

DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

**PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE**

CONNECTIONS TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION

**WE CAN,  
WE WILL,  
WE MUST**



## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

The following information was collected using a data tool developed by the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee to enhance resources available to members of the State Bar of Michigan and the public. We are collecting information about programs designed to assist students and others considering the legal profession. Across the state there are a number of successful “pipeline” programs that offer information and education about the legal profession to prospective law students, bar examinees, and others who have an interest in pursuing a legal career. By gathering information about these programs in one place, we plan to act as a clearinghouse and a resource to everyone seeking information or assistance.

Additionally, we hope to instigate more collaboration among programs and greater opportunities to replicate successes. Please help us by sharing information about any pipeline programs you are involved with or forwarding this link to the appropriate person and help us build an evolving database for the state.

### Submit a Pipeline Resource

A data collection tool intended to improve State Bar of Michigan resources by gathering information about programs designed to assist students and others considering the legal profession.

[www.michbar.org/diversity/pipeline.cfm](http://www.michbar.org/diversity/pipeline.cfm)

**For more information contact:**

**Gregory P. Conyers**  
Director of Diversity  
(517) 346-6358  
[gconyers@mail.michbar.org](mailto:gconyers@mail.michbar.org)

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Summer Legal Institute

[http://www.jtb.org/index.php?submenu=Summer\\_Legal\\_Institute&src=gendocs&ref=DetroitSLI&category=Summer\\_Legal\\_Institute](http://www.jtb.org/index.php?submenu=Summer_Legal_Institute&src=gendocs&ref=DetroitSLI&category=Summer_Legal_Institute)

Just the Beginning-A Pipeline Organization

Partnered with: Thomas M. Cooley Law School, Just the Beginning Foundation

The Summer Legal Institute consists of classroom lectures on substantive information, logic and critical thinking exercises, writing and oral advocacy in mock trial environments, panel discussions of judges and attorneys, and field trips to area law firms, government offices, and courthouses. Practical information about preparing for college, securing financial aid, and succeeding in higher education are other highlights of the program.

#### Program Contact:

Laura Ramsey

312-258-4868

[lr Ramsey@jtbf.org](mailto:lr Ramsey@jtbf.org)

Program offers: Education on the profession

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- High school students

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Dores McCree Day**

University of Michigan Law School

Partnered with: High school students from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Detroit, Lansing, Flint, and Grand Rapids, Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA)

Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA) has hosted Dores McCree Day to afford underrepresented high school students from Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti, Detroit, Lansing, Flint, and Grand Rapids the opportunity to learn about law careers. Participants toured the Law School, had lunch with MLaw students, and interacted with professors. The event is named for Dores McCree, who was a beloved staff member at Michigan Law who mentored and provided career counseling to minority students.

#### **Program Contact:**

Michigan Law's Black Law Students Alliance (BLSA)

[mblsa-leaders@umich.edu](mailto:mblsa-leaders@umich.edu)

Program offers: Education on the profession

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Time Frame: Yearly--spring

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Sports To Courts

University of Michigan Law School

Partnered with: University of Michigan, University of Michigan Athletics (M-Pact & Academic Success Program)

This program provides guidance and counseling to student-athletes considering a pathway to law school.

#### **Program Contact:**

Shari Acho

[sharigo@umich.edu](mailto:sharigo@umich.edu)

Program offers: Year round conference or classes, education on the profession, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, mentoring/advising, job shadowing

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Year round

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **The Street Law Program**

<http://www.streetlaw.org/en/home>

SBM

Partnered with: None

Street Law develops classroom and grassroots programs that educate students and communities about law, democracy, and human rights. Some of our initiatives bring us directly into classrooms and neighborhoods. However, the majority of our efforts, including our popular professional development programs, are focused on training others—individuals and organizations—to become effective Street Law educators. Our approach is practical, relevant, and experiential, blending legal content with innovative hands-on teaching strategies that actively engage students and program participants in the learning process.

#### **Program Contact:**

Street Law

(301) 589-1130

(301) 589-1131 fax

Program offers: General civic education, high school prep, college prep, CLE, education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: Other

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- Other

Financial Information:

- Free

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### **Law School Admission Council Discover Law Program**

[www.discoverlaw.org](http://www.discoverlaw.org)

Wayne State University Law School  
Partnered with: LSAC

From January 15-March 15, Wayne Law hosts programs (mock trials, mock negotiations, law day speakers, etc) geared toward high school, community college and early college students from underrepresented backgrounds. The Discover Law campaign is a resource provided by LSAC to help increase the diversity of the legal profession. Participating law schools host programs during these two months in support of the Discover Law campaign.

