

# Welcome to the Twelfth Annual National Civil Rights Conference



Dear National Civil Rights Conference Planning Committee and Conference Participants:

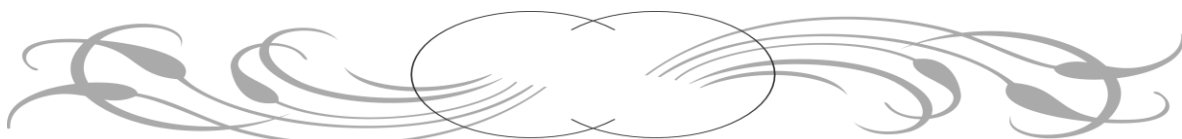
It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Twelfth Annual National Civil Rights Conference. The National Education and Empowerment Coalition, Inc., Miami University, Florida Impact to End Hunger, and the University of Wyoming Black Studies Center are proud to co-sponsor the Twelfth Annual National Civil Rights Conference. The 2023 conference, held in Tallahassee, Florida, will provide an opportunity to remember, reflect, and jumpstart the spirit, commitment, and courage that fueled a movement that changed the nation. During this day and age and at this time, when voting and citizenship are so important, we can and should do nothing less than follow the example of history. We appreciate your presence and participation in activities focusing on civil rights, social justice and human dignity.

The two-day conference provides a wide range of topics related to the conference theme, *Engage, Educate and Empower: Protecting Our Future*. I hope you will take full advantage of the workshops, artistic productions, sessions, tours, vendors and networking opportunities that will be available.

This conference, more than any other, provides a broad range of learning experiences for you to engage in. More important, this conference promises to generate considerable intellectual dialogue and debate, as well as create opportunities to strengthen existing networks and forge new relationships.

Again, welcome to the Twelfth Annual National Civil Rights Conference. If I can be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to call on me.

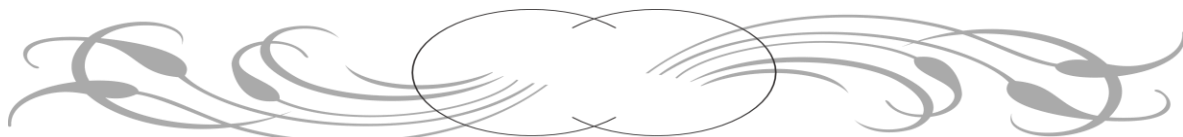
Sincerely,  
*Keith Parker*  
Dr. Keith D. Parker, Chair  
NCRC Planning Committee



**Monday, June 19 |**

**The Residence Inn by Marriott®  
Tallahassee Universities at the Capitol**

- 6:30am – 9:30am** Hot Buffet Style Breakfast/Register Hotel Guests..... **Hotel Lobby**
- 7:00am – 4:00pm** Setup Tables..... **Hotel Lobby**
- 8:00am – 4:00pm** Registration..... **Capital Room**
- Vendor Tables ..... **Hotel Lobby**
- 8:30am – 8:50am** Welcome ..... Keith D. Parker, PhD
- Mayor Pro-Tem ..... Dianne Williams-Cox
- Opening Remarks ..... Mark Schlakman
- Senior Program Director, FSU Center for the Advancement of Human Rights
- 9:00am - 10:30am** **Opening Session** ..... **Rattler and Seminole Rooms**
- Viewing of *Footsteps to Freedom* and Panel Discussion. This film (1:01:01) chronicles the creation of the Tallahassee-Leon County Civil Rights Heritage Walk, honoring civil rights activists who were effective in the Tallahassee area.
- Panelist ..... Reverend Derek Steele
- Panelist ..... Cierra James
- Panelist ..... Kingdom Life Tabernacle & Preparatory Academy
- 10:45am – 12:15pm** **Session 1-A** ..... **Rattler Room**
- Three Assassinations of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*
- Fredrick D. Dixon, PhD, Director, Black Studies Center, The University of Wyoming
- From Civil Rights to Black Studies*
- Dr. Marcus Dubois Watson, PhD, Director, Africana Studies, Buffalo State University
- Fredrick Douglass Dixon, PhD, Director, Black Studies Center, The University of Wyoming
- Moderator** ..... Jessica Fortune Barker
- CEO & Principal Consultant, Affluent Business Consulting & Co-Founder, Lift Our Vote
- Session 1-B** ..... **Seminole Room**
- Engage, Educate and Empower: DEI at Miami University Libraries and the Power of Freedom Summer*
- Jacqueline Johnson, University Archivist at Miami University
- Elizabeth Kerr, Coordinator of Strategy, Assessment, and DEI at Miami University
- William Modrow, Head, The Walter Havighurst Special Collections, Preservation and The University Archives at Miami University
- Moderator** ..... Sandra Collins
- Session 1-C** ..... **Youth Empowerment** at the Cascades Historical Plaza
- Rachel Fendler, PhD, and Sara Scott Shields, PhD, Department of Art Education
- Florida State University (FSU)



