



NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Rutgers University, New Brunswick, New Jersey

MAY 30, 2024—JUNE 2, 2024

HOSTED BY



THIS CONFERENCE IS PROUDLY
SPONSORED IN PART BY



HELLO **BAC2024** FRIENDS!



ABOUT THE BLACK ALUMNI COLLECTIVE

The Black Alumni Collective (BAC) was created in 2018 and is a 501(c)(3) non-profit and consortium of Black alumni organizations from colleges and universities across the United States. Today, the BAC engages more than 40 Black alumni organizations from large state universities, small private colleges, and Historically Black Colleges and Universities. BAC's mission is to connect Black alumni across the Diaspora, to share best practices, to advocate for Black students and alumni on individual campuses and communities, and to celebrate Black excellence in its many forms. Learn more about the BAC at www.blackalumnicollective.org.

THANK YOU for **connecting** Black alumni from colleges and universities across the country, **touching** the lives of Black students currently on campus, and **inspiring** future generations of students that will make their way there.

You ARE the Collective and we appreciate all that you do.

FROM 2024 FORWARD.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion at colleges and universities are under attack, and now is the time for us to use our collective voices to preserve our culture, history, and our very presence.

Social justice and equity remain the center of what we do and enhance our learning around, and we encourage you to lean into this aspect of the Black experience over the next few days.

We appreciate you being a part of our Collective mission—**and call to action**—to mobilize Black alumni to activate best practices, advocate for Black students on individual campuses and communities like never before and applaud Black excellence in its many forms.

We will learn, fellowship, and connect during the conference, and we will remain connected and protected in the years ahead.

In Gratitude,

SANDERS ADU

Black Alumni Collective
Co-Founder &
Board Co-Chair

CINDY JONES

Black Alumni Collective
Board Co-Chair

ALLYSON REAVES

Black Alumni Collective
Co-Founder &
Board Member



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to congratulate this year's Black Alumni Collective committee for yet another successful convening of Black alumni leaders.

I admire the Black Alumni Collective's commitment to unifying and empowering Black alumni through civic engagement, economics, and advocacy, and I applaud its tireless work to build a network with global influence for the betterment of society.

The Collective's pillars of impact, which include advocacy for inclusion, community service, philanthropy, and support of student recruitment, are closely intertwined with my vision for Rutgers: expanding access to academic excellence for talented students; building a community

that reflects our country's growing diversity and emphasizes service, active citizenship, and sustaining our democracy; and enhancing research that will serve the common good.

On behalf of Rutgers University, I am thrilled to welcome you all to our campuses throughout New Jersey.

A special acknowledgment is due to the Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance, Rutgers University Alumni Association, and Rutgers University Foundation for their partnership on this historic assembly of great minds and leaders that will move our universities, alumni, and local communities forward.

Sincerely,

DR. JONATHAN HOLLOWAY

President, Rutgers University



WELCOME TO THE BANKS!

We are honored to host the Black Alumni Collective Conference at Rutgers, the State University of New Jersey.

We extend our heartfelt gratitude to all attendees for joining us and being a vital part of a national dialogue that is particularly poignant as we navigate this pivotal moment in history. Black alumni serve as catalysts for change, addressing a spectrum of local and global issues. Throughout this weekend, we will engage in a dynamic exchange of ideas, foster connections, and collaborate, guided by the profound words of the late Paul Robeson: "We [must] realize that our future lies chiefly within our hand".

The Rutgers African-American Alumni Alliance (RAAA), Inc. is committed to honoring our Rutgers alumni across the globe, supported by the unwavering dedication of students, faculty, staff, and the broader Rutgers community in Newark, New Brunswick, and Camden, New Jersey. While we cherish our roots, we are also an integral part of a vibrant, expansive network of alumni whose ancestors overcame immense challenges, offering a profound legacy that serves as a beacon for the world.

As we convene here today, we urge you to continue championing, advocating, and fundraising for the generations that will follow. Let us heed the resonant words of Paul Robeson: "I shall take my voice wherever there are those who want to hear the melody of freedom or the words that might inspire hope and courage in the face of fear."

With warmest regards,

SIMONE MACK-BRIGHT

RAAA, Inc. President

ANTHONY CULPEPPER

RAAA, Inc. Vice President

SCHEDULE

THURSDAY MAY 30, 2024

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
8:30 am– 2:00 pm	Black Alumni Golf Outing Join us for an unforgettable experience on the picturesque, tree-lined, PGA sanctioned golf course for beginners and semi-professional enthusiasts. Set against the beautiful backdrop of the Rutgers University Busch Campus in Piscataway, New Jersey. Attendees will engage in a 9-hole or 18-hole golfing experience. There is also an opportunity to win prizes, network and connect with former classmates, and/or make new connections. Continental breakfast served.	RUTGERS UNIVERSITY GOLF COURSE (777 HOES LANE, PISCATAWAY, NJ)
6:00 pm– 8:00 pm	Black Alumni Collective National Conference Welcome Reception	PRESIDENT'S TENT (15 SEMINARY PLACE NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30 am– 9:00 am	Check-in and Continental Breakfast	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA (83 ROCKEFELLER ROAD, PISCATAWAY, NJ)
9:00 am– 10:00 am	Conference Opening Welcome & Opening Remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allyson Reaves, Co-Founder of the Black Alumni Collective Sanders Adu, Cindy Jones, Co-Chairs, Black Alumni Collective Simone Mack Bright, President, Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance Qawi Austin, Debra O'Neal, Sharon Stroye, Co-Chairs, 2024 BAC National Conference Awards & Recognitions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Obinna Onyeali, Board Member, Black Alumni Collective 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
10:00 am– 10:15 am	Networking Break	
10:15 am– 11:15 am	Fireside Chat with President Holloway Join us for a powerful fireside chat celebrating Black excellence in academia, featuring two dynamic leaders: Dr. Nyeema Watson, Assistant Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion, and Dr. Jonathan Holloway, President of Rutgers University. This event is a testament to the brilliance and resilience of the Black community in higher education. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Jonathan Holloway, President and University Professor, Rutgers University Moderator: Dr. Nyeema Watson, Sr. Vice Chancellor, Rutgers University – Camden 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
11:15 am– 11:45 am	Power & Engagement: The Power & Importance of the Black Vote in the 2024 Election The importance of voting in this year's election is important at all governmental levels—federal, state, and local. Bruce Morgan, President of the New Brunswick Area Branch of the NAACP will offer remarks about the Movement Voter Project and the importance of the Black community engagement in the voting process. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruce Morgan, President, New Brunswick Area Branch NAACP 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
11:45 am– 1:30 pm	Lunch (<i>Boxed Lunches Provided</i>)	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
HONORING THE PAST—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	Legacy of Excellence—Celebrating Black Alumni Trailblazers Join us for an inspiring conference session dedicated to honoring and celebrating the remarkable achievements and contributions of Black alumni who have blazed trails in their respective fields and made a lasting impact on their communities and society at large. "Legacy of Excellence" is a session that pays tribute to these trailblazers while providing a platform for their stories and insights to inspire the next generation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vesta Godwin Clark, Executive Director, St. James Social Service Corporation JoAnn Means, Senior Diversity Talent Sourcer, TD Bank Angella N. Middleton, Assistant United States Attorney, U.S. Attorney's Office Otis Rolley, Board Member, Stonewall Community Foundation Richard Roper, President, The Roper Group 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
	Not Imposters but Disruptors: Imposter Syndrome and Our Experience The global pandemic has reshaped the way we work and live, bringing about unprecedented challenges and uncertainties. In the midst of these changes, many individuals have grappled with feelings of Imposter Syndrome, a persistent self-doubt that their achievements are undeserved. Join us for a timely conference session where we delve into the intersection of Imposter Syndrome and the COVID-19 pandemic, exploring its impact and providing strategies for resilience and self-affirmation. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dawan Alford, Founder, Black Male Mental Health Kandace Diedrick, Assistant Dean, Rutgers University Dr. Lacey Hunter, Associate Professor of Professional Practice, Rutgers University - Newark Janique Sanders, MPA, Assistant Director for Experiential and Equity, University of North Carolina-Charlotte David Dylan Thomas, Founder and CEO, David Dylan Thomas, LLC 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1095

