



DEIA in CDS Award Winners

The Coalition for Anti-Racism and Equity (CARE) Committee in the CDS Department is thrilled to announce the awardees of the DEIA in CDS Award.

The purpose of this award is to acknowledge CDS students' efforts in advancing Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access (DEIA) in our local community and/or field over the past 12 months. We are awarding one graduate student and one undergraduate student the DEIA in CDS Award for their efforts, and acknowledge the efforts of one additional graduate student and undergraduate student.

Franchesca Arcy, PhD Student

Franchesca has made significant efforts to advance DEIA. To highlight some of these: She is the President of UB's Graduate Students of Color group, which seeks to provide community and support for graduate students of color, educate the University about issues affecting underrepresented students, and give back to the Buffalo community. Her clinical and research efforts are grounded in advancing culturally and linguistically appropriate services for children. She shares this expertise in academic courses as a guest speaker, including on the topic of "Multicultural Considerations in Augmentative and Alternative Communication." As Franchesca states, "I believe that I have been able to represent various communities and introduce new ones to each other... I hope that the work I put in now will benefit future PhD students."



Kamille Gordon, Undergraduate Student

Kamille has served in several leadership positions that advance DEIA. She was a Diversity Advocate in UB's Intercultural and Diversity Center, where she was able to advocate for herself and other students at UB. She helped facilitate social programs and cultural competency trainings in this role. She was also engaged in conferences, including the Multicultural Leadership Institute at UB. Kamille has also taken her efforts to social media. With her peer, they created SLPCraft as a platform to post about their undergraduate journey. As Kamille describes, "...representation truly matters, and it starts way beyond the undergraduate level. [SLPCraft] gives me the chance to reach someone younger and curious about pursuing speech-language pathology."



Honorable Mentions



Chanel Hudson, AuD Student

Chanel is the Vice President for Government Affairs and Public Policy on the National NSSLHA Executive Council, where she helps to advocate for the professions. This year she helped organize a nationwide project advocating for increased Congressional funding of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.



Tracey Coffy, Undergraduate Student

Tracey and her peers established the first Haitian Student Association at UB and serves as the club's treasurer. In her professional and extra-curricular roles, she has organized several collaborative and social opportunities where participants can share their culture and learn from each other.

Congratulations!
