

FEBRUARY 2026



OFFICE OF **DIVERSITY  
& INCLUSION**  
at Capital University

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## *Cultivating Courageous Communities*

**February is Black History Month, and 2026 marks the 100th anniversary of the first Negro History Week, established by Dr. Carter G. Woodson in 1926. This year's theme, A Century of Black History Commemorations, invites us to reflect on the enduring legacy of Black history and its profound impact on the modern world. Black history continues to shape our society through cultural innovation, social justice movements, political leadership, scholarship, and community resilience—contributions that influence how we live, learn, and engage with one another today.**

**February is also American Heart Health Month. In an effort to continue building courageous communities, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion will partner with Wellness and Prevention and the Mezz Fitness Center to raise awareness about heart health and the ways in which heart disease disproportionately affects certain communities. We encourage members of our campus community to prioritize heart health by eating nutritiously, staying active, and advocating for accessible, inclusive, and equitable medical care. Together, these efforts help improve overall quality of life and promote healthier futures for all.**

**-The ODI Team**



**Instagram: @capitalodi  
Email: odi@capital.edu**

On January 19, 2026, Capital University hosted its 35th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Learning.

The event was a powerful day of reflection, inspiration, and engagement, bringing together more than 1,000 campus and community members to honor the legacy of one of our nation's most influential civil rights leaders.

Judge Laurel Beatty Blunt delivered the keynote address, centered on the theme Unfinished Business: The Ceilings We Break. At a time when many are searching for where their efforts can best create meaningful change, Judge Beatty Blunt challenged attendees to do more than simply break glass ceilings—to challenge, crack, and ultimately dismantle them.

To watch the keynote address and learn more about our workshop presenters, please visit the MLK Day of Learning webpage.



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
**DAY OF LEARNING**  
at Capital University

35<sup>th</sup>

Unfinished Business:  
The Ceilings We Break





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Become A  
**Smooth Transitions**  
Mentor

Apply today on the  
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# **Pizza and the Paper**

**January 16**

**January 30**

**February 13**

**March 13**

**March 27**

**Denvy Bowman  
Center  
4PM-5PM**

SMOOTH TRANSITIONS PRESENTS

# Self love in Bloom

Build your own bouquet and write  
yourself a love letter while enjoying  
drinks and desserts

Tuesday, February 10<sup>th</sup> Denvy Bowman  
Center from 4:00-6:00 PM





The ODI, ResLife, and BSU presents

# CINEMAS OF DIVERSITY: LOVING

Get comfy and join us for a movie night! Settle in for a powerful story, great company, and a relaxed evening together. Enjoy sweet treats, pizza, popcorn, and a chance to win a raffle basket!



**Thursday**  
February 12, 2026



**Time**  
07:00 - 10:00pm



**Location**  
Schneider North



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YOU ARE INVITED TO

# IFTAR NIGHT

WITH MUSLIM STUDENT ASSOCIATION

THURSDAY

19

AT 06:00 PM

Denvy Bowman  
Center



# MORE THAN A TRANSCRIPT:

*A Nonlinear Path to Medicine*

Guest speaker

**ERNEST  
MOORE III**



Honoring resilience,  
purpose, and the paths less  
taken.

Join the ODI and Tri Beta  
for a motivational evening.

Blackmore Library 110

**FEB**

**20<sup>th</sup>**

**4-5:30 PM**

Food will be provided.



*Hosted by the Office of Diversity and Inclusion*



# *The Power of Us*

**AWARDS & GRADUATION CELEBRATION**

**Thursday, April 16, 2026 | Schneider Conference Room | 6:00 pm**

**RSVP & Nominate Awardees on Engage**

**All are welcome to attend!**

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# THE POWER OF US: AWARDS AND GRADUATION CELEBRATION

Formerly recognized as the ODI Awards, The Power of Us Awards expands on all the places we can execute values associated with inclusion, advocacy, and equity.

We welcome students, faculty, staff, and alumni to celebrate the ways in which our Capital University community has demonstrated these values.

The categories in which campus members can be nominated include:

- *Athletes in Action*
- *DEI in Student Government*
- *Outstanding Mentorship*
- *Students Serving Students*
- *Ignite Achievement Award (First-Year Student)*
- *Bridge Builder Award (Sophomore Student)*
- *Leading Change Award (Junior)*
- *DEI In Media*
- *Access and Inclusion*
- *Champion of Allyship*
- *Amplifier of Voices Award (Faculty or Staff)*





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# THE POWER OF US: AWARDS AND GRADUATION CELEBRATION

## *Seniors...*

We want to take a moment to celebrate your incredible resilience and hard work in reaching the milestone of completing your undergraduate journey at Capital University. This is a significant achievement, and we are excited to honor your dedication and perseverance.

To ensure that we can properly recognize you and offer you the opportunity to share your inspiring story as a student leader here at Capital, please be sure to RSVP for the event on Engage.

Additionally, if you haven't done so yet, please email [odi@capital.edu](mailto:odi@capital.edu) to request your Kente, Pride, Indigenous, or Latinx graduation stole, which serves as a symbol of your unique journey and contributions to our community.

We are looking forward to celebrating your accomplishments and the incredible impact you've made at Capital University!

