

AAAPF 2020

TRANSFORMING
A MOMENT INTO
A MOVEMENT

 AFRICAN AMERICAN
POLICY FORUM

AAPF 2020: TRANSFORMING A MOMENT INTO A MOVEMENT



Dear AAPF Family, Friends, Partners, and Allies:

It is our sincere hope that this message finds you safe and well. As the year draws to a close, we at AAPF are determined to continue to meet this critical moment in history. The pandemic, and the enormous losses accompanying it, have forced us to reorient our programming and find creative avenues for education, storytelling, and conversation. And while the long overdue reckoning with institutionalized racist violence in our country seems to have finally gained the momentum and attention necessary to foster genuine change, we remain aware that we must not let the moment pass us by.

Through our #SayHerName Campaign, *Under the Blacklight* series, and other initiatives we are shedding light on the intersectional dimensions of the COVID-19 pandemic, anti-Black police violence, and an array of evolving social and political crises. In doing so, we have taken new strides in our ongoing effort to support public education, amplify research and policy actions, and strengthen campaigns that aid the historically marginalized.

We are facing a historic moment, however, in which the tools we use to educate and uplift one another are under fire. The coming year brings with it new battles in our fight to ensure that Americans have access to critical dialogues about our nation's legacy of white supremacy. As a result, we have launched the

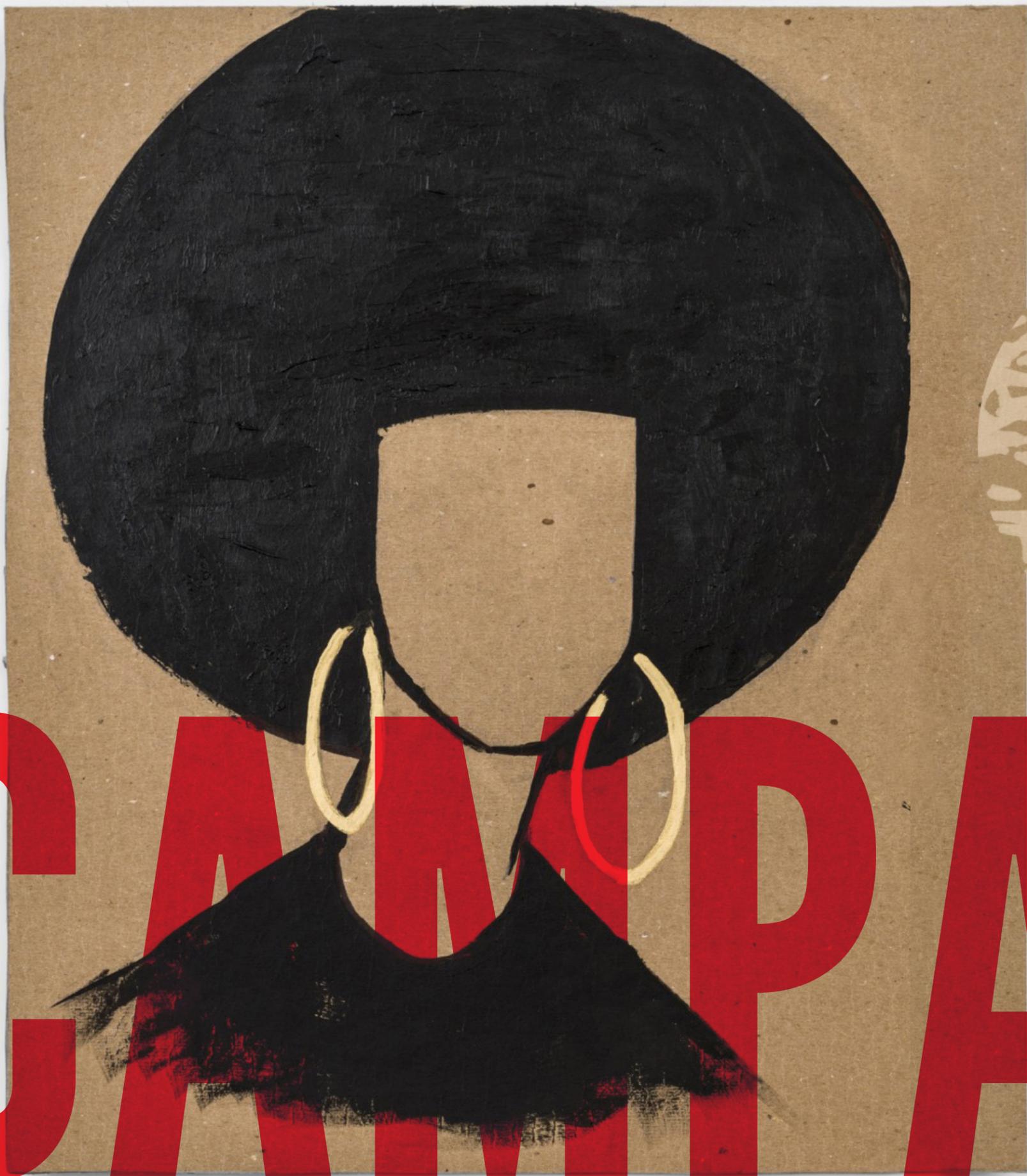


Never before has the intersectional framework been so rigorously activated over such a concentrated timeframe.

#TruthBeTold Campaign, our Critical Race Theory & Intersectionality Summer School and our Young Scholars Program. We remain steadfast in our commitment of advocating for a vision of social justice that embraces the intersections of race, gender, class, and sexual orientation and so on.

It is thanks to you—our community—that AAPF's work over this past year has been possible. If you have been inspired by our efforts, and if you believe in our vision of intersectional justice, we ask that you make a contribution to support our work. Contributions can be made at aapf.org/donate. It is only with your continued support that we remain in this fight.

