

STANDING UP FOR ANTIRACISM AND MULTIRACIAL DEMOCRACY



TAKE ACTION

BLACK LIVES MATTER IN SCHOOL

TEACH TRUTH PLEDGE

JOIN US TeachTruthPledge.org

HER DREAM DEFERRED 2022

DRAG AT THE INTERSECTION

WITH BOB THE DRAG QUEEN

How Reclaiming Anti-Racism Can Save Our Democracy

CRT Lessons from the Frontline

Hosted by The African American Policy Forum and The New Press

UNPACKING THE ORIGINALS

of Anti-Truth Legislation

A CRT Teach-In

AAFP PRESENTS

STORY TIME FOR KIDS

AFRICAN AMERICAN POLICY FORUM

SAVE THE DATE

MARCH 27 - APRIL 2

State of Imp...

THE FORUM

UNION CHAPEL

Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard

Monday, August 22nd, 2022 5PM

more info email programs@aapf.org

SUMMER SCHOOL CURRICULUM

THE BIG CONVERSATION

THE STORY OF US: RECLAIMING THE NARRATIVE

Presented by Kimberly W. Crenshaw (African American Policy Forum)

BOOKS UNBANNED FROM FREEDOM RIDERS TO FREEDOM READERS

BUS TOUR OCT 8TH-31ST

The African American Policy Forum (AAPF) is fighting back against book bans with a new campaign across the country...

| STATE | DATE |
|----------------|--------|
| ALABAMA | OCT 8 |
| ALASKA | OCT 9 |
| ARIZONA | OCT 10 |
| ARKANSAS | OCT 11 |
| CALIFORNIA | OCT 12 |
| COLORADO | OCT 13 |
| CONNECTICUT | OCT 14 |
| DELAWARE | OCT 15 |
| FLORIDA | OCT 16 |
| GEORGIA | OCT 17 |
| HAWAII | OCT 18 |
| ILLINOIS | OCT 19 |
| INDIANA | OCT 20 |
| IOWA | OCT 21 |
| KANSAS | OCT 22 |
| KENTUCKY | OCT 23 |
| Louisiana | OCT 24 |
| MARYLAND | OCT 25 |
| MASSACHUSETTS | OCT 26 |
| MICHIGAN | OCT 27 |
| MINNESOTA | OCT 28 |
| MISSISSIPPI | OCT 29 |
| MISSOURI | OCT 30 |
| MONTANA | OCT 31 |
| NEBRASKA | OCT 1 |
| NEVADA | OCT 2 |
| NEW HAMPSHIRE | OCT 3 |
| NEW JERSEY | OCT 4 |
| NEW MEXICO | OCT 5 |
| NEW YORK | OCT 6 |
| NORTH CAROLINA | OCT 7 |
| NORTH DAKOTA | OCT 8 |
| OHIO | OCT 9 |
| OKLAHOMA | OCT 10 |
| OREGON | OCT 11 |
| PENNSYLVANIA | OCT 12 |
| RHODE ISLAND | OCT 13 |
| SOUTH CAROLINA | OCT 14 |
| SOUTH DAKOTA | OCT 15 |
| TENNESSEE | OCT 16 |
| TEXAS | OCT 17 |
| UTAH | OCT 18 |
| VIRGINIA | OCT 19 |
| WASHINGTON | OCT 20 |
| WEST VIRGINIA | OCT 21 |
| WISCONSIN | OCT 22 |
| WYOMING | OCT 23 |

SAY HER NAME

10TH ANNIVERSARY

RECLAIMING OUR LEGACY

DEC 19TH, 2022 7PM

TEACHING TRUTH TO POWER

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

7pm EST

2022 CRT SUMMER SCHOOL

TEACHING TRUTH TO POWER

JULY 18TH - 22ND

Friends Like These

By Jonathan Feingold

MONDAY FEBRUARY 28TH | 8PM EST/5PM PST

IS THIS THE LAST BLACK HISTORY MONTH?

with: SHERRILYN IFILL, JELANI COBB, CORNEL WEST, KIMBERLE CRENSHAW

RSVP: bit.ly/blacklight29

BLACK WOMEN'S SELF CARE RESOURCE

THE INAUGURAL MEETING OF BOOKS UNBANNED: FROM FREEDOM RIDERS TO FREEDOM READERS BOOK CLUB

FEATURING KIMBERLE CRENSHAW AND IBRAHIM X. KENDI

bit.ly/BooksUnbanned01

Dear AAPF Family, Friends, Partners, and Allies:

It has been over 25 years since Luke Charles Harris and I first founded the African American Policy Forum (AAPF). In that time, we have faced numerous challenges, but our resilience and unique capacities have kept us at the forefront of social justice advocacy. This year has been no different, even if the opposition facing us has been particularly strong. Our team at AAPF has been engaged in the vital work of defending racial justice and American democracy and bridging the gap between the two in the public arena. As the home of analytical frameworks such as intersectionality and Critical Race Theory, AAPF has been a key voice in fighting back against renewed attacks on the entire social justice infrastructure and the roll-back of hard-fought civil rights victories. Despite this harsh climate, we have been proud to advance crucial education and advocacy based on the principle that if racism becomes unspeakable then democracy becomes unattainable.

As a result of your continued commitment to AAPF we have been able to further our mission and expand the reach of our signature campaigns and programs in this prolonged moment of crisis. We have gained significant ground toward social

justice through our #SayHerName and #TruthBeTold campaigns, as well as our Young Scholars Program, the *Under the Blacklight* series, our largest ever Critical Race Theory Summer School, and the seventh installment of *Her Dream Deferred*. We have also been proud to engage in new and original grassroots activism in the form of our “Books Unbanned: From Freedom Riders to Freedom Readers” bus tour. We continue to advance the vital, necessary and singular work of spreading an intersectional and critical understanding of contemporary social problems in the face of forces that seek to silence our voices and erase our history. In the following pages, we look back on a pivotal year for AAPF and the various achievements, programs and campaigns that defined our 2022.

