

UK College of Law Diversity Initiatives

2021-2022 Academic Year

(Programming Continued to Be Impacted by COVID-19)

College of Law Events

- College of Law Diversity Committee co-hosted with the two student law journals, Kentucky Law Journal and Kentucky Journal for Equine, Agriculture, and Natural Resources Law, co-hosted an outdoor outing at Jacobson Park (Lexington) for student affinity organizations and diverse students.
- The College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a screening of the film, “The 24th,” following by a zoom discussion with its creator, Kevin Willmot.
- Prof. Blanche Cook, assisted by law students, hosted another “Breonna Taylor Symposium.”
- College of Law, under the leadership of Professor Doug Michael, held its annual Volunteer Income tax Clinic on site, a clinic in which students from the College of Law and College of Business work together to prepare tax returns for foreign and low-income individuals.
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a guest speaker panel on the topic, “Building Bridges to Lift Our Communities.”
- College of Law Diversity Committee and Faculty Speakers Committee co-hosted guest speaker Khaled Beydoun, Wayne State University, on the topic, “American Islamophobia.”
- Prof. Blanche Cook, with law student Tyler Parker organizing, and co-sponsored with Black Law Students Association and Latino Law Society, hosted a panel discussion, “Sexualized Violence and Race.”
- College of Law Diversity Committee hosted a panel discussion on “Critical Race Theory.”
- College of Law served as the host site for a lawyer and law student training “Criminal Expungement in Kentucky,” hosted by Legal Aid of the Bluegrass and Kentucky Bar Association Young Lawyer’s Division.
- McBrayer Law Firm, in partnership with College of Law, hosted an incoming first-year law student for a two-week immersion experience under its McBrayer Visitorship Program established two years ago.
- McBrayer Law Firm, in partnership with the College of Law, created a McBrayer Fellow Program that will provide a four-week summer immersion experience to a rising 2L with the goal to hire that selected student after their second year of law school in its 2L Summer Associate program with the firm.
- College of Law, in partnership with Kentucky Refugee Ministries, hosted a training for assisting potential Afghan Refugees.

- College of Law hosted a panel discussion on Indigenous People’s Rights in Kentucky and the United States.
- College of Law co-hosted with Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority’s Lexington alumni chapter a panel discussion on “The Black Wealth Gap” with panelists being Assistant Dean Danny Murphy and students, Shantale Davis and Kenneth Trotter.
- College of Law, under its partnership with The Heyburn Initiative for Judicial Excellence, hosted a community discussion with lawyer and author Peter Canellos on his book, “The Great Dissenter.”

Student Events

- Black Law Students Association hosted a “Welcome Back” event on the Third Floor Terrace of the Law Building.
- The local John Rowe Chapter of the National Bar Association hosted its annual cookout and meet-and-greet for Black Law Students Association members and local attorneys of color.
- The Dean’s Appointed Law Student Diversity, Inclusion, and Equity Advisory Board held a student roundtable discussion regarding the law school community and inclusivity.
- Election Law Society hosted a guest speaker, former Kentucky Secretary of State and alumnus Trey Greyson, an election law advocate.
- Latino Law Students Association and Black Law Students Association co-hosted a discussion titled “What’s in a Name?”
- The Federalist Society hosted a discussion on “Kentucky’s Voting Laws” with guest speaker Kentucky Secretary of State Michael G. Adams.
- Kentucky Law Journal hosted its annual symposium with the topic this year, “Racial Wealth Gap.”
- Dinsmore law firm, in partnership with Black Law Students Association and Latino Law Students Association, hosted a Pre-Law Minority Program at the College of Law for undergraduate and high school students.
- American Constitution Society hosted a movie event for Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday.
- OUTLaw hosted a RuPaul Drag Race Watch Party.
- Black Law Students Association hosted a Black History Month Celebration in the Law Building.
- The Federalist Society hosted a discussion, “Our Anti-Slavery Constitution? The Constitutional Thought of Frederick Douglass.”
- American Constitution Society hosted a speaker panel for Women’s History Month.
- Black Law Students Association hosted a panel discussion on Judicial Clerkships.
- Women’s Law Caucus hosted its annual spring brunch with guest speakers and honorees, Judge Susan Wesley McClure and Professor Jennifer Bird-Pollan.

- Latino Law Student Association and Black Law Students Association co-hosted their spring banquet with guest speakers, Kentucky State Representative Attica Scott and community activist Hanna Drake.