With gratitude and well wishes for the New Year,
The African American Policy Forum



CAMPAIGN PAI GNS



This year the call to #SayHerName has echoed louder than ever before.

During a period of collective hardship and loss, AAPF has worked to advance successfully the message of the #SayHerName Campaign and to bring our efforts to end police violence against Black women, girls, and femmes to an ever-wider audience.

In May, we released a [moving video](#) that contained a letter from the families of the #SayHerName Mothers Network in 2019. The letter delivered a message for the next mother who would lose a daughter to police violence. That mother, tragically, was Tamika Palmer, the mother of Breonna Taylor. Months later, as the #SayHerName campaign was becoming more well known and a part of the national discourse, we partnered with the WNBA players in dedicating the WNBA season to #SayHerName. Our successful partnership inspired a similar

#SAYHERNAME: “RESISTING POLICE VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACK WOMEN”

collaboration with the Players Coalition, and the NFL’s New Orleans Saints.

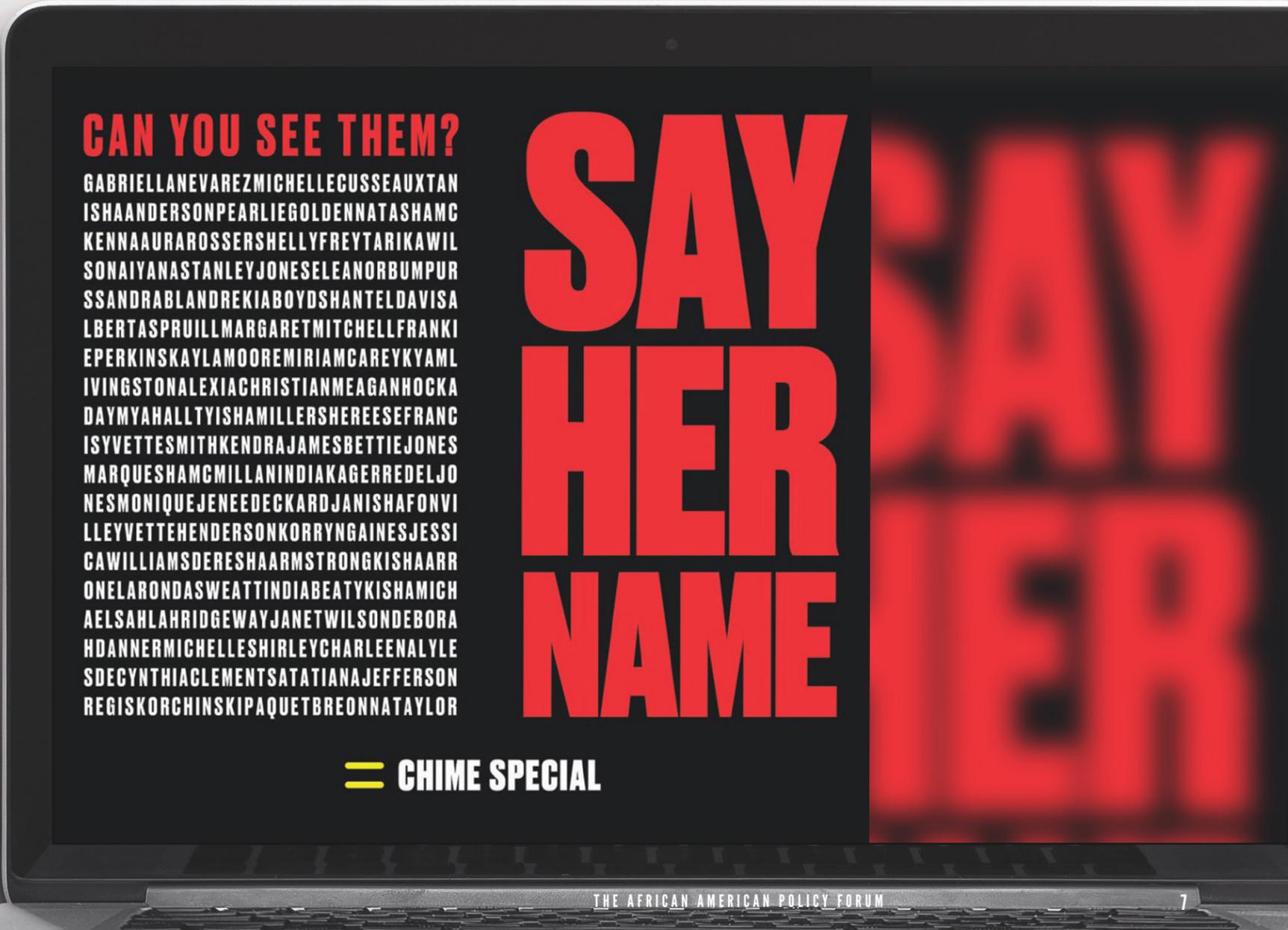
We also partnered on a special digital Zine with Gucci’s Chime For Change Campaign to share – via a special digital zine – the history of the #SayHerName movement, celebrate Black women’s empowerment, and bear witness to Black women’s stories via personal essays, poetry, art, and other media. You can find the Zine [at this link](#).

This year the call to #SayHerName has echoed louder than ever before. Those words—Say Her Name—rang out as crowds marched in the streets to protest the murder of Breonna Taylor, and they rang out across the media landscape as new voices spoke up about Black women’s susceptibility to police violence. In the wake of unspeakable tragedy, we have sought to find hope. The public response to

the heartbreaking death of Breonna Taylor may be a sign of a burgeoning shift in consciousness about the ways in which Black women are victims of state violence.

