

## **A Report from the East on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion**

**Diversity. Equity. Inclusion.**

**These are three of the most politically charged words in the United States today. They have been hijacked by political organizations and their supporters to promote partisan political agendas, producing rancor, conflict and strife. Of course, we as Freemasons reject the destructive influence of such crude and selfish sectarianism in favor of universal principles that promote brotherly love, relief and truth.**

**Yet, the words diversity, equity, and inclusion resonate and cannot be ignored, especially by Masonic organizations such as Arcana Lodge. While Masonic principles are immutable, the community in which the Lodge exists is not. The community is in a constant state of change, especially around demographics. Ethnic groups that once comprised a small fraction of the population now comprise the majority. Hence, the source for potential new members of the Lodge has changed. For the Lodge to survive, the Lodge must embrace that change. It can do that by adopting policies and developing programs and procedures that will promote diversity within our ranks and ensure that all men who are free born, of lawful age and well recommended are, in the spirit of Brotherly Love, equally welcomed to join the Craft.**

**Fraternally,**

**W. Phillip W. Weiss, Master  
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