Equity in Action

A Monthly Update About Inclusive Work Across Duke from OIE

December 2022

Duke | DOING GOOD
Employee Giving Campaign

Get Involved
Author Mikki Kendall to Deliver Keynote at the 2023 Duke Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration

Writer and diversity consultant, Mikki Kendall, will deliver the keynote address at Duke Chapel for Duke University’s annual Martin Luther King Jr. commemoration on Sunday, Jan. 15, at 3 p.m.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE 2023 MLK COMMEMORATION ➞

Interfaith Calendar and Inclusive Observances

To assist the Duke community in planning meetings, conferences and events each year, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion at the Duke University School of Medicine presents an interfaith calendar of observances.

ACCESS THE CALENDAR ➞
Each year, the Samuel DuBois Cook Society honors Duke staff, students, faculty, and local community members for their community leadership and social activism. The 2023 awards ceremony will take place on Monday, February 13 at the Washington Duke Inn & Golf Course.

Bennett Appointed Dean of Trinity College of Arts & Sciences

Gary Bennett has been Duke's vice provost for undergraduate education since 2018. He is a Duke alum, a celebrated lecturer, and a health behavior expert. His tenure as dean will start on February 1st, 2023. Eighty percent of Duke's undergraduate students are served by Trinity College.
Family Ties

Donna Hudson moved her family of four from Guyana to Durham in search of better economic opportunities. Over the course of her 17 years as a housekeeper at Sanford School, Hudson has seen the growth and impact of her own children. Durham has become home to a new generation of the family, who have all been forged inextricably into Duke’s fabric via lifesaving surgery and the unsung labor that keeps the university and health system running smoothly.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE HUDSON FAMILY ⇦

Feeling Lonely? What We Want From Our Relationships Can Change With Age

According to research, the feeling that social relationships fail to meet our needs often leads to loneliness. According to Duke psychologist and recent Duke alumnus Samia Akhter-Khan, efforts to combat loneliness, particularly among older individuals, have ignored evidence that relationship expectations evolve over time.

READ THE ARTICLE ⇦

Historian and Fiction Writer Sarah Balakrishnan Is Complicating Our Narratives of Africa

New faculty member Sarah Balakrishnan is centering narratives on people’s relationships to their land through her historical studies and literature.

READ THE ARTICLE ⇦
Alexandra Zagbayou Joins Hart Leadership Program

Alexandra Zagbayou, a new professor at the Sanford School and a prominent figure in Durham's educational community, hopes to use her experience to inspire Hart Leadership Program participants to create a better world and strengthen their own leadership abilities.

READ THE ARTICLE ⇦

Dawn Staley on Race, Equality and Advocating for Change

Dawn Staley was a fierce competitor on the basketball court, and she continues to be a warrior off of it as a coach and an advocate for social justice. Staley was recently interviewed by Duke professor Jennifer Nash about race in coaching, coaching theories, and Brittney Griner for the university's Black in Blue project, which examines the role of race in intercollegiate athletics.

READ THE ARTICLE ⇦

How Police Agencies Misuse Facebook on Race

Using data from over 14,000 Facebook pages over a decade, a Duke law professor found that police departments were more likely to post about crimes involving Black individuals, which could mislead the public about who is being charged with crimes.

READ THE ARTICLE ⇦

A Student Reporter's First Time in a Courthouse
courthouse reporting, visits to the Durham County Courthouse, and a meeting with racial justice activist Bryan Stevenson shaped her perspective on the importance of "getting proximate" to people in order to effect change.

Awaaz: A Showcase of South Asian Culture

Hundreds of students performed Dec. 2-3 in the Awaaz showcase. Pictured, Duke Raas, Duke's premier raas-garba team, showcasing folk-style dances that originate from Gujarat in Western India. Photos by Jared Lazarus

Each year, Duke Diya, the South Asian student organization, hosts Awaaz — the largest student-run production on campus. On December 2-3 more than 2,000 audience members watched hundreds of performers bring to life South Asian culture through the choreography and arrangements made by 15 student groups.