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
HONORING THE PAST—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>State of the Black Student</p> <p>The achievements of Black college graduates have been well documented in our community—from the first graduates of the Freedmen’s schools during the Black Reconstruction era (circa 1861-1877), to the throngs of proud HBCU graduates, to the undeterred alumni of predominately white institutions. We have a tradition of excellence in higher education. This session will examine the myriad of issues affecting Black student achievement in higher education.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Carrie Awadzi, Professor of Management, Delaware State University • Nicole Baird, Ed.D., Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs, Community College of Baltimore County • Shereem Herndon Brown, Author, The Black Family’s Guide to College Admissions • Imani DeJesus, Vice President, Programs & Guidance, SEEDS • Tabitha D. James, Owner & Lead Strategist, SHEAM Strategic Consulting Group • Dr. Marsha Lowery, Vice Chancellor for Student Academic Success, Rutgers University-Camden • Kadeem Williams, Project Manager, Subaru of America 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1071
	<p>“Phillyside Chat” with The Connect PHL</p> <p>Be a part of a discussion centered on the transformative power of place-based network building. Delve into the intricacies of fostering meaningful connections within Black alumni associations, industries, communities, organizations, and beyond, all anchored in physical spaces. Our speakers will share insights, strategies, and real-world examples on how to leverage the unique dynamics of local environments to nurture vibrant networks. From grassroots initiatives to urban revitalization projects, explore the profound impact of fostering relationships that thrive within the context of specific locales.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Senzwa Ntshepe, President, The Connect • Allyson Reaves, Co-Founder of the Black Alumni Collective 	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – LIVINGSTON HALL
	<p>Racial Healing Circles—Group I</p> <p>In today’s divisive and polarizing climate, people need reminders about the importance of “a beloved community.” Racial Healing Circles are opportunities for individuals from diverse or similar backgrounds to share their stories in a safe, brave, and responsible space. The Racial Healing Circle is a tool that engages diverse individuals in fostering connection through our shared lived experiences. The Racial Healing Circle is not the solution; it is the beginning process to finding solutions.</p> <p>Join us in a space where people engage in authentic story telling in a facilitated space with a human-centered focus on similarities, not differences.</p> <p><i>Pre-Registration Required (Limited Availability)</i></p>	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – ROOM 201

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
HONORING THE PAST—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>Racial Healing Circles—Group II</p> <p>In today’s divisive and polarizing climate, people need reminders about the importance of “a beloved community.” Racial Healing Circles are opportunities for individuals from diverse or similar backgrounds to share their stories in a safe, brave, and responsible space. The Racial Healing Circle is a tool that engages diverse individuals in fostering connection through our shared lived experiences. The Racial Healing Circle is not the solution; it is the beginning process to finding solutions.</p> <p>Join us in a space where people engage in authentic story telling in a facilitated space with a human-centered focus on similarities, not differences.</p> <p><i>Pre-Registration Required (Limited Availability)</i></p>	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – ROOM 202
2:45 pm– 3:00 pm	Networking Break	
TREASURING THE PRESENT—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
3:00 pm– 4:15 pm	<p>The Language of Wealth: Steps to Obtain the Words We Use</p> <p>Join us for an illuminating session focused on Asset Transfer, Tax Planning, Wealth Preservation, and Estate Planning. This session is designed for individuals at all stages of their financial journey, from beginners looking to get started to those seeking to enhance their existing wealth-building strategies. Whether planning for retirement, aspiring to purchase a home, or simply looking to achieve financial security, this session will provide valuable insights and actionable steps to help you attain your financial dreams. Take advantage of this opportunity to take control of your financial future and embark on the path to financial independence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lawrence Hibbert, Co-Founder, President and Managing Partner, BCT Partners • Benjamin M. Mobley, Vice President, J.P. Morgan • Jennifer Williams, Managing Director, Regional Director-Wealth, J.P. Morgan Wealth Management 	JERSEY MIKE’S ARENA

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
TREASURING THE PRESENT—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
3:00 pm– 4:15 pm	<p>Occupational Segregation: Strategies for Breaking Barriers</p> <p>In today’s diverse and dynamic workforce, addressing and overcoming occupational barriers is paramount for creating an inclusive and equitable environment for all. Join us for an enlightening conference session on “Breaking Down Occupational Barriers” where we will delve into the challenges that individuals face in accessing, advancing, and thriving in various professions. Our session aims to empower attendees with insights, strategies, and actionable solutions to foster a more inclusive and equitable workplace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Natalie L. Cox, MSPA, MBA, SEED Officer & Adjunct Professor, Rutgers School of Business - Camden • Neneh Diallo, Chief Diversity Officer, US Agency for International Development (USAID) • Yetunde A. Omede, Ph.D., Director, Office of Community and Civic Engagement / Professor of Global Affairs & Politics, State University of New York (SUNY)-FSC • Kenneth Royster, President & CEO, First Genesis of Virginia 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1095
	<p>Social Justice in Health Care: Solutions to Health Equity—Increasing Black Presence in Healthcare Professions</p> <p>According to the Association of American Medical Colleges only 5.7% of US doctors are Black or African American. We are all aware of the detrimental effects this has had on our population. In this panel we will discuss ways to recruit black people into the healthcare. We will also hear from the panelist too about their journeys to their current work.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bridgett Battles, Executive Presence Strategist and Brand Stylist, The Bridgett Battles Experience • Brianna Clark DO, MPH, Lead Physician and Co-Owner Sunflower Lactation and Health Education LLC • Minda Avasa Green, MD, Virtua Health, Obstetrics & Gynecology • Melissa Hagan, Ph.D., MPH, Group Director, Eliquis Lead US Cardiology Bristol Myers Squibb 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1071

FRIDAY MAY 31, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
TREASURING THE PRESENT—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
3:00 pm– 4:15 pm	<p>We Don’t Fit in the Workplace and We Don’t Have To</p> <p>The reality is that workplace cultures are rooted in White Supremacy Culture, and we were never meant to fit in. This session is a frank conversation about authentically and unapologetically navigating these spaces.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vanessa M. Bing, Ph.D., Professor of Psychology, City University of New York • Christina B. Donat, Of Counsel, Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C. • CeLilliane Green, Lawyer, Poet, Teacher, Mediator • Dr. Wendy M. Nicholson, Executive Director of DEI, LaGuardia Community College • Ralph Stowe, Founder/CEO/Advocate/Pianist, Jazz for PC Awareness 	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – LIVINGSTON HALL
	<p>Racial Healing Circles—Group III</p> <p>In today’s divisive and polarizing climate, people need reminders about the importance of “a beloved community.” Racial Healing Circles are opportunities for individuals from diverse or similar backgrounds to share their stories in a safe, brave, and responsible space. The Racial Healing Circle is a tool that engages diverse individuals in fostering connection through our shared lived experiences. The Racial Healing Circle is not the solution; it is the beginning process to finding solutions.</p> <p>Join us in a space where people engage in authentic story telling in a facilitated space with a human-centered focus on similarities, not differences.</p> <p><i>Pre-Registration Required (Limited Availability)</i></p>	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – ROOM 201
4:15pm– 6:30pm	<p>Alma Mater & Divine Nine Photoshoot</p> <p>All attendees should wear their alma mater school colors and/or their fraternity/sorority affiliation for a group photo shoot.</p>	RUTGERS ATHLETIC PERFORMANCE CENTER
6:30 pm	<p>Dinner on Your Own</p>	

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
7:30 am– 8:30 am	Check-in and Continental Breakfast	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
8:45 am– 9:00 am	Welcome & Opening Remarks	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
9:00 am– 10:00 am	<p>Celebrating Black Alumni Trailblazer Paul Robeson featuring Susan Robeson</p> <p>It is a testament to this family's commitment to social justice and cultural enrichment that still inspire people today. Susan Robeson, author, producer, and granddaughter of Paul Robeson, Rutgers University distinguished alumni, valedictorian of the 1919 graduating class, world renown athlete, singer, actor, and civil rights advocate will share remarks about the diverse projects and initiatives aimed at preserving and promoting the memory and achievements of her grandfather, as well as advancing social justice causes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susan Robeson, Author, Producer, and Granddaughter of Paul Robeson 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
10:00 am– 10:15 am	Networking Break	
10:15 am– 11:30 am	<p>Black Faces in High Places: 10 Game-Changing Strategies to Achieve Success and Find Greatness</p> <p>Join us for a thought-provoking session that delves into the dynamic landscape faced by Black professionals. For generations, the narrative has been clear: success requires twice the effort. But what happens when hard work isn't enough? Drawing from their experiences and millions of others, Dr. Randal Pinkett and Jeffrey A. Robinson, Ph.D. will explore the realities of navigating "the game"—the competitive world we all inhabit.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alfa Denmellash, CEO, Rising Tide Capital • Dr. Randal Pinkett, Chairman and CEO, BCT Partners • Victoria Pratt, Former City of Newark, NJ Municipal Judge • Jeffrey A. Robinson, Ph.D., Provost and Executive Vice-Chancellor, Rutgers University—Newark 	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
11:30 am– 12:00 pm	<p>Meet the Authors: "Black Faces in High Places: 10 Game-Changing Strategies to Achieve Success and Find Greatness"</p> <p>Attendees have the opportunity to meet Dr. Pinkett and Dr. Robinson, authors of "Black Faces in White Places: 10 Game-Changing Strategies to Achieve Success and Find Greatness," and further discuss their book.</p>	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
11:30 am– 1:30 pm	Lunch (<i>Boxed Lunches Provided</i>)	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
11:30 am– 1:30 pm	<p>Health and Community Service Fair</p> <p>Broadening community service is a Black Alumni Collective pillar of impact. Conference attendees can access the health and service fair that will feature health screenings, informational vendors, and volunteer service opportunities. Attendees are also encouraged to learn more about the volunteer service opportunities of these key campus and community partners: Braven, Elijah's Promise, The Urban Health Collaborative, United Way of Greater Union County, Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey, Robert Wood Johnson Medical School, and Rutgers School of Nursing.</p>	JERSEY MIKE'S ARENA
SHAPING THE FUTURE—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>Black Mental Health Matters: We All Are in Crisis</p> <p>The World Health Organization estimates that in a company of 1000 employees 200-300 employees will suffer from a serious mental health problem in any given year. One worker will die by suicide by every ten years and for every employee who dies by suicide another 10-20 will make a suicide attempt. The panel will discuss the daily stressors that many of black people deal with that over time build into crisis, identify and eliminate stigma associated with mental health crises; and strategies of how to cope with mental health emergencies.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Charise Breeden Balaam, Project Manager, NJ Department of Education • Shealyn J. Blanchard, Ph.D., Psychologist, University of Maryland Counseling Services • Nicole Rhone, Founder and CEO, Flourishing LLC • Karen L. Smith, MD, Physician Medical Director, Karen L. Smith MD PA 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1071