#### **Program Contact:**

Contact: Felicia Thomas, 313-577-3937

[f.thomas@wayne.edu](mailto:f.thomas@wayne.edu)

Program offers: General civic education, high school prep, college prep, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **WSU College JumpStart**

Wayne State University Law School

Partnered with: Several WSU departments and colleges including the law school

This is a week long immersion program for rising 8th, 9th and 10th grade students from local school districts. Students spend a week on campus, take classes such as ACT prep, computer literacy, foreign language, along with a Law & Leadership class and mock trial taught by Felicia Thomas

#### **Program Contact:**

Monita Mungo

[momungo@wayne.edu](mailto:momungo@wayne.edu)

Program offers: General civic education, summer conferences or classes, high school prep, college prep, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Time frame: Yearly—summer



## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Teaching Law in High School

Wayne State University Law School  
Partnered with: Neighborhood Legal Services  
Wayne Law

Current law students elect to take TLHS in the winter term. There is a classroom component and then students are assigned to teach in a Detroit High School using the Street Law, Inc. curriculum.

**Program Contact:**

Justin Long, Professor  
[justin.long@wayne.edu](mailto:justin.long@wayne.edu)

Program offers: General civic education, college prep, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

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### **Detroit Public Schools Middle & High School Mock Trial Tournaments**

Wayne State University Law School  
Partnered with: Neighborhood Legal Services  
Wayne Law

Students from six middle schools and four high schools compete in an annual mock trial tournament. The law school hosts a trial prep workshop and law student interns are welcome to help judge, mentor or coach the teams.

**Program Contact:**

Contact: Felicia Thomas  
313-577-3937  
[f.thomas@wayne.edu](mailto:f.thomas@wayne.edu)

Program offers: Education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: 5-9 or intermediate school

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- 5-9 or intermediate school

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--spring

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### **GRAB LAW**

<http://www.grablaw.org>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: 12 partner law firms in Grand Rapids

GRAB LAW is an initiative to help match minority and female attorneys with law career opportunities in West Michigan.

#### **Program Contact:**

Kimberly Coleman

[kimc@grbar.org](mailto:kimc@grbar.org)

616-454-5550 ext 105

Program offers: Education on the profession, networking

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: None

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Warner Norcross & Judd Minority Scholarship for Law School**

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Warner Norcross & Judd sponsors an annual Minority Scholarship Program that awards \$5,000 to a minority law school student. Winners are selected by the Grand Rapids Community Foundation. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarship must be received by April 1, 2015.

#### **Program Contact:**

Ruth Bishop  
Grand Rapids Community Foundation  
[rbishop@grfoundation.org](mailto:rbishop@grfoundation.org)

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: College graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- College graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

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### **Warner Norcross & Judd Minority Scholarship for Paralegals and Legal Secretaries**

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Warner Norcross & Judd sponsors an annual Minority Scholarship Program that awards \$2,000 to a student studying for a career as a paralegal/legal assistant and \$1,000 for a student studying to become a legal secretary. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarship must be received by April 1, 2015.

#### **Program Contact:**

Ruth Bishop  
Grand Rapids Community Foundation  
[rbishop@grfoundation.org](mailto:rbishop@grfoundation.org)

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

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### **Warner Norcross & Judd LLP LSAT Preparation Course Scholarship**

<http://www.wnj.com/About-Us/Diversity/Minority-Scholarships-and-Applications>

Warner Norcross & Judd LLP

Each year, Warner Norcross & Judd LLP awards scholarships to minority college students in their junior or senior year to attend a Kaplan LSAT preparation course. The scholarships, each valued at up to \$1,500, will give minority students interested in attending law school a jump-start on the Law School Admissions Test. Applications become available on January 1. Completed applications for the next scholarships to be awarded must be received by April 30, 2015.

#### **Program Contact:**

Ms. Robin Keith  
Community Relations Manager  
Warner Norcross & Judd LLP  
111 Lyon Street, NW, Suite 900, Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503  
[rkeith@wnj.com](mailto:rkeith@wnj.com)

Program offers: LSAT prep

Participant Type: High school graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school graduates

Financial Information:

- Scholarships available

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

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### 3Rs Program

<http://grbar.site-ym.com/?116>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: The Grand Rapids Bar Association Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative

The 3Rs Program calls upon a team of volunteers to go to the social studies classrooms for seven separate sessions between November and May of each school year to work with small groups of students to accomplish the following goals:

- Improve understanding of and respect for the rule of law and our Constitution.
- Increase interest in civic and governmental issues.
- Provide practical career counseling to focus students on their potential beyond high school.
- Improve the "pipeline" of minorities flowing into legal careers in the region.