**12:20pm – 1:50pm**    **Recognition Luncheon..... Rattler and Seminole Rooms**  
**Introduction of Speaker .....** Cierra James  
**Luncheon Keynote.....** Mrs. Sheyanne Webb-Christburg  
**Awards Presentations .....** Keith D. Parker, PhD

**2:00pm – 3:30pm**    **Session 2-A ..... Rattler Room**  
*Radical Hospitality to Engage, Educate and Empower toward Social Justice*  
Zack Tucker, MFA, Miami University  
Stephanie Danker, PhD, Miami University  
Reilly Powers, Miami University  
Jojo Peregrina, Miami University  
David Shuppert, Miami University

*The Legacy of Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore*  
William E. (Bill) Gary  
President, Harry T. & Harriette V. Moore Cultural Complex Board of Directors

**Moderator .....** Samuel Handley

**Session 2-B ..... Seminole Room**  
*The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA): An Ignored Tool for Civil Rights*  
Lesley Blackner, Attorney at Law  
Pamela Denise Long, Principal Consultant, Strategic Design & Implementation  
Specialist, Youthcentrixâ

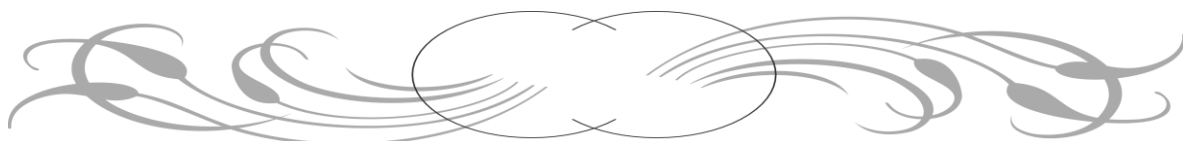
*Pull Up a Seat: Time to Talk*  
Let's Have Manversation™

**Moderator .....** Fredrick D. Dixon, PhD  
Director, Black Studies Center, The University of Wyoming

**Session 2-C ..... Youth Empowerment** at the Cascades Historical Plaza  
View: [EJI Historical Marker on Lynchings in Tallahassee](#) and other cascades monuments.  
Rachel Fendler, PhD, and Sara Scott Shields, PhD, Department of Art Education, FSU

**3:40pm – 5:10pm**    **Session 3-A ..... Rattler Room**  
*Healthcare Challenges of the Internally Displaced People (IDP): The Case of Africa*  
Geoffrey Lemmy Akoma, PhD, Grambling State University  
Ogbonnaya John Nwoha, PhD, Louisiana Tech University  
Frances Staten, PhD, Grambling State University  
Cameron Sumlin, PhD, University of Louisiana-Monroe

*Assessing the Effects of COVID-19 on Black Men and Boys Utilizing the Social  
Determinants of Health Model*  
Yata Caine Thompson, M.S. Research Coordinator, Office of the Attorney General  
Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boy



