The Minority Male Leadership Association (MMLA) was established in the winter of 2013 by several minority men on campus, with a mission to both "explore the characteristics of successful minority male leaders and create a community of young driven minority men focused on success by providing mentorship and promoting excellence." Driven to improve the plight of young men MMLA partners with faculty, staff, undergraduate and graduate students, and community sponsors to develop several mentoring programs and leadership symposia.

In spring 2014, MMLA finished off a momentous year with its first Charles Augustus Thompson Black Tie Gala. All were invited to the event which took place at the University of Rochester Medical Center. Students as well as faculty from Arts, Sciences & Engineering, Simon Business School, Warner School of Education, and the University's Medical School were present. Faculty members from the Office of Minority Student Affairs (OMSA), David T. Kearns Center, and the Center for Advocacy, Community Health, Education and Diversity (CACHED) were also in attendance.

Students and staff watched as MMLA presented “Man of Distinction” and “Man of Service” awards to high school students, college students and faculty members. In addition, certificates of appreciation were given out to local community organizations for outstanding work with young men. Such organizations included RIT’s Men of Color, Honor, and Ambition, Upward Bound’s Male Affinity Group, the Minority Male Leadership Association’s Scholars Program, Young Men of Rochester: Building Outstanding Leadership and Distinction (UR BOLD) program, and Blueprint Educational Consulting Services.

On Saturday, November 22, 2014, the Minority Male Leadership Association (MMLA) held its 1st Annual Professional Development Workshop at the University of Rochester’s Simon Business School. The event open to the entire campus, included programming sessions designed to give students the knowledge necessary to land their dream job, internship, or graduate program. The goal of the event was to connect students to a professional in their field of interest and have students leave with at least three internships or programs they would apply to for in the summer of 2015.

Students learned the importance of cover letters, resumes, curriculum vitas, effective methods of personal branding, and proven interview techniques from Simon Business School students. In addition, members of the MMLA, National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE), and the Minority Association for Pre-Medical Students (MAPS), came together and shared their personal experiences regarding summer opportunities, internships, summer programs, and fellowships in health/medicine, business, law, engineering, and politics.

For more information about MMLA, email us at minoritymaleleadershiproc@gmail.com.

Upcoming Events

April 25, 2015
3rd Annual Minority Male Success Symposium

May 15, 2015
2nd Annual Charles Augustus Thompson Gala