If that shift is to continue, it will be, in part, because the call to #SayHerName and the work of our campaign is amplified and sustained into the next year and beyond. As AAPF Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw conveyed in [Colin Kaepernick’s Abolition For the People series](#), “Black women must be centered in the struggle to dismantle the barriers to Black freedom.”

The work of the #SayHerName Campaign is as vital now as ever before. We must continue to beat the drum and to maximize its transformative potential .



CAN YOU SEE THEM?

GABRIELLANEVAREZMICHELLECUSSEAUXTAN
 ISHAANDERSONPEARLIEGOLDENNATASHAMC
 KENNAURAROSSERSHELLYFREYTRARIKAWIL
 SONAIYANASTANLEYJONESELEANORBUMPUR
 SSANDRABLANDREKIABOYDSHANTELDAVISA
 LBERTASPRUILLMARGARETMITCHELLFRANKI
 EPERKINSKAYLAMOOREMIRIAMCAREYKYAML
 IVINGSTONALEXIACHRISTIANMEAGANHOCCA
 DAYMYAHALLTYISHAMILLERSHEREESEFRANC
 ISYVETTESMITHKENDRAJAMESBETTIEJONES
 MARQUESHAMCMILLANINDIAKAGERREDELJO
 NESMONIQUEJENEDECKARDJANISHAFONVI
 LLEYVETTEHENDERSONKORRYNGAINESJESSI
 CAWILLIAMSDERESHAARMSTRONGKISHAARR
 ONELARONDASWEATTINDIABEATYKISHAMICH
 AELSAHLAHRIDGEWAYJANETWILSONDEBORA
 HDANNERMICHELLESHIRLEYCHARLEENALYLE
 SDECYNTHIACLEMENTSATATIANAJEFFERSON
 REGISKORCHINSKIPAQUETBREONNATAYLOR

**SAY
HER
NAME**

== CHIME SPECIAL

#TRUTHBETOLD: “RESISTING THE EQUITY GAG ORDER”

When President Trump issued Executive Order 13950 (the “Equity Gag Order”) this September and attempted to prevent millions of federal employees, contractors, and grant recipients from hosting or participating in workplace diversity and inclusion programming, AAPF sprang into action. We began by mobilizing a collaborative response to this authoritarian effort to silence those who seek to hold honest conversations about the implications of America’s past.

By early October, we had launched the [#TruthBeTold Campaign](#). We created a partnership to push back against the Equity Gag Order, which represents a dangerous suppression of critical knowledge about the sources and consequences of inequality in the United States and which threatens to undermine decades of progress toward racial and gender equity in America.

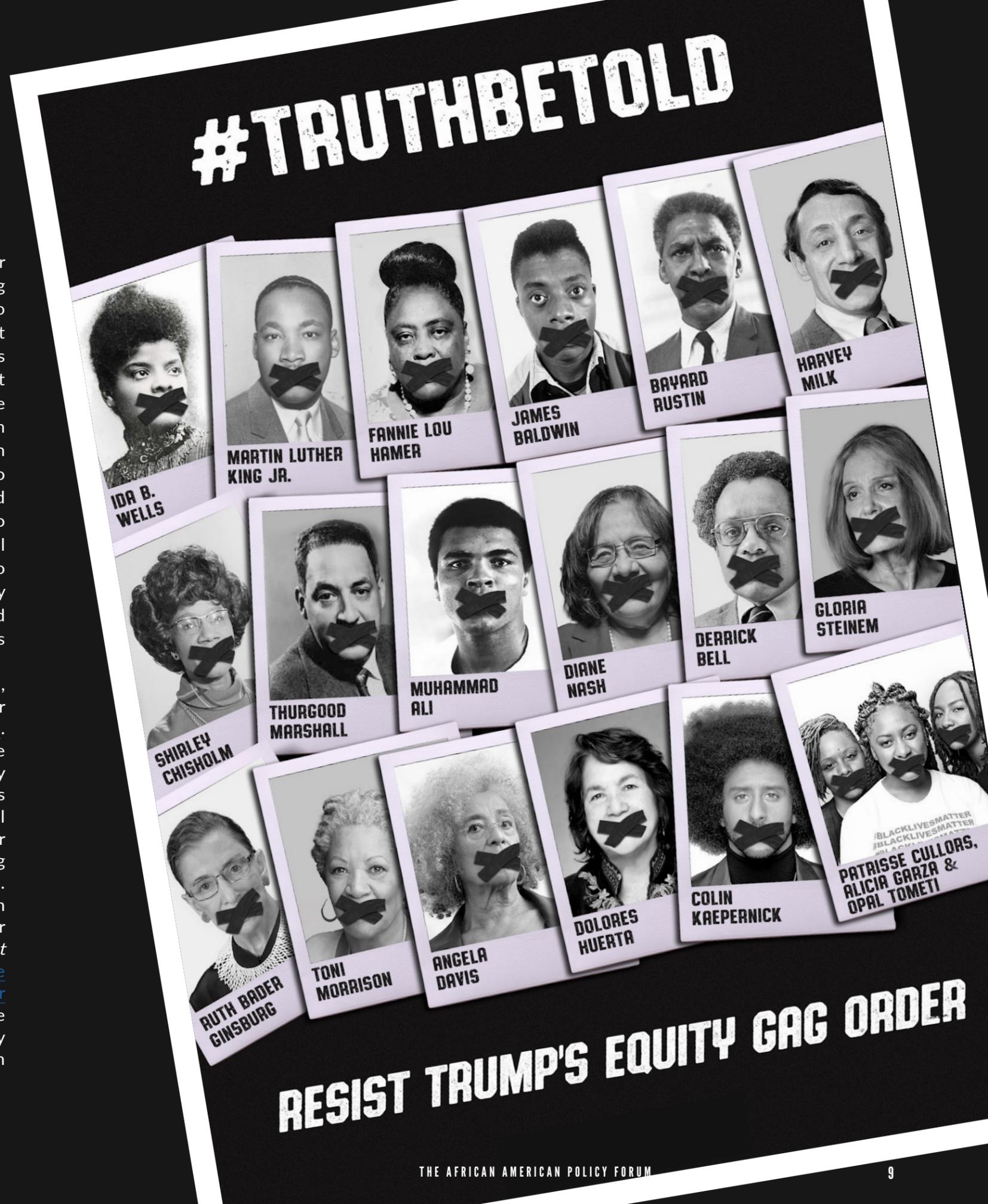
The #TruthBeTold Campaign has raised public awareness about an obscure Order. We are working with an array of partners, including the Biden-Harris transition team, to ensure the immediate rescission of the Order and to begin the process

