 17th Annual Junior Cotillion.

The Informational Tea will be held at 3:00 p.m. at Fellowship Presbyterian Church, 3406 Meridian Street, Huntsville, Ala.

This occasion will provide details and insight to parents and interested participants as to the activities that will be provided over a six- to ten-week period

of interesting activities, learning sessions and entertainment with focus on bullying, etiquette, internet savvy, starting a bank account and more.

Consider enrolling your 7th, 8th, or 9th grader in this activity and join us on Sunday, January 18, 2015 at 3:00 p.m. at Fellowship Presbyterian Church.

Contacts are: Ms. Yolanda Harris, Committee Chairwoman - 256-565-0039 (Cell) or Mrs.

ЕТА РНІ ВЕТА

Chapter -256-714-2200 (Cell).

The purpose of Eta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. is to promote and develop closer fellowship between business and professional women

and to work for their welfare; to obtain for women the opportunity for the highest standards in all business fields; to aid high school graduates by award-

ing scholarships to further their education in business and professional fields; and to contribute financially to local and national charities and to promote and assist in programs designated for improving the well-being of developmentally and intellectually disabled citizens.

- Submitted by Linda Burruss

Huntsville welcomed 2015 with dreary, rainy and artic cold temperatures, but "the sun will come out tomorrow," as the movie character Annie always told us. Although our community hasn't seen much sun, one bright ray of sunshine is the announcement of Polaris building a new advanced manufacturing facility in Huntsville. Polaris will bring an additional 1,700 jobs once full production is reached. Mayor Battle and Governor Bentley made this first economic development announcement of 2015 with much fanfare at the Jackson Center in Research Park.

Speaking of Annie, if you have not seen the recent movie release of this classic film featuring Academy Award Winner, Jamie Foxx and newcomer Quvenzhane Wallis as Annie, then you owe yourself a trip to your favorite local theater. While Huntsville continues to enjoy economic development growth because of our strong community leadership; it is imperative to remember that there are other communities in our state that are not thriving as well. One such area is known as "The Black Belt Region," a place known for some less than posi-

TMT Intern Completes Studies

Eighteen-year-old Yolanda Malone has completed the Montgomery Job Corps Program and has received several certificates and awards acknowledging her work, including a certificate in Business and Finance.

Ms. Malone was an impressive summer intern in 2011 and 2012 at Technology Management Training (TMT) Group, Inc., via the North Alabama Center for Educational Excellence (NACEE) Summer Internship Program. She graduated from James Madison High School August of 2014 in Atlanta, Ga.

- Submitted by Linda Burruss



Huntsville Happenings

ONE DREAM

Within The Black Belt is the

city of Selma, which is the title of

a new documentary film pro-

duced by Oprah Winfrey and

Brad Pitt recounting the dark

marches and the culminating

event now known as "Bloody

years in Detroit, I recall hav-

hours in the local library and

Sunday." During my formative

ing to write a book report about

"Bloody Sunday." After spending

researching several texts, I found

myself frustrated and with writ-

mother's house, who was a native

ers block. I went to my grand-

Alabamian, and told her about

my assignment and she told me the story of a Caucasian woman,

Viola Liuzzo. Viola was a Detroit

housewife that died fighting on

"Bloody Sunday." After listening

to my grandmother orate about

Viola Liuzzo and her courage to

leave Detroit after watching one

of the marches on TV and drive

alone to Selma, Alabama to help.

Sadly, Mrs. Liuzzo gave her life

on "Bloody Sunday" fighting for

the rights of African-Americans

bution to the civil rights move-

ment is often overlooked, her

name is inscribed on the Civil

Rights Memorial in Montgom-

in the south. While Viola's contri-

the Detroit NAACP member,

this time in history, I wrote about

era of the Selma to Montgomery

tive history.

by Gary T. Whitley, Jr.

ery. Thanks to my grandmother's oral history lesson, I did earn an "A" on that report and I also increased my history knowledge. With the use of digital textbooks and laptops, I imagine students do not write book reports much anymore, but, "Selma" is now playing in theaters and would be an educational family activity to experience during the upcoming extended MLK Holiday weekend.

The year of 2014 brought some tumultuous times to our country and gave pause to many to reflect and start conversations about race and diversity. Often times, history is a tough subject to digest and discuss. However, lessons can always be learned. One of the things that I have always admired about the Jewish culture is untiring effort to build Jewish Cultural centers across the globe, so that future generations will never forget the Holocaust. This example of a cultural group serves as a testament of resilience and strong faith. As Huntsville continues to strive to be the most inclusive city in Alabama, I solicit everyone to work collectively towards this goal in 2015 and beyond.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at the 30th annual Dr. M.L. King, Jr., Unity Breakfast hosted by the Delta Theta Lambda Education Foundation of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Incorporated on January 19th at the Von Braun Center. As January 2015 rolls on, let me extend founders day greetings to the ladies of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Incorporated (January 15, 1908); Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated (January 13, 1913); and Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Incorporated (January 16, 1920); for the collective service work that all of the Divine 9 organizations offer to make our community One Huntsville.



Brenda Ben-

nett, President,

Alpha Omega

The Valley Weekly

No Longer a Dream Deferred by Jacqueline Flakes Martin

The famous African American poet, Langston Hughes, poses some thought-provoking questions to readers in his epic poem, "Dream Deferred". He boldly asks:

"What happens to a dream deferred? Does it dry up like a raisin in the sun? Or fester like a sore – and then run? Does it stink like rotten meat? Or crust and sugar over – like syrupy sweet? Maybe it just sags like a heavy load. Or does it explode?"

