Creating a Culture of Inclusion

By Elyse Pancotti

After more than a year of separation from a traditional work environment our team is looking at a unique opportunity to have a fresh start with an established team. Personally, being home for more than a year meant that I got to see the world from my living room. Watching, reading, listening to, and learning from and about people that I might not have otherwise had the chance to.

I’ve enjoyed seeing everyone back on campus and getting back to a little bit of normalcy, even if it is a little augmented for now.

Our goal with this newsletter is to share our stories and get a better understanding of the world around us. If you have anything you’d like to suggest please feel free to share with me to include in later editions.

RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOURCES

BOOK: WE CAN’T TALK ABOUT THAT AT WORK BY MARY-FRANCIS WINTERS

TV SHOW: STATION 19 (SEASON 3)

MOVIE: CHICAGO 7 (NETFLIX)

PODCAST: POD SAVE THE PEOPLE

ARTICLE: HOW TO DESIGN INSPIRING CONVERSATIONS THAT HAVE AN IMPACT IN THE WORKPLACE (LINKED)
"Great things are not done by impulse, but by a series of small things brought together"

- Vincent Van Gogh

A MESSAGE FROM BRAD

WHAT DOES DEI MEAN TO YOU?

It wasn’t until attending college that my worldview started to evolve and I began to understand the notion and value of diversity. Although Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion are fundamental rights in our country, how we go about making it happen can take many forms. In Technology Services, we are seeking ways to incorporate DEI concepts into our daily practices. Current examples include incorporating DEI into hiring practices, designating a DEI advocate, and of course publishing this newsletter.

Our collective responsibility as fellow humans is to honor the opinions and stories of everyone we encounter. Not only is this the right thing to do, but it also greatly enhances our own experiences, and ultimately the productivity and quality of our division. A diverse and inclusive workforce is inherently a stronger workforce. For me personally, it’s not simply the moral imperative to tolerate people who are different than me, it’s about authentically embracing and valuing them.

WHAT ARE SOME RESOURCES THAT YOU THINK WOULD HELP PEOPLE LEARN MORE ABOUT THE TOPIC?

I happened to meet author Karen Caitlen in the speaker ready room at EduCause a few years ago before attending her presentation. She offers an easy and common sense approach on how to make your workplace more inclusive. Her book is an easy read and she also sends out a regular newsletter with helpful suggestions. Better Allies: Everyday Actions to Create Inclusive, Engaging Workplaces
DATES TO REMEMBER

October

- Sept 15-Oct 15: Hispanic Heritage Month
- Oct 14: Dussehra
- Oct 19: Mawlid
- Oct 31: Halloween

November

- Nov 1-2: Dia De Los Muertos
- Nov 4: Diwali
- Nov 25: Thanksgiving
- Nov 28-Dec 6: Hanukkah

Please let me know of any important dates you think should be included in future editions

RECIPE TO TRY

Mango Salsa

Ingredients

- 1 ripe mango, peeled, pitted, and finely diced (1 1/2 cups)
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped red onion
- 1/2 jalapeño, minced
- 3 tablespoons fresh cilantro leaves, chopped
- 3 tablespoons fresh lime juice

Combine all the ingredients:
Put the diced mango, red onion, jalapeño, and cilantro in a medium bowl. Toss with lime juice.

Serve:
Serve as a dip for tortilla chips or as a topping for fish, steak, or tacos.