

## Whites for Racial Equity

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Trump has vowed violence against queer people, immigrants, the environment, and more, what power do we have?

Many of us think about power as a bad thing— wielding power over others or something inherently oppressive. In order to get Trump out of office and block his terrifying agenda and actually work towards the things people need: we need more power. The word "power" gets thrown a lot in politics and organizing, but what does it actually mean? And how do regular people build it?

On **Jan 22**, beginning at 5pm, join **SURJ in conversation with author and labor organizer Stephanie Luce** to sharpen our understanding of power and what is possible under an authoritarian administration. The reality is that right now, the far right wields more power than social movements. However, there are and will be openings to build our power even in the midst of a Trump presidency. In the days and years ahead, we must seize these moments and use them to weaken the power of our opposition, and build the power of social movements. Register: https://www.mobilize.us/surj/event/750601/



On **Jan 23**, from 4-6pm, join **Embrace Race's Building Community Circles** workshop and learn to facilitate crucial talks on race, kids, and justice. Get practical tools, strategies, and hands-on practice with other participants. Sign up now to receive a valuable Resource Guide and start building vibrant community circles today!

In this workshop, we will:

- Share tools and strategies to assist you as you plan for groups, create welcoming and supportive spaces, and facilitate conversations about race and justice
- Spend time practicing strategies and engaging with other participants. A Resource Guide will be provided to support you as you engage in building your community circles.
- The workshop will be led by experienced EmbraceRace facilitators, **Darcy Heath** & **<u>Tina</u>** <u>**Sykes**</u>. Heath identifies as White and has a background in early childhood education as a classroom teacher, professional coach, and organizational consultant.

Sykes identifies as Black and provides coaching & mentoring to early childhood professionals, develops & facilitates interactive professional development opportunities for early childhood educators, and utilizing creative arts to educate and entertain.

## Register: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/an-introduction-to-facilitating-conversationsabout-race-kids-and-justice-tickets-1104127598369



On Jan 23, from 5:20-6:55pm, the UCSC Humanities Institute will host authorVenita

Blackburn as part of their Living Writers Series.

Blackburn's writing have appeared in The New Yorker, NY Times, Harper's, McSweeney's, Story Magazine, the Virginia Quarterly Review, the Paris Review, and others. She was awarded a Bread Loaf Fellowship in 2014 and several Pushcart prize nominations. She received the Prairie Schooner book prize for fiction, which resulted in the publication of her collected stories, *Black Jesus and Other Superheroes*, in 2017 and earned a place as a finalist for the NYPL Young Lions award among other honors. Blackburn's second collection of stories is *How to Wrestle a Girl*, 2021, finalist for a Lambda Literary Prize and was a NY Times editor's choice. Her debut novel, *Dead in Long Beach, California*, is about the mania of grief, all of human history and a lesbian assassin at the end of the world and was selected as one of the NYTimes and NPR's best books of 2024.

She is the founder and president of **Live**, **Write**, an organization devoted to offering free creative writing workshops for communities of color. Her hometown is Compton, California, and she is an Associate Professor of creative writing at California State University, Fresno.

The event will take place at UCSC Humanities Lecture Hall, 1156 High Street Santa Cruz.



On **Jan 25**, educators are invited to connect and collaborate online during the annual Black Lives Matter at School Curriculum Fair. The event will feature workshops designed to prepare educators for the Week of Action and Year of Purpose. **Workshops** 

- Empowering Change: Educators as Architects of Justice and Democracy
- Finding Truth: Racial Reconciliation and the Power of Poetry
- Global Histories, Local Classrooms: Teaching Radical Black Movements in the U.K.
- Go-Go as Public Pedagogy: Exploring Joy and Resistance through Arts and Culture
- Mending Our Classrooms through Community Art Practices
- Utilizing Inclusive Trauma Informed and Learning Environment Strategies to Teach Racially Charged Imagery in Art Education
- What Color is Your Clock? An Afrofuturist Perspective on Spacetime, Power & Identity

Keynote Speaker is **Jesse Hagopian**, an editor for *Rethinking Schools* magazine. His new book, *Teach Truth: The Struggle for Antiracist Education*, is a call to defend honest education for our students, showing how we can reclaim suppressed history by creating beloved classroom communities and healthy social movements. Hagopian is a Zinn Education Project campaign director.

https://www.dcareaeducators4socialjustice.org/news/2025-black-lives-matter-atschool-curriculum-fair



