

Special thanks to



for hosting this evening's event!



Business Leaders Linked to Encourage New Directions

Mission

To foster an environment of growth and belonging, where young professionals of color can connect with each other, develop professionally, and contribute to the local community.

BL²END Board Members

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Jamon Alexander

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Ronnie Frelix, Jr.

Maxine Gray

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Joe Jones, E.E. Milestone + Associates, Inc.

David Luna, Saint Mary's Health Care

Susan Morales-Barias, Grand Valley State University

Tanja Oquendo, Spectrum Health

A vertical black poster for the BL²END event. On the left side, the text "BL²END" is written vertically in white, with "BUSINESS LEADERS LINKED TO ENCOURAGE NEW DIRECTIONS" written vertically in smaller white text below it. At the top right is the BL²END logo. Below it, the text "presents a Professional Development Event hosted by" is written in white. At the bottom right is the Grand Valley State University Inclusion and Equity Division logo. At the very bottom, the event title "Unconventional Leadership Experiences & Opportunities" is written in white, italicized font.

Tuesday

May 18, 2010

6:00 p.m.

Grand Valley State University

University Club

401 West Fulton Street

Grand Rapids, MI 49504

Jeanne Arnold, MSW, Ed.D



Dr. Jeanne Arnold was appointed as the inaugural Vice President for Inclusion and Equity at Grand Valley State University (GVSU) on January 7, 2008. Prior to joining GVSU, she served as the Executive Director of Affirmative Action (2003-2007) and as the Director of the African-American Resource Center (1995-2003) at the University of Pennsylvania. She also held an adjunct faculty appointment at the Graduate School of Social Work for three years. Arnold earned her doctorate in Higher Education Management from the University of Pennsylvania, where she also earned a master's degree in Social Work. She holds a bachelor's degree in Psychology and Social Welfare from Penn State University.

Prior to practicing social work as a higher education administrator, Dr. Arnold served in more traditional social work settings. She held various positions including Adoption/Foster Care Specialist, Clinical Social Worker and Family Planning Counselor. While in her position as Director of Human Resources and Community Relations at Crime Prevention Association, Dr. Arnold served as a liaison to the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania. Dr. Arnold also served as a Chief of Services at the Navy Family Services Centers in Hampton Roads, Virginia.

Dr. Arnold's personal accomplishments are complemented by her dedication to the community. She has served on several community boards including Episcopal Community Services and St. Mary's Family Respite Center in Philadelphia, PA. As a resident of Grand Rapids, she now serves on the board of Heart of West Michigan United Way, Girl Scouts of Michigan Shore to Shore, Huntington Bank Women's Advisory Board, Grand Rapids Community Foundation Community Action Committee, the YWCA Human Resources Committee, and the University of Pennsylvania Alumni Secondary School Committee (Chair – Grand Rapids). Dr. Arnold is also a member of the national board of the Association of Black Women in Higher Education.

Jeanne's Recommended Reading List

Until Today!, Iyanla Vanzant

Holy Bible Women Thou Art Loosed Edition, T.D. Jakes General Editor

Dreams From My Father, Barack Obama

Faculty Diversity Problems and Solutions, JoAnn Moody

Understanding and Facilitating Organizational Change in the 21st Century,
Adrianna Kezar

Program

6:00 – 6:40 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvre's

Mix...Mingle...BL²END

6:45 p.m.

Welcome

Jamon Alexander

BL²END, Board Co-Chair

Introduction of Dr. Jeanne Arnold

Maxine Gray

BL²END, Professional Development Chair

7:00 p.m.

Dialogue

“Unconventional Leadership Experiences and Opportunities”

Jeanne Arnold, MSW, Ed.D

Vice President, Division of Inclusion and Equity

Grand Valley State University

7:45 p.m.

Closing remarks

Maxine Gray

BL²END, Professional Development Chair