

**Manchester
Metropolitan
University**

Welcome

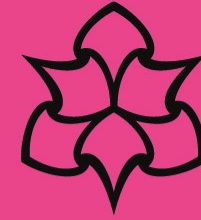
Teachers and Careers Advisers Conference

Supporting Future-Focused Ambition

Wednesday 22nd May 2024

Introduction

- Third year law student
- Recipient of the first-generation scholarship
- Here is my journey...



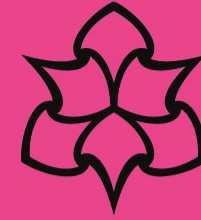
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Journey to university

- A-Levels: Holy Cross College
- When I made the decision to go to university?
- Why did I choose a law degree?
- The impact of the pandemic on my journey to university



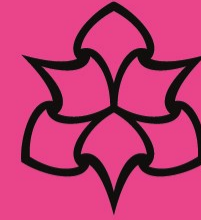
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Support

- Support with adjusting to university lifestyle – summer school – Development sessions – how covid impacted?
- Support with managing finances
- Financial support – helped me personally with travel to university, and buying the textbooks required for my degree.



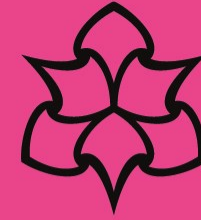
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Opportunities

- Mentor at Addleshaw Goddard, Law Firm in Manchester
- Opportunity to meet industry professionals, University Guests
- Finalist at the Undergraduate of the Year Awards, Clifford Chance 2022
- House of Lords
- Annual scholar event



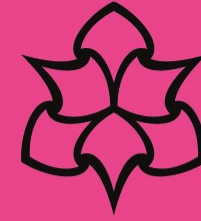
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Achievements:

- Finalist for the Undergraduate of the year Awards 2022
- Winner of the Manchester Met Mooting Competition
- President of the Black Student Network
- Women Empowering Nations
- BBC – Journalist Researcher
- Sky Sport News – documentary – SJA Awards



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has remained static since 2014. Similarly, Government research has revealed that only 1.1% of judges are Black. This is despite the fact Black people make up over 4% of the population and over 10% of the population in the country's key legal centres of London, Manchester, and Birmingham. The Solicitors Regulation Authority's figures on gender representation by seniority shine a light on this issue from a gender perspective - 61% of solicitors are female but only 35% of partners are female.



Elle-Sue Calderbank

Despite the overwhelming barriers, a number of exceptional Black women are changing the narrative and providing an enduring example to the next generation of what Black females in law can achieve. Within the 1.1% of Black judges, we find inspiring figures like Cordella Bart-Stewart OBE who is at the forefront of leading change within the legal industry.

Cordella is a distinguished Immigration and Asylum Tribunal Judge. She has not only blazed a trail, but broken-down barriers within the legal industry. To highlight just a few of her remarkable achievements, she established Stewart & Co Solicitors, a firm in North London that, amongst other things, specialises in immigration law, employment, and probate. She is also a founding member of the BSN, and an Honorary Doctor of

visiting positions, including at Columbia Law School. Diamond teaches and conducts research on a broad range of areas including labour law, human rights, equality and multiculturalism.

Diamond's remarkable accomplishments earned her the prestigious Peter Birks/ Society of Legal Scholars Prize for Outstanding Legal Scholarship in 2006. This well-deserved recognition was a result of her excellent work, including her authorship of the influential book titled "The European Employment Strategy: Labour Market Regulation and New Governance."

Given the theme of this year's Black History Month, we proudly celebrate the achievements of Black women in law, exemplified by individuals like Cordella and Diamond. While the statistics and much of the narrative around Black women in law remain a real concern, there are many stellar Black women paving the way for the next generation of diverse talent.

Daniel Ajuh, an Associate (Commercial Dispute Resolution) at Squire Patton Boggs; Elle-Sue Calderbank, a third year law student at Manchester Metropolitan University; and Dan Adejumo, Chair of BSN North and Associate in Commercial Dispute Resolution at Eversheds Sutherland.

manchesterlawsociety.org.uk



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2023 **GIRLS LEADING THE WORLD** Global COHORT

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Elle-Sue Calderbank
United Kingdom

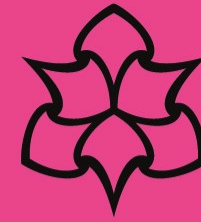
COHORT MEMBER


women empowering nations
wenations.org



Next Steps

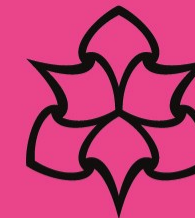
- Graduating in July
- Bar Course – September - Manchester Metropolitan – To qualify as a barrister



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Thank you



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