



February Forward: Leadership, Learning & What's Ahead

AALP Applications Open Soon, Margaret Arney Alumni Spotlight, The Room & The Roadmap, and More

February Highlights

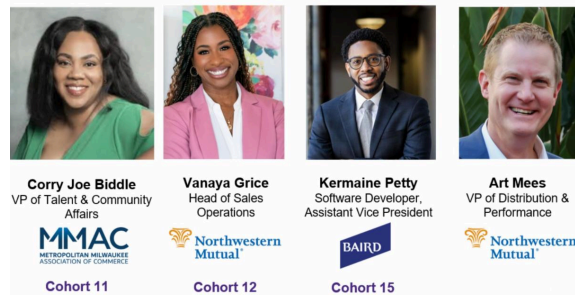


Black History Month at AALAM

This February marked 100 years of celebrating Black History Month, and we honored the moment by uplifting stories of Black leaders whose impact continues to shape our region.

Through our [social media carousels](#), we highlighted the courage and contributions of figures such as Ardie Clark Halyard, Dr. Howard Fuller, Ezekiel Gillespie, and other transformative leaders whose work laid the foundation for progress in Milwaukee and beyond.

As an organization dedicated to developing, supporting, and positioning Black leaders, these stories reaffirm why AALAM remains committed to strengthening the leadership across the Metro Milwaukee Region.



Possibility Blueprint: Designing your plan for success

In partnership with Associated Bank's Black Community Resource Group, AALAM launched our new workshop series, *The Possibility Blueprint*.

We extend our gratitude to AALP alumni Corry Joe Biddle, Vanaya Grice, and Kermaine Petty for sharing how they turned possibility into action, and to ally Art Mees for offering his impactful story and perspective.

Through partnerships like this, AALAM continues to strengthen the region's leadership ecosystem and expand opportunities for meaningful development.

Interested in hosting *The Possibility Blueprint Workshop* for your organization?

[Complete the short form.](#)

15 Years of AALP Impact, Told Through Alumni Voices

Margaret Arney
Alumni Spotlight



This month, we spotlight AALP Alum Margaret Arney as part of our Black History Month celebration, honoring her continued impact across Milwaukee.

Through AALP, she embraced a leadership style rooted in authenticity and practices like radical self-acceptance and the power of followership. These insights helped her step forward with clarity and confidence.

Since completing AALP, Margaret has deepened her work in the community and made history as the first Black woman elected as an alderwoman in Wauwatosa's District 2. She later ran for State Representative, continuing her commitment to advocacy, education, and public service.

Read the full Spotlight [here](#).

Save the Date: The Room and The Roadmap

Wednesday, March 25th • 8:00–10:00 AM CT

We're excited to introduce AALAM's 2026 Leadership Experience Series with *The Room & The Roadmap*, an empowering conversation designed to help early- and mid-career professionals take ownership of their leadership journey. This session explores the spaces where leaders grow ("The Room") and the intentional paths they chart for long-term success ("The Roadmap"). Featuring insights from AALP alum and author [Denise Thomas](#), this experience will equip attendees with practical tools in communication, self-advocacy, and career development.



More details to come!

Cohort 17: A New Chapter of Leadership Growth

Stay Tuned — Applications Open Monday, April 6

Cohort 17 will bring together a dynamic group of professionals seeking a shared experience that elevates individual competencies, professional expertise, and managerial capabilities while deepening community connections to address the well-being of the Metro Milwaukee Region. As you consider leaders who may be a strong fit, we invite you to revisit AALAM's impact through the short videos below. These resources offer a helpful snapshot of the AALP experience and the leadership growth it supports across our region.

- [Discover AALAM's Mission, Vision & Impact](#)
- [AALAM's Annual Community Meeting | 15 Years of AALP](#)

More details to come!

Cohort 16: Storytelling, Reflection, & Leadership in Action



Cohort 16 gathered at the Dr. Howard Fuller Collegiate Academy for a fireside chat with Dr. Fuller in the Dr. Jeanette Mitchell Senior Seminar Room, grounding their learning in local leadership history. They also participated in a guided impromptu speaking experience led by a Toastmasters facilitator, applying new techniques by responding to prompts in real time, a true “Stage Time is Leadership Time” moment. The cohort rounded out this month's convening with professional headshots and a briefing on their final projects, which will culminate at the closing retreat. Cohort 16 continues to model growth, self-awareness, and leadership in action.

In Case You Missed It: January Newsletter



Kicking Off the Year: January at AALAM

New board member announcement, LaNelle Ramey 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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