

## **You affirm identity, build community, and cultivate leaders when you support the Center for Diversity and Inclusion.**

The work of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion promotes a genuine sense of belonging for all students at Rider. Faculty, staff, alumni, and peer mentors foster an understanding and appreciation of different cultures and identities and in doing so support student engagement, retention and persistence to graduation.



Creating an inviting setting that has music, artwork, and other visual images of diverse cultures and identities makes individuals feel welcome and educates and expands awareness across the entire Rider community on issues of equity and inclusion. The Center for Diversity and Inclusion's location on the ground floor of the Bart Luedeke Center will provide a prominent hub for Rider's 17 multicultural clubs and student organizations to gather.

### **Among the many groups that will benefit:**

- Black Student Union
- Hillel
- Latin American Student Organization
- Asian Students at Rider
- SPECTRUM Pride Alliance

**The Center for Diversity and Inclusion advances Rider's commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion as outlined in the University's Inclusive Excellence Plan.**

“The Multicultural Student Leadership Institute provided me with the resources to adjust to a new environment and the encouragement to work hard. The monthly meetings gave everyone the opportunity to voice their opinions and offered me the chance to get involved on campus. I made friends who encouraged me and I learned tools to become a leader.”

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**Aileen Merino-Lazo '20**

Political science major

Governor's Hispanic Fellow Alumna

Intern, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman

Volunteer, Hispanics Inspiring Students'

Performance and Achievement

Intern and now Program Assistant for the

Latino Action Network Foundation



Since 2007 the Center for Diversity and Inclusion's **Multicultural Student Leadership Institute (MSLI)** has nurtured and empowered first-year and transfer students from diverse backgrounds, helping them successfully navigate what can be a difficult transition from home to college life. The program offers self-exploration, personal development, cross-cultural communication and college survival strategies. Students gain early campus engagement, networking opportunities, encouragement and support.



“My MSLI experience taught me many things about myself and about others. It got me to open up and share what I am feeling and helped me to make connections. I bonded with so many people. It became a second family to me.”

---

**Dion Moore, Class of 2022**

Computer science major

MSLI Peer Leader

Leadership Development

Executive Board, Asian Students at Rider

# Donors who give to the Center for Diversity and Inclusion

**Promote dialogue  
and interaction  
among students  
from different  
backgrounds**

**Build cultural  
awareness and  
promote self-  
empowerment**

**Develop and  
maintain  
an inclusive  
campus climate**

**Improve  
academic  
success and  
retention rates  
of students**

**Advance  
cultural  
competency**

The programs and events of the Center for Diversity and Inclusion create a safe and educational environment to explore race, ethnicity, gender identity and expression, national origin, religious beliefs, sexual orientation, ability, age, marital status, and socioeconomic status. This exploration of identity builds community and creates a support system for students while promoting common ground, recognition, affirmation and empathy for others. Among the many offerings:

## **Peer-to-Peer (P2P) MENTORING**

provides an opportunity for full-time, first-year students of color, or those who identify as underrepresented, to gain practical advice, encouragement and support from an assigned upperclassmen to promote student retention.

## **SPECTRUMentoring**

is a collaborative program hosted between the Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Rider's SPECTRUM Pride Alliance. This program offers first-year and transfer LGBTQ+ students the opportunity to be connected to a community that affirms and supports their identity development.

## **Conversation Café and Open Door Conversations**

are designed to invite and promote thoughtful dialogue among students, faculty and staff on current issues through weekly open student forums and periodically scheduled panels.

## **Lavender Graduation and the Multicultural Pre-Commencement Rite of Passage Ceremony**

celebrate Rider's graduating LGBTQ+ students and students of color in pre-Commencement ceremonies to highlight their academic achievements and contributions to the University.

## **The Julius and Dorothy Koppelman Holocaust/Genocide Resource Center**

explores the ramifications of the Holocaust and other genocides through materials, exhibits, workshops, lectures and other programming for Rider, area schools and the greater community.

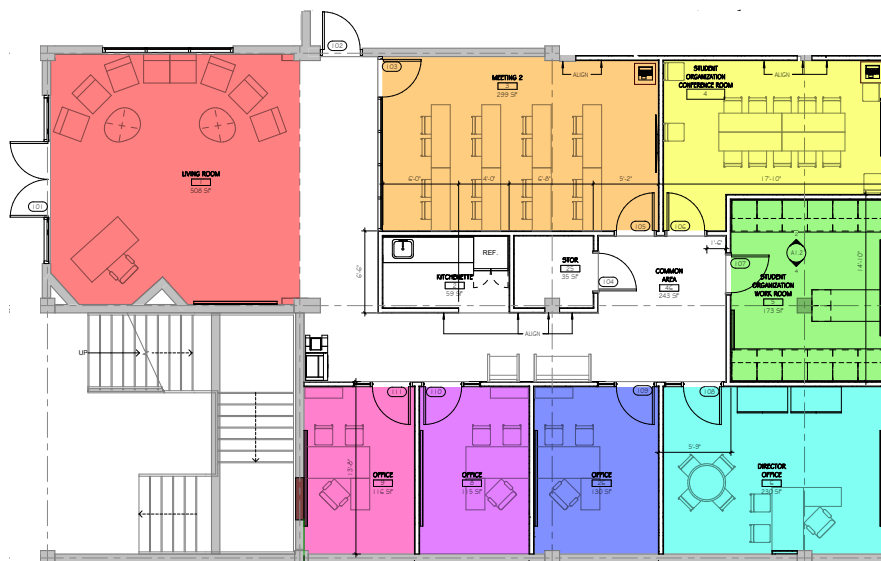
## **Cultural and heritage months**

engage the campus community in building awareness and appreciation of people of various identities. These programs include Hispanic Heritage Month, National Coming Out Day, Native American Heritage Month, Black History Month, Women's History Month, Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and programs supporting Rider's shared read on social justice themes.

# Naming Opportunities

- Center for Diversity and Inclusion and Program Endowment (\$750K)
- Living Room and Entryway to Center (\$40K)
- **Large Meeting Room (\$30K) \***
- Small Meeting Room (\$20K)
- Diversity and Inclusion Program or Lecture Endowment (\$25K+)
- **Multicultural Leadership Resource Room (\$10K) \***
- **Director's Office (\$15K) \***
- Assistant Director's Office (\$15K)
- Graduate Assistant's Office (\$15K)
- Interfaith/Spirituality Office (\$15K)

\* Already assigned



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“The MSLI program helped me to be more open-minded to different customs, beliefs, lifestyles, heritages and sexualities, as well as other religious and ethnic backgrounds. It helped me grow as a person.”

## Tiana Bradham, Class of 2021

English major  
Black Student Union  
On Fire  
L.O.C.K.S. Hair Club  
Sigma Tau Delta  
(International English Honors Society)

- For more information -

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