

Oregon State Bar

OSB CLE SEMINARS

SPEAKER DIVERSITY RESOURCES FOR BAR GROUPS PLANNING CLE EVENTS

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I. Oregon State Bar's 2018-2020 Diversity Action Plan

Diversity Advisory Council

The Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) was formed in 2012 by the Oregon State Bar (OSB) Board of Governors (BOG) and was charged with developing a Diversity Action Plan (DAP) by the end of 2013. The DAC, made up of OSB directors and BOG representatives, developed a three-year DAP that was adopted by the BOG in November 2013. Implementation of the DAP commenced in January 2014 and continued until the end of 2016. The work of the DAC—in collaboration with an ad hoc Auxiliary Committee of affinity bar leaders, community stakeholders, and members of the OSB's Advisory Committee on Diversity and Inclusion (ACDI)—continued in 2017, when development of the OSB's second three-year DAP began.

Background

To fully achieve the Oregon State Bar's mission we must ensure our programs, services, and activities are delivered in an inclusive and culturally responsive manner to our diverse bar and community. The OSB Diversity Advisory Council (DAC) will help to promote a systemic, collaborative, and strategic approach to achieve set goals and objectives to enhance the OSB's interest in advancing diversity and inclusion in the bar.

Charge

Promoting access to justice, encouraging respect for the rule of law, increasing the quality of legal services, and developing a diverse and inclusive bar are key components of the OSB's mission and values. The DAC serves in an advisory capacity to the OSB Executive Director. As stewards and agents of the OSB, the DAC is charged with developing an internal Diversity Action Plan (Plan) to ensure that the OSB's programs, services, and activities are delivered in an inclusive and culturally responsive manner to our diverse bar and community. Upon approval of the Plan by the Executive Director and adoption by the Board of Governors (BOG), the DAC is charged with implementation and ongoing monitoring of the Plan, including measuring progress toward achieving goals and objectives. Also, the DAC advises the Executive Director generally on matters related to diversity and inclusion in all aspects of the OSB's mission.

To download a full copy of the bar's diversity action plan, go to:
www.osbar.org/diversity/actionplan.html

II. Resources for Bar Groups Planning CLE Events

Part of the bar's charge under the DAP is to encourage diversity of speakers and planners by providing resources to bar groups planning CLE events. In addition to a proposed speaker's qualifications as an individual with substantial subject matter expertise and the ability to communicate effectively to the intended audience, the diversity of the speaker roster should be an integral factor in the planning process. Speakers with diverse backgrounds can enrich a presentation and engage an audience with their experiences and perspectives. Diversity can be reflected in a person's race, ethnicity, cultural background, gender, age, sexual orientation or identification, religion, geography, veteran status, and socioeconomic status.

Towards this end, below is a list of affinity bar associations, legal advocacy organizations, and other related entities to contact for information and help with securing speakers for CLE events.

Oregon Affinity Bar Associations

Oregon Asian Pacific American Bar Association

Website: oapaba.org

Mission Statement:

Advancement: To promote the professional development and advancement of APA attorneys through education, research and programs.

Advocacy: To act as a vehicle and forum for expressing opinions on matters of concern to APA attorneys and our communities.

Communication: To encourage and foster communication among APA attorneys on issues affecting our work, communities and government.

Oregon Chinese Lawyers Association

Website: oregonchineselawyers.org/

Mission Statement:

The Oregon Chinese Lawyers Association helps identify lawyers in Oregon who speak Chinese, to better provide legal services to Oregon's Chinese-speaking community. Lawyers who speak Chinese are relatively uncommon in Oregon. The OCLA was formed to identify Chinese-speaking lawyers in the state, to help connect Chinese-speaking lawyers in different practice areas with the Chinese-speaking clients who need their services.

Oregon Filipino American Lawyers Association

Website: oregonfala.org

Mission Statement:

The Oregon Filipino American Lawyers Association is a professional association of Filipino American judges, lawyers, law students and legal professionals, and supporters. We work together to:

- share and validate our experiences as Filipino American legal professionals;
- increase the visibility of Filipino American legal professionals and their accomplishments;
- promote equality and multiculturalism by increasing diversity within the Oregon State Bar and within the broader legal system;
- empower Oregon's Filipino American community by increasing its access to the legal system;
- cultivate relationships between the Oregon Filipino American Lawyers Association and other Filipino American organizations; and,
- celebrate Filipino American culture and heritage.



