



## A RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

1990 – 2015

A year-by-year history of the programs of Dialogue on Diversity, a non-profit educational organization, dedicated to creative conversation and ground-breaking dialogue among American women and men of diverse cultural and ethnic heritage.

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# RECORD OF ACHIEVEMENT

DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY looks back, now for well over a score of years, upon a record of growing accomplishment in its core aims – the advancement of creative dialogue among women, and men, of diverse ethnicity and culture.

2010 – 2015 Each of these recent years' programs cycles have opened with the Dialogue's Internet Data Privacy Colloquia, some held at the Stewart R. Mott Home on Capitol Hill, others at the Microsoft Innovation and Policy Center. The Public Policy Forums, held in early March, combined with an observance of Women's History Month and a collaboration with the American Federation of Teachers. The Health Care Symposia, also presented at the AFT, have brought together medical professionals, luminaries from Washington officialdom and its battery of think tanks, and civil society representatives for discussion of the progressing legal-institutional health care reform, and the imperative of prevention. The September Entrepreneurship/IT Conferences, again assemble think-tank, legal, and academic experts, IT professionals, and practicing entrepreneurs. The Domestic Violence Awareness/Immigration Colloquia follow in late October, with speakers from a train of community service groups working with immigrant and economically disadvantaged persons beset with their specially painful domestic strains. The year concludes with the Holiday Fair/Children's Gift Collection.

2009 The year's program cycle began early, just after the gala inauguration of the new Administration, with a special late-January Symposium given over to Internet Privacy, *Threats and Remedies*, with expert speakers from think tanks, laws firms, and governmental agencies. The general Public Policy Forum, titled *New Breezes on the Potomac*, followed on March 5<sup>th</sup> with an agenda again analyzing the social and political repercussions of the information technology revolution, followed by review of the perennial topic – and the Dialogue's signature issue – of Immigration, the current economic slowdown, and the urgent need for investment through education – including especially health care and pre-literacy training for the youngest, ages 2-5 – refashioning the human infrastructure that must underpin any continued preeminence for the U.S. as a global economic power. The Dialogue continues its new once-a-month schedule, begun in October, 2008, for issuance of its newsletter.

2008 The Policy Form, *Civil Discourse in a Contentious Year*, convening on March 6<sup>th</sup>, set its focus on immigration, and education, with Michelle Rhee, the D. C. Schools chancellor, whose resolute drive for reform has brought startling innovations and has rendered her already a celebrity and folk-hero across the country. A late-Spring Health Care Symposium, *If it's Broke, Can We Fix It?*, took up the question of legal and institutional reforms, with presentations on single-payer, insurance exchange, and other styles of production and delivery for health and medical services. The Entrepreneurship/IT Conference returned in 2008 year to the National Press Club in Washington, with an extended seminar on supplier diversity techniques for women entrepreneurs, sessions on access to capital and, characteristically, the importance of the IT toolbox for successful women. At an Honors Reception October 3<sup>rd</sup> at La Tasca in Penn Quarter, Dialogue on Diversity recognized the vigor and acumen of a new generation of women entrepreneurs, with awards conferred on three accomplished women business owners in their 30s. The season closed with the Holiday Fair, December 13, held for the first time at the Carlos Rosario charter school near Adams Morgan, with Santa Claus and a corps of eager metro-area children the star attractions.

2007 Dialogue on Diversity's schedule began March 7 with the Public Policy Forum, *When We Are Good, We Are Very Very Good: The Testing of America*. The sixth annual Health Care Symposium, *The Cost of a Pound of Cure*, presented on May 14, focused on prevention techniques and culture-tailored care. The IT/Entrepreneurship Conference, held at Chicago's Navy Pier on July 11<sup>th</sup>, highlighted advances in business-related IT and brought cutting edge tips on the techniques for breaking into corporate and governmental supply chains. The Housing Issues Colloquium, *How Many Roofs Make the Good Society?* was presented September 25<sup>th</sup> at the J.W. Marriott Hotel in Washington. The Entrepreneurial Excellence and International Awards, *Contours of Excellence: The Stamp of a New Century*, were conferred September 26<sup>th</sup> at the Hall of the Americas, Organization of American States, in Washington. The year's closing exercises were the annual Holiday Fair and Children's Gift Collection, conducted December 8<sup>th</sup> at La Tasca in Washington's Penn Quarter.