READ THE ARTICLE ➢

The Power of Portraiture: Recent Acquisitions


A new exhibit at the Nasher Museum of Art showcases 11 recently acquired works representing a broad range of artistic approaches to rendering portraits.

READ THE ARTICLE ➢

Duke CTSI and NCCU Debut Ethnodrama Addressing Opioid Use and Addiction
A new ethnodrama, “Kites,” addressing the opioid crisis in North Carolina recently premiered at North Carolina Central University (NCCU) and Duke Clinical and Translational Science Institute (CTSI). In it, actors shared their personal stories and perspectives as opioid users. The show, which featured dance, music, and a panel discussion about the opioid crisis, was performed by NCCU students and written by local playwright and artist Dasan Ahanu.

READ THE ARTICLE ➞

Hedy Lee Finds Better Measures For Old Problems

Hedy Lee, a new sociology faculty member seeks out the overlooked. She has devoted her entire professional life to quantifying health inequalities that are ignored by government.

READ THE ARTICLE ➞

Special Opportunity

Join Duke's Get Moving Challenge 2023

Registration is open for the annual staff and faculty fitness competition for teams and individuals.

Learn more about Get Moving Challenge

Funding

Faculty Advancement Seed Grants 2023

The Office for Faculty Advancement is pleased to announce the theme of the fifth cycle of the Faculty Advancement Seed Grant Program: “Building Academic Networks and Strengthening Faculty Communities.”
Duke Career Center Internship Funding Program 2023

Internship funding through the Duke Career Center is now open to both undergraduate and masters-level students! The Internship Funding Program aims to reduce the financial challenges associated with participating in low-paying or unpaid experiences.

To learn more, visit: [Undergraduate Internships](#) or [Masters Internships](#).

Interested in serving as a member of the Internship Funding Program's selection committee? Please reach out to [Leigh Ann Waring](#) in the Career Center.

Trainings & Workshops

Joint Workshop by Duke Faculty Advancement and the Office for Institutional Equity

**Mon, Jan 9 | 8:30 AM**

*Moving Your Unit Forward Following the 2021 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Survey: A Retreat for Academic and Administrative Leaders (Part 2)*

Registration Required | In Person

Faculty Advancement Workshop

**Wed, Jan 18 | 3:00 PM**

*Discussing Difficult Topics in the Laboratory and Classroom (Webinar)* | Registration Required

SEE MORE FACULTY ADVANCEMENT EVENTS

Duke Learning & Organization Development

2023 Professional Development Course Offerings

Find more Diversity & Inclusion workshops on the *Duke Event Calendar* or follow OIE’s *Instagram*
Meetings & Events

Sun, Dec 18 | 12:15 PM
Duke Chapel: Public Tour of Duke Chapel
SEE MORE DUKE CHAPEL EVENTS

Sun, Jan 15 | 3:00 PM
Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration: Mikki Kendall
SEE MORE DUKE CHAPEL EVENTS

Thu, Jan 19 | 6:00 PM
Keohane Distinguished Lecture: A Symphony, But With What Audience?: On the Need to Broaden the Reach of Asian American Studies

Thu, Jan 19 | 7:00 PM
Franklin Humanities Institute: Film Screening: "Reversing Roe"
SEE MORE FHI EVENTS

Wed, Jan 25 | 2:00 PM
Bass Connections Fair
SEE MORE BASS CONNECTIONS EVENTS

Find more Diversity & Inclusion events and major religious observances on the Duke Event Calendar or follow us on Instagram.

Duke University Institutional Statement of Commitment to Diversity and Inclusion

Duke aspires to create a community built on collaboration, innovation, creativity, and belonging. Our collective success depends on the robust exchange of ideas—an exchange that is best when the rich diversity of our perspectives, backgrounds, and
experiences flourishes. To achieve this exchange, it is essential that all members of the community feel secure and welcome, that the contributions of all individuals are respected, and that all voices are heard. All members of our community have a responsibility to uphold these values.

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Duke Coronavirus Response