Kimberlé Crenshaw
Executive Director, AAPF



DIAN SHAPONVILLE YVETTE HENDERSON
GAINES JESSICA WILLIAMS DERE SHAARM
KRISHA RRONELARON DASWEATTIN ABE
SHAMICHA ELSAHLARIDGEWAY JANET WIL
BORAH DANNERMICHELLE SHIRLEY CHARL
VLESEDCYNTHIACLEMENTSATATIANAJEF
NREGISKORCHINSKIPAQUETBREONNAT

CAN YOU SEE THEM?

#SAYHERNAN

AMERICAN POLICY F



**Considered suicide/
when the rainbow is enuf**

written by
ntozake shange

directed and choreographed by
camille a. brown



Booth Theatre
111 W. 4th St, New York, NY 10036
\$120 at 8 pm



THE #SAYHERNAME CAMPAIGN: “ADVOCATING FOR BLACK WOMEN IN THE FACE OF ADVERSITY”

For the #SayHerName Campaign, 2022 followed two whirlwind years of advocacy. In 2020, the Campaign’s public profile grew dramatically as a consequence of tragic police violence and the ensuing protests for justice and reform. Never before had the issue of Black women’s vulnerability to state violence been so visible in public discourse. AAPF fielded many requests for media appearances, partnerships, and learning materials. Our team put many hands to work to strengthen the #SayHerName Campaign’s infrastructure, growing our ability to provide support to the members of the #SayHerName Mothers Network, and to promote genuine social change on behalf of Black women and girls across class, sexuality, gender expression and ability.

2022 was another year in which we set our sights on sustaining this advocacy and engaging new supporters to strengthen the Campaign’s base of support. Through AAPF programming and external appearances, we continued to raise awareness about the need for a gender-inclusive understanding of police violence.

One highlight for our Campaign was our #SayHerName Mothers Network Weekend in New York. It was the first time since before the pandemic that we were able to gather the Mothers Network in person. The members of the Network were able to spend time in community with each other, de-stress, and engage in conversation about next steps for the Network and the #SayHerName Campaign. The weekend was capped by their participation in a talkback following the Broadway performance of “for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf” alongside community members.

Another highlight for the Campaign was utilizing the platform of AAPF’s Critical Race Theory Summer School to bring a vital intersectional understanding to the urgency of #SayHerName. One particularly well-attended session during the Summer School—led by Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw and featuring members of the Mothers Network—used an intersectional lens to examine the specific ways that #SayHerName addresses trauma and erasure. In the channel “Intersectional Frameworks for Social Welfare and Care Work,” Shermena M. Nelson (AAPF Chief of Staff/Director of Community Engagement) and Venus Evans-Winters (Black Girls

Over the course of the year, through AAPF programming and external appearances, we continued to raise awareness about the need for a gender-inclusive understanding of police violence.



Initiatives Research Coordinator) addressed how a variety of systems exacerbated the traumas faced by the surviving families of Black women killed by the police. The class provided approaches for social work practitioners to identify the intersectional failures that place Black women at risk and promoted efforts to incorporate intersectional instruction in the social work profession more broadly.

This year saw our team put finishing touches on a new book, *#SayHerName: Black Women's Stories of Police Violence and Public Silence*, edited by Kimberlé Crenshaw, to be published by Haymarket Books in 2023. The book will cover the intersectional erasure of Black women and girls, the Black feminist foundations that paved the way for #SayHerName, the inspiring role of the Mothers Network, and the role of activism in promoting justice. We believe it will serve as a touchstone for #SayHerName's next chapter, building upon the 2015 #SayHerName report, which was designed to transform the public's understanding of the connections between race, gender, and police violence.

In mid-December, we were thrilled to host #SayHerName's annual anniversary ceremony in person at Columbia University in New York City and to gather the #SayHerName community once again! The program—"Reclaiming Our Legacy"—marking the Campaign's 8th anniversary, paid tribute to the Black women killed by police through song, spoken

word poetry, [reflections from the Mothers Network](#), and communal rituals of remembrance that allowed those attending to join in honoring the light of those we've lost.

Throughout the last year, AAPF has continued to conduct outreach to mothers and family members of Black women lost to police violence. Our outreach has led to the welcoming of new members to the #SayHerName Mothers Network. This growth allows AAPF to provide resources devoted to the specific needs of additional surviving parents and children, and it strengthens the network of support for all of the members.

It was never far from our minds that in 2022 the work of #SayHerName was particularly resonant; through its interrogations of the structural and individual consequences of racism and sexism, it demonstrates precisely the sort of knowledge that is suppressed in the "anti-Critical Race Theory" attacks. Our continued amplification and advocacy through the #SayHerName Campaign—keeping the plight of Black women and girls victimized by police violence in the foreground of public discourse—serves as a powerful retort to this attempted erasure.



#TRUTHBETOLD: “ORGANIZING TO DEFEND MULTIRACIAL DEMOCRACY”

Since AAPF launched the #TruthBeTold campaign in October 2020 in response to the Trump administration’s Executive Order 13950, the rapid pace of the campaign’s work has not slowed. We feel it can’t; the danger has not abated. Local and state jurisdictions are banning books by Black and brown authors, books about Civil Rights heroes, and books featuring LGBTQ+ themes from libraries and classrooms. The bans passed by state legislatures on “divisive” concepts in schools are affecting our students and educators. Lawmakers have outlawed terms such as *systemic racism*, *unconscious bias*, *Critical Race Theory* and *intersectionality* in our schools. AAPF’s intersectional teachings on the historical struggle for racial and social justice leave no doubt that these attacks on teaching truth are attacks on public education as a cornerstone of multiracial democracy. And these attacks—wielding weapons ranging from voter suppression to the criminalization of protest to “divisive concepts” bans—will keep getting worse unless we are prepared to come together and fight back against these efforts to divide us.