**Moderator** ..... Keith D. Parker

**Session 3-B** ..... **Seminole Room**

*POWER TO THE YOUNG PEOPLE ... VOTE, VOTE, VOTE!*

Caroline Smith (Director of Programs), The Andrew Goodman Foundation

Gabrielle Slaughter (HBCU Lead Program Manager), The Andrew Goodman Foundation

*Civil Rights Movement: Views from Black Boomers*

Alma Thornton, Ph.D., Jackson State University

Thomas Durant, Ph.D., Louisiana State University

Linda Fontenot, Ph.D., Grand Canyon University

Jeton McClinton, Ph.D., Jackson State University

Kristie Perry, Ph.D., Southern A&M College and University

Frances Staten, Ph.D., Grambling State University

**Moderator** ..... William E. (Bill) Gary

**Session 3-C** ..... **Youth Empowerment** at the Cascades Historical Plaza

**Activity 1: Portrait of a Change Maker**

Discussion: *what qualities do change makers have?*

**Finish Art Making, Share Final Piece with the Group, Wrap Up**

**Activity 2: Call to Action**

Rachel Fendler, PhD, and Sara Scott Shields, PhD, Department of Art Education, FSU

**7:00pm – Until**

**Community Forum** ..... Kingdom Life Tabernacle & Preparatory Academy

*Community Conversations: Justice in the Streets Clearing the Path to Restoration*

*After Incarceration*

**Panelist:**

Jessica Fortune Barker, CEO & Principal Consultant, Affluent Business Consulting and Co-Founder, Lift Our Vote

Gloria Hollins, Executive Director, AL Association for the Arts & Senior Organizer, Lift Our Vote

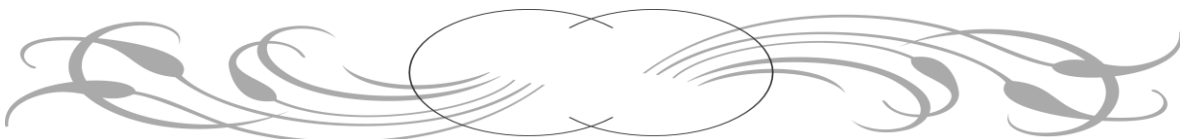
Omekia McNeal, PhD., Vice President, AL Association for the Arts

Jeff Haynes

HR Recruitment and Onboarding Specialist, Goodwill Industries Big Bend

**Moderator** ..... Sandra Collins

Handle Me With Care Foundation



**Tuesday, June 20 | The Residence Inn by Marriott®  
Tallahassee Universities at the Capitol**

**6:30am – 9:30am** Hot Buffet Style Breakfast/Register Hotel Guests..... Hotel Lobby  
**7:00am – 4:00pm** Setup Tables..... Hotel Lobby  
**8:00am – 4:00pm** Registration..... Capital Room  
 Vendor Tables ..... Hotel Lobby

**8:10am – 8:50am** Opening Session ..... Rattler and Seminole Rooms  
 Introduction of Speaker ..... Sarah Johnson  
 Speaker ..... Bill Mattox

**9:00am - 10:30am** Morning Session ..... Rattler and Seminole Rooms  
 Viewing of *Naomi King: The Butterfly Queen: From Tragedy to Peace* and Panel Discussion. This film (56:29) illuminates the ways small acts of kindness, like those of Naomi Ruth Barber King, may not have gotten much fanfare or even been noticed, but they supported a big movement in ways that mattered. People who were not at the front lines of the Civil Rights Movement played an equally important part by providing love and support to those who were.

Panelists Michael Patterson, EdD ..... Morehouse College  
 Eddie Beale, JD, ..... Attorney with Ronald Blue Trust Atlanta Financial Advisors  
 TBD ..... Cierra James

**10:45am – 12:15pm** Session 4-A ..... Rattler Room  
*Harnessing the Power of Social Media To Engage, Educate and Protect the Future of Civil Rights*  
 Cynthia M. Deitle, JD, LLM; Director, Associate General Counsel, Civil Rights Team Meta Platforms, Inc.

