

EQUITY & DIVERSITY SPRING CONVENING

Honoring the work of
students, faculty, and staff across the
University of Minnesota system

MONDAY, MAY 2, 2022

McNamara Alumni Center



OFFICE FOR
EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
Driven to Discover®

Program

FLAG SONG

SPIRIT BOY (MANIDOO GWIIWIZENS)

Randy Gresczyk, Bois Forte Ojibwe
Joseph Columbus, Lower Sioux Dakota
Zach Red Bear, Cheyenne River Lakota
Tommy Butcher, White Earth Ojibwe
Chris Legarde, Grand Portage Ojibwe

WELCOME

MICHAEL GOH

Vice President for Equity & Diversity

GREETINGS FROM THE SYSTEM CAMPUSES

JAVIER GUTIERREZ

Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Student Success,
Engagement, and Equity,
University of Minnesota Rochester

SUSANA PELAYO-WOODWARD

Director, Office of Diversity & Inclusion,
University of Minnesota Duluth

NANCY QUIÑONES

Acting Director of Diversity, Equity, and Belonging,
University of Minnesota Crookston

ELIZABETH ANH THOMSON

Assistant Vice Chancellor for Student Affairs,
University of Minnesota Morris

GREETINGS FROM THE PRESIDENT

JOAN T.A. GABEL

President, University of Minnesota

Program

JUSTICE, EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION (JEDI) AWARD

SCHOLARLY EXCELLENCE IN EQUITY AND DIVERSITY (SEED) AWARDS

STUDENT REFLECTION

CHINONSO NWAKAMA

Milton and Danae Andrews SEED Award

OUTSTANDING UNIT AWARD FOR EQUITY AND DIVERSITY

JOSIE R. JOHNSON HUMAN RIGHTS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE AWARD

KEYNOTE REMARKS

KAREN DIVER

Senior Advisor to the President for Native American Affairs

CLOSING

Keynote Speaker

KAREN DIVER is currently serving as the Senior Advisor to the President for Native American Affairs at the University of Minnesota. Her previous roles include Director, Business Development, Native American Initiatives at the University of Arizona, and as the inaugural Faculty Fellow for Inclusive Excellence for Native American Affairs at the College of St. Scholastica in Duluth, Minnesota. She was an appointee of President Barack Obama as the Special Assistant to the President for Native American Affairs.

About Sprit Boy

SPIRIT BOY, or Manidoo Gwiiwizens in the Ojibwe Language is a drum group composed of champion singers and community leaders and professionals. The drum group is named after lead singer Kiki Bedeau's oldest son, whose Ojibwe name is Manidoo Gwiiwizens. Spirit Boy singers have learned from their elders and continue to pass these songs and traditions down to their children to keep these songs alive and pass them along to the future generations.

Josie R. Johnson Human Rights and Social Justice Awards

This award was established in honor of Josie R. Johnson in recognition of her lifelong contributions to human rights and social justice. Her passionate commitment to these causes guided her work as a University of Minnesota regent and senior administrator. The award honors University faculty, staff, and students who, through their principles and practices, exemplify her standard of excellence in creating respectful and inclusive living, learning, and working environments.

ALEXANDER HINES

College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

TERRESA MOSES

College of Design, Twin Cities

Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Awards

The Scholarly Excellence in Equity and Diversity (SEED) Awards honor diverse undergraduate, graduate, and professional students for their outstanding work while at the University of Minnesota – both within and outside of the classroom.

UNDERGRADUATE SEED AWARDS

The undergraduate SEED Awards recognize students who are leaders in the classroom and in their communities, demonstrating outstanding academic achievement and a deep commitment to issues of equity, diversity, and social justice. Recipients are full-time juniors or seniors pursuing active community engagement while maintaining a minimum 3.0 cumulative G.P.A.