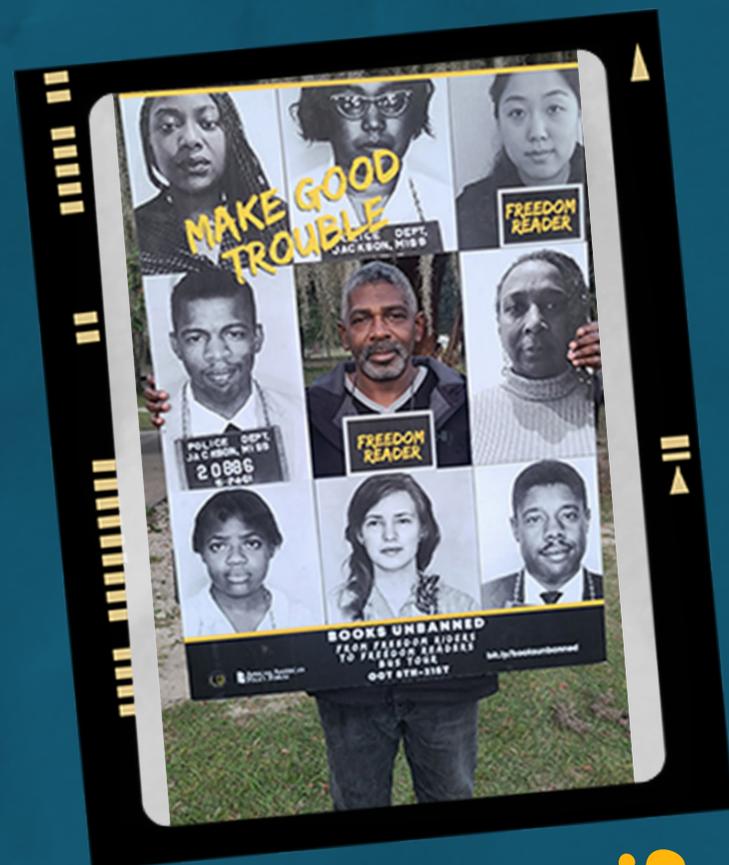
Through AAPF’s #TruthBeTold campaign, we seek to inform and educate our constituents and the public about the current threats to social justice and multiracial democracy, and to organize and activate our key audiences of youth and communities of color to work collectively to expand racial equity and democratic possibilities.

The #TruthBeTold working groups established in 2021, composed of partners, allies, and stakeholders, continued their collaborative work this year. In April, AAPF partnered with the NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund (LDF) for a strategic convening to take stock of coalitional efforts and to identify the path forward. In June, we partnered with the Zinn Education Project and Black Lives Matter at School for the “National Teach Truth/TruthBeTold Days of Action”—an urgent call to action to support educators and students affected by restrictions on race, gender and LGBTQ+ justice education. The #TruthBeTold team has continued to speak publicly and contribute to partner events in order to foster public education, activation, and movement-building. #TruthBeTold had a packed calendar of events.

Some highlights include events in collaboration with the American Bar Association, Association of American Law Schools, Equitable Dinners, Color of Change, and MomsRising.

Throughout the year the #TruthBeTold campaign has compiled and distributed weekly legislative updates and media roundups to our working group members and partners. In September, #TruthBeTold released a toolkit demonstrating “how the attack on CRT & anti-racism is a threat to our democracy.” Contributions such as these have made AAPF and the #TruthBeTold campaign a go-to source for information about legislative and political attacks on Critical Race Theory and social justice education.

In October, AAPF set out on the ambitious bus tour, “[Books Unbanned: From Freedom Riders to Freedom Readers.](#)” This tour—a partnership with the



Transformative Justice Coalition (TJC) and Black Voters Matter—saw our buses travel from Minneapolis to Jacksonville, stopping along the way in Detroit, Chicago, Cleveland, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, D.C., Wilmington, Charleston, Savannah, and other cities over the span of two weeks. At each stop, Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw, local authors, and community leaders spoke about local book bans, read from banned books, and gave away thousands of copies of some of the book titles that have been targeted across the nation, especially those by Black and LGBTQ+ authors. The advocacy of AAPF, TJC, and Black Voters Matter **sent a powerful message that the fight for truth and for the freedom to read is intertwined with the fight for voting rights.** Following the conclusion of the bus tour, we launched the “Books Unbanned: From Freedom Riders to Freedom Readers Book Club.” Through this program, #TruthBeTold will continue to educate and activate the community about how a broad censorship agenda is seeking to dismantle civil rights gains and public institutions. Our nineteen Book Club “meetings” beginning in January 2023 will provide **the learning space and training grounds for parents, students, and community members** to learn about gag orders and book bans and what they can do to fight back.

Through the work of the #TruthBeTold campaign, AAPF’s thought leadership on matters of race, justice, and democracy has provided the progressive community with essential talking points and approaches to the current threat posed by racial retrenchment to the project of multiracial democracy.



Once again, #TruthBeTold has been at the heart of coalition work.



NEWS VIEW TALK FOR FOR

&

CRITICAL RACE THEORY SUMMER SCHOOL: “TEACHING TRUTH TO POWER”



The 2022 iteration of Critical Race Theory Summer School was not only the next chapter of our already successful Summer School model, but also a response to two years of anti-CRT backlash; backlash that turned classrooms and school board meetings across the U.S. into battlegrounds over race, equity, and justice. In this climate, CRT Summer School 2022 brought together scholars, practitioners, attorneys, grassroots organizers, and civil rights and social justice activists to provide needed counter-narratives to dishonest and harmful “anti-Critical Race Theory” messaging.

This year’s program once again represented an ambitious scaling up of CRT Summer School. We offered our widest range of workshops yet, with over 20 thematic channels—ranging from “Intersectional Frameworks for Social Welfare and Care Work” to “Getting Critical with DEI” to “The Rise of White Nationalism” to “Things My Teacher Never Taught Me” to “Indigeneity and Decolonization.” Altogether, these channels produced around 100 breakout sessions spread over five days. Throughout the week, we offered youth plenary sessions and “Homeroom” interviews prior to the days’ main plenary sessions, as well as daily closing sessions. We also expanded the availability of scholarships. Excitingly, and for the first time, after the completion of the five-day course

we offered all recordings on-demand to existing and new registrants in an effort to further learning and to make this great material as accessible as possible.