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
SHAPING THE FUTURE—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>Pathway To Gain Access on Governance Boards at Colleges and Universities</p> <p>Have you considered serving on a governance board at your alma mater? This workshop will discuss the importance of Black Alumni understanding the need for them to serve, and how to gain access on the governing boards at their college and/or university. The discussion will focus on why Black alumni must be present and proactive in impacting crucial decisions that affect the outcomes of Black students and alumni. The session will explore what requirements and skill sets are needed to serve on a Board, and the process to be nominated and elected. The panelist will consist of Black alumni who currently serve on governing boards and have experience in leadership and board development.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kamil Ali-Jackson, Trustee, Princeton University; Co-Founder, Aclaris Therapeutics, Inc. • J. Derek Penn, Former Board of Visitor, Duke, Fuqua School of Business; Independent Board Trustee, Charles Schwab • Tangela Richardson, Manager of Communications, Howard University • Squire Servance, Trustee, Rutgers University; Founder & Managing Partner, Syridex Bio 	RUTGERS BUSINESS SCHOOL ROOM 1095
	<p>BAC Town Hall: Building Engagement, Policy, and Advocacy</p> <p>With increased interest from Black alumni associations in the work around advocacy and civic engagement, this Town Hall style session will facilitate a group discussion around the importance of affirmative action and other national priorities. This session will help formalize the strategic conversation to mobilize the potential power of Black Alumni organizations in this period of anti- Blackness and aggressiveness to Black communities, families, and students. It will also engage Black Alumni organizations to inform the long-term strategy of the Collective and contribute to a collective strategy to transform the policies, practices and programs in higher education institutions to benefit Black students, faculty, employees, and alumni communities through collective action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H. Qawi Austin, Founder and Consultant, Q&A Thought Partners, LLC • Chavis Jones, Associate Counsel, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law • Mayah Lubin, Higher Education Equity Senior Coordinator, Lawyers’ Committee for Civil Rights Under Law • Allyson Reaves, Senior Vice President, CCS Fundraising; Co-Founder, Black Alumni Collective 	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – LIVINGSTON HALL

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
SHAPING THE FUTURE—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>Be Seen: How Black Alumni Can Support Students</p> <p>In this inspiring conference session, we will explore the vital role that Black alumni can play in supporting and empowering Black students in their educational journeys. Our goal is to foster a sense of community, mentorship, and solidarity that will help Black students thrive academically, socially, and professionally.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chelsea Brown, President, Winthrop Black Alumni Council • Tanisha Golding, Student, Spelman College • Cindy Jones, Program Manager/U-RISE, Old Dominion University • Raheem Manning, Director of Night Time Economy and Business Development, City of Philadelphia • Shakee J. Merritt, Voter Engagement—Operations lead, Vote Rev • Bryan L. Mobley, Jr., Advisor & Student Support Manager, John Hopkins University • Toschia Moffett, J.D., MPA, LLM, Federal Prosecutor, US Army • Ciara Pierce, Sr. Director, Finance, Comcast NBCUniversal • Malenia Swinton, Youth Co-Conspirator, MS Creative and Business Solutions • Angela Tennison, Founder & CEO, The Global Legacy Institute 	JERSEY MIKE’S ARENA
	<p>Lifting as we Climb: BAC Partner Schools Workshop for Collaborative Excellence</p> <p>Welcome to a facilitated group coaching session tailored to partner schools committed to advancing the mission and vision of the Black Alumni Collective through their alumni associations. Join us for an immersive exploration as we delve into using a Continuity Guide and Leadership Assessment framework to ground yourselves in the foundational Six Pillars of Impact.</p> <p>In this session, participants will embark on a collaborative journey guided by seasoned facilitators with expertise in organizational development and community empowerment.</p> <p>By the end of this session, participants will emerge equipped with practical tools, actionable strategies, and a renewed sense of purpose to advance the mission of their Black alumni associations. Together, we will embark on a collective journey towards greater equity, excellence, and empowerment within our academic communities. Join us and be part of the transformative movement shaping the future of Black alumni leadership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jateya Jones, CEO, Jateya Jones Consulting 	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – COLLABORATIVE LEARNING CENTER

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
SHAPING THE FUTURE—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
1:30 pm– 2:45 pm	<p>Racial Healing Circles—Group IV</p> <p>In today’s divisive and polarizing climate, people need reminders about the importance of “a beloved community.” Racial Healing Circles are opportunities for individuals from diverse or similar backgrounds to share their stories in a safe, brave, and responsible space. The Racial Healing Circle is a tool that engages diverse individuals in fostering connection through our shared lived experiences. The Racial Healing Circle is not the solution; it is the beginning process to finding solutions.</p> <p>Join us in a space where people engage in authentic story telling in a facilitated space with a human-centered focus on similarities, not differences.</p> <p><i>Pre-Registration Required (Limited Availability)</i></p>	LIVINGSTON STUDENT CENTER – ROOM 201
2:45 pm– 3:00 pm	Networking Break	
3:00 pm– 4:00 pm	<p>Collective Call to Action—’Til Victory Is Won: Recommitting to The Fight for Black Freedom</p> <p>Black people in America are under attack in ways that seemed unimaginable just over 15 years ago, when many saw the election of Barack Obama to the Presidency of the United States as heralding the long-awaited arrival of an enlightened, “post-racial” America. Fast forward past the tumultuous presidency of Donald Trump, the murder of George Floyd, a global pandemic, and a short-lived push for and fierce backlash against diversity, equity, and inclusion—by every measure, the post-racial dream is being realized as a nightmarish return to our nation’s racist, anti-Black past. In 2024, another presidential election year, the future of Black America is in greater peril than at any period since before the 1960s Civil Rights Movement.</p> <p>Against this backdrop, Alfred Edmond Jr., SVP/Editor-at-Large at Black Enterprise, joins the 2024 Black Alumni Collective Conference to deliver a critically necessary call to action. How we respond will determine the future of Black Americans, our nation, and the world. A founding member of the Black alumni movement at Rutgers, and member of the RAAA Hall of Fame and the Rutgers Hall of Distinguished Alumni, the award-winning multi-media journalist and expert on black wealth and entrepreneurship will delve into why the times we live in and the challenges we face represent a call for a new generation of Black leaders—including those represented by the Black Alumni Collective—to step up and complete the unfinished business of securing true and lasting equality, freedom and justice for African Americans.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alfred Edmond, Jr., SVP/Editor-at-Large, Black Enterprise 	JERSEY MIKE’S ARENA

SATURDAY JUNE 1, 2024 (CONTINUED)

