



2020 Vision:

Leading for Change in Maine's Third Century

MDF Annual Meeting and
Champions of Economic Development Celebration

September 18, 2020

VIRTUAL EVENT | 8:30 - 11:00 AM



AGENDA

- 8:30AM** MDF Annual Business Meeting
- 9:00** Welcome & Remarks
Yellow Light Breen, MDF President and CEO
- 9:10** Keynote Speaker
Chanel Lewis, Head of Global Diversity & Inclusion, IDEXX
- 9:30** Keynote: Maine's Economic Recovery Committee
Laurie Lachance, Committee Co-chair, Thomas College President and former MDF President and CEO
- 9:45** Plenary Remarks by Yellow Light Breen
- 10:00** 2020 Champions of Economic Development Awards
- › Kenneth M. Curtis Leadership Award
Gilda Nardone (LM Delta), Executive Director, New Ventures Maine
 - › ICL Distinguished Alumni Award
Marcia Minter (ICL Rho), Co-founder & Executive Director, Indigo Arts Alliance
Daniel Minter (ICL Omicron), Co-founder, Indigo Arts Alliance, & Multi-disciplinary Visual Artist
 - › In Memoriam Tribute to Alain Nahimana
 - › William F. King, Jr., Downtown Champion Award
Delilah Poupore, Executive Director, Heart of Biddeford
 - › Champion of Rural Economic Development
Peggy Daigle, Chairman of the East Millinocket Board of Selectman; FOR/Maine Executive Committee
 - › Champion of Education and Workforce Development
Dead River, represented by Deanna Sherman (President & CEO) and Guy Langevin (VP & Chief Administrative Officer)
- 10:45** Closing Remarks & Call to Action
Yellow Light Breen

mdf

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Development*

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*Vice President, Customer Insights & Planning
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2020 AWARDEES & SPEAKERS



YELLOW LIGHT BREEN / SPEAKER

Yellow Light Breen became CEO of MDF in 2015 where he develops strategic direction, integration, and partnerships across MDF's mission and programs. Yellow has a diverse background in business, public policy, and law. He spent twelve years with Bangor Savings Bank, overseeing strategic planning, marketing, online banking, community development, and charitable activities. Prior, he was a senior official at the Maine Department of Education and an advisor to Governor Angus King. He has been an active volunteer in many education and economic development efforts. Yellow was born and raised in central Maine, a product of Maine public schools, and earned undergraduate and law degrees from Harvard University. Yellow lives in Holden and loves to hike, swim, and ski with his wife and children.



CHANEL LEWIS / KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Chanel Lewis (pronouns: she/her/hers) believes in the power of listening, learning, dialogue, and action as tools for change. Her work and passion is fueled by a desire to live in a society and community where everyone is included and has equitable access to empathy, compassion, understanding, and respect. Chanel is the Head of Diversity & Inclusion at IDEXX. In this role, she designs and develops a global strategy and cultivates a more diverse and inclusive organization. As a member of her community, Chanel serves as a board member for the Portland Parks Conservancy, YMCA of Southern Maine, and a member of the Boys and Girls Club HR Committee. Chanel is an amateur photographer, avid cook, and organizational development nerd. A lifelong fan of Harry Potter, Chanel believes in the power of friendship, community, and love. In particular, how those three values work together to make our communities stronger, full of compassion, empathetic, respectful, and full of joy.



LAURIE LACHANCE / SPEAKER

In July 2012, Laurie Lachance became Thomas College's 5th President and the first female and alumna to lead the College in its 126-year history. From 2004-2012, Laurie served as President and CEO of the Maine Development Foundation. Prior to MDF, Laurie served three governors as the Maine State Economist, and before joining state government, she served as the Corporate Economist at Central Maine Power Company. A frequent author and speaker on leadership, education, and the economy of Maine, she holds an undergraduate degree from Bowdoin College, an MBA from Thomas College, and an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from the University of Maine at Presque Isle. Laurie was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame in 2014, and has been the recipient of several awards including making the Mainebiz NEXT list as a trailblazer in her industry in 2015, and being recognized in 2016 by Maine Magazine as one of the 50 Mainers Charting the State's Future. In November 2018, Laurie was inducted into the Junior Achievement Maine Business Hall of Fame. Laurie serves on the Boards of Educare Central Maine, the Maine State Chamber, Educate Maine, and was elected to the Board of Maine Employers Mutual Insurance Company (MEMIC) in June 2018. In May 2020, Governor Mills appointed Laurie as the Co-chair of Maine's Economic Recovery Committee, charged with advising the Governor on how to most effectively guide Maine's economy from surviving this pandemic to thriving.