In its simplest form, Critical Race Theory is about engaging how and why racial inequality is so visible and durable nearly 70 years after the elimination of Jim Crow and the announcement of formal equality. During this year’s plenary sessions, Summer School faculty addressed why the term “Critical Race Theory” has been weaponized to attack public institutions and hamstring racial and social progress. During the week, we analyzed the mass of distortions about CRT, and educated newcomers about what CRT *actually* says and does. Participants analyzed why the particular assaults on CRT and racial justice education land differently even with those whom we count as our allies. Each day, plenary and breakout sessions analyzed how CRT fits within the universe of both anti-racism and multi-racial democracy. In sum, the 2022 CRT Summer School sharpened participants’ collective understanding of CRT and left all with an enhanced understanding about how crises of race and democracy cannot be disentangled.

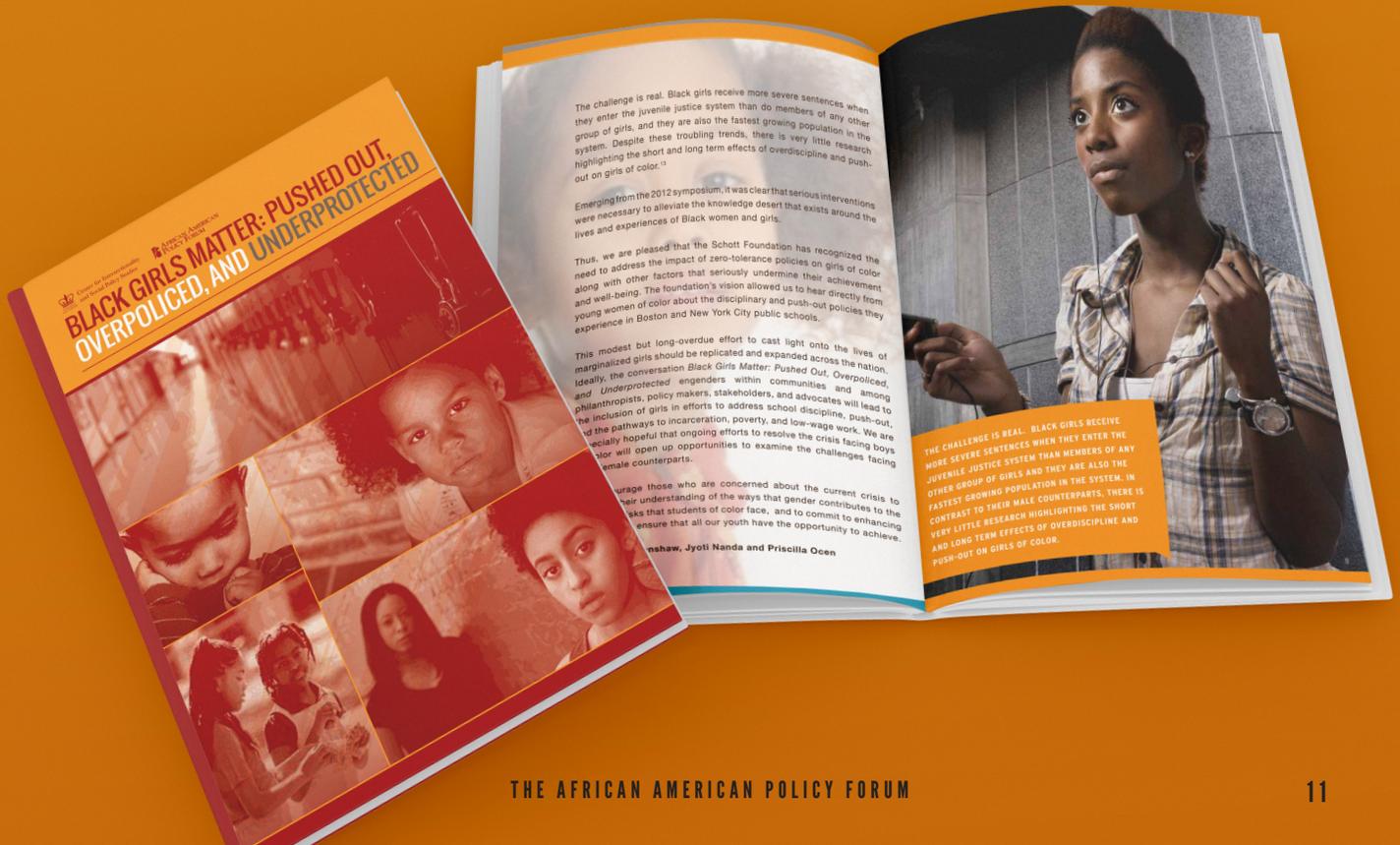
Looking forward, CRT Summer School will continue to create space for the sharing of knowledge, curating a community of scholars committed to fighting for greater equality and the project of genuine democracy.



BLACK GIRLS MATTER INITIATIVES

For nearly a decade, AAPF's Black Girls Matter initiatives have foregrounded the intersectional experience of girls and young women of color. By identifying and articulating challenges plaguing Black girls in and out of school and equipping young people with tools of empowerment via mentorship opportunities and programming, Black Girls Matter has set a sterling example of intersectionality in action. AAPF's past work under this umbrella includes the landmark [Black Girls Matter](#) research report, which highlighted the disproportionate rates of punishment and policing that girls of color endure in schools. Our Black Girls Matter initiatives also produced the Breaking the Silence Town Hall Series, which has provided girls and women of color opportunities to interface with local school and city government leaders and brought them into conversation with leading activists, artists, advocates and academics. We anticipate the resumption of the Town Hall Series, as well as the publication of an updated Black Girls Matter report.

One outgrowth of the report is our Young Scholars Program. Operating under the principle that Black girls, young women, and femmes are the best informants and intermediaries to shape research, support systems, and mentoring, the Young Scholars Program is helping AAPF and Black Girls Matter chart the path of our future work.



YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM: “INTERSECTIONALITY AND YOUTH ENGAGEMENT FOR A MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE”

For the third consecutive summer since the program’s inception, AAPF welcomed a new cohort of participants to our Young Scholars Program. The Young Scholars Program is a multi-phase research and leadership opportunity for young Black women, girls, femmes, and gender-expansive youth. This year’s Young Scholars and Young Scholar Ambassadors (second-year participants) made up a diverse group. Participants hailed from Trinidad and Tobago, St. Vincent, Barbados, Jamaica, and other nations. Most participants identified as the first in their families to attend college. The group represented academic disciplines of sociology, journalism, political science, anthropology, criminal justice, African American studies, business, Spanish, health, and leadership studies. Such a multidisciplinary and diverse cohort helps the program and AAPF better imagine a more equitable future for Black girls, young women, and femmes.