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
SHAPING THE FUTURE—BREAKOUT SESSIONS		
4:00 pm– 4:30 pm	<p>Conference Closing: Bridge to 2025 & 2026</p> <p>Bridge to 2025</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sanders Adu, Ahli Moore, Alvin Perkins, 2025 Ghana Homecoming Co-Chairs <p>Bridge to 2026</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2026 National Conference Co-Chairs <p>Wrap-up and Thank You</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Qawi Austin, Debra O’Neal, Sharon Stroye, Co-Chairs, 2024 BAC National Conference 	JERSEY MIKE’S ARENA
4:30 pm– 9:00 pm	Dinner on Your Own	
9:00 pm– 12:00 am	<p>Scarlet & Black Alumni Party</p> <p>After days filled with seminars, speakers, workshops and activities, it’s time to exhale! We invite all attendees and support volunteers to chill and relax with us!</p> <p>There will be cocktails, hors d’oeuvres and a special performance by hip hop violinist, Bri Blvck, followed by a dance party until midnight, with drinks, desserts, and a DJ set by DJ V Free (Vernon Freeland), an icon across New Jersey.</p> <p>Build on the connections created at the conference, get to know each other on a personal level and have a little fun.</p>	HYATT REGENCY – BRUNSWICK BALLROOM (2 ALBANY ST. NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)

SUNDAY JUNE 2, 2024

TIME	ACTIVITY	LOCATION
10:00 am– 11:00 am	Coffee and Refreshments	ALUMNI HOUSE – VAN NEST HALL (19 COLLEGE AVE NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)
10:30 am– 10:45 am	<p>Standing on Their Shoulders: A Tribute to Our Ancestors</p> <p>The ringing of the Old Queens Bell in tribute to the Indigenous people, the enslaved individuals that built these halls, and our ancestors who came before us.</p>	OLD QUEENS (420 GEORGE ST. NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)
11:00 am– 1:00 pm	<p>Worship Service</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Lawrence Powell, Pastor, Agape Family Worship Center (agapecenter.org) 	KIRKPATRICK CHAPEL (81 SOMERSET ST NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)
1:30 pm– 3:00 pm	<p>Post Conference Brunch</p> <p>Fee: \$30.00—Pre-Registration Required (Limited Availability)</p>	DELTA’S RESTAURANT (19 DENNIS ST, NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ)

SPEAKERS



SANDERS ADU

Sanders Adu is Senior Vice President of Federal Government Relations at Wells Fargo specializing in payments, technology, fintech, cybersecurity, consumer lending and retail banking issues. He also serves on Wells Fargo's Diverse Segments Representation & Inclusion (DSRI) External Engagements team where he manages key third-party relationships with national policy stakeholders. Prior to joining Wells Fargo, Sanders served as senior counsel to Congressman Mel Watt (D-NC) on the U.S. House Financial Services Committee where he worked on the landmark *Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection* legislation. Before Capitol Hill, Sanders was an attorney in private practice. He received his B.A. in Public Policy from Duke University and his JD from the University of California-Berkeley School of Law.



DAWAN ALFORD

Founder of Black Male Mental Health, a nonprofit that increases access to mental health resources for men of color, Dawan Alford garnered a gritty work ethic from working on a garbage truck, then as a train mechanic for NJ Transit, before enrolling

at Rutgers University-Newark. A first-generation college graduate, Alford participated in Rutgers' international leadership exchange program where he traveled to India and London examining social impact leaders and public policies. He led DEI efforts in the sports community where he managed politically sensitive projects with the NFL, NBA, and NASCAR on eliminating racial discrimination, civic engagement and voting advocacy. He also is working to pair Black men with Black male therapists, creating more safe spaces for men of color.



KAMIL ALI-JACKSON

During her four decades in the legal field and the life sciences industry, Kamil Ali-Jackson has co-founded several venture-capital funded specialty and biopharmaceutical companies and a biopharmaceutical assets management company. Ali-Jackson is an inaugural member of Princeton University's Office of the Dean for Research External Advisory Council on Innovation and Entrepreneurship and an adjunct lecturer at the University of Pennsylvania Carey Law School. She received a Juris Doctorate from Harvard Law School and a Bachelor of Arts in Politics from Princeton University. Ali-Jackson serves on the Princeton University Board of Trustees and is chair of the East Bradford Zoning Commission for the local township in which she lives in Pennsylvania.



H. QAWI AUSTIN

As founder and CEO of Q&A Thought Partners, Qawi Austin is a polymath senior consultant and certified professional coach with a track record of achievement through more than 20 years of organizational leadership in corporate, government, non-for-profit, and as an elected official. Austin serves on several boards and committees focused on DEI, education, professional and economic development, adapting to change, food insecurity, and building sustainable community relationships. A Rutgers University alumnus, Austin currently serves clients in the equity space, including the Equity Brain Trust, Campbell's Soup, and NASA Astrophysics.



DR. CARRIE AWADZI

Dr. Carrie Awadzi is recognized for excellence in the community as a professor of Management in the College of Business at Delaware State University, a researcher with a focus on educational learning and technology, and a student advocate driving the Whole Student learning approach to propel academic achievement. She is well-respected as an integral member of the

Editorial Board of the Journal of Faculty Development and a Board Member for Business Professionals of America, as well as a course reviewer for Blackboard in the Blackboard Exemplary Course Program. Dr. Awadzi is a lifelong learner and recently earned certificates in Strategic Management, Society of Human Resource Management (SHRM) CP, Ethical and Inclusive Leadership, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in the Workplace, Resilience in Education (Trauma Informed Practices) and Instruction, Design, and Technology.



NICOLE BAIRD, ED.D.

A native New Yorker who served in progressive leadership roles in Maryland community colleges for over 23 years, Nicole Baird serves as Assistant Vice President of Student Affairs at the Community College of Baltimore County, overseeing areas offering engagement and support services. Previously she was Associate Vice President for the Center for Teaching and Learning at Frederick Community College. She earned a bachelor's degree in biology with a minor in chemistry and a master's in adult and continuing education from Coppin State University. She holds a doctorate in educational leadership and management from Drexel University. In 2022, Baird completed the International Coaching Federation Professional Certified Coach credential coursework with a concentration in leadership and academic coaching. In September 2022, she completed her certification in change management from Cornell University.



DR. CHARISE BREEDEN BALAAM

Dr. Charise Breeden-Balaam stands as a testament to the seamless integration of extensive experience in both social work and higher education administration, enriching her illustrious career with a wealth of invaluable insights. Previously adorned with the title of distinguished professor, she specialized in the social sciences across a constellation of esteemed local colleges and universities, engaging with a diverse clientele spanning mental health services, corrections departments, and collaborative public-private ventures. Presently, Dr. Balaam assumes a pivotal role as a Project Specialist within the State of New Jersey's Department of Education, where she leads the charge in crafting and sustaining a recruitment campaign for the K-12 Workforce Diversity pilot program. In this capacity, she orchestrates strategic collaborations with education program providers, fortifying and amplifying recruitment strategies to drive transformative change.



BRIDGETT BATTLES

Although she holds several professional titles, Bridgett Battles is known as a speaker and executive presence strategist

who transforms and enhances the images of highly successful women. She shows women how to develop a powerful stage presence and leverages her knowledge and expertise to help them achieve their highest potential. Guiding clients as they identify their signature style and discover how it can translate into substantial income, Battles reveals unique ways to command an audience with feminine fierceness and unforgettable charisma.



VANESSA M. BING, PH.D.

Dr. Vanessa M. Bing is a licensed clinical psychologist, educator, and consultant who has worked for more than two decades developing health and wellness programs/initiatives in educational and clinical settings and providing corporate consultations on gender-based harassment and anti-racist and practices in the workplace. In her faculty position at the City University of New York /LaGuardia Community College, she was responsible for the creation of the Faculty and Staff of Color Collective, an affinity group that developed the college's first Racial Climate Survey. Here, she also served as the chairperson of the Social Science Department, co-lead a faculty and staff professional development series (Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Across the Campus and Curriculum), and was a member of the college's Presidential Advisory Council on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion.



SHEALYN J. BLANCHARD, PH.D.

Shealyn Blanchard, Ph.D. is a psychologist at the University of Maryland Counseling Center where she provides clinical services to the campus community including individual, career, and group counseling, clinical supervision, and outreach consultation and programming. She has worked in a variety of settings, including K-12 public schools, non-profit organizations, community mental health, churches, the performing arts, and higher education. Through her work as a psychologist, consultant, and workshop facilitator, she hopes to break the stigma of mental health concerns through community engagement and education. She earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from Spelman College, her master's in psychology at the City College of New York, and her Ph.D. in counseling psychology at Western Michigan University.



CHELSEA BROWN

Trained as a nonprofit management professional, Chelsea Brown has more than eight years of experience in philanthropy, fundraising, sponsorships, and grantmaking. In 2019, she was named a Forbes Under 30 Scholar and a William Randolph Hearst Fellow with the Aspen Institute's Philanthropy and Social Innovation Program. In 2020, BlackHer highlighted her

as a "Black Woman to Watch in Philanthropy." She has served on several boards and as the Corporate Purpose Specialist for the Nasdaq Foundation. She is also the founder of The Black Mill, a consulting firm focused on coordinating cross-functional efforts to drive engagement, programs, and partnerships with nonprofit and for-profit partners internationally.