“EVERY PERSON WHO EXERCISED THEIR CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHT TO PEACEFULLY PROTEST RACIAL INJUSTICE THIS YEAR; EVERY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN AWAKENED TO THE NIGHTMARE OF STRUCTURAL RACISM BY THE RACIALLY DISPROPORTIONATE DEATH TOLL OF THE COVID CRISIS; EVERY PERSON WHO HAS BEEN PROMPTED TO RETHINK AMERICAN HISTORY BEGINNING WITH THE SLAVERY THAT BUILT THE WEALTH OF THIS NATION; EVERY PERSON WHO HAS WITNESSED THE UNDENIABLE PATTERNS OF IMPLICIT BIAS BY WELL-MEANING COLLEAGUES WHO UNDER-EVALUATE, OVERTALK, OR MANSPLAIN TO THEM...THIS GAG ORDER IMPLICATES YOU.”

KIMBERLÉ GRENshaw

of reversing its harmful effects. Sadly, the Order is only one part of a broader and long-standing war on justice in America; It’s the latest attempt to prohibit the use of the anti-racist and anti-sexist tools that help us understand the inequalities that persist in all sectors of society. This fight must continue. So the #TruthBeTold campaign is calling on the Biden administration to implement bold and proactive steps to address structural inequalities, and to restore constitutionally protected speech and fundamental civil rights under the law.

To learn more, you can read our [#TruthBeTold report](#). It chronicles the impact of the Equity Gag Order, as well as the order’s historical antecedents. It’s our way of planting our flag on the side of truth. You can also listen to Episode 20 of our *Under the Blacklight* series, entitled “[The Destructiveness of Trump’s Equity Gag Order and What Biden Must Do Now](#),” for invaluable insights on the practical implications of the Equity Gag Order as well as the role of narratives in understanding both our present and our past.



MINI-INITIATIVES PROGRAMS

UNDER THE BLACKLIGHT: “UNCOVERING INTERSECTIONAL VULNERABILITIES IN THE AGE OF COVID-19”

On March 25th, with COVID-19’s devastating impact already being felt by Black, Latino, and Indigenous communities, AAPF hosted the first episode of our *Under the Blacklight* webinar series. The series began as a way to highlight COVID-19’s racialized impact, and to throw light on the intersectional vulnerabilities that were exposed by the pandemic. From the start it was clear to us that the pain and suffering meted out by the pandemic would not be evenly distributed and would instead fall disproportionately on people of color and other marginalized communities. Our purpose in launching *Under the Blacklight* was to explore why this was so, and to identify the sorts of interventions and policy responses necessary to mitigate the pandemic’s devastating



UNDER THE BLACKLIGHT

The Intersectional Failures that COVID Lays Bare

A VIRTUAL CONVERSATION SERIES | MODERATED BY KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW

WEDNESDAYS AT 8/5PM



- | | | |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------|
| CAROL ANDERSON | ALICIA GARZA | JONATHAN METZL |
| KEHINDE ANDREWS | EDDIE GLAUDE JR. | MARIA MOORE |
| BARBARA ARNWINE | SUZANNE GOLDBERG | MELISSA MURRAY |
| DARA BALDWIN | DALLAS GOLDTOOTH | REBECCA NAGLE |
| GINA BEST | CHERYL HARRIS | BREE NEWSOME |
| DAVID BLIGHT | LUKE CHARLES HARRIS | VIET THANH NGUYEN |
| EDUARDO BONILLA-SILVA | SAIDIYA HARTMAN | AI-JEN POO |
| DONNA BRAZILE | DANIEL HO SANG | REP. AYANNA PRESSLEY |
| PAUL BUTLER | SHERRILYN IFILL | RAVI RAGBIR |
| DEVON CARBADO | JANINE JACKSON | DOROTHY ROBERTS |
| ERWIN CHERMERINSKY | REP. PRAMILA JAYAPAL | ARUNDHATI ROY |
| ROSA CLEMENTE | SARU JAYARAMAN | MAB SEGREST |
| SHARON COOPER | N.K. JEMISIN | RINKU SEN |
| WILLIAM DARITY JR. | CAMARA PHYLLIS JONES | ALVIN STARKS |
| ASALI DEVAN ECCLESIASTES | ROBIN D.G. KELLEY | MILY TREVIÑO-SAUCEDA |
| RHANDA DORMEUS | IBRAM X. KENDI | ALYOSXA TUDOR |
| KEITH ELLISON | NAOMI KLEIN | DORIAN WARREN |
| ALEX DIBRANCO | NINA A. KOHN | REP. MAXINE WATERS |
| JOSIE DUFFY RICE | MARC LAMONT HILL | KIRSTEN WEST SAVALI |
| V (FORMERLY EVE ENSLER) | KIESE LAYMON | SHARON WILKERSON |
| LAURA FLANDERS | REP. BARBARA LEE | JASON WILSON |
| KIM FOXX | JOE LOWNDES | KEEANGA-YAMAHTTA TAYLOR |
| FRAN GARRETT | KATE MANNE | |
| | MARI MATSUDA | |

 MORE INFORMATION: [AAPF.ORG](https://aapf.org) 

In a year defined by violence and despair, Under the Blacklight also sought to provide necessary hope and inspiration to those who tuned in.

effects on the the most marginalized members of society.