In this summer’s program, scholars were introduced to Critical Race Theory as an analytical tool and prism of practice as well as Black feminist theory as an intellectual tradition in research pursuits. Using these critical theories, Young Scholars explored current issues and challenges confronting Black girls in their families, schools, communities, nations, and across the African Diaspora. Participants were also introduced to data collection methodologies that are

aligned with youth participatory action research. Under the tutelage of AAPF staff, young scholar participants learned how to: (a) review literature, (b) conduct interviews, (c) facilitate focus groups, (d) develop survey instruments, and (e) design oral history projects. In addition to the techniques of research, scholars also gained skills in collaborative research design, presentation of research, and research-informed policy advocacy.

This year, the Young Scholars Program was successfully extended into a year-round program, with the intensive summer research course as a prerequisite and initial step. Now, as part of the year-round offerings, Young Scholars are provided resources to support their educational and career development, programming to help develop leadership capacity, opportunities for community-building, and wellness activities.

Beginning in the fall of 2022 and continuing into spring of 2023, the focus will be on the dissemination of the Young Scholars’ research and praxis. This work has already begun, as scholars and staff co-authored a [research article](#) that was published in the *Journal of African American Girls and Women in Education*. Further planned works include a special journal issue that centers “intersectional youth participatory action research” and pedagogy, and a formal presentation at the American Education Research Association.



RALYCIA ANDREWS



CHRISTIAN HERALD



JORDAN HILL



JALA HOOKS



BROOKLYN JONES



LAYLA JUNIEL



LOURDES KNOX



DILAAME LINTISO



AAKAYLA SHEPPARD

HER DREAM DEFERRED PROGRAM: “DEFERRED AND DELAYED, BUT NOT DENIED”

The seventh annual Her Dream Deferred week—“Deferred and Delayed, But Not Denied”—built upon the virtual model developed a year prior. It was important for us at AAPF to continue Her Dream Deferred, our annual weeklong series of activities focused on elevating the concerns that confront Black women and girls, even in the virtual space. This year’s program—beginning the last few days of March—centered a slate of films that uplifted Black women’s stories and key issues faced by Black women. The week also featured conversations and restorative practices that examined the need to highlight the intersectional failures plaguing Black women, girls, and femmes, while also centering wellness as a crucial factor in their resilience and survival.

The week began with a screening of the documentary *On These Grounds*, which was followed by a talkback curated to center Black women’s voices as they shared their responses to the documentary and their own personal testimonies of police violence, punishment and pushout of Black girls in schools. The next day we screened the documentary *Aftershock* and hosted a talkback which allowed for advocates to share their testimonies and calls-to-action for changes in the maternal health space. On the third day we hosted a gathering centering Black women’s restorative care,

featuring art and performances as well as conversations and breakout sessions led by wellness practitioners. The third and final film of the week was *In Our Mothers’ Gardens*, which we again paired with a live conversation on the importance of holding space for Black women across the Diaspora. We closed the week with a community breathwork, yoga and sound meditation activity in partnership with the Urban Yoga Foundation.

Surveys revealed positive attendee experiences for this year’s Her Dream Deferred, with an overwhelming majority stating that the films and conversations helped to fill a knowledge gap on many topics related to Black women.



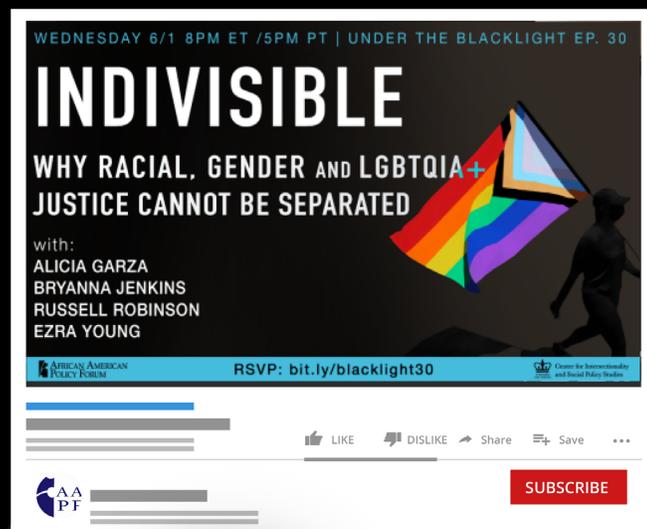
UNDER THE BLACKLIGHT: “RECLAIMING THE NARRATIVE”

We created the *Under the Blacklight* series in March 2020, rushing to find a way to spotlight the intersection of pre-existing social inequalities and opportunistic disease, hoping to foster understanding in the moment of crisis. Months later, the focus of the series broadened—first to include anti-Black racism and police violence, then later to include other pressing political and social crises. In 2022, *Under the Blacklight* became a powerful vehicle to align with the work of our #TruthBeTold campaign and respond to the democratic crisis typified by January 6 and the attacks on Critical Race Theory.

Our **first episode** of the year marked the anniversary of January 6, examining the legacies of the insurrection and the key undercurrents of racial resentment and right-wing authoritarianism that fed into the attempted coup. The **second episode**, building off a 54-lesson MasterClass, “Black History, Black Freedom, and Black Love,” asked prominent thought leaders to share their perspective on the threats to the survival of Black history and realization of Black freedom. The **third episode** sought to illustrate the indivisibility of racial, gender, and LGBTQIA+ justice, attesting to the importance of “truly coordinated coalitional strategies that harness our mutual interests” in this political moment. Finally, the **fourth *Under the Blacklight***, which took place on Martha’s Vineyard in front of a live audience, “demystif[ied] CRT” and sought to draw “the connections between the attack on racial justice and the crisis in our democracy.”

