The Hedgeman Center for Student Diversity Initiatives and Programs helps create and sustain an inclusive community that appreciates, celebrates and advances student and campus diversity at Hamline University. We support, empower, and promote the success of students with particular attention to students of color, first generation college students and others from historically marginalized backgrounds. In partnership with other university and community members, we help prepare students to live, serve and succeed in a diverse university and world.

We Help Prepare Students for Successful Lives of Scholarship, Leadership and Service By:

- Providing personal, social, and cultural advising, support and advocacy for students.
- Offering services, resources and initiatives that assist students with full engagement and participation in college life, including a successful transitions from matriculation to graduation.
- Assisting students and student organizations with leadership development that facilitates their active engagement and participation in the university.
- Partnering, collaborating and consulting with other departments to create environments supportive of students’ interests, needs, concerns, issues and experiences.
- Developing and implementing diversity workshops, programs and training opportunities.
- Collaborating on the planning, coordination and celebration of traditional cultural and awareness events.

2017 Undergraduate Student Demographics:

- American Indian/ Native American - <1%
- Asian American Students - 7%
- Black American Students - 9%
- Hispanic/ Latino Students - 9%
- Multi-racial/ Biracial - 6%
- International Students - 1%
- White, non-Hispanic - 66%
- First-Generation College Students - 38%
Multicultural Mosaic
The goals of this program are to provide students with opportunities to meet other new students, faculty and staff, become acquainted with resources and services, while learning about diversity and social justice issues including race, gender, sexual orientation, and socio-economic class.
August 30-September 2, 2017

Hedgeman Student Empowerment Retreat
This annual off-campus, overnight retreat is one of the most anticipated events of the year. The retreat provides you with opportunities to: interact and develop relationships with other students; strengthen relationships between student organizations and communities of color; develop and share strategies for succeeding at Hamline; and learn more about other cultures. All expenses paid.
September 29-30, 2017

“This is My Story” Series
This monthly discussion series invites members of the community to share their personal stories about their social and cultural identities and journeys. We explore issues of discrimination, oppression, racial justice, cross-cultural alliances, reconciliation and specific issues facing different communities.
October 5, November 2, December 7, 2017
February 8, March 1, April 5, 2017
100E Learning Center, 11:20 AM

Student of Color Circles
Through the year, we sponsor various Student of Color Empowerment Circles to help students network, develop strong support systems, find resources and learn new information about navigating the University and prepared for success at the university and in the larger world.
Dates and Times To Be Announced.

Student Worker Diversity Training Series
We offer workshops to strengthen student worker professional development in diversity and cultural competence.
Dates and Times To Be Announced.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration & Day of Service
This program offers university and community members an opportunity to reflect upon, examine and commit to Dr. King’s philosophy and legacy. Hamline community members sing, share stories and poetry, offer testimonies, and challenge each other to incorporate King’s mission into our lives and our communities.
January 12, 2018
Commemoration: 9:00-10:30 AM
Day of Service & Lunch: 10:30-1:00 PM

Social Justice Symposium
The symposium, held during the first week in April, educates members of the University community about social justice issues that affect our campus, local and national communities. Events include a keynote speaker, films, workshops, panel discussions and cultural events.
April 2-6, 2018

Hedgeman Honors and Awards Celebration
This event recognizes, celebrates and inspires student success in academics, service and leadership. The program includes awards, refreshments, entertainment, and graduate celebration including the senior address.
Date and Time To Be Announced

Students Educating and Empowering on Diversity
The purpose of the SEEDs Initiative is to recognize, create, model, inspire and sustain student engagement and leadership in diversity and inclusion issues in the university community. Members of SEEDs create, lead and facilitate new opportunities for students to engage in diversity dialogues, conversations, programs and training opportunities.
Dates and Events To Be Announced.

TRADITIONAL CULTURAL HERITAGE EVENTS

Hispanic Heritage Month
September 15 - October 15, 2017

African Heritage Month
October 2017

Hmong Month Celebration
November 2017

Black History Month
February 2018

Native American Awareness Week
Week of March 5-9 2018

Asian Heritage Month
April 2018

Hedgeman Center Signature Programs
Hedgeman Center Student Organizations
All organizations are open to all students, and each has diverse membership.

**ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN COALITION (APAC)** provides a support group for Asian-American students, as well as education about Asian cultures through many different events, including Asian Heritage Month, Asian Dance Festival and Lunar Festival.

**FUSION (Multiracial & Trans-racial Student Adoptee Group)** educates and raises awareness about the political, cultural and racial issues that effect or impact multi-racial students and trans-racial-adoptees. We are a resource for all students as well as provide a space to examine race, identity and community.

