

Steelcase

Special thanks to Steelcase Inc. 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

Alicia Adell

Jamon Alexander

Janean Brown

Ronnie Frelix, Jr.

Maxine Gray

Marnique Harris

Cynthia Offutt

Brian Parks

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BL²END Advisory Council Members

Floriza Genautis, Management Business Solutions

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

BL²END | Business Leaders Linked to Encourage New Directions

www.grblend.org | info@grblend.org

Mix...Mingle...BL²END

A vertical black poster for the BL²END event. On the left side, the text "BL²END" is written vertically, with "BUSINESS LEADERS LINKED TO ENCOURAGE NEW DIRECTIONS" written vertically below it. At the top right is the BL²END logo. Below the logo, the text reads "presents a Professional Development Event hosted by Steelcase". At the bottom, the event title "Global Leadership Experiences & Opportunities" is written in a large, white, serif font.

BL²END
BUSINESS LEADERS LINKED TO ENCOURAGE NEW DIRECTIONS

BLEND

presents
a Professional Development Event
hosted by
Steelcase

*"Global Leadership
Experiences
&
Opportunities"*

Monday

September 28, 2009

6:00 p.m.

Steelcase Inc.

Steelcase University Learning Center

901 44th Street SE

Grand Rapids, MI 49508

Brian Cloyd



Brian Cloyd was born on March 17, 1951 in St. Louis, Missouri, and earned a bachelor's degree in history from the University of Detroit in 1973. In 1976, he received a master of arts from the University of Detroit in public administration.

Cloyd is vice president of Global Community Relations for Steelcase Inc., the global leader in the office furniture industry. Steelcase delivers a better work experience to its customers by providing products, services and insights into the ways people work. Its portfolio includes architecture, furniture and technology products. This role, which Brian assumed in September 2006, is an expansion of his previous position as director of Corporate & Community Relations for Steelcase North America. Brian is responsible for coordinating Steelcase efforts in the areas of diversity, government relations and public policy, corporate relations and community giving & volunteer programs. He also works with the environmental team to ensure that Steelcase's sustainability strategies are included in the broader point of view.

Brian became director of Corporate & Community Relations in November 2002. In that role, he was responsible for all community and corporate relations at the local, state and federal levels. Brian joined Steelcase in 1978 as an employment representative. Since then, he's held various positions in employment and human resources. Before joining Steelcase, Brian worked for the City of Grand Rapids as a supervisor. His primary objective was job training for economically disadvantaged people.

Cloyd serves on the boards of directors for the West Michigan Center for Arts & Technology, Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park, the Economic Club of Grand Rapids, the Michigan Minority Business Development Council, and the Workforce Development Council. He serves on the board of the Grand Rapids University Preparatory Association. Brian is a member of the board of trustees for Northern Michigan University, the advisory council for the College of Arts and Education for the University of Detroit Mercy, and the advisory council for Grand Valley State University College of Business. Additionally, Brian is a member of the Executive Leadership Council and the editorial board for Diversity Executive magazine.

Brian's Recommended Reading List

"Dreams from My Father: A Story of Race and Inheritance" by Barack Obama

"Outliers: The Story of Success" by Malcolm Gladwell

"The Art of War" by Sun Tzu 6th century B.C. Sunzi

"The Help" by Kathryn Sockett

"The Prince" by Nicolo Machiavelli

"Water Wars: Privatization, Pollution, and Profit" by Vandana Shiva

Program

6:00—6:30 p.m.

Hors d'oeuvre's

Mix...Mingle...BL²END

6:30 p.m.

Welcome

Jamon Alexander & Janean Brown

BL²END, Board Co-Chairs

Introduction of Brian Cloyd

Maxine Gray

BL²END, Professional Development Chair

6:45 p.m.

Dialogue

"Global Leadership Experiences & Opportunities"

Brian Cloyd

Vice President, Global Community Relations

Steelcase Inc.

7:45 p.m.

Closing remarks

Maxine Gray

BL²END, Professional Development Chair