Throughout these programs, we held steadfast to our promise to define and reclaim, rather than deflect. That is to say, our strategy was to push on, to assert our right to teach and learn, to not cede territory to disinformation and bad faith. In some ways, then, this year of *Under The Blacklight* has been a return to AAPF’s roots as the movement home of CRT and Intersectionality.

From episode one to episode four, *Under the Blacklight* sparked high engagement and active live-stream chats. Our in-person conversation on Martha’s Vineyard was well-attended and extremely lively. With the success of the in-person *Under the Blacklight* in August, we hope to utilize a hybrid format for future events in 2023. And as the series continues to grow, we will look to utilize the platform to deepen our connections with partners who often look to us as subject matter experts. All *Under the Blacklight* episodes can be watched in their entirety for free on [YouTube](#).



INTERSECTIONALITY MATTERS!: “LEARNING OUR HISTORY AND CHANGING THE CONVERSATION”

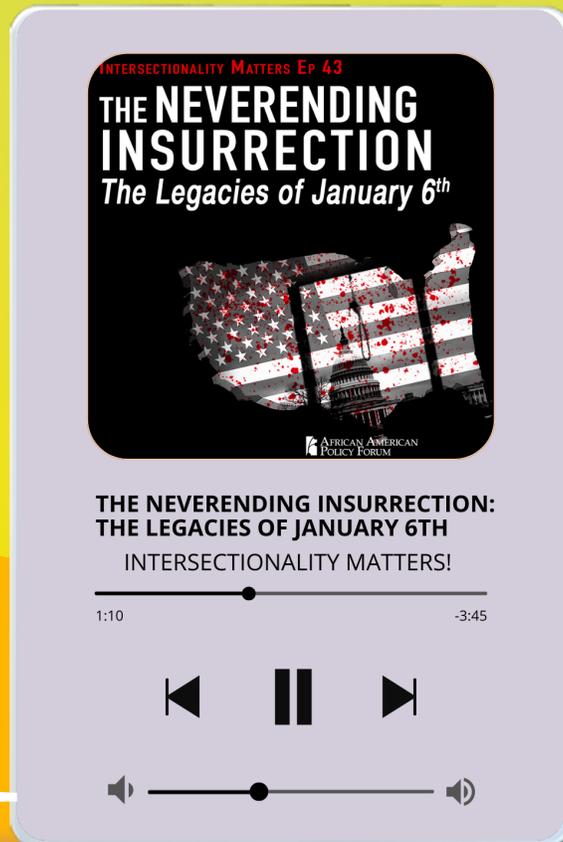
The *Intersectionality Matters!* podcast—an “idea travelog” that brings the concept of intersectionality to life by highlighting the work of leading activists, artists, and scholars—ventured into new and exciting territory this year. In the second half of the year—thanks in part to new staff—the podcast team nearly doubled our output of episodes. With production capacity bolstered, *Intersectionality Matters!* was able to deliver more robust coverage of relevant topics, provide important analysis to listeners about current events, and share how AAPF was responding. We have used the podcast feed to expand the reach of the *Under the Blacklight* conversations, and also to release high-quality original interviews and conversations. The podcast continued to incorporate both political analysis and artistic foundations to help listeners see the breadth of opportunities for intersectional analysis in everyday life. And importantly, the podcast was able to reach many ears! The listenership of *Intersectionality Matters!* remains in the top 5% of podcasts.

Episode highlights from the year include a conversation with W. Kamau Bell on the persisting need to talk about Bill Cosby; a conversation with Bob the Drag Queen on all things race, gender, and drag; a discussion with voting rights advocate Cliff Albright about why Black voters matter; a behind-the-scenes look at AAPF’s first cross-country bus tour; a group of preeminent CRT scholars on the story of how CRT came to be

and what it teaches us about the world; and **a moving interview with Amber and Ashley Carr**, sisters of Atatiana Jefferson who was killed by former police officer Aaron Dean. The episode aired days before Dean became the first officer convicted for killing a Black woman while wearing a badge.

The podcast team, and all of AAPF, are proud of what was produced this year. *Intersectionality Matters!* featured the voices of Black voters and allies across the country in the buildup to an historic election, fighting to empower people facing voter suppression. The podcast elevated the youth experience, featuring young readers in our bus tour coverage and discussing why kids should learn about racism. Across all episodes, *Intersectionality Matters!* pushed back against anti-CRT rhetoric with conversations that shed light on the motivation and tactics behind the attack. And importantly to our team, the podcast helped us strengthen bonds with other leaders in our community through collaborations with the Transformative Justice Coalition and Black Voters Matter.

What’s next for the podcast? With a strong team in place, *Intersectionality Matters!* is set to release its first miniseries, which will trace the origins of anti-CRT movements, tying contemporary attacks to history, and debunking common myths about anti-racism. *Intersectionality Matters! with Kimberlé Crenshaw* can be found on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Spotify](#), [Soundcloud](#), and other platforms.



SUMMER FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM: “INVALUABLE EXPERIENCE FOR THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS”

Building upon the model developed over the previous two summers, in June AAPF once again welcomed a cohort of fellows for the Summer Fellowship Program. This year we accepted 15 highly qualified Fellows for the program, chosen from around 250 applicants. The Fellows included graduating college seniors, graduate students, post-docs, and academic professionals.

The AAPF Summer Fellowship is a nine-week remote fellowship program. The Fellowship is a project-based program committed to providing meaningful research and skills-based opportunities to dedicated individuals. Fellows have the opportunity to work with AAPF program directors and team members to gain first-hand experience in non-profit think tank operations, gaining insight into community organizing, research, and policy analysis.

We began the program this year with an onboarding program including an orientation and “lunch-and-learn” modules on Critical Race Theory, intersectionality, and

other key concepts, designed and led by scholars on the AAPF team. Fellows quickly jumped into AAPF work for a hands-on fellowship experience. From the time they began, Fellows were integral in the research, writing and program development for AAPF initiatives including the Young Scholars Program, #TruthBeTold, the #SayHerName Campaign, and *The Forum*. In particular, Fellows made invaluable contributions to CRT Summer School, which was an all-hands-on-deck effort. Fellows supported administration and operations for CRT Summer School, while also being given the opportunity to help plan and facilitate sessions for the signature event. Elsewhere, Fellows were instrumental in expanding the bandwidth of our Arts & Media team, working on marketing and social media assets throughout the summer.