**HAMLINE INDIGENOUS PEOPLES SOCIETY (HIPS)** helps students of Native American descent connect with and celebrate with their heritage while empowering them to succeed at and beyond Hamline University. HIPS also educates the campus community about Native American issues, cultures and histories.

**HAMLINE AFRICAN STUDENT ASSOCIATION (HASA)** is committed to nourishing cultural, intellectual, political and economic awareness of the African continent. We create a forum for discussions about Africa and Africans, while educating the university and community at large about Africa and its rich cultures and values.

**HISPANIC AND LATINO ORGANIZATION (HALO)** provides culturally enriching experiences for members and the campus community while establishing networks with corporate and community organizations. HALO sponsors Hispanic Heritage Month, Cinco de Mayo, and trips to off-campus events.

**HMONG STUDENT ASSOCIATION (HSA)** is open to all students interested in learning about, celebrating and promoting Hmong culture through dialogue, events and activities. HSA’s biggest event is the Hmong New Year Celebration.

**PRIDE BLACK STUDENT ALLIANCE** serves as a support system for members as well as an educational tool for the campus. PRIDE’s activities and speakers raise awareness about and celebrate the rich cultural experiences of people of African descent, including Kwanzaa, Gospel Night and Black History Month.

**STUDENTS OF SOUTH ASIA (SOSA)** takes pride in celebrating, debating, discussing and sharing our cultures. Our events increase awareness of the unifying and unique cultures of South Asian countries, including Pakistan, India, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal.

**THE MULTICULTURAL ALLIANCE** is a coalition of leaders of and members of Hedgeman Center student groups. The Alliance creates opportunities for groups to network, collaborate, share information and resources, and serve as advocates for each other.

In addition to the group listed above, other diversity-related student organizations are members of the Alliance including Spectrum, Women’s Resource Center, and the International Student Organization.
DR. ANNA ARNOLD HEDGEMAN (‘22)
Educator, Strategist, Politician, Civil and Women’s Rights Advocate

Anna Arnold was born on July 5, 1899 in Marshalltown, Iowa. When Anna was a child, her family moved to Anoka, Minnesota where they were the only black family in the community. Her father created a home environment that prioritized education and a strong work ethic. Anna learned how to read at home and was not allowed to attend school until age seven.

After graduating from high school in 1918, she attended Hamline University and graduated in 1922 with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English. While at Hamline, Arnold heard W.E.B. DuBois give an address and was inspired to become an educator. Unable to teach in the state of Minnesota, she accepted a teaching position at Rust College (Holly Springs, MS), where she taught English and history for two years. Horrified by the workings of Jim Crow and other forms of racism, she became involved in the civil rights movement. In 1924, she left Rust College to begin a career with the Young Women’s Christian Association (YWCA). Between 1924-1938, she was executive director of YWCA facilities in Springfield (OH), Jersey City (NJ), Harlem (NY), Philadelphia (PA) and Brooklyn (NY). In 1936, she married Merritt A. Hedgeman, an opera and folk music performer.

In 1944, she was appointed the Executive Director of the National Committee for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Commission. She also served briefly as Assistant Dean of Women at Howard University, as a Public Relations Consultant for Fuller Products Company, and as the Associate Editor and columnist for The New York Age. In 1948, she worked Harry Truman’s presidential campaign.

From 1954 to 1958, Anna Arnold Hedgeman served in the cabinet of New York Mayor Robert F. Wagner, Jr. and was the first black woman to hold that position. By the early 1960s, Hedgeman was well-respected as a civic leader and helped A. Philip Randolph and Bayard Rustin plan the 1963 March on Washington, which brought over 250,000 people to the nation’s capital. As Coordinator of Special Events for the Commission of Religion and Race of the National Council of Churches, she recruited over 40,000 Protestants who participated in the August 28, 1963 March. It was at this event that Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. delivered his “I Have a Dream” speech. In 1966, she became a co-founder of the National Organization for Women.

By the 1970s, Hedgeman was a frequent lecturer at historically black colleges and universities in the U.S. She also wrote two books about her life’s work: The Trumpet Sounds (1964), and The Gift of Chaos (1977). Both Howard University and Hamline University have awarded Hedgeman honorary doctorate degrees. Anna Arnold Hedgeman died on January 17, 1990.

In Winter 2011, while celebrating our 40th anniversary, we renamed our office to honor Dr. Anna Arnold Hedgeman. Hamline University also awards an endowed scholarship which bears her name.