



EYE ON EQUITY,  
DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION



*Eye on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is designed to share relevant information and upcoming events to support our commitment to promote equity and fairness among our physicians, scientists, trainees and staff members.*



**Black History Month**

**February** is Black History Month which celebrates achievements by African Americans and their prominent role in United States History.

- [Duke University Medical Center Library Archives: Black History Month](#)
- [The Chronicle: Ways to celebrate Black History Month at Duke](#)
- [Duke Today: Black History Month: Legacies Behind the Names on Campus](#)
- [Duke School of Medicine celebrates first black employee, Donald Love with award named in his honor](#)

In March of 2021, despite his decades of experience, **Leon Herndon, MD** experienced a first in his career-- his first OR day with an all-Black trainee team.

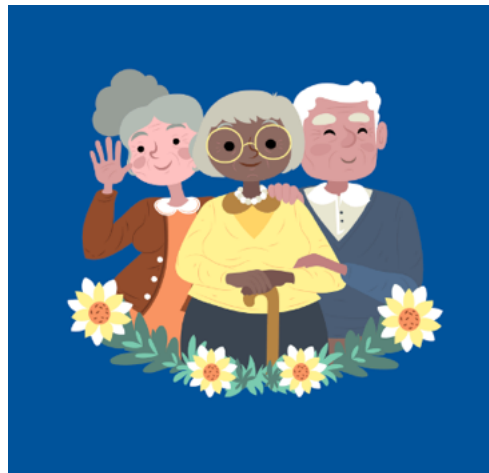


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Duke Eye Center will host 6th grade scholars from the School of Medicine BOOST program on February 18th, 2023 from 10am to 2pm. Thank you to **Yos Priestly OD** and **Julia Rosdahl MD, PhD** for spearheading the event! BOOST is a multidimensional program serving Durham Public Schools students in 5th through 8th grades and is designed to excite young people about STEM and inspire them to pursue careers in medicine and related fields. BOOST serves underrepresented minorities including African American, Latinx, and Indigenous students; girls; and young people from economically challenged backgrounds. During their visit to the eye center, students will be introduced to different aspects of clinical ophthalmology and vision science.

**Age-Related Macular Degeneration Awareness Month**



Prevent Blindness has dedicated the month of **February** to raising awareness towards AMD and low-vision because AMD is the leading cause of vision loss in people over the age of 50.

**National Freedom Day**



**February 1**

This day was established to commemorate the signing of the 13th Amendment by Abraham Lincoln on February 1, 1865. The 13th Amendment marked the official abolition of slavery in the United States.

**National Women Physicians Day**



**February 3**

This day celebrates the courage and the accomplishments of female physicians and also marks the birthday of Dr. Elizabeth Blackwell, the first woman to receive a medical degree in the United States.

**Rosa Parks Day**



**February 4**

Celebrated on Rosa Parks' birthday, February 4 commemorates the impact she had on the desegregation of public transportation and the Civil Rights Movement.

**International Childhood Cancer Awareness Day**



**February 15**

A day globally recognized to raise awareness about childhood cancer and to support patients, survivors and their families that have experienced or witnessed this disease.

**World Day of Social Justice**



**February 20**

This day recognizes the need to promote social justice issues, including poverty, unemployment, gender equality, human rights, and social protections.

If you would like an opportunity to participate in discussions related to Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, click [here](#). "National Chats for Change" is a monthly webinar designed to facilitate important discussions around EDI on a national level and is provided through Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai. It's available to anyone interested and generally meets from 12:00-1:00pm EST.

**QuickLinks:**

- [Duke Eye Center EDI](#)
- [Moments to Movement](#)
- [Duke PAS](#)
- [Speak Up Reporting](#)
- [What our Committee is Reading & Watching](#)

**Sharing positivity!**

Share something special that you or colleague did at work, or service to the community using this [nomination form](#).

**Upcoming Events**

[View a list of Diversity and Inclusion events on the Duke Event Calendar](#)

Please email [dukeeyediversity@duke.edu](mailto:dukeeyediversity@duke.edu) if you would like to suggest adding a holiday or event to our [calendar of events](#).

**Duke Eye Center Statement on Racism and Discrimination**

Duke Eye Center is comprised of a diverse community of physicians, scientists, trainees and staff members devoted to providing high quality care, innovative research, and first-class education. We welcome and fully engage people of diverse backgrounds, abilities, and perspectives, and strive to provide a safe and secure space for all. We strictly prohibit discrimination and do not tolerate harassment based on age, education, skin color, disability, gender, gender expression and identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or veteran status. We are honored to serve Durham, the broader community of North Carolina, and beyond. Contact Us: [DukeEyeDiversity@duke.edu](mailto:DukeEyeDiversity@duke.edu)