#### Program Contact:

Kimberly Coleman

[kimc@grbar.org](mailto:kimc@grbar.org)

Program offers: General civic education, education on the profession, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to an institution
- Currently only in Ottawa Hills High School. Hoping to open it up to the whole of GRPS in the near future
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--winter

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### **Minority Clerkship Program**

<http://grbar.site-ym.com/?page=68>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: The Grand Rapids Bar Association Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative

The program is designed to offer minority law students an opportunity to participate in summer clerkship/associate programs with Grand Rapids law firms and other legal employers. Law students who have completed their first year are invited to apply for the program if they attend a Michigan law school or if they are native to the Grand Rapids area and attended high school or college here -- in other words, those who might realistically be encouraged to return to Grand Rapids to practice law.

#### **Program Contact:**

Kimberly Coleman

[kimc@grbar.org](mailto:kimc@grbar.org)

Program offers: Clerkship

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--fall



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### **LSAT Scholarship**

<http://grbar.site-ym.com/?page=113>

Grand Rapids Bar Association

Partnered with: The Grand Rapids Bar Association Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative

In an effort to meet the third goal of the Action Plan, the Managing Partners Diversity Collaborative (MPDC) has funded an LSAT Scholarship to assist college students and other members of the Grand Rapids community who desire to enter law school with the cost of preparing for and taking the LSAT admission test.

The LSAT Scholarship funds may be used for the following:

- LSAT test fee.
- Law School Admissions Counsel Credential Assembly Service fees for providing LSAT reports to law schools.
- Some or all of the cost of an LSAT prep course provided by an approved test preparation service (e.g. Kaplan).

#### **Program Contact:**

Kimberly Coleman

[kimc@grbar.org](mailto:kimc@grbar.org)

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Yearly--fall

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Youth Leadership Initiative**

[www.lahba.org](http://www.lahba.org)

Auto Owners Insurance Company

#### **Program Contact:**

Jose Yanez

517-974-2238

[info@lahba.org](mailto:info@lahba.org)

Lansing Area Hispanic Business Association

Program offers: General civic education, year round conference or classes, college prep, education on the profession, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- High school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Timeframe: Year round

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Davis-Dunnings Bar Association**

[www.davisdunningslaw.com](http://www.davisdunningslaw.com)

Davis-Dunnings Bar Association

- Mentorship
- Otis M. Smith Scholarship Banquet
- Bar Passage
- Student Outreach

#### **Program Contact:**

Nicole Evans

[executiveboard@davisdunningslaw.com](mailto:executiveboard@davisdunningslaw.com)

Program offers: Mentoring/advising, networking, scholarships/financial assistance, Bar passage program

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Limited
- Membership required for mentorship & scholarship application
- Law school students
- Membership required for mentorship & scholarship application

Financial Information:

- Free, Low-cost

Active Time frame: Year-round

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **ABA Council of Legal Education Opportunity College Prelaw Summer Institute**

<http://www.cooley.edu/events/cleo.html>

Western Michigan University Cooley Law School

Partnered with: ABA Council of Legal Education Opportunity, Western Michigan University Thomas M. Cooley Law School, and Oakland University

This month-long intensive academic program provides promising college students of color and otherwise disadvantaged students with 100 hours of free law school instruction in logic and critical reasoning, torts, legal writing, trial advocacy, and LSAT preparation. Students who successfully complete the program receive a \$750 stipend to help cover their transportation and living expenses.

#### **Program Contact:**

[cleo@cooley.edu](mailto:cleo@cooley.edu)

Program offers: Summer conferences or classes, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring or other academic support

Participant Type: Other

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, state
- College students from Michigan and nationally
- Other

Financial Information:

- Free, scholarships available
- Stipened offered

Active Time frame: Yearly—summer

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Judicial Externship Program

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

JEP seeks to increase the representation of minority law school graduates among the ranks of clerks working in the federal judiciary. The JEP Committee achieves this goal by helping well-qualified minority law students gain valuable experience as federal judicial externs in the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Michigan.

