

BLACK EDUCATED LESBIANS





Who we are?

Black Educated Lesbians (BEL) is a global 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization founded on September 10, 2014. What began as a single Facebook group has evolved into a thriving international network, officially becoming a nonprofit in 2021. Our mission is to provide a platform where professional Black lesbians can engage in meaningful conversations about the issues that impact our lives—while fostering connection, support, and collective empowerment.

BEL currently operates 67 specialized Facebook groups that focus on a variety of interests, including Black Lesbian Couples, Parenting, Employment, and Career Development. We also lead 20 local chapters worldwide, including BEL-Metro Atlanta, BEL-Africa, BEL-Mexico, and BEL-Europe. Our expansive reach reflects the diversity of our community and ensures that Black lesbians across the globe have a safe, affirming space to connect, grow, and thrive.



Mission Statement

Black Educated Lesbians (BEL) exists to empower, connect, and uplift Black queer women—centered on the lives and experiences of Black lesbians—through community, leadership, wellness, and economic advancement. We create safe, affirming spaces that foster sisterhood, build legacy, and amplify the voices of Black queer women globally. BEL is committed to cultivating visibility, healing, and generational impact through intentional programming and collective power.

Vision Statement

Black Educated Lesbians (BEL) envisions a world where Black queer women—especially Black lesbians—are fully affirmed, visible, and empowered to thrive in every aspect of life. We imagine a global community rooted in sisterhood, where wellness, leadership, legacy-building, and economic justice are not only accessible, but expected.

We see a future where Black lesbians lead boldly, live authentically, and create transformative change across industries, movements, and generations. BEL strives to be a guiding force in building that future—one where connection, care, and collective power uplift our community worldwide.



Our Programs

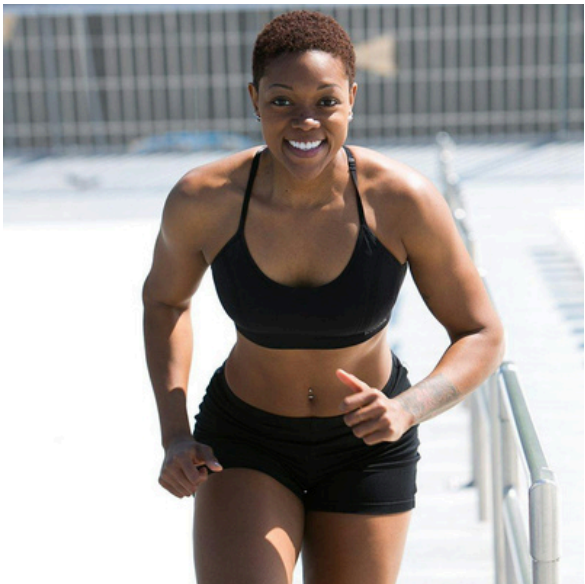


Mind, Body & Soul

Theme: Mental Health, Healing, and Emotional Wellness

Purpose:
This initiative centers the emotional, spiritual, and mental health needs of Black queer women. Mind, Body & Soul offers access to culturally competent healing spaces through workshops, check-ins, and partnerships with mental health professionals.

- Key Activities:**
- Weekly “Wellness Wednesday” and “Soulful Sunday” sessions
 - Mental health workbooks and guided journals
 - Support circles and healing justice programming
 - Mental health referral network



Be Strong & Healthy

Theme: Physical Wellness and Preventative Care

Purpose:
A holistic health initiative promoting physical well-being through education, movement, and access to care. Be Strong & Healthy focuses on reducing health disparities and increasing awareness of issues like nutrition, fitness, reproductive health, and chronic disease prevention in the Black queer community.

- Key Activities:**
- Fitness and nutrition challenges
 - Reproductive health education and advocacy
 - Partnerships with local health providers
 - Community health fairs and wellness days



BEL Wealth & Legacy

Theme: Financial Empowerment and Economic Justice

Purpose:
BEL Wealth & Legacy equips Black queer women with tools to build generational wealth, improve financial literacy, and increase economic mobility. This initiative provides workshops, courses, and resources focused on personal finance, entrepreneurship, and legacy planning.