BRIANNA CLARK DO, MPH

Dr. Brianna Clark is the owner of Sunflower Lactation and Health Education LLC. Dr. Clark is an osteopathic physician that believes in the perspective of body, mind, and soul. After college, she completed an AmeriCorps Community Health Corps year of service. She learned that health is not just an individual responsibility but the wrap-around community we create to support one another. Dr. Clark completed an MPH and certificate in non-profit management at Texas A&M University where she learned about the determinants of health. She completed her Doctorate in Osteopathic Medicine from VCOM-Carolinas. Dr. Clark's non-university education comes from a community of birth workers, caregivers, and diverse friends she deeply values.



VESTA GODWIN CLARK

Vesta Godwin Clark is Executive Director of St. James Social Service Corporation in Newark, New Jersey, where she oversees a \$2 million budget. She has proudly served two terms on the Rutgers University Board of Trustees where she was the

youngest elected alumnae trustee. After completing her term, she was elected to serve as a charter trustee. An active member of the Newark NAACP, Vesta is a life member of the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance and a 2020 inductee into their Hall of Fame. A graduate of Rutgers University-New Brunswick with a bachelor's degree in psychology, Clark also holds a master's degree in public administration from William Paterson University and a certificate in public and non-profit management.



NATALIE L. COX, MSPA, MBA

Natalie Cox is a higher education professional and student advocate who manages employer relationships, the internship & mentorship programs, and offers career coaching, professional development, and experiential learning opportunities for undergraduate students at Rutgers School of Business-Camden (RSBC). She is an adjunct professor in the undergraduate program who has embraced her passion for inspiring youth to envision their academic and career success by empowering them to build a foundation of excellence on their journey to accomplished careers, leadership, and life work. She implements her Lean Six Sigma training to efficiently maximize processes and productivity in a lean staff environment. For almost 25 years, Cox has been part of the Rutgers family, earning a Bachelor's degree in Business Management; an MBA in Marketing with a focus in Customer Analytics; and most recently a Master's degree in

Public Affairs, in pursuit of a PhD in the field. In her spare time, Cox enjoys R&B line dancing, international travel, and spending quality time with family! Cox's motto is to live life "more abundantly", and believes that we are blessed to be a blessing.



IMANI DEJESUS

Imani DeJesus rejoined SEEDS as Vice President of Programs and Guidance in August 2022. Previously, her work at the organization involved leading the academic programs for nearly 10 years where she most notably was founding director of the College Scholars Program. Before returning to SEEDS, DeJesus worked as Director of Operations at Paul Robeson Charter School in Trenton, New Jersey. She has built a career supporting young people through the nonprofit sector for nearly 15 years as an experienced college access professional, educator, and youth development specialist. A native of New Jersey, she holds a bachelor's degree in biology and psychology from Seton Hall University and has completed graduate courses in organizational leadership at Gonzaga University.



NENEH DIALLO

Neneh Diallo is USAID's Chief Diversity Officer, and leads the Office of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Accessibility in the Office of the Administrator. Neneh has a proven track record

of championing diversity, equity, and inclusion in both the public and private sectors. She most recently served as the Senior Vice President for Marketing and Communications at pocstock, a global Black-owned media platform focused on increasing representation and diversity in stock media. She developed the annual framework for the company's U.S. campaign, which celebrates diversity, equity, and inclusion through thought leadership and social media campaigns.



KANDACE DIEDRICK

Kandace Diedrick serves as Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Programs at Rutgers University's School of Business-Camden, drawing on over 15 years of experience in higher education. She implements strategies for fostering student success and oversees a team of academic advisors and student experience officers. As a lecturer, she brings practical insights into her teaching, enriching students' learning experiences. Previously, she coordinated college preparatory programs at Rowan University and Kean University, showcasing her commitment to student success beyond traditional boundaries. She earned a bachelor's degree in English with a focus in Africana studies and a master's degree in public administration from Rutgers University. Diedrick is pursuing doctoral studies in public affairs, focusing on Black and brown communities.



CHRISTINA B. DONAT

Christina Bonne-Année Donat, an Of Counsel member in Porzio's Wealth Preservation Group, counsels clients on strategies for wealth preservation, succession planning, Medicaid eligibility and estate administration. Since 2013, Judge Donat has served as an Administrative Law Judge with the New York State Office of Temporary & Disability Assistance, where she presides over Medicaid hearings ranging from issues regarding Medicaid eligibility to managed long-term care, clinical services, and nursing homes. Judge Donat has also led corporate restructurings for companies grossing over 12 million dollars in revenue, leading efforts to gain efficiency, achieve cost transparency, and spearhead alignments.



ALFRED A. EDMOND JR.

Widely recognized for his expertise in entrepreneurship, mentorship, personal finance, leadership development, and business and economic trends, Alfred A. Edmond Jr. is an accomplished session moderator, interviewer, and keynote speaker. He is an award-winning multimedia journalist, serving as Senior Vice President and Executive Editor of *Black Enterprise*. In 2022, he served as a mentor for Pharrell Williams' Black Ambition nonprofit initiative to support funding of ideas and companies led by Black and Hispanic

entrepreneurs. He also served as lead mentor and entrepreneur in residence for the first cohort of media entrepreneurs accepted into the BOMESI (Black-Owned Media Equity and Sustainability Institute) Accelerator.

FREDERICK ENGRAM JR.

As an Assistant Professor at Fairleigh Dickinson University, Frederick Engram Jr. focuses on critical race theory, misogynoir, higher education, disruptive DEI, anti-racism, and Black joy. He has been published in *Forbes*, *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, and *Blavity News*, as well as featured on NBC, TMZ, and People TV, and has been interviewed by Tavis Smiley, Roland Martin, and other journalists. Engram is a proud HBCU graduate and received his bachelor's degree from Johnson C. Smith University, his master's from the University of Phoenix, and his EdD from Northeastern University. His first book, entitled *Black Liberation Through Action and Resistance: MOVE*, was published in November 2023. A proud member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc., Engram is a member of the Alpha class of 40/40, and Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia Fraternity of America, Inc.

TANESHA GOLDING

Tanesha Golding is an undergraduate pre-law student at Spelman College.



CELILLIANNE GREEN

An internationally known poet, Celillianne Green is also respected as a lawyer, teacher, and speaker. A graduate of Drexel and Howard Universities, Green was Editor-in-Chief of the *Howard Law Journal* and is admitted to

the Bar in Pennsylvania, New York, Maryland, and Washington, DC. In addition to holding a federal clerkship and working as a Wall Street law firm associate, she also served as an Assistant United States Attorney who argued appeals and tried cases from misdemeanors to first-degree murders. She continues to publish poetry and prose about life, love, spirituality, relationships, history, and politics.



MINDA A. GREEN, MD, FACOG

Minda A. Green is a Gynecologic Surgeon from the Philadelphia/Southern NJ area. She was always intrigued by the life sciences and sports. She became interested in Women's Health as a young mother. She attended Villanova University and graduated with a B.S. in Biology with minors in African Studies, Psychology and the Honors program. She then attended Drexel University College of Medicine (DUCOM). She completed an Obstetrics & Gynecology Residency at Hahnemann Hospital (DUCOM) in Philadelphia. She went on to complete a Fellowship in Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery (MIGS) at Hahnemann Hospital/DUCOM. She joined as faculty at DUCOM starting in 2009. She became an Associate Professor at DUCOM until the closure of Hahnemann Hospital in 2019. She joined Virtua Health in Voorhees, NJ in 2020. She currently is the Lead Physician of the Minimally Invasive Gynecologic Surgery Program at Virtua Health.



MELISSA HAGAN, PH.D., MPH

Dr. Melissa Hagan, Group Director, Eliquis Lead US Cardiology at Bristol Myers Squibb, is an epidemiologist with over 15 years of experience in designing, analyzing, and disseminating the results in the areas of health economics, health outcomes, disease management and population health. She develops strategic approaches to use innovative sources of Real World Data (RWD) to communicate the value proposition throughout the therapeutic agent life-cycle to the appropriate stakeholder. Dr. Hagan has expertise in the analysis of large commercial claims data, registries, and EMR/EHR data using advanced epidemiologic methods to develop Real World Evidence (RWE) and insights. She has therapeutic area expertise in cardiovascular disease, neurology, oncology, diabetes and metabolic disorders, and women's health.



SHEREEM HERNDON-BROWN

Shereem Herndon-Brown is founder and Chief Education Officer of Strategic Admissions Advice, an educational consulting company specializing in college counseling curriculum creation for schools and school districts, offering personalized college advice and essay coaching. Formerly, he worked as an admissions officer at Georgetown

University and as a college counselor at two independent schools. Herndon-Brown is also co-author of the best-selling book *The Black Family's Guide to College Admissions: A Conversation About Education, Parenting, and Race*. Hailing from Brooklyn, Herndon-Brown earned his bachelor's degree in English and African American studies from Wesleyan University his master's in English from Middlebury College/ Breadloaf School of English.