The Fellowship Program gave our Fellows the chance to participate in all areas of our work, and we couldn't have been more impressed with their attitudes, abilities, and leadership. We are thrilled that some Fellows have continued to work with us as full-time team members!



LYDIA AGA



DENZELL BROWN



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SANA HASHMI



KENDRA JOHNSON



KHRISTA EVANS



ANIAH FRANCIS



JODY METCALFE



TIGIDANKAY
“TK” SACCOH



ALISHA GRECH



TRISTEN HALL



AYANNA
SMITH-KOOIMAN



MANNY ZAPATA

AFFIRMATIVE ACTION CONVENINGS: “(RE)BUILDING A MOVEMENT FOR RACIAL EQUITY IN HIGHER EDUCATION”

2022 has seen AAPF continue our work around affirmative action. In March, we partnered with NAACP LDF, Asian Americans Advancing Justice, and the Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law on a convening with partners and allies to move our shared goals further: “Pursuing Racial Equity in Education.” The purpose was for lawyers, law professors, academics, communications professionals, and community organizers to strategize and coordinate activities for the then-upcoming affirmative action cases. After the convening in March, we continued our collaboration with these partners and welcomed other civil rights and racial justice organizations, forming working groups to prepare for the U.S. Supreme Court oral arguments for *SFFA v. Harvard* and *SFFA v. UNC*.

AAPF project leads were active members of the strategy, communications and activism working groups that planned the National Week of Action, the National Student and Alumni Convening, and the celebration and rally in DC. AAPF also coordinated efforts through strategy meetings with the AAPI Research Strategy Group on Affirmative Action, Chinese for Affirmative Action, the Campaign for College Opportunity, the National Coalition for School Diversity, and the Coalition for a Diverse Harvard.

Much of this work culminated in Washington, D.C. in late October, as part of the “National Week of Action in Support of Affirmative Action,” corresponding with the date of oral arguments in the Supreme Court affirmative action cases. First, there was a gathering of allies—“Affirm Diversity: A Celebration of Our Racial Diversity”—at which AAPF co-founder Dr. Luke Harris spoke alongside other civil rights leaders, litigators and student activists. Then, the following day, a “Rally for Affirmative Action” at the Supreme Court was attended by hundreds of student and alumni activists and other allies from across the country. AAPF supported the travel costs for student activists from Morgan State University who spoke movingly about

why affirmative action matters as a racial justice issue. Elsewhere, folks unable to attend were encouraged to show their support on social media.

Through this coalitional work, and through participation in various webinars and speaking engagements, AAPF strengthened its role as one of the leading civil rights and racial justice organizations addressing affirmative action. Our team led the way in defining affirmative action as a policy designed to combat current systemic barriers faced by students of color in higher education. AAPF consistently illuminated how the decades-long attack on affirmative action is one prong of a larger fight against race-consciousness and policies to address systemic racism. Further, AAPF highlighted the connections between attacks on affirmative action, voting rights, and Critical Race Theory and the broader movement to undermine key elements of a multi-racial democracy, such as education, the judiciary, free and fair elections, etc.

The communications and activism efforts of AAPF and many partner organizations were able to make some headway in breaking through the dominant narratives that pervade most of the media ecosystem. Great examples include AAPF senior research analyst Kristin Penner’s op-ed in Slate: **“The Absurd, Enduring Myth of the ‘One-Man’ Campaign to Abolish Affirmative Action,”** and the three-part **series on reclaiming affirmative action** by Jonathan Feingold published in *The Forum*.

Now, the work continues. One primary focus will be to grow the existing student and alumni activism networks. AAPF will also sound the alarm that these forces will not stop with affirmative action but will go after all race-conscious policies, and must lay out for

THE FORUM: “REPORTING AND COMMENTARY IN SERVICE OF DEMOCRATIC VALUES”

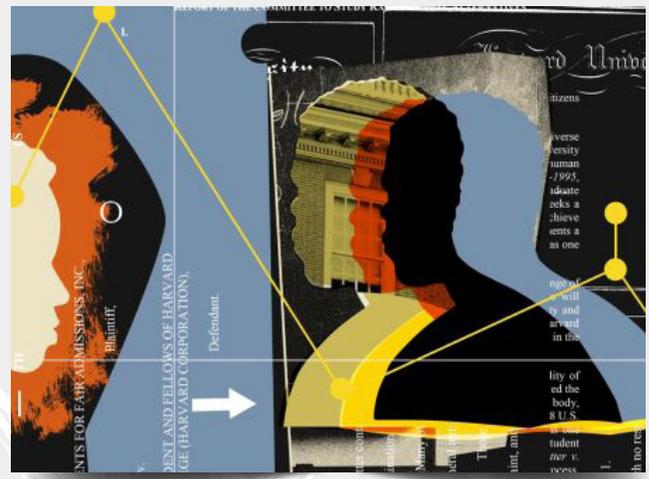
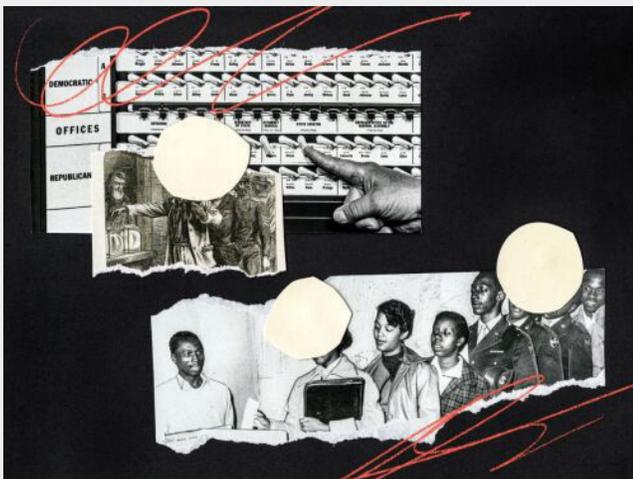
Have you read anything from our new publication, *The Forum*, yet? We began publishing essays and reported pieces in January 2022 via a weekly email newsletter and a temporary website. Then in June, we officially launched the standalone site for *The Forum*: forummag.com.