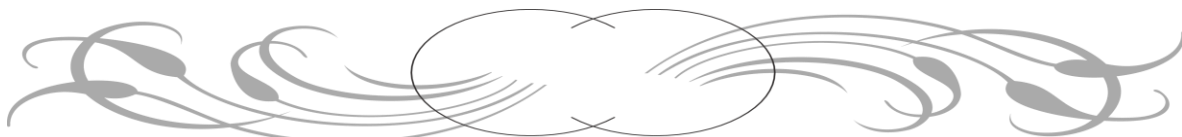
*Shall We Overcome? Using New Media to Protect Civil Rights and Make Social Progress*  
 Devon Westhill, President and General Counsel, Center for Equal Opportunity

**Moderator** ..... Debi Ghate

**Session 4-B** ..... Seminole Room  
*Neoliberalising State Retirement: Market Dependence, State Autonomy, and the Florida Retirement System*  
 Jordan Scott, Doctoral Candidate, Florida State University, Sociology

*Jim Crow Reparations*  
 Asa Gordon, Sec.Gen.S&DUSCT/AACWMFF

**Moderator** ..... Asheena Moses



**Session 4-C ..... Youth Empowerment** at The Challenger Learning Center – Florida State University

**12:20pm – 1:50pm Luncheon Keynote ..... Rattler and Seminole Rooms**  
**Introduction of Speaker.....** Kingdom Life Tabernacle & Preparatory Academy  
**Speaker .....** Honorable Dorothy Inman-Johnson

**2:00pm – 3:30pm Session 5-A ..... Rattler Room**  
*Fifty Years On: modes of civil rights subversion in the higher education system*  
Keiron Bailey, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership and Policy  
University of Arizona  
Matthew Abraham, Professor of English, University of Arizona

*The Radicalization of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.: From Civil Rights to Black Power*  
Fredrick Douglass Dixon, PhD, Director, Black Studies Center, The University of Wyoming

**Moderator .....** Jacqueline Johnson

**Session 5-B ..... Seminole Room**  
*Art, Civics, Social Movements, and... Censorship? Navigating the Tensions and Possibilities of Civic Education in Florida Today*  
Rachel Fendler, PhD, Department of Art Education, Florida State University  
Sara Scott Shields, PhD, Department of Art Education, Florida State University

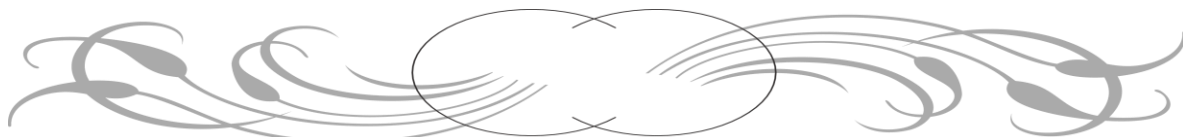
*Coping through Trauma During COVID-19 and Racial Unrest*  
Linda Fontenot, Ph.D., Grand Canyon University  
Alma Thornton, Ph.D., Jackson State University  
Kristie Perry, Ph.D., Southern University  
Jeton McClinton, Ph.D., Jackson State University  
Twaski S. Simmons, M.S., D’Affluenza-Trauma, Coaching and Training Center

**Moderator .....** Thelma Evans

**Session 5-C ..... Youth Empowerment** at The Challenger Learning Center – Florida State University

**3:40pm – 5:10pm Session 6-A ..... Rattler Room**  
Film Screening: *Oscar Mack Versus the Ku Klux Klan*  
Panelists: Yiorgo Topalidis, PhD, University of Florida  
Paul Ortizl, PhD, University of Florida  
Tamara Jenkins, University of Florida  
Deborah Hendrix, University of Florida  
Adolfho Romero, University of Florida

**Moderator .....** Joseph Pierre



**Session 6-B ..... Seminole Room**

*Critical Race Theory/Healthcare for the IDP: Presentation and Discussion*

Dr. Stephanie Bundle, Grambling State University

Dr. Geoffrey Lemmy Akoma, Grambling State University

Dr. Farrah Gafford-Cambrice, Prairie View A&M University

Dr. John Nwoha, Louisiana Tech University

Dr. Obadiah Simmons, Grambling State University

Dr. France Staten, Grambling State University

Dr. Cameron Sumlin, University of Louisiana, Monroe

Dr. Gayberyl Wesley Shyne, Grambling State University

Dr. Kevin Washington, Grambling State University

**Session 6-C ..... Youth Empowerment ..... Seminole Rooms**

*Lesson in Civil Rights/Human Rights/Social Justice*

*Using Film Scenes, Mini-Info dramas, Music, and Poetry*

*GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY/PI GAMMA MU*

*BLACK EMPOWERMENT APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM (BEAP)*