LAWRENCE M. HIBBERT

Lawrence M. Hibbert is Co-Founder, President, and Managing Partner of BCT Partners, a NJ-based consulting firm that delivers a full range of research, consulting, training, technology, and analytics services. BCT's mission is to harness the power of diversity, expertise, and innovation to transform lives, accelerate equity, and create lasting change. A proud Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) Alumni, Mr. Hibbert earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Rutgers University and an MBA with a concentration in Finance from Rutgers Business School (Executive MBA Program). He was a 2008 Inductee in the Rutgers African American Alliance Hall of Fame and honored in 2009 by *The Network Journal* as a "Forty Under 40" Award Recipient. Mr. Hibbert has been recognized as one of the Top 10 Urban Entrepreneurs in Newark by *Destination Newark*. Mr. Hibbert has also been featured in local and national publications including *The Network Journal*, *The Positive Community*, and *Black Enterprise Magazine*.



DR. JONATHAN HOLLOWAY

Dr. Jonathan Holloway, a U.S. historian, took office as the 21st president of Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, on July 1, 2020. He also serves as a University Professor and Distinguished Professor. Prior to accepting the presidency of Rutgers, Dr. Holloway was provost of Northwestern University from 2017 to 2020 and a member of the faculty of Yale University from 1999 to 2017. At Yale, he served as Dean of Yale College and the Edmund S. Morgan Professor of African American Studies, History, and American Studies. President Holloway's scholarly work specializes in post-emancipation U.S. history with a focus on social and intellectual history.



DR. LACEY HUNTER

Dr. Lacey P. Hunter is Associate Professor of Professional Practice, in the Africana Studies department at Rutgers University-Newark and the Associate Director of the Clement Price Institute on Ethnicity Culture and the Modern Experience. She teaches courses that explore the history, cultures, and experiences of African-descended people throughout the Americas, as well as interdisciplinary research methods. Dr. Hunter is the annual thematic curator of the prestigious Marion Thompson Wright

Lecture series, one of the oldest scholarly conferences on Black history in the nation. Dr. Hunter's research is focused on Black women's intellectual history and its intersections with Black spiritual discourse and belief.



TABITHA D. JAMES

Tabitha D. James, a trailblazer from Lake View, SC, graduated from Coastal Carolina University in 2013 and Florida Atlantic University in 2015. She is one of the founding members of the Coastal Carolina Univ. BAC and currently serves on the chapter's communications team. Professionally, James is the Owner/Lead Strategist at SHEAM Strategic Consulting Group and works directly with business owners and executive leaders nationwide. James' commitment to community shines through her civic and philanthropic roles in several organizations. Guided by the mantra of building leaders, she embodies selflessness through service, inspiring positive change wherever she goes.



CHAVIS JONES

Chavis Jones is an Associate Counsel in the Educational Opportunities Project at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. Jones was born in Shelby, NC, and is a native of Spartanburg, SC. Jones is a proud graduate of Morehouse College, where he studied philosophy. Jones then studied at the intersection of religion and social

ethics at Harvard Divinity School. In May of 2020, he graduated from law school at Duke University, where he focused primarily on civil and human rights issues. Jones also currently teaches Civil Rights Litigation at Howard Law School and has taught Religion, Politics, and the Law at Virginia Union University.



CINDY A. JONES

Cindy A. Jones is Co-Chair of the Black Alumni Collective's Board. She represents both the University of Alabama's Black Alumni Association as the Black Alumni Collective Liaison and Old Dominion University's Black Alumni Chapter as Scholarship Chair. She earned her B.A. in History from The University of Alabama and an M.A. in History from Old Dominion University. Currently, she lends her expertise to Old Dominion University's Academic Success Center as a Subject Matter Expert in American History, while honoring her profound mission to encourage the progress and success of university students through her work as Office & Administrative Specialist II for the Science Tutoring Centers at Old Dominion University.



JATEYA JONES

Jateya Jones is an Efficiency Specialist and visionary leader, dedicated to transforming processes, programs, and people for success. Through Jateya Jones

Consulting, she seamlessly merges passion with purpose, guiding individuals and organizations to optimal productivity. Renowned for her ability to turn complexity into clarity, Jones empowers individuals and organizations to achieve their goals with efficiency and ease. Whether speaking internationally or mentoring disconnected youth through Fore Teens, Inc., Jones' impact is undeniable. Collaborate with Jones and experience firsthand the transformative power of her expertise.



MICHELE LAWRENCE

Michele Lawrence serves as the Head of Community and Business Development for 25 states at Chase Bank as well as Senior Pastor of Grace and Mercy Temple. After 28 years with Wells Fargo, she left her role as Area President and Senior Vice President for the Philadelphia retail market in 2017. She serves on the Community College of Philadelphia Foundation board and served on the boards of Big Brothers Big Sisters, the Urban League of Philadelphia, and ACHIEVEability, an organization dedicated to breaking the cycle of poverty by helping low-income, single parent, and homeless families to achieve self-sufficiency. Lawrence also contributed to Impact Charities, a public non-profit agency working to provide youth and families with programs of a diverse nature to enhance the growth and development of a stable community.



DR. MARSHA LOWERY

Dr. Marsha Lowery is Vice Chancellor for Student Academic Success at Rutgers University-Camden, where she leads access and opportunity programs for historically excluded students, the Student Success coaching office, and academic success initiatives for special populations such as first-generation students, returning citizens, males of color, and foster youth. Her research interests include non-academic motivators for first-generation students and underrepresented populations. Lowery received her bachelor's degree in African American studies from Temple University, her master's in non-profit management from Eastern University, and her Ed.D. in leadership and innovation from Wilmington University. She also holds certifications as a Gallup Strengthsfinder coach and is a certified professional leadership coach.



MAYAH LUBIN

Mayah Lubin serves as Senior Coordinator for Higher Education Access & Equity on the Educational Opportunities Project at the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. In her role, she drives the Lawyers' Committees efforts to guarantee that all students receive equal access and opportunities in institutions of higher learning. She specialized in centering student and community voice for historically underserved

communities. Previously, Lubin worked with The Education Trust—Massachusetts, supporting the Massachusetts Education Equity Partnership, a collective of statewide civil rights, social justice, and education advocates working to expand opportunity. A proud Mississippi native, she is a graduate of Mississippi State University where she served as the first Black female student body president. She holds a master's degree in urban education policy from Brown University.



RAHEEM MANNING

Raheem Manning is a Philadelphia-based business development professional with years of experience spanning entrepreneurship, civic engagement, marketing, and advertising along with arts and culture advocacy roles. As the city's first Night Time Economy Director, Manning leads public engagement efforts and advocates for policies supporting the city's attraction and retention of companies within its night-time economy. Previously, he served as Co-Chair of the Arts and Culture Task Force, coordinating with city leadership and legislators to advocate for economic policy changes. His work collaboratively resulted in almost \$3 million in direct grant funding to over 1,500 individual artists and 60 arts and culture organizations.



JOANN MEANS

JoAnn Means, Senior Diversity Talent Sourcer at TD Bank, brings

a wealth of experience and a proven track record of success to her role. With an MBA enriching her expertise, she specializes in talent acquisition, particularly in Black and Multicultural realms, championing an inclusive workplace culture as co-lead for the Black Employee Network PA/NJ. Her journey in talent acquisition began in healthcare before joining TD Bank. Means' ability to identify top talent and cultivate strong candidate pipelines is widely recognized. Prior to banking, she directed admissions in Higher Education, advocating for inclusive practices. With over 6 years of service in the U.S. Army medical field, she honed leadership skills. As a former Diversity Equity & Inclusion Manager, Means demonstrated her talent for creating inclusive strategies and nurturing diverse talent pools. Her co-founding of the Girls Empowerment STEM Initiative garnered national attention on shows like The Today Show, The View, and The Steve Harvey Show, highlighting her dedication to empowering underserved girls of color.

SHAKEE J. MERRITT

Shakee J. Merritt is a 23-year-old community organizer, social entrepreneur, and political campaign strategist. He is the founder and creator of Project 25, a nonprofit organization encouraging young progressives to run for local, state, and federal offices and combat anti-progressive agendas throughout the United States. A socio-political activist since he was 12, Merritt has helped several organizations raise thousands of dollars annually to cultivate and amplify Gen-Z political engagement. When he isn't organizing, giving back to communities in need, or creating empowering content, Merritt travels the country serving as a keynote speaker and youth mentor. He holds a B.A.

in Political Science and African American Studies from Rutgers University-Newark.



