NEW ORLEANS --- Saturday, February 2, 2019, the Greater New Orleans Martinet Society, Inc. will host its 4th Annual Pathways and Pipelines to Success Program.

This year, the program will be held at Loyola University College of Law from 8:30am - 4:00pm. The keynote speakers for the luncheon will be Chief Judge Nanette Jolivette Brown of the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana, and Marcus Brown, General Counsel and Executive Vice President of Entergy Services, Inc.

Each year, the Greater New Orleans Martinet Legal Society (“Martinet”) hosts this signature event to assist with providing law students from all four of the Louisiana law schools with career-building tools and networking opportunities, to create pathways that will guide them throughout their career. This year’s program is being led by Kristen Lee, Law Clerk for the Honorable Regina Bartholomew-Woods of the Louisiana Fourth Circuit Court of Appeal and Ashley J. Heilprin, an associate at Phelps Dunbar, LLP and Immediate Past President of the organization. Over 130 law students have registered for this event. Past program participant and young lawyer, Richard “Monty” Montgomery, II, described the program as “a phenomenal networking opportunity, from mock interviews and resume review to panels with practitioners from the corporate side and public service, ‘Pathways and Pipelines’ is one of the most dynamic events that you will attend as a law student.” During the day-long event, law students will have the opportunity to learn from nearly 50 prominent judges and lawyers from our community and gain essential skills to navigate within the legal profession.

“As a 3L seeking employment upon graduation, I attended the Pathways & Pipelines to Success Program with the aspiration of networking with local judges and attorneys who could provide their valuable insight,” said Kerianne Strachan, an Associate at Fitch Even. “Through the speed networking session, I was able to converse with prominent individuals in the New Orleans community who answered questions and shared their tips for success. However, I will never forget walking away from one particular session with the contact information of one professional who inquired about my interest in intellectual property and mentioned that she knew a partner at a Washington, D.C. - based firm. Within weeks, she introduced me via email to her colleague who subsequently mentored me through branding myself as a potential candidate for job opportunities. Approximately two weeks before commencement, my newfound mentor referred me to an intellectual property firm in Chicago, IL that was seeking candidates for a trademark associate position. Upon successfully interviewing with numerous partners at the firm, I was offered the position which I enthusiastically accepted. The Pathways & Pipelines to Success Program not only provided the advice of well-established professionals, but it also taught me the importance of networking and developing professional relationships throughout one's career. With these tools for success, I look forward to sharing my experience with others to assist them in the pursuit of their own goals.”

In 2018, the Pathways & Pipelines to Success Program was honored with the Louisiana State Bar Association’s (“LSBA”)’s Guardian of Diversity Award. Just this month, this signature program was also recognized as the LSBA Young Lawyers Division’s 2018 Outstanding Program of the Year Award.

Sponsors for this year’s event include the Loyola University College of Law, Tulane University Law School, Southern University Law School, and Louisiana State University Law School, Black Law Students Association Chapters from Loyola, Tulane, LSU and Southern, the New Orleans Martinet Legal Foundation, the United States District Court for the Eastern District of Louisiana.
Louisiana, LSBA Membership Outreach and Diversity, and the LSBA Minority Involvement Section.

According to President Cory Vidal, who serves as Vice President and Corporate Counsel at Hancock Whitney Bank, “Martinet began its signature program in 2016 with hopes of improving the representation of diverse attorneys in our legal community.” Martinet is committed to assisting with the development of qualified minority attorneys, and hopes that through these pipeline activities, Martinet can support and empower the next generation of African-American legal giants in our community.

ABOUT THE GREATER NEW ORLEANS MARTINET LEGAL SOCIETY
The objective of the Louis A. Martinet Society is to encourage the interchange of ideas, promote legal scholarship, advance the science of jurisprudence, promote the administration of justice, uphold the order and ethics of the courts and the profession of law, and promote the welfare of the legal profession in Louisiana. The Martinet Society has chapter across Louisiana. The Louis A. Martinet Society was founded in 1957 by—Earl J. Amedee; Israel M. Augustine; Louis Berry; Lionel Collins; Robert F. Collins; Niles R. Douglas; Norman C. Francis; Benjamin J. Johnson; Alvin Jones; Vanue B. LaCour; Ernest N. Morial; Justice Revius Ortique, Jr.; J. T. Powell; James Smith; A. P. Tureaud; Freddie Warren and Lawrence Wheeler. These African-American lawyers, committed themselves, just as Martinet Society members do today, to combating racial injustices and inequalities in and outside of Louisiana’s courtrooms. The Martinet Society has chapters throughout the state of Louisiana.