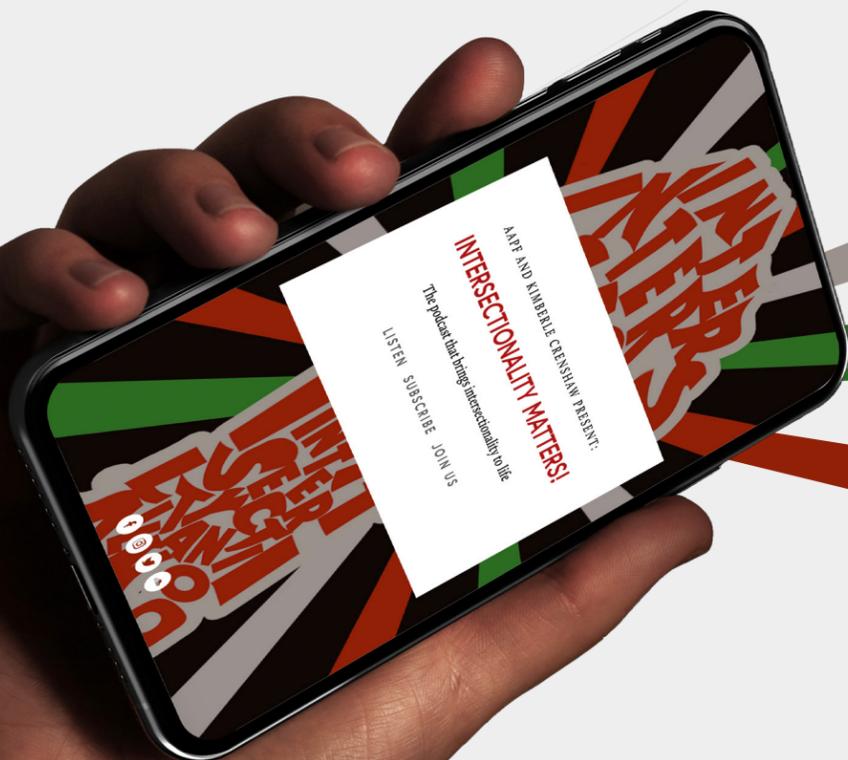
In the aftermath of the murders of Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, Tony McDade, and Breonna Taylor, *Under the Blacklight* entered a new phase, broadening its focus to include critical commentary on both the virus and anti-Black racism—the “twin pandemics” of 2020. As protests against police violence spread across the country, the series provided viewers with the critical context necessary to understand the intersectional dimensions of police violence.

In a year defined by violence and despair, *Under the Blacklight* has sought to provide hope and inspiration to those who tuned in. With guests like Representatives Barbara Lee, Ayanna

Pressley, and Maxine Waters as well as State’s Attorney Kim Foxx and activist Alicia Garza, we have explored the power and potential of Black women’s political leadership. Our most recent episodes chronicled the historic election of Vice President-elect Kamala Harris and the challenges that the incoming Biden-Harris administration will face as we collectively chart a path forward to a more just and equitable society.

While it’s impossible to tell what 2021 has in store for us, one thing is certain: Under the Blacklight will continue to bring compelling conversations into your home. New episodes of it will be streamed live on a bi-monthly basis, free for all to access. Information, summaries, and links to past episodes can be found on the [AAPF website](https://aapf.org).

INTERSECTIONALITY MATTERS! “ERASING THE ERASURES OF BLACK WOMEN’S PRECARIETY”



In its second year, our [Intersectionality Matters! podcast](#) hosted by Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw underwent exciting growth. The podcast—an idea travelogue that uplifts the concept of intersectionality through highlighting its impact the work of an array of activists, artists, and scholars—has quickly become one of AAPF’s most widely distributed public education tools. The series illuminates the hidden dimensions of today’s most pressing issues and helps listeners understand politics, law, social movements, and their own lives in deeper, more nuanced ways. The podcast is



available on Apple Podcasts, Spotify, and Soundcloud. So have a listen, and *tell a friend*.

Don't know where to start? Check out [Episode 20](#), which tells the story of India Kager—her life, and her death at the hands of the Virginia Beach police through a poignant interview with her mother, Gina Best. Or listen to Kimberlé Crenshaw’s [conversation](#) with groundbreaking and genre-defying authors N.K. Jemisin and Saidiya Hartman on storytelling while Black and female.



CRITICAL RACE THEORY & INTERSECTIONALITY SUMMER SCHOOL: “ESSENTIAL TOOLS FOR APPLIED PRACTITIONERS OF SOCIAL JUSTICE”

The inaugural Critical Race Theory (CRT) & Intersectionality Summer School Program brought together 13 leading critical race scholars and 375 educators, activists, journalists, attorneys, philanthropists, and diversity & inclusion officers for an intensive week-long course designed to convey the core insight of CRT and the intersectional framework. With a backdrop of the crises created by the pandemic and the popular uprisings across America we moved forward with topics ranging from voter suppression and employment discrimination to affirmative action and criminal justice concerns. As a result, the course helped attendees better understand and frame discussions about racial inequality with their colleagues and within their communities.

Despite the challenges of teaching remotely, the Summer School was a resounding success. It stands as a model for future educational programs. If you missed the inaugural session, stay tuned.