ANGELLA MIDDLETON

Angella N. Middleton is an Assistant United States Attorney in the criminal division of the United States Attorney's Office for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania. Prior to this role, Ms. Middleton was a litigation associate at the law firm of Saul Ewing where her practice focused on white collar and government enforcement matters, internal investigations, and employment litigation. She currently serves as national chair for the Department of Justice Association of Black Attorneys, scholarship committee co-chair for the Barristers' Association of Philadelphia, and vice chancellor for the Rutgers Law School Camden Alumni Association. Angella is also the author of a memoir titled Life Lessons I Learned in Law School, and has coached the Rutgers Camden Thurgood Marshall Mock Trial Team to two regional titles.

BENJAMIN M. MOBLEY

Ben Mobley is a Vice President and Client Advisor in the Philadelphia office of J.P. Morgan Private Bank, helping clients identify and fulfill their immediate and long-term financial goals. Prior to joining J.P. Morgan, Ben served as a Relationship Strategist at PNC Wealth Management for six years. Before that, he spent more than a decade as a Financial Advisor with Morgan Stanley and began his career with Prudential Securities. Having served on the boards of the Maryland Chapters of the Howard Hospital

Foundation, the Crohn's & Colitis Foundation, and the Howard Community College Education Fund, Mobley is now pursuing his M.B.A. at the Fox School of Business at Temple University.



BRYAN L. MOBLEY, JR.

Deeply invested in his alma mater, Winthrop University, Bryan L. Mobley, Jr. is a distinguished member of the Alumni Association Executive Board and Chair of the Credentials Committee. His commitment extends to the university's Black Alumni Council, where he serves as Vice President of Communications, Programming, and Outreach. In this capacity, he bridges connections between Black alumni and current students, facilitating the exchange of wisdom and experiences and the amplification of collective voices. Leveraging his deep appreciation for community and culture, Bryan actively forges connections with students to enrich their educational experience and empower them to assert themselves, particularly those hailing from marginalized communities.

BRUCE MORGAN

Bruce Morgan is the President of the New Brunswick, NJ Area Branch of the NAACP ("NBAB-NAACP"). The NBAB-NAACP believes it is critical for citizens who have the right to vote, do vote. The right to vote is paramount in assuring we have a free, just, and democratic society. Under Morgan leadership, NBAB-NAACP is committed to fighting to ensure anyone eligible to vote does not have their franchise infringed upon and will fight against all voter suppression efforts.



DR. WENDY M. NICHOLSON

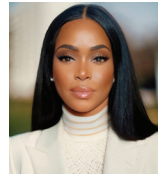
Dr. Wendy M. Nicholson is a scholar-practitioner whose research focuses on racial battle fatigue, critical race theory, intersectionality, social equity, and diversity and inclusion, particularly in relation to the lived experiences of Black women. Her scholarship also includes the role of race and racism at the nexus of educational, criminal justice, and governmental budgeting policies. Over the past 30-plus years, through her work and research, she has endeavored to improve the quality of life for underserved and marginalized communities. Nicholson received her Ph.D. from Rutgers University-Newark, her master's in public administration from the John Jay College of Criminal Justice, and her bachelor's degree in psychology from Tufts University.



SENZWA NTSHEPE

Senzwa Ntshepe's work lies at the nexus of social impact and innovation; generating creative solutions to create opportunities for professionals of color. He currently serves as the CEO of "The Connect" the Philadelphia-based ecosystem builder for professionals of color. The purpose of The Connect is to attract, retain and develop young black and brown talent in Philadelphia by connecting professionals to the best the city has to offer while improving the quality of the

social and professional ecosystem of Philadelphia. Ntshepe has expanded The Connect to an audience that serves 20K+ professionals between the ages of 22-45 providing networking and employment opportunities, upskilling and development using AI innovative solutions, and research and policy recommendations to make Philadelphia a more attractive city for employers and talent of color.



DR. YETUNDE A. OMEDE, PH.D.

Yetunde Odugbesan-Omede, Ph.D., the Director of the Office of Community and Civic Engagement and Professor of Global Affairs and Politics at the State University of New York (SUNY)-FSC. As a faculty member, Dr. Yetunde teaches courses on Comparative Politics, Women in Comparative Political Development, Imperialism, Global Politics, African Politics, American Foreign Policy and others. She is a pracademic who has extensive practitioner and academic based experience in global affairs and higher education. She is a four-time author, political commentator, global speaker and policy advisor. She is a Fulbright Specialist Scholar in the Fulbright Program under the U.S. Department of State. As recognition of her contribution and impact in the field of higher education, civic engagement and international affairs, Dr. Yetunde was inducted into Rutgers University African-American Hall of Fame Class of 2021. In addition, her work thus far has been inscribed on a paver at Rutgers University Paul Robeson Plaza, a historic tribute to Rutgers

University's most distinguished alumnus. She served on Rutgers University executive committee on Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion. She also served as a member on the 20th National Presidential Search Committee, who was charged with selecting the immediate past President of Rutgers University, Dr. Robert L. Barchi.



OBINNA ONYEALI

As a Customer Success Manager for CareerWise, Obinna Onyeali brings a wealth of experience in relationship building and problem-solving to bridge educational and economic opportunity gaps. Having grown up in Colorado as a First Generation Nigerian American, culture, heart and communication were pillars that formed the foundation of his personal core. Onyeali is passionate about serving his community, and for over the last decade, he has helped guide, motivate and encourage others in curating their own personal narratives. Prior to joining CareerWise, Onyeali worked as an Admissions Counselor at the University of Boulder, and most recently as a TRIO College Advisor for the Denver Scholarship Foundation. Additionally, he holds a B.A. in Communication from the University of Boulder. Onyeali's academic and professional experience has provided him with a platform that he leverages to create spaces and access to all areas of education for underserved communities in the Denver Metropolitan area.



DEREK PENN

As a board-level advisor to financial services companies, Derek Penn provides strategic insights that facilitate substantial revenue and profit growth. He served as Managing Director, Head of Equity Sales and Trading with BNY Mellon / Pershing Capital Markets, running the combined equity sales and trading division subsequent to the BNY and Pershing merger. In a previous role as SVP, Head of Equity Trading for Fidelity Investments, he managed a team of approximately 100 trading professionals in New York, New Jersey, Boston, and Chicago, transforming Fidelity Capital Markets into a power player on the NYSE floor and growing revenue by 400 percent in two years. Penn also led a successful restructuring effort at Lehman Brothers.



CIARA PIERCE

Ciara Pierce has more than 10 years of corporate finance experience in investment banking, corporate treasury, investor relations, and financial planning and analysis. She built her career primarily working for media, entertainment, and tech companies, including Comcast NBCUniversal, Amazon, Audible, and SiriusXM. She also spent three years working in investment banking at JPMorgan Chase and Barclays. As Senior Director of Strategic Finance at

Comcast, Pierce supports the Xumo business, a joint venture between Comcast and Charter focusing on free advertising and streaming television. She received a bachelor's degree in finance from Stockton University and an M.B.A. in finance and management from Rutgers University-Camden.



DR. RANDAL PINKETT

Dr. Randal Pinkett has established himself as an entrepreneur, innovator, speaker, author, media personality and DEI expert who is leading the way in business, technology and equity for all. He is the co-founder, chairman and CEO of BCT Partners, a global, multimillion-dollar research, training, consulting, technology, and data analytics firm whose mission is to provide insights about diverse people that lead to equity. Dr. Pinkett is an expert in several areas relating to emerging technologies, "big data" analytics, social innovation, culture, diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI), and is a regular contributor on MSNBC, CNN, and Fox Business News. An international public speaker, he is the author or co-author of several books including Black Faces in High Places, Black Faces in White Places, Data-Driven DEI, Campus CEO, and No-Money Down CEO. He holds five degrees including: a B.S. in Electrical Engineering from Rutgers University; a M.S. in Computer Science from the University of Oxford in England; and a M.S. in Electrical Engineering, MBA, and Ph.D. from MIT. Most notably, he was the first and only African American to receive the prestigious

Rhodes Scholarship at Rutgers University; he was inducted to the Academic All-America Hall of Fame, as a former high jumper, long jumper, sprinter and captain of the Rutgers men's track and field team; and he was the winner of NBC's hit reality television show, "The Apprentice."



DR. LAWRENCE POWELL

Dr. Lawrence Raphael Powell is the Senior Pastor of Agape Family Worship Center in Rahway, New Jersey. With over thirty years in ministry, Dr. Lawrence is transforming lives with his powerful, prolific, and practical presentation of the Gospel. Thousands of families from across the tri-state region flock to Agape every week to experience warm fellowship, dynamic worship and anointed teaching. Through outreach, evangelism and multimedia broadcasting, Dr. Lawrence is bringing the Good News of Jesus Christ to people all over the world. A much sought-after speaker, respected Biblical teacher and author, Dr. Lawrence earned a bachelor's degree from Rutgers University, a master's degree from Oral Roberts University and a Doctorate of Strategic Leadership from Regent University.



