17TH ANNUAL WOMEN OF COLOR LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

“WE ARE BETTER TOGETHER”

DIVISION OF DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION
Hello, and welcome to the 17th annual Women of Color Leadership Conference, “We Are Better Together.”

I am privileged to extend a warm Roo welcome on behalf of the Division of Diversity and Inclusion. The planning and implementation of this year’s conference was led by Ms. Keichanda Dees-Burnett and Dr. Kimberly Johnson. As vice chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, I am honored to have worked alongside these incredible, dynamic women leaders.

This year’s conference features a variety of speakers and activities we hope will inspire and galvanize your ability to navigate your personal, interpersonal and professional spaces. It’s important to encourage others by teaching and showing them how they can also empower themselves in life through education, networking and leadership. Throughout the day, you will find we have similar struggles, and knowing this is both comforting and energizing.

Until we have reached true gender equality in the workforce and beyond, there is still A LOT of work to be done.

Warmest regards,

J. Camille Hall, Ph.D., LCSW
Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion
Professor of Social Work

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<td>7:30–8:45 a.m.</td>
<td>Check-in, Continental Breakfast and Networking</td>
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<td>8:45–9 a.m.</td>
<td>Welcome and Remarks&lt;br&gt;Dr. J. Camille Hall, Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, UMKC&lt;br&gt;Dr. Jenny Lungren, Provost, UMKC</td>
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<td>9–9:15 a.m.</td>
<td>Conference Kickoff&lt;br&gt;Mia Ramsey, Executive Director, Kansas City Boys Choir and Kansas City Girls Choir</td>
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<td>9:15–10 a.m.</td>
<td>Health and Wellbeing Activity&lt;br&gt;Dr. Lynette Sparkman-Barnes, Multicultural Specialist, University of Kansas Medical Center</td>
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THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING THIS YEAR’S CONFERENCE!
Tiffany S.W. Hamilton
Chief Executive Officer
YWCA White Plains and Central Westchester, White Plains New York

Tiffany S.W. Hamilton joined the YWCA of White Plains and Central Westchester, New York as chief executive officer in October 2022. In her previous role as the inaugural chief diversity officer at Pace University of New York City, she secured a $2 million gift to help establish the school’s first Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. Earlier, she served as the inaugural chief diversity officer of Westchester Community College in New York, where she executed a plan to address equity gaps in student achievement. Hamilton has supported nonprofit organizations with annual budgets exceeding $16 million — in one case, crafting a six-year diversity, equity and inclusion plan, which was submitted to the state of New York.

Hamilton holds a bachelor’s degree in liberal arts and a master’s degree in higher education administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City.

Whether throughout the halls of academia, corporate boardrooms or charitable organizations, Hamilton’s commitment to access and support is grounded in equity and inclusive excellence.
ADDITIONAL SPEAKERS:

Anna Bazan-Munguia
Director of Community Outreach
Big Brothers Big Sisters Kansas City

A Texas native, Anna Bazan-Munguia relocated to the Kansas City area 10 years ago. She currently serves as the director of community outreach for Big Brothers Big Sisters Kansas City, also serving as co-chair for the organization's Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Advisory Board.

Toya Like, Ph.D.
Professor and Graduate Director — Criminal Justice and Criminology
University of Missouri-Kansas City

Professor Toya Like joined the faculty at the University of Missouri-Kansas City in 2006 after receiving her B.S., M.A. and Ph.D. in Criminology and Criminal Justice from the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Like's research focuses on contextual and individual-level characteristics of risks for violent victimization and the intersections of inequality across characteristics such as race, gender and class on criminal and justice-related outcomes. She also teaches various courses at the undergraduate and graduate level, including theoretical criminology and race, class and justice.

Ericka King
Director of Stewardship Support Services
UMKC Foundation

Ericka King is the director of stewardship and support services for the UMKC Foundation. A native of Kansas City, Missouri, King holds a B.A. in comparative women's studies and art history from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia.

An experienced donor-engagement specialist, King has been developing creative fundraising strategies at local nonprofits for years, including for Kansas City PBS's television and digital platforms. At UMKC, King utilizes multi-source research and best practices to develop compelling and engaging strategies to attract and retain donors.