2020 MDF AWARDEES & SPEAKERS (CONTINUED)



GILDA NARDONE / KENNETH M. CURTIS LEADERSHIP AWARD

Gilda Nardone has been the Executive Director of New Ventures Maine for over 40 years. She is responsible for strategic planning, fund development and financial management, and leadership development of staff and Advisory Council members for the statewide organization which helps Maine people succeed in the changing economy through training and coaching in planning careers, starting businesses, managing money and building assets, and developing leaders. She coordinates NVME's civic engagement activities and helped establish and expand their graduate Ambassador Leadership Program. She and the organization have received several state and national awards in recognition of their long-term advocacy on behalf of Maine women and families. She currently Chairs the Women's Employment Committee of the State Workforce Board. Gilda has a Masters in Educational Administration and is a graduate of Leadership Maine. She is enrolled in Coastal Maine Botanical Garden's Certificate in Native Plants and Ecological Horticulture Program and lives and gardens in Brunswick.



DANIEL MINTER (ICL OMICRON) / ICL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Daniel Minter is an American artist known for his work in the mediums of painting and assemblage. He is a visual storyteller and accomplished illustrator. Minter's artwork reflects abiding themes of displacement and diaspora; ordinary/extraordinary blackness; spirituality in the Afro-Atlantic world; and the (re)creation of meanings of home. Minter's paintings, carvings, block prints, and sculptures have been exhibited both nationally and internationally at galleries and museums. He is the co-founder and creative visionary of the Portland Freedom Trail, a system of granite and bronze markers that constitutes a permanent walking trail highlighting the people, places, and events associated with the anti-slavery movement in Portland. Minter's work also marks the Malaga Island Trail which remembers the Black, European and Native American residents of the island who were forcibly removed by the State of Maine in 1912. He has illustrated over a dozen children's books and commissioned twice to create Kwanzaa stamps for the U.S. Postal Service. Minter teaches at the Maine College of Art.



MARCIA MINTER (ICL RHO) / ICL DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD

Marcia is a seasoned creative professional, dedicated arts advocate and community leader deeply committed to social and cultural activism. Her work on numerous boards represents the interest of underrepresented voices, talents and citizen constituents. She has spent her professional career as an Executive Creative Director for some of the world's most iconic brands. Most recently, completing a 16-year tenure as Vice-President Creative Director at L.L.Bean. Her curatorial work focuses on photography, symposiums on the intersection of art and social practice, exhibition planning and implementation. Currently she serves on the Maine Arts Commission, the Board of Directors for Maine Media Workshops and College, Portland Ovations and is a Trustee of the Portland Museum of Art. In 2019 she was awarded an Honorary Doctorate from the Maine College of Art.



DELILAH POUPORE / WILLIAM F. KING, JR., DOWNTOWN CHAMPION

As Director of Heart of Biddeford since January of 2011, Delilah has served as a facilitator for community reinvestment in Biddeford's Main Street area. Delilah has focused on building partnerships and initiating programs such as the Main Street Challenge, Adopt-a-Park, Business Retention Interview Program, Main Street Makeover and more. Before moving to Maine in 2006, Delilah built community on college campuses through her work in higher education administration. She co-founded The Dialogue Consultants, a consortium that provided equity training and dialogues around racism and other liberation issues on college campuses. Delilah was a philosophy major at Middlebury College and she completed her Master of Education degree at the University of Vermont with a focus on higher education administration.

2020 MDF AWARDEES & SPEAKERS (CONTINUED)



MARGARET (PEGGY) DAIGLE / CHAMPION OF RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Peggy has always looked at communities and wondered why people lived there and what they did to make a living—that curiosity has taken her on quite a journey in her career. Now retired, Peggy has worked with nine different communities in Northern Maine as their city or town manager. She also worked as Director of Municipal GIS for the James W. Sewall Company in Old Town and as Executive Director for the Bangor Target Area Development Corporation. She has served the State of Maine and the region on numerous local, regional, and state committees and organizations including: the 1987 Maine Economic Development Strategy Task Force, Maine Commission on Job Opportunity Zones, Katahdin Regional Development Corporation, President of the Maine Municipal Association, Maine Municipal Association Executive Committee, Northern Maine Development Commission Board of Directors, Maine Town and City Managers Association Board of Directors, and Eastern Maine Development Corporation Finance Advisory Committee. In addition to currently serving on the East Millinocket Board of Selectmen and East Millinocket Industrial Board of Directors, she also is a member of the Maine Town and City Managers Ambassador Committee, CEI's Capital Management Board of Directors, and the FOR/Maine Executive Committee and Community Sub-Committee. Peggy lives with her husband, Maurice, in East Millinocket.