**TRAINERS AND PRESENTERS:**

*Rev. Clarence Powell, Alumnus, Grambling State University*

*Steven Burgess, Student, Grambling State University*

*Latasha Benton-Davis, Student, Grambling State University*

*Jasmine Fordjour, Graduate Student, Grambling State University*

*Kimorah Johns, Graduate Student, Grambling State University*

*Elijah Neal, Student, Grambling State University*

*Madison Kennedy, Louisiana Tech University/BEAP)*

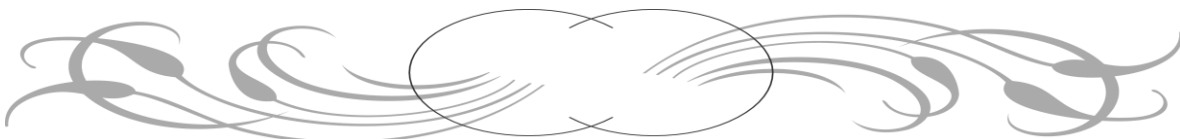
*Dr. Coleen Speed, Grambling State University*

*Ebony Smart, Alumnae, Grambling State University*

*Inetha Wimberly, Grambling State University*

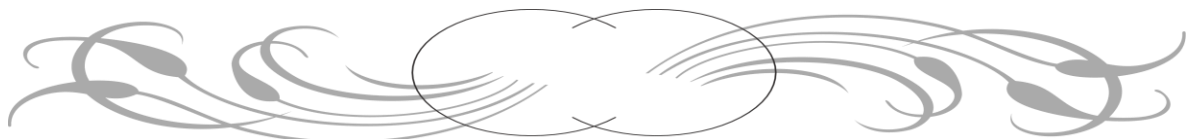
*LEARNERS: Youth Participants of BEAP/NCRC/Community Coordinating Council  
of Grambling/Valena Lane*

**Organizers and Moderators ..... Frances Staten, PhD  
Grambling State University**





May 26, 2023, marked the 67th Anniversary of two female students from Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University, Wilhelmina Jakes and Carrie Patterson, sat down in the “whites only” section of a segregated bus in the city of Tallahassee. When they refused to move to the “colored” section at the rear of the bus, the driver pulled into a service station and called the police. Tallahassee police arrested Jakes and Patterson and charged them with “placing themselves in a position to incite a riot.” In the days immediately following their arrests, students at FAMU organized a campus-wide boycott of city buses. Their collective stand against segregation set an example that propelled like-minded Tallahassee citizens into action. Through courageous nonviolent protest, boycotters in Tallahassee achieved an important victory in the struggle for civil rights. The case in Tallahassee proved that a commitment to nonviolence could achieve remarkable results towards equality.







**VOICES FOR  
LIBERTY**

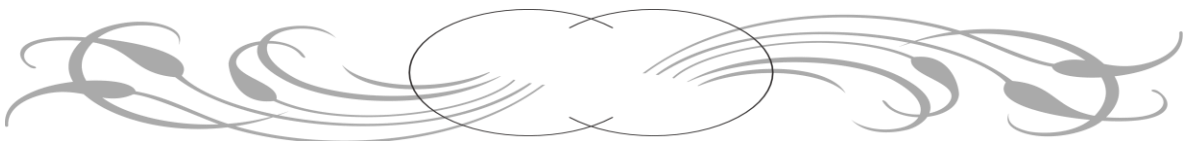
FREE SPEECH · CIVIL RIGHTS · SOCIAL PROGRESS

*Proud to sponsor and participate in the*  
**12th annual**  
**National Civil Rights Conference**

**Contact**  
vfli@gmu.edu

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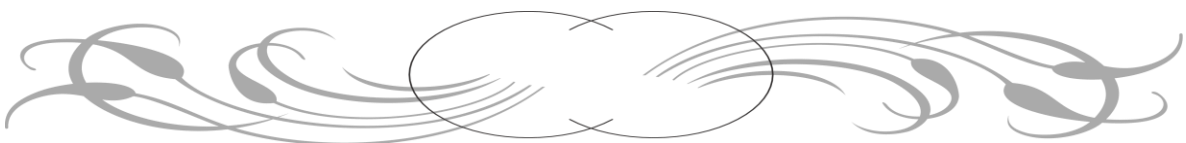
[www.voicesforliberty.law.gmu.edu](http://www.voicesforliberty.law.gmu.edu)





DEI in Leadership  
Certificate:

**BECOME AN  
EFFECTIVE  
INCLUSIVE  
LEADER**





Since 1979, we've worked to mobilize Florida's communities to maximize access to federal, state, and local food and nutrition programs with a focus on our most vulnerable populations.