- Key Activities:**
- 6-week financial literacy courses
 - Business development support and pitch competitions
 - Credit repair and homeownership workshops
 - “BELieve in Your Wealth” speaker series

Our Programs



SoulRoot Collective

Theme: Sustainability, Environmental Justice, and Cultural Healing

Purpose:

This initiative reconnects Black queer women to the land, culture, and sustainability practices that affirm identity and promote collective well-being. Through urban gardening, eco-education, and ancestral healing workshops, SoulRoot Collective cultivates resilience rooted in our cultural heritage.

Key Activities:

- Community garden projects and seed exchanges
- Environmental justice campaigns
- Land-based healing and storytelling circles
- Nature-based retreats and volunteer clean-ups



EmpowerHER

Theme: Leadership and Mentorship for Black Queer Youth

Purpose:

EmpowerHER supports Black queer girls and young women (ages 16–21) in developing leadership skills, confidence, and future pathways. Through mentorship, training, and educational support, this initiative creates a safe space for youth to thrive and lead with authenticity.

Key Activities:

- Mentorship pairings with professional BEL members
- Monthly leadership labs and speaker series
- College and career readiness support
- EmpowerHER Summer Leadership Cohort

BEL Subgroups

BEL offers approximately 40 subtopic groups designed to foster deeper conversations and provide support and advice on a wide range of topics. Many of these groups also host their own virtual meet-and-greets, creating additional opportunities for connection and community-building.

- Black Lesbian Bikers
- Black Lesbian Health & Fitness
- Black Lesbian Couples
- Black Lesbians Seeking Connections
- Black Lesbian Entrepreneurs
- Black Lesbian Parents
- Black Lesbian Mental Health Professionals
- Black Lesbian Community Organizers
- BEL-Seasoned Sisters

- Black Lesbians Mental Health Support
- Black Lesbians Investing & Personal Finance Group
- Black Lesbians Academia & Education
- Black Lesbians Book Club
- Black Lesbians Real Estate
- BEL-Travel
- Black Lesbians Gardening and Farming
- BEL Check In

- Black Lesbians Seeking Employment & Careers
- Black Lesbians in the Trucking Industry
- Black Lesbians Greek Sorority & Fraternity
- Black Lesbians Food & Wine
- Black Lesbians Connecting to MotherEarth 🌿
- Black Lesbians in Healthcare
- Black Lesbians in Tech
- Black Lesbians in the Military

Local Chapters

Our local chapters are designed to bring together like-minded individuals from the community, fostering a supportive environment for both social interactions and professional growth. While we aim to incorporate community service initiatives in the near future, our current focus is on building and expanding our membership base.

- BEL-Southern Louisiana Chapter
- BEL-DMV Chapter
- BEL-Houston Chapter
- BEL-Pacific West Coast Chapter
- BEL-KOI Chapter
- BEL-DFW Chapter
- BEL-Northern Cali Chapter
- BEL-Los Angeles Chapter
- BEL-Southern Cali/Las Vegas Chapter
- BEL-New York/New Jersey Chapter
- BEL-Chicago Chapter
- BEL-Metro Atlanta Chapter
- BEL-Nashville/Memphis Chapter
- BEL-Arkansas/Kansas/Missouri/Oklahoma Chapter
- BEL-Pennsylvania Chapter
- BEL-Detroit Metro Chapter
- BEL-The Carolinas Chapter
- BEL-Southern Georgia/Northern Florida Chapter
- BEL-Central Florida Chapter
- BEL-Southern Florida Chapter
- BEL-Alabama/Mississippi Chapter
- BEL-Arizona/New Mexico Chapter
- BEL-New England Chapter
- BEL-Mexico Chapter
- BEL-Africa Chapter
- BEL-Caribbean Chapter
- BEL-Europe Chapter

Black Queer Women's Conference

The Black Queer Women's Conference is a powerful three-day experience designed to ignite purpose, amplify leadership, and strengthen the collective power of Black queer women. Bringing together professionals from across industries, this gathering creates a safe and affirming space where Black queer women can grow, connect, and thrive.

Over the course of three transformative days, attendees will engage in dynamic workshops, courageous conversations, healing-centered panels, and intentional networking opportunities. Together, we'll explore critical themes such as advocacy, wellness, legacy-building, and professional advancement.

This isn't just a conference—it's a movement. A space where sisterhood is strategy, authenticity is celebrated, and the future is being shaped by us, for us.



2024 Conference

The inaugural conference was held from September 27-29th in Metro Atlanta. The 3-Day Conference included a Welcome Reception and Vendor Fair. Over 50 people attended.