Can one imagine what Martin Luther King's response to these questions would be today? If anyone knew about dreams being dashed or deferred, he certainly did. However, I would venture to say today Martin Luther King's dream is no longer deferred. Rather it is a remarkable "work in progress", which has transformed America!

The dream, although slow in taking its full course, has become manifest in the most significant aspects of America's society namely education, industry, and politics.

Unequivocally, the dream is alive and at work! To see the dream in its manifested state, one should simply visit the public school system, where approximately 72 million people annually matriculate in a great "melting pot" of higher learning. Over the last four decades, America has produced one of the most diversely educated societies in history. With over 100,000 public schools nationwide, each citizen is guaranteed admittance and equal privileges.

In corporate America, twenty-three females are leading Fortune 500 companies as Commanding Executive Officers (CEOs). All of these women have broken traditional gender barriers by earning coveted CEO



roles, which have historically been held by men. They are also present day benefactors of the Civil Rights Movement, which put in place regulations making it unlawful to discriminate against gender in the workplace. Of this elite group, Indra K. Nooyi (Pepsico) and Ursula Burns (Xerox) are women of color.

In the political forum, the dream is realized through the appointment of both men and women of color to the Supreme Court of the United States. Sonia Sotomayor, Elena Kagan, Clarence Thomas, and Ruth Bader Ginsburg represent a level of diversity amongst chief justices that is historically unsurpassed. Most certainly, election of the first African American President of the United States, Barack Obama, is a great victory in the enduring struggle for equality

and civil rights.

The gains realized through Martin's dream and the United States Commission of Civil Rights evolved a new class of American citizens both then and now. From the short term perspective, individuals first viewed Martin's dream as progress towards ending the "color barrier".

However, the benefit was significantly more. The application of Martin's dream through the Civil Rights Movement was the final element necessary for America to truly proclaim herself to the world as a free nation, where all citizens have equal rights regardless of race, creed, color, or sex. In fact, if civil rights had not been embraced, our forefather's promises of "unalienable Rights" and "Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness" would have been negated.

Now, back to the questions asked by Mr. Langston Hughes. What happens to a dream deferred? In terms of Martin Luther King, my answer would be as follows. No! Martin's dream of justice and equality for all mankind did not shrivel up and die like a raisin in the sun. No! It did not fester like a sore. No! It did not rot like meat. No! It did not crust and sugar over like syrup. But, it did explode. It exploded through acts of nonviolence and passive resistance, which laid the foundation for the Civil Rights Movement.

Today, Martin's dream, by no means deferred, is a perpetual "work in progress". It resonates from the Deep South to the coastal shores, to small communities, to urban cities, to public schools, to corporate America, to the judicial system, and to the White House. It is the cornerstone of our hope and the moral barometer that preserves civil rights for generations to come.



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www.marshallengland.com

marshallengland@marshallengland.com

The Valley Weekly

Tennessee Valley

Diversity Leadership Colloquium

Vision:

The Diversity Leadership Colloquium (DLC) advances leadership excellence by advocating and progressing the affirmation and inclusion of diversity in strategic markets and communities of interest for competitive intelligence.

Mission:

DLC's mission is to become a premier provider of diversity training for inspiring and experienced leaders throughout the lifecycle.

Values:

Our values are: Collaboration for Excellence; Appreciation with Insight; Respect for Understanding; and Empathy for all ... C.A.R.E.

DLC offers inspiring and experienced leaders with opportunities to benefit from qualified and seasoned trainers, scholars, and business professionals who share and discuss research and best practices regarding obtaining excellence through diversity.

DLC is designed for individuals interested in gaining access to networks, mentors, and sponsors that have traditionally not been available to diverse members of the broader community. Enrollees will be exposed to topics such as: Understanding and Embracing Diversity, Organizational Culture and Structural Reform, Racial and Gender Intelligence, Social Justice and Equality, Networking and Mentoring, Politics, Heroes and Holidays, Critical Thinking and Self-Affirmation and Living the CARE Values.

Individuals and companies are making sincere efforts in verbalizing a commitment to diversity excellence. However, we must be trained to build the next generation of leaders who have the skill sets, tools and commitment to execute.

Training Schedule

DLC will run four quarterly, eight week colloquia. The sessions will be held on Tuesday evenings from 6 to 9 p.m. Participant cannot miss more than 2 sessions. Location: 415-A Church Street - Downtown Huntsville Enrollment limited to: 16 - **Tuition:** \$795

2015 Schedule

Winter	(Registration Closed)
Spring	April 7 – May 26 - Deadline to register (March 7, 2015)
Summer	July 7 – August 25 - Deadline to register (June 7, 2015)
Fall	Oct 6 – Nov 24 - Deadline to register (Sep 6, 2015)



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- Application Form
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- Tuition Payable upon Acceptance

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High School Atte	nded	Graduated: Yes No	
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References			
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Please mail this Application Form, 3 Letters of Reference, and Resume to: 415A Church Street-Ste. 100, Huntsville, AL 35801 - (256) 651-9028; visit us at www. diversityleadershipcolloquim.com; or e-mail info@diversityleadershipcolloquium. com. Tuition and photo will be required only if accepted to participate.