A Special Thank You to
The Division of Global Diversity, Inclusion and Intercultural Affairs
The Office of Global Diversity and Inclusive Excellence
The Diversity Program Planning Committee
Dr. Wilma R. Jackson
Olayinka Jenmy
Canaan Daniels
Lauren Wilson

Help us make our next event even better by providing your feedback!

The Office of Global Diversity and Inclusive Excellence
Contact Us:
(409) 880-1732
Lamar.edu/diversity-inclusion
Monday-Friday 8AM-5PM
Engineering Research Annex
(Located near the library and Cherry Engineering Building)

INSPIRATIONAL WOMAN AWARD
CELEBRATING WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH

Theme:
Breaking the Glass Ceiling: Excellence and Beyond

03.23.2021 | 4:00 P.M. - 6:00 P.M.
PLUMMER ROOM, MARY & JOHN GRAY LIBRARY

@LU_OGDIE @LamarUOGDIE
Belashia Wallace is a Lamar University Alumna serving as a certified mediator, legal trial consultant, and the principal personal injury attorney of The Wallace Law Firm. Ms Wallace is known in the legal profession for garnering millions in settlements and verdicts and in her communities as a mentor and leader. Having served in many capacities during her time at Lamar, she is perhaps best known on campus as the founder of Woman to Woman, Lamar’s first women’s empowerment organization. Throughout her academic and professional career, Ms. Wallace has continued to excel and break boundaries and has received numerous awards and honors for her work, including becoming the first to receive judicial honors for her trial victories and to be awarded by the State’s Human Trafficking Division for combating international human trafficking. Outside of advocating for her clients, Belashia enjoys giving back to her community in many of the same organizations that provided opportunities to her. She hopes to encourage women to live out their dreams, no matter the odds, and to create paths for others along the way.
During her time at Lamar, Rena Clark was active on campus, having served as a tutor as well as vice president and president of the Lamar chapter of the National Society of Black Engineers. Ms. Clark went on to earn her MBA from the Harvard Business School and, after demonstrating her leadership as a student, became the first African American COO of MBA Program administration at HBS. Ms. Clark has since been a leading figure at a number of institutions, including in her present role as Managing Partner at Laurel Oak Capital Partners. She also continues to be a remarkable influence in the Lamar University community and currently serves on the Board of Trustees of the Lamar University Foundation.

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Dr. Xiangyang (Sunny) Lei serves as an Associate Professor of Chemistry and Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. She is the recipient of the 2014 University Merit Award, the 2016 Lamar Faculty Mentor Award by the Office of Undergraduate Research, and the 2020 Lamar Honors Professor of the Year Award by the Honors College. Dr. Lei’s work has been featured in numerous publications, projects, and proposals, and she is well-known on campus as an outstanding leader and mentor.

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Tracy Ramirez is a Junior majoring in Communications Broadcasting with a minor in general business. A wife and mother of three, Tracy balances a busy academic, career, and family life, all while maintaining a place on the Dean’s list with a 3.7 GPA. She is a trailblazer as writer for the University Press and a reporter for LUTV, having written the first article in Spanish for the UP and the first interview in Spanish for LUTV. Ms. Ramirez also serves as a staff writer for the Port Arthur News, a member of the Young Emerging Leaders in Port Arthur, the SETX Young Professionals Organization in Beaumont, the SETX Press Club, and the SETX Hispanic Leadership Organization.

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