Topics Covered:
Healthy Relationships
Mental Health
Physical Health
Domestic Violence
Caregivers Support
Parenting Panel
Finance
Spirituality



Our 2024 Sponsors



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To bring this event to life, we were fortunate to secure the support of seven sponsors: one in-kind donation, one Friends of BEL sponsor, one Silver Level sponsor, three Gold Level sponsors, and one Platinum Level sponsor. Their generous contributions made this dream a reality, and we couldn't have done it without their support.

xHood

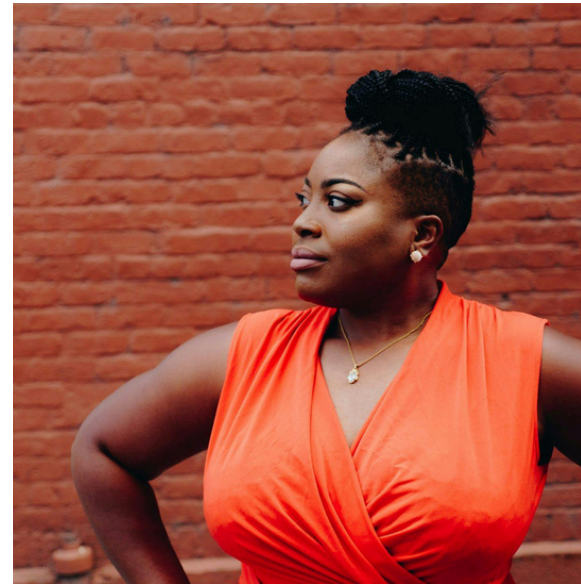
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Sponsorship Levels



Queer Brilliance Package-\$3,000

- Premium booth location at the vendor and resource fair
- 6 registrations are included
- Prominent logo placement on all marketing materials, including flyers, programs, and promotional items
- Full-page ad in the event program
- Recognition as a Platinum Sponsor in all event communications
- Social media shoutouts and features

Uplift Unity Package-\$1500

- Prime booth location at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- 4 registrations are included
- Logo placement on select marketing materials, including flyers, programs, and promotional items
- Half-page ad in the event program
- Recognition as a Gold Sponsor in event communications
- Social media and BEL Newsletter mentions

Pride Power Package-\$1000

- Booth at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- 3 registrations included
- Logo placement on select marketing materials, including flyers, programs, and promotional items
- Quarter-page ad in the event program
- Recognition as a Silver Sponsor in event communications
- Social media and BEL Newsletter mentions

Diversity Dynamo Package-\$750

- Booth at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- 2 registrations included
- Logo placement on select marketing materials, including flyers, programs, and promotional items
- Recognition as a Bronze Sponsor in event communications
- Social media and BEL Newsletter mentions

Sponsorship Levels



Rainbow Radiance Package-\$500

- Booth at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- 1 registration included
- Logo placement on the event program
- Recognition as a Small Business Sponsor in event communications
- Social media mentions and BEL Newsletter



Power Lunch Package-\$600 + F&B Costs

- Recognition as the official Power Lunch sponsor for one-day of the event
- Booth at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- Logo placement on lunch tables and lunch-related signage
- Opportunity to provide branded napkins, swag or other lunch-related items
- Mention in the event program and during lunch announcements
- Social media and BEL Newsletter mentions



Community Partnership-\$300

- Booth at the Vendor and Resource Fair
- Logo placement on lunch tables and lunch-related signage
- Opportunity to provide branded napkins, swag or other lunch-related items
- Mention in the event program and during lunch announcements
- Social media and BEL Newsletter mentions

In-Kind Donations



We are currently in need of the following items and services:

- **Conference supplies:** Name badges, notebooks, tote bags, and other event materials.
- **Event refreshments:** Snacks and catering services for meals or breaks during the event.
- **Promotional items:** Branded merchandise such as Mugs or other promotional items for attendees.
- **Technology support:** Audio/Visual equipment such as microphones, projectors, and speakers.
- **Gift items:** Raffle prizes or giveaway items for attendees.
- **Printing services:** Conference programs, banners, flyers, and other printed materials.

Thank You

With your support, we can turn this conference into an annual event that continues to empower and uplift our community for years to come.

Will you join us in making this vision a reality?





Contact Us



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