Oregon Chapter of the National Bar Association

Website: eugenelife.com/ocnba

Mission:

The objectives of the OC-NBA are to advance the science of jurisprudence of the judiciary of Oregon and the nation; to uphold the honor and integrity of the legal profession; to promote professional and social interaction among the members of the Oregon State Bar and other lawyers practicing law in Oregon, law students, and the community; to promote legislation that will improve the social and economic condition of all Oregonians regardless of race, sex, or creed, with particular emphasis on the condition of African Americans; and to protect civil and political rights of the citizens and the residents of the state of Oregon.

Oregon Hispanic Bar Association

Website: oregonhispanicbar.org

Mission:

The OHBA operates in Oregon to encourage Latinos to become attorneys, retain Latino legal professionals, raise the awareness of Latino legal issues, support Latino law students and legal professionals, and celebrate the achievements of Latino Legal professionals.

Focused on Oregon, the OHBA seeks to:

- Encourage Latinos to serve in the law.
- Retain Latino legal professionals.
- Support and mentor Latino law students and legal professionals.
- Promote advancement of Latino legal professionals.
- Raise Awareness of Latino legal issues in the community.
- Collaborate with other organizations that serve the Latino community on legal issues.
- Provide social networking and mentoring opportunities.

Oregon Women Lawyers

Website: oregonwomenlawyers.org

Mission Statement:

To transform the practice of law and ensure justice and equality by advancing women and minorities in the legal profession.

The principal purposes of Oregon Women Lawyers are:

- To promote equal rights and opportunities for women and minorities within the legal profession and the justice system
- To promote full participation of women and minorities in the organized bar and in the legislative and judicial branches of government.
- To provide opportunities for women and minorities in the legal profession to support and educate one another
- To improve the quality and image of the legal profession in Oregon
- To actively promote equality and fair treatment of all people within the legal profession and in society.

OGALLA—The LGBT Bar Association of Oregon State Bar

Website: ogalla.org

Organization Purpose:

- To promote the fair and just treatment of all people under the law regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity
- To further the professional development and advancement of LGBT lawyers, legal workers and law students
- To offer social opportunities for LGBT lawyers, legal workers and law students
- To identify and eliminate the causes and conditions of prejudice in our society
- To educate the public, the legal profession and the LGBT community about legal issues affecting the LGBT community
- To promote a spirit of unity, while valuing the diversity of our community



Oregon Minority Lawyers Association

Website: oregonminoritylawyer.org

Mission:

OMLA is a 501(c)(3) organization committed to making the legal community of Oregon a welcoming environment where people of all colors, races, and ethnic backgrounds can excel academically, professionally, and personally.

Oregon Legal Advocacy Organizations

ACLU of Oregon

Website: aclu-or.org

Mission:

The ACLU of Oregon is a nonpartisan organization dedicated to the defending and advancing civil liberties and civil rights.

We believe that the freedoms of press, speech, assembly, and religion, and the rights to due process, equal protection and privacy, are fundamental to a free people.

We advance and defend civil liberties and civil rights through activities that include litigation, education, and lobbying.

Disability Rights Oregon

Website: droregon.org

Mission:

Our mission is to promote and defend the rights of individuals with disabilities.



Legal Aid Services of Oregon

Website: lasoregon.org

Mission:

Legal Aid Services of Oregon (LASO) is an effective, high-quality legal services program with a mission to achieve justice for the low-income communities of Oregon. LASO emphasizes areas of law where these needs are greatest and where representation and advocacy can have the most impact for vulnerable Oregonians.

Oregon Law Center

Website: oregonlawhelp.org

Mission:

The legal aid organizations in Oregon seek to achieve justice for the low income communities in Oregon by working together to provide a full range of the highest quality civil legal services.

Additional Resources

Oregon Attorney Assistance Program

Website: oaap.org

Mission:

The Oregon Attorney Assistance Program (OAAP) provides CONFIDENTIAL and free counseling assistance to lawyers, judges, and law students. We can help with your concerns about your well-being, or the well-being of someone you care about. We offer short-term individual counseling, referral to other resources when appropriate, support groups, workshops, CLEs, and educational programs.



SPEAKER DIVERSITY RESOURCES

Lines for Life

Website: www.linesforlife.org

Mission:

Lines for Life is a regional non-profit dedicated to preventing substance abuse and suicide. We offer help and hope to individuals and communities, and promote mental health for all. Our work addresses a spectrum of needs that include intervention, prevention, and advocacy. We educate, train, and advocate to prevent issues of substance abuse, mental illness, and thoughts of suicide from reaching crisis levels. But when a crisis arises or support is needed, we are available 24/7/365 to intervene with personalized help.

If you have any questions or need further information on recruiting diverse speakers for CLE events, please contact the OSB CLE Seminars department at (503) 431-6413 or toll-free at (800) 452-8260, ext. 413

Website: www.osbar.org/cle

Email: cle@osbar.org