

Form Name:	The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division Law School Affiliate 2020 Inclusion & Equality Grant Application
Submission Time:	August 3, 2020 1:52 pm
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Location:	

Deadline August 3, 2020

Name of Law School Affiliate	WMU Cooley Law School
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Individual Contact Name	Daniela Mendez
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Contact Email	Mendezda@cooley.edu
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Contact Address (address where The Florida Bar should send the award)	9445 Camden Field Parkway Riverview, FL 33578
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Proposed Date of Project (must be in the upcoming academic year)	Sep 24, 2020
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Proposed Location of Project	VIRTUAL VIRTUAL, FL 33578
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Expected Number of Students Attending	150
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Description/Agenda (Please include a brief description/agenda for your event)

The event will take place virtually over Cisco WebEx. The event will be more like a diversity and inclusion weekend, spanning from 9/24/2020 to 9/26/2020. Cooley has a wide variety of students, as Cooley offers weekend, day, afternoon, and evening classes. We will have the first event on 9/24/2020 at 6 pm. The event on 9/24/2020 will consist of a moth series, storytelling night where students will get to sign up and share their stories about their experiences in relation to diversity, equity, inclusion. The attendees of the event will be encouraged to just listen. Prior to this event we will encourage the submission of haikus and other pieces of written work by the students. The topic of the written work submitted will be diversity, equity, and inclusion and legal cases. The written pieces will be published in our virtual magazine as well as social media. We will include the hashtag #YLDisme to recognize Florida Bar YLD.

The second event will be held on 9/25/2020 at 2:00pm. This event will be a panel discussion with various minority lawyers or judges from the Tampa Bay area. The panel discussion will be about diversity and equality in the workplace. We aim to have panelists from Islam-American bar associations, African-American bar association, Asian-American bar association as well as Latino American bar associations. The goal of this event is to discuss interviewing, networking, and overall diversity, and lack of diversity, in the field of law. Some of the speakers that we are thinking of inviting are: Travis Coy (African American Prosecutor), Sumayahh Saleh (Muslim-American), Jonathan Lee (Asian American) and Judge Miriam Valkenburg (Hispanic American). Speakers are subject to change, depending on availability.

The last event will be held on 9/26/2020 at 3:00pm targeted for our weekend students. In this event, we plan to have a speaker that was recently appointed to the bench (county, circuit, FL supreme court) by Governor DeSantis. It is known that the Governor has appointed people from diverse backgrounds to the bench in recent months. The goal is to have that speaker discuss the navigation process of being appointed to the bench. Speakers to be determined at this time, but we are thinking of any of the following: Elizabeth Espinosa, Ayanna Harris, Renatha Francis.

Describe How You Will Recognize The Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division for its Support of Your Event:

We will recognize the Florida Bar Young Lawyers Division by adding their name to the flyer for the events. We will also make an announcement before and after the events to recognize YLD. We will also encourage all students to use the hashtag #YLDisme on all social media posts and platforms. Cooley media will also use the hashtag on all social media platforms.

Budget

https://s3.amazonaws.com/files.formstack.com/uploads/3943207/94730836/642799866/94730836_diversity_and_inclusion_budget_proposal.docx

**Signature of the LSL Law School
Administrator**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. [unclear]", is positioned above a horizontal line. The signature is stylized with a large, prominent loop.