In both her professional and personal efforts, she looks for opportunities to align her enjoyment for connection, learning and story-sharing.

Jennifer Lundgren, Ph.D.
Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor
University of Missouri-Kansas City

Dr. Jenny Lundgren currently serves as provost, executive vice chancellor and chief academic officer of the University of Missouri-Kansas City. Dr. Lundgren completed her bachelor's degree in psychology at Oklahoma State University and earned her Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Albany in New York. She completed her clinical internship at the Medical University of South Carolina and her post-doctoral training at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

Lundgren's research specializes on the interaction of eating behavior and sleep, with expertise in the assessment and treatment of eating disorders. She has taught courses in the history and systems of psychology, psychology of learning, abnormal psychology, evidence-based psychological interventions and health psychology interventions.

Ash Parulekar
Entrepreneur
Personal Stylist and Image Consultant

Ash Parulekar is a self-employed personal stylist and image consultant. Growing up in a small town in mid-Missouri, she was the first Indian-American to attend her school district. Continuing her education, Parulekar went on to attend the University of Missouri-Columbia before receiving her MBA and six additional minors from Columbia College.

Parulekar has spent years volunteering her time in the Kansas City community including the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, American Cancer Society and Pathway To Hope. She currently sits on the JAZZOO committee at the Kansas City Zoo and serves as the director of diversity, equity and inclusion for the Junior League of Kansas City, Missouri.

Mia Ramsey
Executive Director
Kansas City Boys Choir and Kansas City Girls Choir

Mia Ramsey is a minister of music, elder at Kingdom Word Ministries, gospel recording artist, founder and co-owner of JWear Apparel and Accessories and
co-founder of 2 Peas in a Pod Branding and Public Relations. A consummate learner from an early age, Ramsey is a proud graduate of Kansas City's Bishop Hogan High School, Prairie View A&M University and the University of Missouri systems.

Ramsey holds a passion for youth, serving as executive director of both the Kansas City Boys and Girls Choirs. She also teaches lessons in truth and communication through her women’s empowerment group, Sisters of Substance.

**Melissa Robinson**
**Third District Councilwoman**
**City of Kansas City, Missouri**

Melissa Robinson is the third district councilwoman for the city of Kansas City, Missouri and a proud graduate of Kansas City's Bishop Hogan High School. She is a dedicated community leader, serving as the executive director of both the Kansas City Boys and Girls Choirs. Ramsey holds a passion for youth, serving as executive director of both the Kansas City Boys and Girls Choirs. She also teaches lessons in truth and communication through her women’s empowerment group, Sisters of Substance.

**Dr. Lynette Sparkman-Barnes**
**Multicultural Specialist and Associate Director of Clinical Services**
**University of Kansas Medical Center**

Dr. Lynette Sparkman-Barnes is a clinical psychologist, multicultural specialist and the associate director of clinical services for the University of Kansas Medical Center. She earned her B.A. in psychology from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois and a Psy.D. in clinical psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology in Chicago, completing her post-doctoral training in rural West Virginia.

Dr. Sparkman-Barnes is active in the local community, volunteering her time, holding positions on several local boards and as minister for the African Methodist Episcopal Church in Kansas City, Kansas where she serves as co-pastor alongside her husband.

**Michele D. Smith, Ph.D.**
**(Moderator)**
**Vice Provost for Student Affairs and Dean of Students**
**University of Missouri-Kansas City**

Dr. Michele Smith currently serves as vice provost for student affairs, dean of students and associate professor at the University of Missouri-Kansas City. As a researcher, Dr. Smith investigates the historical, social, cultural and political aspects of higher education as it pertains to the intersectionality of race and gender. Her recent scholarship examines these same aspects of higher education at predominately and historically white institutions that marginalizes faculty of color, and looks to address strategies that institutions of higher ed. can put in place to change the tide.
SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Kathryn Houston, External Relations & Constituent Engagement
UMKC Student Union Staff
UMKC Strategic Marketing and Communications
Dr. Michele D. Smith
Keichanda Dees-Burnett
Dr. Kimberly Johnson
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