



UNIVERSITY of
DENVER

COLLEGE OF ARTS, HUMANITIES
& SOCIAL SCIENCES
Publishing Institute

To our DPI Community:

We recognize that the publishing industry has been dominated by White voices and that disparities continue to be experienced by Black, Indigenous and People of Color in the industry. In the wake of George Floyd's death and the deaths of so many Black Americans at the hands of law enforcement, we were encouraged to see how publishing professionals organized the [Publishing Day of Action](#) on Monday, June 8 to show solidarity against these systemic issues. It is also heartening to see colleagues amplifying the conversation around disparities in pay between Black and non-Black authors generated by #PublishingPaidMe, which pulled back the curtain on inequities of which many are not aware.

Our mission at the Denver Publishing Institute is to provide education about the publishing industry to those seeking careers. We stand with the Black community and recognize the need to take action to better the industry and our program. After reflecting on recent events, we have taken a hard look at our program and identified ways in which we can take action now. Here's how:

- For the third year, our colleagues at Lee & Low are returning to DPI this summer to discuss the results of the [Diversity Baseline Survey](#) with our students.

- We are thoughtful about including BIPOC individuals within the publishing community to lend their voice and expertise to our program. With this year's virtual program, we are able to expand those speaking opportunities and include more perspectives.
- We are inviting a Black-owned bookstore to present our 2020 session about the business of running a bookstore in place of the Tattered Cover Book Store.

We know that this is just the first step, but we are committed to ongoing communication around this important issue with our industry colleagues, alumni and students. And, we appreciate efforts to hold us accountable in presenting a multiplicity of viewpoints, engaging the voices of our Black colleagues, and bringing to light the disparities that exist in the industry.

Take good care,

Jill

Jill Smith, Director
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