The Forum publishes analysis, reporting, and commentary “deploying the insights of critical race theory, and supplying the materials and organizing strategies to re-envision American democracy from the ground up.” The entire organization is proud of the quality of work that’s been published by *The Forum* over its first year. We’ve been able to feature talented writers, scholars, and journalists—both established and up-and-coming—including Jennifer Berkshire, Danielle Conway, David Daley, Rafia Zakaria, Niela Orr, Gene Seymour, Sam Adler-Bell, Alex Pareene, Jeanelle K. Hope, Anoa Changa, and more. From coverage of the anniversary of the January 6 insurrection to the escalating attacks on CRT in our public schools to the Supreme Court battle to preserve affirmative action to the midterm elections, *The Forum* established itself this year as a place where expert voices offer

the nuanced historical and political arguments missing from mainstream media coverage of the nation’s most urgent battles.

The widely read piece “Behind the Critical Race Theory Crackdown,” published back in January 2022, serves as a template for the kind of pieces *The Forum* strives to publish and become known for: essays and reportage that challenge and correct the ahistorical, denialist, both-sidesist coverage that is all too common in major media outlets. We’d like *The Forum*’s pieces to be shared, cited, and described—as **this one is**—as “definitive,” providing an evergreen resource for readers seeking to understand our current political battles.

Under the editorial leadership of Emily Carroll in 2023, *The Forum* will continue to publish analysis on the battle to attain and preserve multiracial democracy in the courts and at the ballot box, while expanding our coverage of public education, health care, and housing. We’ll also continue to work with and develop promising new writers like Anthony Conwright, Sana Hashmi, and Jared Clemons. All of *The Forum*’s work will maintain the same constitutional focus on racial, gender, and class justice.



AAPF MEDIA

AAPF Statements

- ❑ [Our Statement on Bodily Autonomy](#), June 24, 2022
- ❑ [Juneteenth and Symbolic Progress: The Old is New Again](#), October 6, 2021
- ❑ [AAPF Statement on the Mass Shooting in Uvalde, Texas](#), May 25, 2022
- ❑ [AAPF Statement on the Buffalo Massacre](#), September 6, 2021
- ❑ [AAPF Statement on the Confirmation of Justice Ketanji Brown Jackson](#), April 8, 2022
- ❑ [AAPF Statement on Supreme Court Justice Nomination](#), February 25, 2022
- ❑ [The War On Education And Free Thought Is A War On The Foundations Of Our Democracy](#), February 20, 2022
- ❑ [AAPF Statement on Tioni Theus, Human Trafficking, and Super Bowl LVI](#), February 12, 2022
- ❑ [States' Wrongs: Devastating fallout from voting-rights failures](#), January 26, 2022

Op-Eds and Published Articles

- ❑ ["The 'Strong Black Girl' Dilemma: Reflections on Young Black Women's Mental Health during Dual Pandemics](#)," AAPF Young Scholars and staff, *Journal of African American Girls and Women in Education*, November 23, 2022
- ❑ ["Op-Ed: Why book bans and voter suppression go hand in hand"](#) Kimberlé Crenshaw, *Los Angeles Times*, November 8, 2022
- ❑ [The Absurd, Enduring Myth of the "One-Man" Campaign to Abolish Affirmative Action](#)" Kristin Penner [AAPF] and Jeannie Park, *Slate*, October 25, 2022
- ❑ ["Op-Ed: King was a critical race theorist before there was a name for it."](#) Kimberlé Crenshaw, *Los Angeles Times*, January 17, 2022



Media Appearances

- NBC News, "**Affirmative Action Critics Look to Kill These Biden Policies**"
October 31, 2022
- TIME, "**A Visit to the Banned-Book Bus With a Scholar Who Helped Develop Critical Race Theory**," October 28, 2022
- First Coast News, "**Caravan of tour buses arrive in Jacksonville with the words 'Black Voters Matter'**," October 21, 2022
- MSNBC, "**Coiner of the term 'critical race theory' brings banned books to voters**,"
October 16, 2022
- WKYC, "**Black Voters Matter brings bus tour to Northeast Ohio weeks before November general election**," October 12, 2022
- ABC 7, "**Register to vote: Rainbow PUSH holds 'get out the vote' event in Chicago**,"
October 10, 2022
- CBS 58, "**Voting is your power': Milwaukee is the second stop for national bus tour encouraging BIPOC communities to register before mid-terms**," October 9, 2022
- KSTP, "**With 1 month before midterms, national bus tour encourages Black voter turnout**," October 8, 2022
- Color of Change, "**The Black History Now Live Series**," with Kimberlé Crenshaw,
September 27, 2022
- NPR Morning Edition, "**Ideas that make up critical race theory have been around long before it got its name**," September 23, 2022
- The Atlantic, "**The Atlantic Ideas Festival: Day One**," featuring Kimberlé Crenshaw,
September 21, 2022
- ELLE UK, "**How To Create A Culture Shift: Kimberlé Crenshaw**," July 27, 2022
- CNN, "**Critical race theory creator on how it became the 'boogeyman'**," *United Shades of America*, July 5, 2022
- ACLU, "**At Liberty Podcast: Kimberlé Crenshaw on Anti-Racism Education Bans**,"
April 13, 2022
- Salon, "**Fighting back against CRT panic: Educators organize around the threat to academic freedom**," with Sumi Cho, March 7, 2022
- NBC News, "**Black History Now**," featuring Kimberlé Crenshaw. February 25, 2022
- HBO, "**Critical Race Theory: Last Week Tonight with John Oliver**," featuring Kimberlé Crenshaw, February 21, 2022
- Washington Post, "**An architect of critical race theory: 'We cannot allow all of the lessons from the civil rights movement forward to be packed up and put away for storage'**," January 19, 2022
- MasterClass, "**Black History, Black Freedom, and Black Love**," featuring Kimberlé Crenshaw, January, 2022