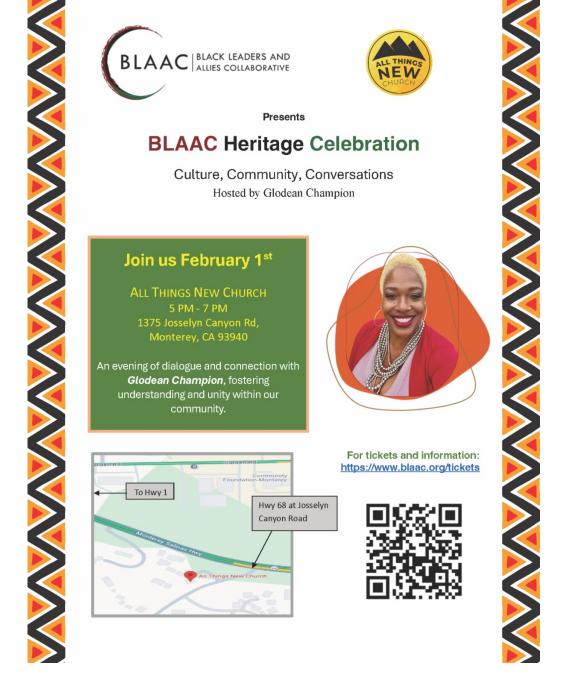
On **Jan 30**, from 6:30-8pm, join the annual convocation celebrating the life and dreams of **Martin Luther King Jr.** with presentations about equality, freedom, justice, and opportunity. This year we welcome WNBA Hall of Famer, Olympic gold medalist, and powerful mental health advocate **Chamique Holdsclaw**.

Hailed as the "female Michael Jordan," Holdsclaw was a basketball superstar. From leading the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers to three straight NCAA national championships under legendary Coach Pat Summitt, to the Olympics, to the WNBA, nearly no one has had more focus or drive on the court. And yet underneath, she was pushing down mental health issues that eventually led to a mental and physical breakdown.

She is an honorary member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority and an ambassador with Laureus Sport for Good and with the JED Foundation as an advocate for mental health and wellness. She is also a member of the Boys & Girls Club Hall of Fame.

The event will be held at Kaiser Permanente Arena, 140 Front Street, Santa Cruz,

https://specialevents.ucsc.edu/events/mlk/2025/



**BLAAC,** Black Leaders and Allies Collaborative, is hosting a variety of events to celebrate Black History Month. Each events encourages unity, empowers relationships and expands community.

**Feb 1 - Culture Community Conversations** - an evening with Glodean Champion at the All Things New Church in Monterey 5-7pm

**Feb 8 - Monterey Peninsula Community Gospel Choir** at Monterey Peninsula College beginning at 6pm

Feb 15 - Cultural Insights at Lighthouse Cinema in Pacific Grove beginning at 6pm.

Feb 16 - Smote This: a one man show at the Sandbox Theater in Sand City. 2-4pm

Feb 21 - Comedy Show at the Lighthouse Cinema in Pacific Grove. Starts at 6pm.

**Feb 28 - Racial Influence: Past, Present and Future.** Panelists: Tahra Goraya, Lavera Alexander, Dr. Marshal Fulbright and Clement Miller will share insights on history, activism, and the future of community building. It will be held at Monterey Peninsula College. Starts at 6:30 pm.

Ticket info: https://www.blaac.org/tickets

BLAAC is in need of volunteers for each event. To volunteer, please contacts Joy Jacobs at joyjoyjacobs@gmail.com



Saturday, Feb 1, 2025 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm Marina Public Library, 190 Seaside Circle, Marina, CA

This Community Solidarity event offers a unique opportunity to raise awareness, foster impactful discussions, and mobilize collective action to address the devastating human costs of the ongoing conflict. Join us for this powerful evening of awareness, cultural celebration, and actionable support for peace and humanitarian relief in Sudan.

Free to the community. Solidarity donations of any size are welcome. Refreshments available. Proceeds will support humanitarian work and advocacy.

Register and make a donation with QR code or visit Keep-Eyes-On-Sudan-Feb2025.eventbrite.com













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On **Feb 5**, from 12-1pm, join a brown bag talk which includes the screening of an early cut of the film, *Niki•Tomi•Beto*, followed by a discussion on the importance of mestize heritage to the genre of magical realism.

*Niki•Tomi•Beto*, the latest film from Professor Jonathan Ayon Alonso, centers on a quartet of cousins caring for one another in the arid, saturated streets of Northeast Los Angeles. Spying them from her underground layer is Tlazolteotl, the Mexica "deity of dirt" with the power to cleanse and regenerate. A trickster to these mestize teens as they come of age, Tlazolteotl represents the Mexica people's ancient and complex knowledge of the natural order of sustainability, regeneration, and unraveling. The goddess teaches them their natural place in the maternal order and disorder of things. This brown bag talk includes the screening of an early cut of Niki•Tomi•Beto, followed by a discussion on the importance of mestize heritage to the genre of magical realism.

This event takes place at the Huerta Center Conference Room, UC Santa Cruz.



## Join us:

For more information, please visit our web site **https://whitesforracialequity.org/**, and our Facebook page **https://www.facebook.com/groups/WhitesforRacialEquity**/. Whites for Racial Equity is an affiliate of SURJ- Showing Up for Racial Justice. **http://www.showingupforracialjustice.org**/

WRE encourages all to engage with events in your community, statewide, nationally, internationally, and online to create the world in which you want to live. For those of you living in Monterey County, CA, please view **the Social Justice Community Calendar** at https://calendar.google.com/calendar/embed? src=5e10f8ba9aa72d14c55cd498bdaca8ed4060ad4759bea9f6676f15dac2bbf3c a%40group.calendar.google.com&ctz=America%2FLos\_Angeles to see events in our community

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