

PRESS RELEASE

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lakeshore region summit on racism



our future depends on inclusion...

Community Leaders Focus on Local Solutions for the Region at Summit on Racism Tuesday, May 20, 2008, Hope College, Holland, MI

Bringing the discussion of inclusion into focus locally, three community leaders and keynote speakers will be part of the afternoon program at the Lakeshore Region Summit on Racism for 2008, the sixth conference in a series that began in 2001. The one-day event, hosted by Hope College, is sponsored by the Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance in collaboration with 25 community organizations. A panel discussion will offer perspectives from community leaders and keynote speakers, as well as evoke active audience participation, bringing a range of experience and accomplishments:

Mr. Kenyatta Brame – Senior Vice President of Business Services at Cascade Engineering, Inc. Previously he served as Senior Vice President of Operations and Merchandising, Employee Relations, and Legal Services at Sysco Food Services. He also worked as an attorney at Miller, Johnson, Snell & Cumiskey PLC. He is involved in the community through the City of Grand Rapids Civil Rights Commission, Green Grand Rapids Committee, and various other organizations.

Ms. Dorothy A. Johnson – President Emeritus of the Council of Michigan Foundations (serving for over 25 years). The Council is an association of 467 Michigan foundations and corporations offering grants for charitable purposes. Additionally, Ms. Johnson serves as a Trustee of the W. K. Kellogg Foundation, a Trustee of the Grand Valley State University Board, and a Director of the Corporation for National Service in Washington, D.C., a position to which she was nominated by President Clinton in 1998.

Mr. Brian Walker – President and CEO of Herman Miller, Inc., overseeing the company's global efforts to invent solutions that help create great places to work, to learn, and to heal. Additionally, Mr. Walker serves on the Board of Directors for Briggs & Stratton and The Right Place, Inc. of greater Grand Rapids, and as Chairman of The Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturer's Association (BIFMA) and Trustee on the Citizens Research Council of Michigan.

For more information about the panelists and keynote speakers, contact Gail Harrison at 616-846-9074 or LEDA@ethnicdiversity.org. Summit registration information (\$20 including lunch) can be found online at www.ethnicdiversity.org. The Summit is underwritten by The Brooks Family, The Frey Foundation, Herman Miller, Hope College, Macatawa Bank, and Magna Donnelly. *The Lakeshore Ethnic Diversity Alliance is a nonprofit organization located in Holland, Michigan, with the mission to dismantle racial, socioeconomic, and institutional barriers to ensure that people of all ethnic backgrounds have equal access and opportunity to participate fully in the life of the community.*

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