

DOS Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility

HAPPY FALL!

Hello and happy greetings from the DEIA team!

It has been an eventful few months for the DEIA team. August saw three Regional Cluster Events in NYC, Watertown/Syracuse, and Long Island. These events allowed our DOS communities to connect, learn from one other, and share insights while seeing each other as partners regardless of title or division. Special thanks to all who helped the events come to life and to all who attended!

The DEIA team also hosted a Virtual Welcoming Week Celebration on September 23rd where a great group joined us! The impact of bringing together neighbors of all backgrounds to build strong connections while affirming the importance of welcoming, inclusive spaces was felt by all of us. Thank you to all who attended!

September 15th marked the start of Hispanic Heritage Month. To celebrate, **Secretary Mosley and the DEIA team will be hosting hybrid events in NYC on October 1st and in Albany on October 15th**. We look forward to celebrating this important part of our DOS community. Please see the flyer attached to this newsletter for more information on the event and how to register.

September is also **National Suicide Prevention Month**. While mental health and suicide prevention is important to address year-round, Suicide Prevention Month provides a dedicated time to shift public perception, spread hope, and ensure that everyone has access to necessary resources. More information and resources are included in this newsletter.

Finally, we are excited to announce that **DEIJA-B Working Groups are forming across DOS!** There will be an agency wide webinar on the process in the coming months with rollout to begin in January. If you are interested in forming a Working Group in your division or office, please email us at diversityandinclusion@dos.ny.gov.

Thank you all for everything you do to make DOS a more diverse, equitable, inclusive, and accessible space for all. We hope to see you all at the upcoming celebrations and Regional Clusters.

Yours in partnership and service,

Nicole Jean Christian and The DEIA Team

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UPCOMING EVENTS

October 1, 2024 **NYC Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**
1 pm to 2 pm
20th Floor Executive Conference Room and Online
See attached flyer to register

October 15, 2024 **Albany Hispanic Heritage Month Celebration**
1 pm to 2 pm
5th Floor Conference Room 505 and Online
See attached flyer to register

The Department of State strives to create an inclusive environment for all, which includes partnering to assist with any accessibility needs or requirements.

Interested attendees who may require reasonable accommodation must email ReasonableAccommodationsMailbox@dos.ny.gov to communicate their request at least two (2) business days before the event.

CONTACT US

Do you have any upcoming events that celebrate DEIA at DOS?

Do you have any questions about our programming?

Want to get involved in DEIA activities in your own division?

We want to hear from you!

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Introducing Kristopher Malone to the DEIA Team



The DEIA team is excited to introduce our newest team member, Kristopher Malone!

Governor Hochul released the final report from the New York State Commission on African American History on Juneteenth of 2024, announcing \$16 million to support the development and implementation of recommendations from the report.

Kristopher will be supporting the plan to complete the African American History Commission's Final Report as the Project Coordinator while expanding relationships within our community and bringing the Commission's vision to life.

Kristopher earned his BA in Sociology and Economics and MBA from the College of William & Mary in 2021 and has more than nine years of experience in project management.

We're excited to see him grow the African American History Commission for New York State over the coming years.

Kristopher is working on the east side of the twentieth floor in the NYC office, so be sure to drop by and say hello!

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Celebrate
**NATIONAL
 HISPANIC
 HERITAGE MONTH**

“Pioneers of Change: Shaping the Future Together”

Please Register Below to Take Part in These Exciting Hybrid Events

Join Secretary of State Walter T. Mosley and the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion & Accessibility (DEIA) team for two hybrid Hispanic Heritage Month Celebrations.



Walter T. Mosley
 SECRETARY OF STATE

Join us for food, music, art, and engaging conversation about:

- 2024 Theme of Hispanic Heritage Month
- The History, Culture, and Importance of Hispanic Heritage



NYC Office



Albany Office

Tuesday, October 1st, 2024

1 PM to 2 PM **

20th Floor, Executive Conference Room

Register to receive a **WebEx** Video Meeting link

<https://forms.office.com/g/bVWSE03YCB>
 Please Register by September 27, 2024

Tuesday, October 15th, 2024

1 PM to 2 PM **

5th Floor, Conference Room 505

Register to receive a **WebEx** Video Meeting link

<https://forms.office.com/g/EM0dY9Hfkz>
 Please Register by September 27, 2024



** There is no need to charge time to attend this event as it is part of our DEIA programming, but please remember to request and obtain prior supervisory **APPROVAL** before registering.



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We are here for *everyone!*

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National Suicide Prevention Month

September is National Suicide Prevention Month, a time to raise awareness of this urgently important crisis.



September is National Suicide Prevention Month



While important to address year-round, Suicide Prevention Month is a time to ensure that individuals, friends, and families have access to the resources they need to discuss suicide prevention, foster hope, and seek help.

Show support by:

- Wearing purple to raise awareness of suicide prevention efforts.
- Turning your lights purple to show you care about preventing suicide and support those who have lost loved ones to suicide.

The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline number is now the National 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, which operates 24/7 and offers services for a variety of mental health-related calls.

Please see the below resources to learn more about Suicide Prevention Month and to obtain social media assets, posters, and more.

- [988 Resources \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov)
- [Suicide Prevention Center of New York State](https://www.suicideprevention.org/)
- [Mental Health Awareness | NY DMV](https://www.ny.gov)
- [New York State Suicide Prevention \(ny.gov\)](https://www.ny.gov)

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Regional Clusters

Regional Cluster visits allow teams to connect, learn from one other, share insights, and see each other as partners and collaborators regardless of agency titles and division affiliation.

Clusters are all about connection and advancing our core mission: “to provide a better quality of life and expand opportunities for all New Yorkers by fostering community revitalization [and] catalyzing economic growth”.

August saw three DEIA regional cluster visits in NYC, Watertown/Syracuse, and Long Island.

DOS DEIA NYC Regional Cluster

Our New York City regional cluster activity held on August 7th centered on the meaning of the term “DEIA”, which encouraged robust discussion and sharing about the terms Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility and how important shared meaning is in our approach to DEIA. We were able to connect, share, and celebrate our diversity while highlighting effective approaches we can use to enhance inclusion.



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DOS DEIA Watertown/Syracuse Regional Cluster

This regional cluster activity held on August 9th centered on inclusion and ways we can foster a sense of belonging. As we saw, inclusivity allows for us to be our authentic selves, identify areas for collaboration, and improve agency outcomes.



DOS DEIA Long Island Regional Cluster

The Long Island Regional Cluster visit held on August 27th gave us the opportunity to learn more about the work of SSER, LWRP, and Climate Change/Resiliency team members that benefit diverse communities and our coastline. It was a true eye opener and created an even greater sense of connection to the mission of providing a better quality of life and fostering community revitalization through stewardship of our coastline.



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