



**Cedar Rapids/Iowa City
Professional and Technical Diversity Network**

NEWS: For Immediate Release

For more information, please contact:

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**CORRIDOR DIVERSITY GROUP CO-SPONSORS WELCOME EVENT:
Professional and Technical Diversity Network Joins Coe College and Area
Students in Reception for Black History Month**

The Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Professional and Technical Diversity Network will co-host a Corridor Welcome Reception in February with Coe College. The reception, “Honoring Our Past, Celebrating Our Present, Networking for Our Future,” will be held Tuesday, Feb. 15, from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Clark Alumni House, First Avenue and Oakland Road NE.

The evening will focus on the themes of local/national Black History Month recognition, plus attracting and retaining Eastern Iowa’s minority students and diverse workforce.

The reception will feature student poetry readings and excerpts from Paul Robeson's one-act play. The public is invited to attend this free event, with refreshments provided. Students and representatives from co-hosts Coe College, The University of Iowa, University of Northern Iowa, Kirkwood Community College, Mount Mercy College and Cornell College have been invited. Area business professionals are also encouraged to attend.

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PTDN is celebrating five years of advocating for diversity in the Cedar Rapids/Iowa City Technology Corridor™. In February 2000, the nonprofit organization formed to nurture and celebrate diversity. PTDN activities include networking opportunities to connect new employees to resources and people in Corridor communities. The board of directors, representing private sector businesses and nonprofit organizations throughout the Technology Corridor are committed

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to support diversity through a collaborative, non-competitive approach to recruit, develop and retain a diverse employee population. The Corridor Professional Technical Diversity Network (PTDN) will host Corridor Welcoming Events several times a year, plus other special events as opportunities arise.

Businesses and organizations supporting the community through PTDN include: AEGON USA, Alliant Energy, The Cedar Rapids Area Chamber of Commerce and Priority One, Cedar Rapids Community Schools, College Community Schools, Gazette Communications, Iowa City Area Development Group, the Iowa City Area Association of REALTORS®, The Department of Veterans Affairs Iowa City Health Care System, Kirkwood Community College, Panera Bread Bakery-Cafes, Procter & Gamble, Rockwell Collins, Sales Associates of Cedar Rapids and The University of Iowa.

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For more information concerning the Professional/Technical Diversity Network of Cedar Rapids/Iowa City, please contact chair@ptdn.net.