

# PUBLICATION

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## Recent Heritage Events at Baker Donelson

Second Quarter 2021

The human race has a long journey to rid our culture of the destructive nature of racism, xenophobia and discrimination, but we have found that one of the first steps to overcome violence, hate, and discrimination of any kind is to educate so that we all gain a deeper understanding of the beauty of our differences. Through Baker Donelson's Diversity Speaker Series, we routinely host events and opportunities to help bridge the gap of cultural awareness and break down barriers. Below is a recap of recent internal and external events or webinars.

- **Black History Month:** In our special month-long series of conversations, Black History Month - Not All Heroes Wear Capes: Leading Professionals and Their Role Models, we highlighted historic and current black leaders and their journeys to success, particularly women of color. Our speakers discussed the historic sit-ins, their role models, how they have used their experiences to empower and give voice to their communities, and how racial differences continue to influence each of us. You can access each of the webinars in this series by visiting [Diversity & Inclusion at Baker Donelson](#).
- **Women's History Month:** Women's History Month was created to celebrate the specific achievements women have made over the course of American history. We spent the month in reflection – acknowledging the struggles and honoring the female leaders who have helped paved the way for progress. We hosted an internal conversation with Baker Donelson alumni who discussed career development, leadership, mentorship, women we admire and more. The discussion continued to help us internally break down barriers by celebrating women leaders in today's workforce.
- **Deaf Awareness and Culture:** To help raise awareness of deaf culture, we hosted an internal discussion with an expert who shared some of his personal experiences growing up signing and provided us with insights on Deaf culture, Deaf idioms, using American Sign Language versus English, modes of communication, tips for working with hearing impaired individuals and working with qualified sign language interpreters.
- **Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month/Pride Month:** We hosted an intimate discussion with a well-known comedian, actor, musician, advocate and entrepreneur about ways to use comedy as a tool in difficult discussions. Speaking from her personal experience, our special guest talked about how she has used comedy to help guide difficult experiences in a positive way, as well as how to avoid the flip side, when well-intentioned humor goes wrong.