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Internships or externships

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free, stipend offered

Active Time frame: Yearly—summer

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Minority Bar Passage Program

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association runs the winter program

The Minority Bar Passage Program (MBPP) is designed to improve bar passage rates of minority law school graduates sitting for the Michigan Bar Exam. Through weekly examinations, a mock bar examination, group sessions and lectures by local attorneys, the MBPP provides assistance in the areas of essay writing skills/strategy; test taking skills/strategy; time management; and stress management.

#### Program Contact:

Chantez Pattman Knowles

(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Bar passage program

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Low-cost

Active Time frame: Yearly—summer

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Summer Clerkship Program**

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The Summer Clerkship Program (SCP) Committee coordinates the WBA's annual summer clerkship program, which is designed to increase the number of minority attorneys employed as partners, associates, in-house counsel, and similarly well-respected positions within the legal community. The SCP places students at law firms and corporations in the metropolitan Detroit community in furtherance of the program's goals.

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles

(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Clerkship

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free
- Paid position

Active Time frame: Yearly—summer

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### Scholarship Program

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The scholarships available for minority law students include the Wolverine Bar Foundation Scholarship and the Damon J. Keith Award and Scholarship. The award winners are typically recognized in the spring/summer. The type of scholarship offered and the award amounts vary each year. Applications are typically due by year-end.

#### Program Contact:

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Scholarships/financial assistance

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Time frame: Yearly—spring



## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Pipeline Committee**

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The Pipeline Committee is responsible for developing educational programming targeted at middle-school students and creating initiatives to ensure a pathway to success in the legal and other professional fields. We also provide mentoring and volunteer services to Detroit grade schools.

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Education on the profession, study skills, tutoring, or other academic support, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Grades 5-9 or intermediate school

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Time frame: Year-round

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Mentorship Program**

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation

The program is designed to:

- Help Black Law Student Association law students bridge the gap between law school and the “real life” practice of law
- Foster professionalism and collegiality among members of the bar and law students
- Help law students achieve career success
- Provide students greater insight into the practice of law and increase the students’ network in the legal community

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520

[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Mentoring/advising, networking

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Time frame: Yearly—fall

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Law Students Reception**

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation  
Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association

The Law Students Reception Committee hosts an annual mixer that provides an opportunity for law students to meet and network with judges and attorneys who practice in Wayne and Oakland counties.

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520  
[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Education on the profession, networking

Participant Type: Law school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- Law school students

Active Time frame: Yearly—fall

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **MLK Oral Advocacy Competition**

[www.wolverinebar.org](http://www.wolverinebar.org)

Wolverine Bar Association/Wolverine Bar Foundation  
Partnered with: D. Augustus Straker Bar Association

Annual competition is designed to promote the written and oral communication skills of high school juniors and seniors. The program provides both mentorship and financial support to the competitors in support of their educational goals.

#### **Program Contact:**

Chantez Pattman Knowles  
(313) 962-0520  
[wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com](mailto:wolverine.bar.assn@gmail.com)

Program offers: Education on the profession, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising

Participant Type: High school students

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Defined to a specific minority group
- High school students

Active Time frame: Yearly—winter

## PIPELINE PROGRAMS GUIDE

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### **Ms. JD Pre-Law Program**

<http://ms-jd.org/programs/pre-law/>

Michigan State University College of Law

Ms. JD is a nonprofit, nonpartisan organization dedicated to the success of aspiring and early career women lawyers. Over the past two years, Ms. JD has branched out and created a Pre-Law Program aimed at providing pre-law students with the resources they need to make an informed decision as to whether law school is the right path for them. In addition to a weekly blog series on preparing for law school and navigating elements of the application process, Google Hangouts On Air, Twitter chats, and in-person panel events will provide pre-law women across the country with direct access to the Ms. JD Board of Directors, the Ms. JD Fellows, and the greater Ms. JD community of law students and legal professionals.

#### **Program Contact:**

Katie Larkin-Wong (president) and Heather Asher (executive director)

[staff@ms-jd.org](mailto:staff@ms-jd.org)

Program offers: Year-round conference or classes, CLE, education on the profession, LSAT prep, study skills, tutoring or other academic support, moot court/mock trials, mentoring/advising, networking, scholarships/financial assistance, internships or externships, job shadowing

Participant Type: College graduates

Target Audience and Education Level:

- Open to the public, national
- College graduates

Financial Information:

- Free

Active Time frame: Year-round

## Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee

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