SUE W. HANCOCK SEEDs OF CHANGE AWARDS

MUNIRA MOHAMED AHMED

Individualized Studies,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

SAMIAT AJIBOLA

Sociology: Policy Analysis and Public Health,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

TREY FEUERHELM

Park and Protected Area Management,
College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resources
Sciences (CFANS), Twin Cities

FRIDAY AKWAY GORA

Integrated Elementary and Special Education,
College of Education and Human Service Professions,
University of Minnesota Duluth

UNDERGRADUATE SEED AWARDS (continued)

SALMA IBRAHIM

Developmental Psychology Institute of Child Development,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

SUMEYA SAED JEILANI

Technical Writing and Communication:
Legal Discourse and Public Policy,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

RIJUL MAHAJAN

Computer Science: Artificial Intelligence and Human Computer Interaction,
College of Science and Engineering, Twin Cities

MICHELLE QUAN

Chemical Engineering and Materials Science and Engineering,
College of Science and Engineering, Twin Cities

ALVINA SALIM

Product Design
College of Design, Twin Cities

MILTON AND DANAE ANDREWS SEED AWARD

The Andrews SEED Award was created by Milton and Danae Andrews through the University of Minnesota Foundation to support students demonstrating impressive engagement with and commitment to issues of equity and diversity through outstanding academic achievement and activism.

CHINONSO NWAKAMA

Neuroscience and History,
College of Biological Sciences, Twin Cities

GRADUATE AND PROFESSIONAL SEED AWARDS

ADAM LÊ

Political Science,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

LAICHEE YANG

Architecture,
College of Design, Twin Cities

ALUL YESAK

Education Policy and Leadership; Organizational Leadership, Policy, and Development;
College of Education and Human Development,
Twin Cities

Outstanding Unit Award for Equity & Diversity

Honoring exemplary campuses, colleges, departments, and units that demonstrate leadership in equity and diversity work. The award highlights units that are working to bring transformational and sustainable change to the University of Minnesota.

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY TEACHING & LEARNING

College of Biological Sciences, Twin Cities

DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY MEDICINE AND COMMUNITY HEALTH

Medical School, Twin Cities

SWENSON COLLEGE OF SCIENCE & ENGINEERING

University of Minnesota Duluth

Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (JEDI) Award

Honoring faculty who have done significant research, teaching or service/leadership to advance justice, equity, diversity and inclusion at the University, in the person's field of study, or in our broader community. This award is made possible through the support of the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost and the Office for Equity and Diversity.

BROOKE CUNNINGHAM

Family Medicine and Community Health,
Medical School, Twin Cities

MALINDA ALAINE LINDQUIST

History,
College of Liberal Arts, Twin Cities

ALLEN MENSINGER

Biology,
Swenson College of Science and Engineering, Duluth

ALISHA WACKERLE-HOLLMAN

Educational Psychology,
College of Education and Human Development,
Twin Cities

Seed Award Selection Committee (Undergraduate)

Javier Gutierrez

Assistant Vice-Chancellor for Student Success,
Engagement, and Equity; University of Minnesota Rochester

Laura Knudson

Assistant Vice Provost for Student Advocacy and Support

Susana Pelayo-Woodward

Director, Office of Diversity and Inclusion;
University of Minnesota Duluth

Nancy Quiñones

Acting Director of Diversity, Equity and Belonging;
University of Minnesota Crookston

Amelious N. Whyte Jr.

Assistant Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion and Public
Engagement; Interim Director, Liberal Arts Engagement Hub

Seed Award Selection Committee (Graduate)

Angela Carter

Access & Inclusion Pedagogy Specialist, Minnesota Transform

Crystal Esparza

Director of Admissions, Medical School

Dan Garrison

Assistant Director for Diversity & Inclusion, College of
Science & Engineering

Chee Kue Lee

Joel Mixon

Associate Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion;
School of Dentistry

Jillian Rowan

Keisha Varma

Associate Vice Provost for Equity & Diversity

**We deeply appreciate the
generous support of our
2022 sponsor!**



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This publication is available in alternative formats upon request. Contact the Office for Equity and Diversity at 612-624-0594 or oed@umn.edu.