CRT

“Critical race theory is a practice—a way of seeing how the fiction of race has been transformed into concrete racial inequities. It's an approach to grappling with a history of white supremacy that rejects the belief that what's in the past is in the past, and that the laws and systems that grow from that past are detached from it.”
-Kimberlé Crenshaw

AFRICAN AMERICAN POLICY FORUM

SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM: “BUILDING SKILLS TO CREATE A BETTER FUTURE”

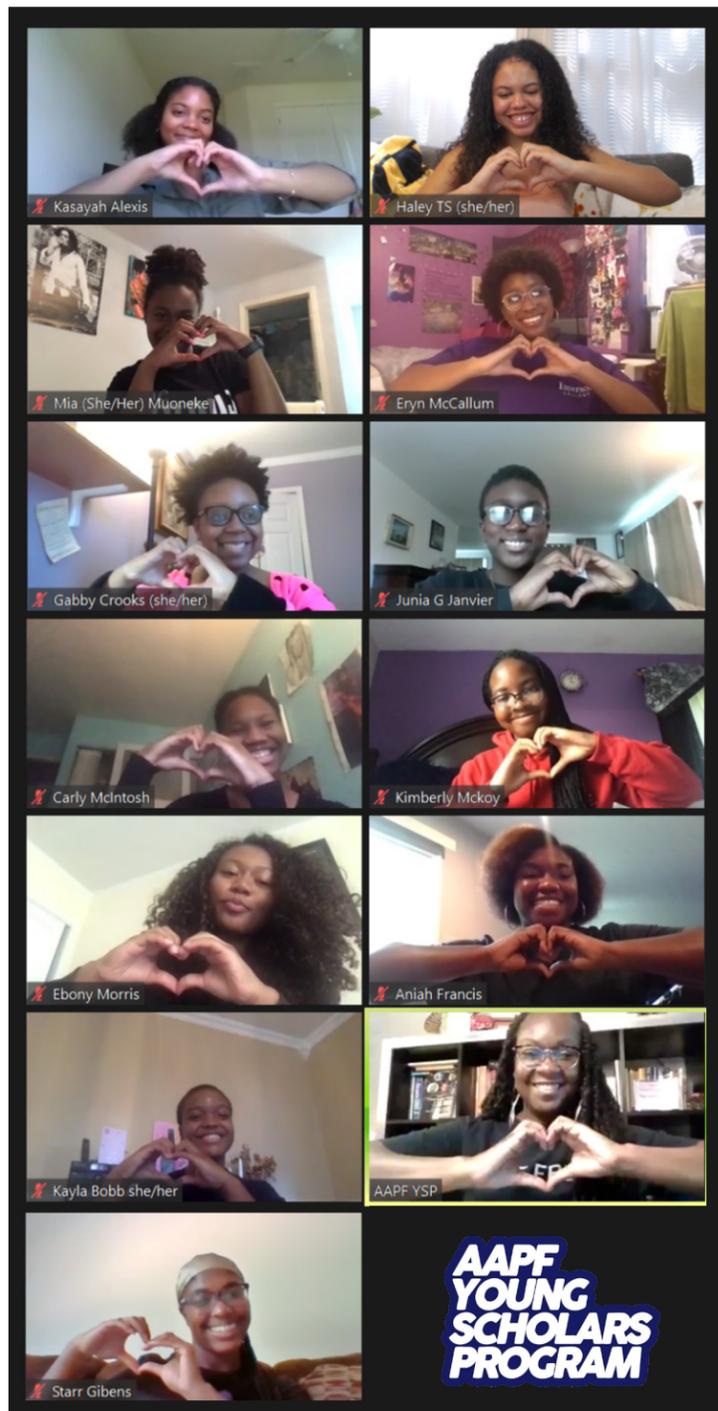


During the Summer of 2020, AAPF and CISPS extended internship opportunities to 40 students (undergraduate, graduate, and post-doctoral students). The students worked on administrative, research, writing, and arts & media projects during a 10-week internship program. We received more than 400 applications from talented, highly skilled candidates from across the nation.

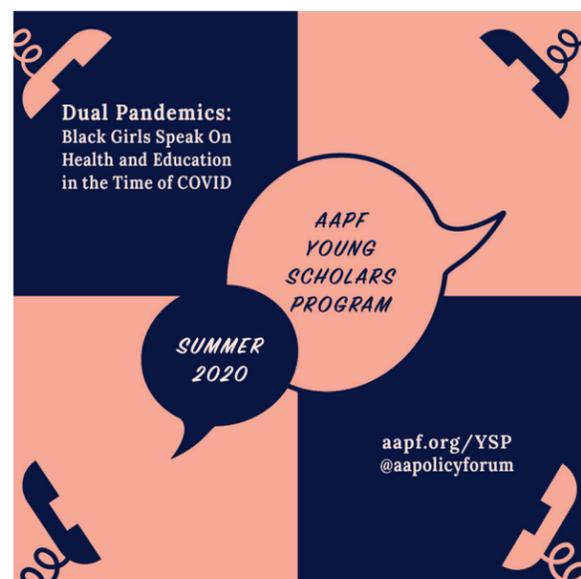
Our goal was to advance their professional aspirations. Our program relied on applied learning and hands-on experience with AAPF and CISPS projects. Program participants assisted with the *Under the Blacklight* series, the Civil Rights Oral History Project, the CRT & Intersectionality Summer School, the 2020 update to the #SayHerName report, our social media campaigns, and the *Intersectionality Matters!* podcast.