/ CHAMPION OF EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Founded in 1909, Dead River Company is a family-owned energy company with over 1200 employees serving residential, commercial and industrial customers across Northern New England. With its roots in the forest products industry, the company was named after the Dead River, which flowed through much of its timberland in remote areas of Western Maine. In 1936, the purchase of a small petroleum bulk storage plant, four gasoline stations, and an Esso franchise marked the company's entrance into the petroleum business. Today, as the largest home heating provider in Northern New England, the organization remains true to its core family values of integrity, caring and excellence. Dead River considers it to be both a privilege and a responsibility to support the communities it serves. As such, the company generously supports a number of organizations and causes across its footprint with one of the focus areas being education. To ensure their workforce has opportunities to continually grow and learn, Dead River Company offers their employees tuition reimbursement, and began its own Dead River Institute in order to train new technicians. "While our size ensures a reliable supply of petroleum products for our customers, it's how we deliver our services, care for our employees and support our communities that matters most. By operating locally managed offices throughout Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, and western Massachusetts, we still maintain the values of a family-owned company."



DEANNA SHERMAN, PRESIDENT & CEO (LM RHO)

Deanna joined Dead River in 1986 and was named president and CEO in 2016. She earned her bachelor's degree from Colby College, majoring in Government/Public Policy and French, and her MBA from the University of Southern Maine. She is active in the community through her present and past Board involvement with United Way of Greater Portland, Educate Maine, the University of Southern Maine Foundation, the Olympia Snowe Women's Leadership Institute, Junior Achievement of Maine, and the Maine Energy Marketers Association.



GUY LANGEVIN, VP & CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER (LM TAU)

Guy joined Dead River Company in 2009 and in 2018 was promoted to his current role overseeing HR, IT, Legal, Safety and Risk Management, Strategy Planning and Business Optimization. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Southern Maine and his master's degree from the City University of New York. He is a United States Army veteran and currently serves as the Board Chair for the State Workforce Board, Maine and Company and the MES Foundation. He also serves on the Board of Junior Achievement of Maine and the Advisory Board for Live + Work in Maine.

Alain Jean Claude Nahimana

VISIONARY, CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE
GREATER PORTLAND IMMIGRANT WELCOME CENTER



Alain was born in 1970 in Bujumbura, Burundi, the son of Ambassador Balthazar Nahimana and Clemence Nahishakiye. He was educated in public and private schools in Burundi and Switzerland, and attended the University of Burundi for a bachelor's degree in Economics. Alain moved to the United States in Portland, Maine, in 2010. Prior to founding Greater Portland Immigrant Welcome Center, Alain served as the President of the Burundi Community Association and as the Coordinator of the Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition. Out of an idea of a co-working space, where immigrants and refugees could 'be stronger together by working together,'



Alain showcased his energy, talents and inherent leadership qualities. Enlisting the support of businesses, corporations, foundations, individual donors, students, non-profit organizations, entrepreneurs, artists and fellow immigrants, the Center opened in 2017 and was able to expand a year later. One need only walk through the doors of the Center to feel uplifted and empowered. Alain, always a man of action and involvement, was a tireless advocate for immigrants, equality, social justice, and women rights. He was on the Board of various organizations including the National Partnership for New Americans, Youth and Family Outreach, Environmental Health Strategy Center, Maine Initiatives and Indigo Arts



Alliance. He was a member of the ICL Chi Class, a 2018 MaineBiz Next Leader, and was selected as one of Maine Magazine's 50 People in 2019. He was an example of what vision and determination can accomplish. Alain passed away peacefully at age 49, on Pentecost Sunday, May 31, 2020.

Excerpted from: <https://www.pressherald.com/2020/06/07/obituary-alain-jean-claude-nahimana/>

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