



## Kicking Off the Year: January at AALAM

*New board member announcement, LaNelle Ramey alumni spotlight*

*Cohort 16 behind the scenes and more.*

### New Board Member Announcement

#### Chris Behling, Northwestern Mutual

We are pleased to welcome Chris Behling to the AALAM Board of Directors. Chris is a father, partner, artist, coach, and business leader. He is a member of the Executive Leadership Group at Northwestern Mutual, currently Head of Insurance Sales, where he has responsibility for life, disability, annuity, and long-term care sales at the nation's top life insurance company. He brings a strong track record in strategic growth, financial stewardship, and guiding organizations through complex and high-impact environments. We look forward to the valuable perspective and expertise Chris will contribute to AALAM.



### 15 Years of AALP Impact, Told Through Alumni Voices



#### LaNelle Ramey

##### *Alumni Spotlight*

This month we spotlight AALP Alumni LaNelle Ramey, whose leadership journey spans growing the state's largest Boys & Girls Club and joining AALP's inaugural cohort.

Through AALP, he discovered a deeper, more authentic approach to leadership grounded in reflection, healing, and guidance that helped him step into his purpose.

As we celebrate National Mentoring Month, explore his full spotlight to see how he now pays that mentorship forward to emerging leaders.

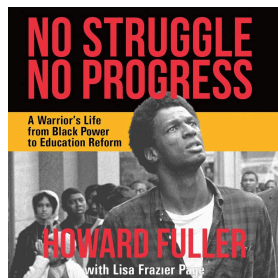
Read the full Spotlight [here](#).

### Cohort 16: Voices, Vision, and the Road Ahead



Cohort 16 explored what it means to lead others with authenticity during a recent session at Marquette University's Business Administration School. Cohort members were equipped with tools to strengthen team performance, cultivate trust, and develop the confidence to intentionally slowdown in order to create the space necessary to make thoughtful, high-impact decisions as leaders. The cohort also presented progress on their vision, mission, and values to deepen clarity, confidence, and accountability around their personal brand; demonstrating Stage Time is Leadership Time!

## AALAM On the Move: February at a Glance



### Black History Month at AALAM

This February, we celebrate Black History Month by honoring the legacy and enduring leadership of Black visionaries whose impact continue to move our communities forward. As an organization committed to sustaining and elevating Black leaders, this month reaffirms the purpose behind our work.

We continue our cherished tradition of fireside chats with Dr. Howard Fuller, as Cohort 16 reads his book and prepares to gather with him in the Dr. Jeanette Mitchell Senior Seminar Room at the Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy.

Throughout the month, we will also celebrate stories of Black excellence across our social channels, uplifting the leadership journeys and pathways we are honored to help cultivate.

### Possibility Blueprint: Designing your plan for success

In partnership with Associated Bank's Black Community Resource Group and their signature event, AALAM alumni and allies will participate in our new program offering, The Possibility Blueprint.

Associated Bank leaders will experience a high-impact workshop on how meaningful engagement influences the advancement of African American talent, in support of the organization's internal talent goals and initiatives.

Through partnerships like this, we continue to expand our reach by building the leadership ecosystem across the region.

Interested in hosting the Possibility Blueprint Workshop for your organization?

[Complete the short form.](#)

## In Case You Missed It: December Newsletter



### Closing the Year Together: December Highlights at AALAM

*CEO reflections, Denise Thomas alumni spotlight, Cohort 16 behind the scenes and more.*

[Read More Here](#)

## Alumni: Share Your Career & Community Highlights

**Stage time is leadership time, tell us about yours.**

Help us spotlight the impact of AALP alumni. Share your career and community stories for a chance to be highlighted across the AALAM network. [Complete the short form](#) on our website to get started.

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