



## Celebrating Women in Leadership “Workplace Resources, Tools, and Strategies”

### Featured Presenters



**Dr. Malika Carter** is a Chief Diversity Officer, activist, commentator, educator, and writer. In August 2017, Dr. Malika Carter began as the first Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) for the College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) in Syracuse, NY. Prior to serving at ESF, Dr. Carter was the CDO for the City of Worcester, Massachusetts. Dr. Carter has more than 15 years' experience developing policies and initiatives that address inclusion, diversity, and equity. Dr. Carter has her Ph.D. in Institutional Analysis from North Dakota State University, a Masters in Higher Education and Student Affairs Administration from the University of Vermont a BS in Middle Childhood Education from Cleveland State University, and an Associate in Stenography from Cuyahoga Community College. Dr. Carter's newest scholarly contribution is nestled in the book "Black Women and Social Justice Education: Legacies and Lessons" (release date February 2019). <http://www.sunypress.edu/p-6675-black-women-and-social-justice-.aspx>



**Nicole Conant** currently serves as the Executive Assistant to the President at SUNY Potsdam. She oversees government and community relations for the college and believes in the power of education to transform lives, communities, and nations. She holds various leadership positions including Vice President of the School of Education Alumni Board and Chair of the St. Lawrence Valley Teachers' Learning Center Policy Board. Nicole also is a Ph.D. candidate at University at Albany and is a National Science Foundation (NSF) Partnership in International Research and Education (PIRE) Research Fellow. Nicole was a Public Policy Fellow for SUNY System Administration through the Center for Women in Government and Civil Society at University at Albany. Her passion for public service extends beyond higher education institutions. She is a volunteer for the North Country Children's Museum and is a board member for the Potsdam Chamber of Commerce. She holds a B.A. in English and Speech Communication and an M.S.T in Secondary English Education from SUNY Potsdam. She also holds an M.A. in Higher Education Administration from SUNY Stony Brook.



**Diane W. Fish** is the Deputy Director of the Adirondack Council. Diane joined the Council staff in 2001 and works with Executive Director Willie Janeway to manage staff and Board activities of the Council to effectively implement the Council strategic initiatives to expand the number of advocates engaging in conversations about the Park's future, participating in advocacy actions and supporting the Council's work to protect the

Adirondacks. Diane shares other Council supporters' love of the Adirondacks, enjoys the Park's many outdoor recreation activities, and appreciates the astounding beauty of the Park every day.



**Tracy Ormsbee** is publisher of the Adirondack Explorer, a nonprofit, independent news publication with the mission to further protection of the Adirondack Park by raising awareness of the forces shaping the region. Prior to joining the Explorer in 2017, Ormsbee was a senior editor at the Albany Times Union overseeing features, sports and the newspaper's Sunday report as well as Executive Editor of Times Union Magazines. Long active in state and national journalism organizations, Ormsbee is former president of the board of the New York State Associated Press Association. Prior to joining the Times Union in 2002, Ormsbee spent 10 years at the Star-News in Wilmington, NC, rising to features editor.



**Theresa A. Phalon** is a featured speaker at the Women's Workshop. Terry is the President and Chief Executive Officer, North Country Savings Bank; a \$250 million mutual savings bank based in Canton, New York with branches located throughout St. Lawrence County, as well as a lending office in Malone, New York. Terry has spent the majority of her thirty years with NCSB as the bank's Chief Lending Officer. In addition to her lending duties she has experience in asset/liability management, compliance oversight, and branch administration. In 2014 she was named President and took on additional responsibilities related to the general management of the bank's operations. Later that year she was elected to the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Phalon serves as Vice Chairman of the Mortgage Markets committee with the American Bankers Association; and is also a member of the Northern New York Power Proceeds Allocation Board. She has also served in various capacities in other volunteer organizations at the state and local level. Mrs. Phalon is a graduate of Clarkson University with her undergraduate degree in Industrial Distribution, and master's degree in business administration.



**Dr. Lenore VanderZee** is the Executive Director for University Relations at SUNY Canton. Based in the President's Office, Lenore works on community and economic development initiatives in the region as well as overseeing the Public Relations office and is the primary liaison between the College and elected representatives. She serves on several Boards, including the Women's Leadership Initiative, Canton-Potsdam hospital, the St. Lawrence County and Canton Chambers of Commerce, and the Canton Community Fund. She also plays in an all-woman folk/Americana band, Uprooted. She lives with her husband and two energetic sons in Canton.