

Affinity Brunch for Bars Update

The Equal Access Initiative and the Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Committee sponsored the inaugural “Brunch for Bars” earlier this year and is pleased to provide this brief update of activities and collaboration opportunities identified by attendees. Both the event and the update offer Affinity bars and others the chance to build synergy among current efforts and to seek new opportunities. We will update this periodically, and encourage you to look for more from us in the near future.

Annual Collaboration Opportunities

- September 17: Constitution Day
www.michbar.org/generalinfo/constitutionday
- May 1: Law Day
www.michbar.org/programs/lawday/home

Current Collaboration Opportunities

The Charles A. Pratt Bar Association

August 1, 12-6 pm: free legal expungement clinic in collaboration with the Mothers of Hope Ultimate Family Reunion in Kalamazoo, Michigan.
For more information visit www.prattbar.com

Know-Your-Rights seminars offered in collaboration with the Kalamazoo Bar Association.

Summer clerkship program plans are underway for 2015 and 2016. Contact www.prattbar.com for more information.

The Oakland County Bar Association

October 1: The Taste of Diversity Dinner
The Leon Hubbard and Michael K. Lee awards will be presented during the event.
For more information visit www.ocba.org/Home.id.2.htm

The Stonewall Bar Association and Affirmations

Learn about new collaborations and law projects for the LGBT community.
For more information visit www.michsba.org/about.html

BRUNCH FOR BARS



Potential Collaboration Opportunities

- Just the Beginning Foundation
www.jtb.org/
- Council on Legal Education Opportunity (CLEO)
www.cleoscholars.com
- Law-related education outreach
www.michbar.org/generalinfo/lawlinks
- Pro bono opportunities through Pro Bono Initiative
www.michbar.org/programs/ATJ/home
- Collaboration with State Bar sections
www.michbar.org/sections/home
- Black Women Lawyer's Association of Michigan (BWLAM) in partnership with the Detroit Catholic Pastoral Alliance plan to hold community forums on current events for the community.

Existing Assistance from SBM with Collaboration Opportunities

- A Lawyer Helps www.michbar.org/alawyerhelps/stories
Share your Pro Bono or community service experience
- SBM Calendar www.michbar.org/news/calendar
Post your association events
- Michigan Bar Journal www.michbar.org/journal/home
Submit articles, publish notices, announcements and advertisements
- Affinity Bar Directory www.michbar.org/file/resources/associations.pdf
- Pipeline Programs Resource: www.michbar.org/file/diversity/pdfs/pipelineguide.pdf
- Annual networking events
 - October 8, Thursday 6:30-8:30 p.m.: Celebrating Diversity Reception
Annual Meeting, Suburban Collection Showcase, Novi
 - Brunch for Bars (the Sunday following the Barrister's Ball)
 - June 10-11, 2016: Bar Leadership Forum

Suggestions for Collaboration

- Create an idea bank for affinity bars to share
- Maintain address lists for affinity bars
- Community law forums
- Training for young lawyers/law students
- Collaborations to serve under-represented communities
- Bar associations can start active committees on law-related education, providing access to legal services, and diversity
- Veterans' programs
- Workshops: wills, estate assistance, and expungements are popular topics.

For help finding an organization to collaborate with or other assistance for your group's mission please contact Gregory Conyers, gconyers@mail.michbar.org or Michelle Erskine, merskine@mail.michbar.org