

## Audio Transcript, Women of Color Collective

Welcome to the sponsored stop of the Woman of Color Collective. My name is Mariam and I'm a 1L here at Northwestern.

We chose this portrait of Lutie Lytle to represent our organization. Lutie was born in 1875 and later became one of the first African-American woman in the legal profession. She was also the first woman to teach law in a chartered law school.

Reflecting on her decision to become a lawyer, Lytle noted that, "my own people especially, were the victims of legal ignorance. I resolved to fathom its depths and penetrate its mysteries and intricacies in hopes of being a benefit to my people."

Graduating as valedictorian of her law school in 1897. Lytle moved to New York and became the first Black female member of the National Bar Association.

The image is pretty cool, because it allows us to have this reminder at school that despite the lack of women of color in the legal field, this image is a reminder that you can keep on going. You should push forward and that you can make space for yourself in the legal field.

So Women of Color Collective is almost like a sorority group because it allows you to be amongst women like yourself who are really eager to make change in this legal field. But like I said, it's like a sorority. So it's a sisterhood. There are events that just allow you to feel this camaraderie at school and to know that you're not alone.

So for me, it goes back to just what Lutie Lytle was really aiming for.

I wanted to be in a community that not only just represented black women, but women in general, because women as a cohort lack a presence inside of the legal field. And it has always been really hard for just women to be able to represent themselves in a way that not only was it important for me to see black women, but women in general continue to push forward in legal field and continue to want to make change.

It was also really important for me to have a sisterhood. I'm from Brooklyn, New York, and so coming to Chicago, I didn't know anyone and I wanted to be around people not only that look like me, but that I can lean on for advice and to just help me through my law school journey.

My advice to anyone looking to join a club. What I loved about the Women of Color Collective was the various events that they had on campus, whether it was helping you out with your resume, connecting you with an attorney as a mentor.

But the Women of Color Collective is very invested in seeing you grow, not just as a law student, but as a professional in the legal field as well.

Before navigating to core stop number seven, consider stopping to visit the sponsored stops of the Jewish Law Students Association.

To return to the core tour, please proceed to the second floor of the library. If you do not have a wildcard, wave at the librarians seated at the circulation desk. They will open the doors and assist you in locating the next tour stop, which can be reached by an elevator inside of the library.

Once you reach the second floor, walk to the northeast edge of the building. There, you can enjoy a view of Lake Michigan.