2006 Dialogue on Diversity's 2006 schedule began March 7 with the annual Policy Forum, titled this year *City Lights: The Many Workshops of Diversity*. The IT/Entrepreneurship Conference, *Glass Ceilings are Passé: Designing Your Own Enterprise*, held in Los Angeles May 25<sup>th</sup>, featured workshops on advanced supplier diversity techniques, business plans, and franchising models. The August 23<sup>rd</sup> Health Care Symposium, *The Cost of a Pound of Cure*, explored Medicare/Medicaid economics and reform ideas, and focused on prevention as the sovereign remedy. The Housing Issues Colloquium was presented September 30<sup>th</sup> at the Wardman Park Marriott in Washington. The Entrepreneurial Excellence and International Awards were conferred October 2<sup>nd</sup>. I once more at the Hall of the Americas, Organization of American States, in Washington. The year, as always, was concluded on the second Saturday in December with the Children's Gift Collection and Holiday Fair.

2005 The Policy Forum led off the 2005 program cycle with a topics agenda titled *Power, Persuasion, Ideas: Tools of the Good Society*. The IT/Entrepreneurship Conference, *Rosie the Riveter, The Executive Suite, and Beyond*, held in New York City June 2, highlighted the year's IT innovations and reviewed Supplier Diversity issues. The August 24 Health Care Symposium, *Economics, Policy: the Benign Conundrum*, focused on health care costs and financing strategies, preventive techniques, and culture-specific care. The Entrepreneurial Excellence international Awards, under the banner *Links of Excellence: Promise in a Challenged World*, were presented October 5, again at the Hall of th Americas, Organization of American States.

2004 Dialogue on Diversity's schedule for 2004 led off March 17 with the yearly Public Policy program, *An American Agenda: Members of the Club*. The Entrepreneurship Conference, *Business Suits, IT, and the Eternal Feminine*, June 2, explored the links between IT skills and the traditional lore of marketing, finance, and production for women entrepreneurs. The Health Care Symposium, August 25<sup>th</sup>, placed the spotlight on the prescription drug facility under Medicare, and on the perennial concern for

culture competence in the provision of care to the ethnic, marginalized, and geographically isolated among the population. Presentation of the Tenth Anniversary Awards, *The New Excellence of the Americas: Promise of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, was made October 6 at the O.A.S. Hall of the Americas. The year's cycle closed with the Holiday Fair.

2003 The Dialogue's 2003 cycle of programs began February 25 with the annual Policy/Legislative Forum, *A Republic: Can You Keep It?* The Entrepreneurship Conference, *The Winning Edge: Techniques of Successful Entrepreneurship*, presented May 19, explored the links between IT skills and the traditional lore of marketing, finance, and production for women entrepreneurs. A July 17th seminar, *Health Care: Practice and Policy Revisited*, reviewed innovative techniques in medical science, the legal environment, and the vital factor of "culture competence". The annual Dialogue on Diversity Entrepreneurship, Trailblazer, International, and Liberty Awards, *Women of Achievement: Pride of the Americas*, were given on October 8 at the Hall of the Americas, Organization of American States, in Washington. The calendar-closing Holiday Fair was presented this year in Wheaton, Maryland.

2002 The Public Policy/Legislative Forum, 2002 edition, was presented February 26 with the title *Paths of Destiny and Challenge: The Complex New Century*. The Entrepreneurship Conference, *The Omniscient Woman: IT and Other Secrets of Smart Entrepreneurship*, held May 16 at the National Press Club, explored links between Information Technology and the traditional business skills for women entrepreneurs, while the second Health Care Symposium, presented on July 17th, reviewed treatment and prevention innovations and gave critical scrutiny to the state of "culture competence" factors in the health care industries. The eighth annual Awards were presented on October 2, at the O.A.S., Washington, D.C. Again the year's exercises closed with the festive Holiday Fair. The 2001 Dialogue on Diversity awards were conferred on October 3, again at the Hall of the Americas, O.A.S. The gift collection for children was the radiant center of the December Holiday Fair, held again on the second Saturday of the month.

2000 The Dialogue's opening 2000 program, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, was the Public Policy/Legislative Forum, *Diverse and Equal: Women's Voice and Empowerment*. The spring Entrepreneurship Conference May 19 turned to the key theme for women entrepreneurs: *How Revolutionary is the IT Revolution? The Coming Age of the Small Entrepreneur*. October 3<sup>rd</sup>, a sunny fall day, a time when Washington is worth living in, brought the festive Dialogue on Diversity Awards Presentation for the second year at the O.A.S. Hall of the Americas, and the first year of a new century and millennium.

1999 Dialogue on Diversity's agenda again this year opened with the annual policy forum. The 1999 program, titled – *E Pluribus Unum: The Public Policies in a Diverse America*, was held February 24 at the Cannon House Office Building. On May 20 the spring Entrepreneurship/IT Conference, *The Playing Field Un-Tilted: The Coming Era of the Small Entrepreneur*, was presented at the National Press Club, Washington, D.C. October 6 marked the Fifth Annual Dialogue on Diversity *Entrepreneurship Awards*, held for the first time at the Hall of the Americas, O.A.S., Washington, D.C.