YOUNG SCHOLARS PROGRAM: “UPLIFTING AND ENGAGING THE NEXT GENERATION OF LEADERS”



Another groundbreaking event for AAPF this year was working with the first cohort of our Young Scholars Program. This program provides a platform, support system, and infrastructure for young Black women researchers to mentor Black girls—adolescents and teens—that is to say, the next generation of women leaders. The thirteen instructors of this summer’s cohort developed a pilot mentoring program grounded in a multidisciplinary and intersectional framework. The students mapped out research projects, created a zine with wellness tips, developed blog posts, produced media programming, and met and heard from an inspiring group of Black women professionals. You can hear a group discussion amongst our Young Scholars about building a sense of community during the COVID Era on the *Intersectionality Matters!* podcast.



“DR. CRENSHAW AND AAPF UNDERSTAND THAT IT’S A CRUCIAL TIME TO TRAIN AND EMPOWER YOUNG BLACK WOMEN RESEARCHERS; NOT ONLY TO CONFRONT THE KNOWLEDGE DESERT THAT EXISTS IN DATA RELATED TO BLACK WOMEN, BLACK GIRLS AND COVID, BUT ALSO TO CENTER BLACK WOMEN AS THE AUTHORITIES OF THEIR OWN RESEARCH, DATA COLLECTION, FINDINGS, AND HOW HOW THE WORK IS PRESENTED TO THE WORLD.”

DINA WRIGHT JOSEPH
 Young Scholars Program Director

LIVE
CNN
PARARENT ARMED VIGILANTES IN LOUISVILLE
 Executive Director, African American Policy Forum
4:51 PM PT
OUTFRONT
 LEARN HOW

MSNBC
PROTESTERS FACE OFF WITH APPARENT ARMED VIGILANTES IN LOUISVILLE
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4:51 PM PT
OUTFRONT
 LEARN HOW

The American President-Elect
 with Kimberly Crenshaw

Leads Contractors to Cut Bias Training
 about violating a ban on mentioning White privilege

The Precarity Of Black Women
 BY KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW · JULY 10, 2020



IF WE ARE EVER TO TRULY PROTECT YOUNG BLACK WOMEN LIKE TOYIN SALAU OR BREONNA TAYLOR, WE MUST FIRST TELL THEIR STORIES.

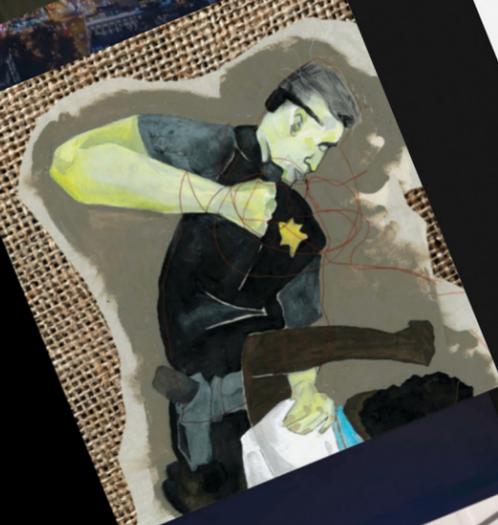
THE NEW REPUBLIC
 Don't Reboot the 2016 Horror Show
 How we might have prevented November's election from turning into another sequel to "The Purge"



TNR

Fear of a Black Uprising
 Confronting the white pathologies that shape racist policing

Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw / August 23, 2020



nightline

'The Backbone Of Democracy': These Black Women Helped Define 2020
 EDITORS' PICK | Dec 8, 2020, 06:00am EST | 3,501 views

Brianne Garrett Forbes Staff
 Leadership
 I'm a Forbes reporter and the editorial lead for For(he)s The Culture.



ABOLITION FOR THE PEOPLE

Breonna Taylor and Bearing Witness to Black Women's Expendability
 Why #SayHerName is crucial to the struggle for Black freedom

Kimberlé Crenshaw Oct 9 · 9 min read



Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw / December 21, 2020

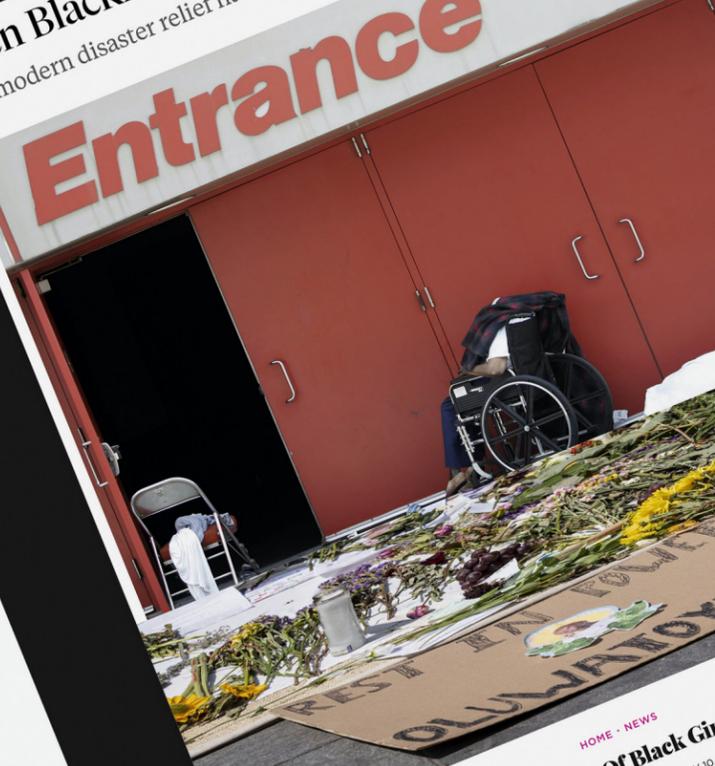
The Unacceptable Costs of Appeasing MAGA Nation
 Why we can't afford to make peace with white supremacists

GETTY (X3); LIBRARY OF CONGRESS (X3)

BREAKING NEWS
PROTESTERS FACE OFF WITH APPARENT ARMED VIGILANTES IN LOUISVILLE
 Executive Director, African American Policy Forum
Kimberlé Crenshaw
MORE THAN 18K FIREFIGHTERS BATTLING THE BLAZES

When Blackness Is a Preexisting Condition
 How modern disaster relief has hurt African American communities

Entrance



The Precarity Of Black Women
 BY KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW · JULY 10, 2020

HOME · NEWS

IF WE ARE EVER TO TRULY PROTECT YOUNG BLACK WOMEN LIKE TOYIN SALAU OR BREONNA TAYLOR, WE MUST FIRST TELL THEIR STORIES.