WE IMPACT POLICY



WE ADVOCATE



WE DO OUTREACH



WE INCREASE PARTICIPATION

## Our Outreach & Advocacy Focus:

### AFTERSCHOOL MEALS

The Child and Adult Care Food Program, At-Risk Afterschool Meals Program, is a federal nutrition program that offers reimbursement for meals served at community afterschool enrichment sites.

[www.floridaafterschoolmeals.org](http://www.floridaafterschoolmeals.org)

### SCHOOL BREAKFAST

The National School Breakfast Program makes it possible for all school children in the US to receive a nutritious breakfast every day at school.

[www.floridaschoolbreakfast.org](http://www.floridaschoolbreakfast.org)

### SUMMER BREAKSPOT

Provides free meals and snacks to all children when school is out during the summer. Local governments, school districts, and nonprofits sponsor these free summer meal sites found in communities.

[www.summerbreakspot.org](http://www.summerbreakspot.org)

### COMMUNITY ELIGIBILITY PROVISION (CEP)

CEP allows high-poverty schools to offer both breakfast and lunch at no charge to all students, thus eliminating the traditional school meal application process for schools.

[www.floridaimpact.org/cep](http://www.floridaimpact.org/cep)

### FARM TO LEON COUNTY SCHOOLS

This program brings fresh produce from local farms to Leon County school cafeterias, along with nutrition education and school gardens.

[www.farmtolcs.org](http://www.farmtolcs.org)

### FLORIDA HEALTHY RETAIL

We work with local small business owners to bring fresh, nutritious, affordable foods into areas without enough access so that residents have the option to make healthier choices.

[www.floridahealthyretail.org](http://www.floridahealthyretail.org)

### FLORIDA FOOD ACCESS WORK GROUPS

We work to identify the needs of our communities and educate about the safety net programs available to them. So far, our focus areas include Madison, Homestead, Orlando, and Tampa.

[www.rebrand.ly/floridafoodaccess](http://www.rebrand.ly/floridafoodaccess)

### SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRITION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SNAP)

SNAP is a federal program that supplements the food budget of low-income families and individuals so they can purchase enough to eat. Through outreach we increase access to SNAP and educate the public on the full extent of their benefits in Florida.



@floridaimpactoendhunger

@floridaimpact

[www.floridaimpact.org](http://www.floridaimpact.org)

850-309-1488 • [staff@flimpact.org](mailto:staff@flimpact.org)

300 West Pensacola St, Tallahassee, FL 32301





# Happy 12th Birthday to the National Civil Rights Conference!

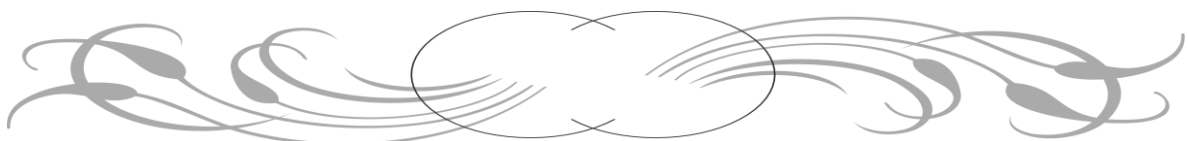


Learn more about the  
University of Wyoming  
Black Studies Center  
at  
[https://www.uwyo.edu/  
aads/black-studies-cen  
ter/](https://www.uwyo.edu/aads/black-studies-center/)



SCAN ME

"Intelligence plus  
character—that is the goal of  
true education."  
—Dr. Martin





Visit  
**Tallahassee**  
*Pretty. Unexpected.*