1998 American Diversity at the turn of the centuries: The *Vistas Ahead*, the Dialogue's annual policy Forum for 1998, was held February 25 at the Rayburn Building on Capitol Hill, with awards conferred on members of the Congress in a program marked by the special insights of speakers pointedly noting the heightened consciousness of American diversity on the Dialogue's Forum Day each year. The Conference on small business lore, *Entrepreneurship in an Age of Communications Technology*, was held May 21, 1998, in the elegant milieu of the Latham Hotel in Georgetown (home of the renowned *Citronelle*). In July of the year the Dialogue hosted women of a Spanish Entrepreneurial Organization, of Orense, Galicia. The annual presentation of *Dialogue on Diversity Entrepreneurship Awards*, October 7, 1998, at the grand Foyer of the Rayburn Building Washington, D.C. was coupled with a morning conference, *Entrepreneurship: Arena for Excellence*.

1997. The *Legislative Symposium*, February 25, 1997 at the Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C., featured four members of Congress and policy experts from business and the educational worlds, exploring issues of concern to women and to America's ethnic communities. The *Entrepreneurship Conference* was presented in May at Washington's National Press Club. The *Entrepreneurship Awards* were conferred October 7 in ceremonies at the National Postal Museum, located in the vast, classical structure of the old Post Office, near Union Station in Washington, D.C. (the New Old P.O., the Old Old Post Office having found its own patron, soon to be the grandest of grand hotels, gracing Penn. Ave.)

1989 - 1996: A new concept and mission took shape as women state legislators and professionals visited Moscow and Leningrad in an intercultural dialogue in Fall, 1989. A few months later, Spring, 1990, the Dialogue's founders took on roles in the Washington conference *From Disarmament to Daycare*, bringing together Soviet and American women professionals and public-sector figures – the germ of what became Dialogue on Diversity. Cristina Caballero and other U.S. women representatives had coalesced into the founding circle of active women, drawn from diverse ethnic strains in American society – soon calling their grouping the Dialogue on Diversity. The new organization was formally incorporated as a non-profit District of Columbia corporation in November, 1991, soon after to be recognized as a tax-exempt organization under §501(c)(3). In Summer, 1991 the nascent Dialogue on Diversity organized its own delegation to Moscow, hosted there by the Women's Union of Russia, with side visits to Leningrad and Tashkent. A return delegation of Russian, Ukrainian, and Uzbek women visited Washington, Denver, and Los Angeles under Dialogue auspices in Summer, 1992. The Dialogue presented the *Ethnic Women's Fashion and Design Show*, in September, 1992, and at the Embassy of Pakistan, and again in 1992 at the O.A.S. Museum of American Art. The first of the long train of annual Entrepreneurship Conferences was held in Summer 1993 in a cramped conference room at the Department of Commerce. Among conferences and seminars presented by the young Dialogue, under the leadership of Ms. Caballero, were a women's global public service fair, featuring Ms. Roza Otunbayeva, then the Kyrgyz ambassador, subsequently President of Kyrgyzstan, and now an elder stateswoman of impeccable credentials presiding over that fractious country, and a program for East European exchange students finishing their Muskie

Fellowships in Washington , many of them Kalmyks from that remote part of the former Soviet landscape. The first of the Dialogue's public policy forums was presented on March 7, 1996 at the Brookings Institution, with White House representatives explaining the then novel *At the Table* Program. In 1994 the second of the Dialogue's Entrepreneurship Conferences was presented at the Washington Hotel, while in 1995 and 1996 the Conference moved to the Bell Atlantic building in Arlington, Virginia. Panels in IT and business technique were topped off with the presentation of Entrepreneurship awards at the close of the conference day. The 1995 schedule saw a delegation of Dialogue members traveling to Beijing, presenting a workshop: *Entrepreneurship in a World of Diversity*, at the NGO Forum on Women held during and parallel to the United Nations' Fourth World Conference on Women.

## MISSION STATEMENT

**DIALOGUE ON DIVERSITY, INC.**, founded in 1990, is a national network of entrepreneurial women and men dedicated to the social, economic, and civic advancement of communities of the Latino and other diverse cultural, ethnic, and national traditions throughout the Western Hemisphere. The symposia and conferences of its yearly program cycle are designed to foster a sound awareness of the main public policy currents and to advance economic empowerment through entrepreneurial skills, technology training, and education. The symposia and conferences of its yearly program cycle are directed to analysis of the main public policy currents, seeking to advance economic understanding and practice.