Oluwatoyin "Toyin" Salau was a warrior

Media Appearances

AAPF and Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw were featured, interviewed or mentioned in a number of publications and programs this year, including:

- ❑ Forbes, “The Backbone Of Democracy’: These Black Women Helped Define 2020” December, 2020
- ❑ Keep It! Podcast, “The American President-Elect” (with Kimberlé Crenshaw),” November 2020
- ❑ The Guardian, “Kimberlé Crenshaw: the woman who revolutionised feminism – and landed at the heart of the culture wars”, November 2020
- ❑ The Guardian, “‘Sisterhood of sorrow’: an art auction for families of black women killed by police,” November 2020
- ❑ CNN, “What critical race theory is -- and isn’t,” October, 2020
- ❑ Bloomberg, “Trump Rule Leads Contractors to Cut Diversity, Bias Training,” October 2020
- ❑ Vox, “Critical Race Theory, and Trump’s executive order on diversity training, explained,” September, 2020
- ❑ xoNecole, “#SayOurNames: Black Women’s Leadership & Our Quest For Equity,” August, 2020
- ❑ BBC News, “Say Her Name, Black Women are Killed by Police Too,” with Gina Best and E.D. Crenshaw, July, 2020
- ❑ NBC Universal, “Kimberlé Crenshaw Wants To Build a Movement Where Everyone Is Seen,” July, 2020
- ❑ The Root, “Fallen but Not Forgotten: Unpacking the Erasure of Black Women in Conversations About Police Violence,” July 2020
- ❑ NPR’s All Things Considered, “Say Her Name: How The Fight For Racial Justice Can Be More Inclusive Of Black Women,” July 2020
- ❑ All Ears with Abigail Disney, “Kimberlé Crenshaw: The Woman at the Intersection of Intersectionality,” July 2020

- ❑ Today Show, “Kimberlé Crenshaw shares importance of the Say Her Name movement,” June, 2020
- ❑ E.D. Crenshaw’s Congressional Testimony, “Voices from the Front: An Overdue Reckoning with Structural Racism in Policing,” June 2020
- ❑ Forbes Interview: “Rising Against Racism, Supporting Black Female Leadership, And Building An Equitable World,” June 2020
- ❑ TIME, “She Coined the Term ‘Intersectionality’ Over 30 Years Ago. Here’s What It Means to Her Today,” February, 2020

Awards

AAPF Executive Director Kimberlé Crenshaw was named the recipient of several honors in 2020 that reflect her commitment to legal scholarship, intersectional advocacy and women’s rights.

- ❑ Recipient, 2020 National Diversity Women’s Leadership Mosaic Award, October 8, 2020.
- ❑ Recipient, 2020 Woman of the Year, Los Angeles Sparks, September 6, 2020.
- ❑ Recipient, 2020 Dr. John Hope Franklin Award, February 7, 2020.
- ❑ Honorary Doctorate, KU Leuven, February 3, 2020.



MERCH

MODELING MESSAGES

FOR
-A- NEW MOMENT

WITH AAPF

Did you know AAPF sells merch? AAPF merchandise is the perfect way to support our work. Not only do the proceeds help us build and expand our research and advocacy, but by showing off your #SayHerName, Intersectionality, or AAPF gear you are helping raise awareness of Black women’s issues and helping promote an intersectional vision of racial justice. This year AAPF has increased our merchandise selection to amplify our campaigns and messaging. Our wide selection of merchandise is available on [our online store](#), and make great gifts for the intersectional allies and activists in your life.

By wearing a #SayHerName hoodie or mask, you can help bring awareness to the names and stories of Black women, girls and femmes who have been victimized by racist police violence. Or you can help make the case for intersectionality with one of our *liberté, égalité, intersectionnalité* t-shirts or intersectionality totes. So shop now and support AAPF at aapf.org/merchandise.



WHAT'S NEXT FOR AAPF



Now it is time to set our sights on 2021. We are ready to seize the moment, bringing the intersectional vision and leadership that are called for. We will carry forward the momentum of #SayHerName and strengthen #TruthBeTold to push for bold and proactive steps towards addressing racial and gender injustice. We will continue to use our critical foundations to educate and intervene in political and social justice discourse.

2021 will also be a year in which AAPF will grow and bear witness in exciting new ways, enhancing our impact on key issues, in policy arenas, and on city streets. We are moving towards expanding our research arm — the Center for Intersectionality and Social Policy Studies (CISPS) at Columbia University, and we are planning to exponentially increase

our legislative policy output. Stay tuned for information on upcoming events, including the next round of affirmative action convenings, developments in the production of *Say Her Name: The Lives that Should Have Been*, and initial conferences for a Global Collaborative on Intersectionality.

If you are able, we ask that you make a tax-deductible donation to AAPF today at aapf.org/donate. Your support will help us achieve our goals for 2021 in this fight to make visible the lives, stories and ideas that uplift the historically marginalized and create a more just society at home and abroad. Please consider contributing at this time; it truly does take a village.

The African American Policy Forum