JUDGE VICTORIA PRATT

Judge Victoria Pratt is Principal at Pratt Lucien Consultants and former executive director

of Odyssey Impact, where she drove change through innovative storytelling, media, and documentaries. Judge Pratt served as the chief judge in Newark Municipal Court in Newark, New Jersey and the founding judge of Newark Community Solutions, an initiative that provides alternatives to jail and fines to low-level offenders in Newark. Prior to joining the bench, she served as counsel to the City Council President in Newark. She also worked in the counsel's office for New Jersey governors Jim McGreevey and Richard Codey and as a compliance officer for the Camden school district. Her TED talk, How Judges Can Show Respect, has been translated into 11 languages and received over one million views. Since leaving the bench, she has worked to advance justice reform in jurisdictions across the nation, and as far as Ukraine, England, Trinidad and Tobago, and Mexico. She has also served as a professor at Rutgers Law School in Newark, New Jersey. She is a graduate of Rutgers University and Rutgers Law School.



TANGELA RICHARDSON

With 20-plus years of experience in broadcast journalism, strategic communications, integrated marketing, public relations, and business leadership, Tangela Richardson is an acknowledged leader in developing, implementing, and executing key marketing initiatives through cross-functional teamwork and strong analytic skills to drive data-centered, strategic decision-making. Currently the Manager of Special Projects and Communications at Howard University in the Office

of the Secretary with the Howard University Board of Trustees, she is also an adjunct professor at Georgetown University in the School of Continuing Studies in the Integrated Marketing Communications Graduate Program.



ALLYSON REAVES

As Senior Vice President of CCS Fundraising, Allyson Reaves brings more than 20 years of experience in fundraising, non-profit management, and board development to client partners, collaborating to support growth and success. A graduate of the Hilton Head Island Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Program, she also served on the Chamber's Board of Regents. Reaves is a former board member of the Clemson University Black Alumni Council and the Community Investment Network. A founding member of the Black Alumni Collective and a German Marshall Fellow, she earned her bachelor's degree in Spanish language and international trade from Clemson University. She also completed the Master dei Talenti program at Fondazione CRT (Torino, Italy), and she holds a master's from Boston University in arts and nonprofit administration.



NICOLE RHONE

After experiencing high stress that led her to the hospital, Nicole Rhone knew she needed

to make a change and create a life that prioritizes capacity. As CEO of Flourishing, LLC., Rhone helps women increase their capacity for sustainable success by learning how to practice self-care, set boundaries, create a work-life balance, and create room for diversity to thrive. For over a decade, she has established herself as an HR leader and capacity coach through her work with Fortune 500 companies and the US Department of State. She has supported thousands of employees globally through coaching, leadership training, and cultivating thriving company cultures.



SUSAN ROBESON

Susan Robeson's award-winning work in film and broadcast journalism has appeared on American and British television networks and in settings such as the Museum of Modern Art, Lincoln Center, the Brooklyn Museum, and numerous film festivals. As executive producer of the PBS station in Minneapolis/St. Paul, she managed a documentary unit and a second channel, which she transformed into a model for community empowerment. Earlier in her career she produced *Like It Is* with Gil Noble on WABC-TV and co-founded Third World Newsreel, an independent film production and distribution collective. A professor, guest lecturer, and artist-in-residence at several institutions of higher learning, she also manages the Robeson Family Trust.



JEFFREY A. ROBINSON, PH.D.

Jeffrey A. Robinson, Ph.D. is an award-winning business school professor, international speaker and entrepreneur. He serves Rutgers University-Newark as the Provost & Executive Vice-Chancellor. In this role, he implements strategic initiatives in the areas of innovation, economic development and faculty recruitment and retention. Before this appointment, he was a leading faculty member at Rutgers Business School where he is the Prudential Chair in Business. He has used his business acumen to launch new ventures, advise established businesses and consult Fortune 1000 corporations. He is the author of books and articles on such topics as social entrepreneurship, African American women in entrepreneurship, urban entrepreneurship policy and patterns of Black employment. Dr. Robinson has completed five degrees in the areas of engineering, urban studies and business from Rutgers University, Georgia Institute of Technology and Columbia University.



OTIS ROLLEY

As the recent president of Wells Fargo Foundation and Head of Philanthropy and Community Impact for Wells Fargo Bank, Otis Rolley directed the global philanthropic investment of \$300 million annually. Prior to

those roles, he served as Senior Vice President, U.S. Equity and Economic Opportunity Initiative at the Rockefeller Foundation, leading major sustainability and development goals. Previously he was North America Managing Director for 100 Resilient Cities, a Rockefeller Foundation project focusing on urban resilience in the U.S. and Canada. In addition to his current role on the Stonewall Community Foundation's Board, Rolley has served on several local and national governing boards.



RICHARD W. ROPER

A public policy consultant, Richard Roper retired in 2010 as Director of the Planning Department at the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey. He has had an extensive career in public affairs in government agencies and has had experience in nonprofit organizations, and in academic administration, research, and teaching. Roper earned a bachelor's degree in economics from Rutgers University-Newark and a master's degree in public affairs from Princeton University's School of Public and International Affairs. In 2016, Rutgers established the Richard W. Roper Scholarship in Civic Engagement for undergraduates seeking internships in community-based non-profit organizations. In 2017 Roper was profiled in the Rutgers Oral History Archives. In 2018 he received the Rutgers African American Alumni Alliance Hall of Fame Award and in 2022 was inducted into the Rutgers University Hall of Distinguished Alumni.



KENNETH ROYSTER

After an honorable discharge with the U.S. Army, Kenneth Royster has had over 35 years of successful sales, in-depth experience, and training in financial services and insurance, serving now as a team leader at First Genesis of Virginia. He is immediate past President of the Hampton Roads Chapter of the Society of Financial Services Professionals, Financial Planning Association, and National Association of Insurance and Financial Advisors, as well as a member of the Association of African American Advisors. Royster received his Chartered Financial Consultant and Chartered Life Underwriter, Retirement Income Certified Professional designations from the American College and is a Certified Life Underwriter Training Council course instructor.



JANIQUE SANDERS, MPA

Janique Sanders is Assistant Director for Experiential and Equity Initiatives at the University of North Carolina-Charlotte. She attended Rutgers University-Newark where she received her bachelor's degree in English and her master's degree in public administration with a dual concentration in non-profit management and leadership of public organizations. Sanders worked in Rutgers Newark's LGBTQ and Intercultural Resource Center where she helped run various

dialogue, workshop, and identity-based programming as well as the Office of Student Life and Leadership where she advised student organizations and created leadership programming. She is passionate about social justice, arts education, student engagement and making spaces that allow people to be their most authentic selves.



KAREN L. SMITH, MD

A family physician in Raeford, North Carolina, Karen Smith is on the Board of Directors of the American Academy of Family Physicians, where she advocates on behalf of family physicians and patients to inspire positive change in the U.S. healthcare system. After serving patients at a rural health center and then as Medical Director for a system-based regional hospital, she established her own independent private practice in 2003. She and her staff provide comprehensive family medicine. Smith earned her bachelor of science degree in biology from Duke University and her medical degree from the Hahnemann University School of Medicine in Philadelphia.



SQUIRE SERVANCE

Squire Servance is the founder and Managing Partner of Syridex Bio, a life sciences-focused investment firm geared toward investing in and developing therapies that accelerate global health equity. Previously, he

served as General Counsel and Corporate Secretary for Repligen Corporation, overseeing all legal functions, including intellectual property, commercial transactions, business development, licensing, litigation, and corporate functions. Before joining Repligen, he served as Associate General Counsel at Baxter International, Inc. Servance has been a highly active volunteer, voice, and leader on various Duke and Rutgers boards over the past decade, including serving as a trustee for Rutgers University.



MALENIA SWINTON

Leading and collaborating in the areas of education, youth development, and youth empowerment, Malenia Swinton has taught in a wide range of settings and delivered vital, in-depth programming. She works closely with college students, so-called "opportunity youth," and young professionals through mentorship and formal internship programs. She also trains professionals in effective youth engagement and mentoring, providing the expertise needed to craft frameworks for youth leadership. Dedicated to her alma mater, Winthrop University, she serves on the Black Alumni Council as Vice President of Strategy & Governance. Since 2013, Swinton has managed her own consulting company, assisting nonprofits and small businesses on the East Coast.



ANGELA TENNISON

A trailblazing leadership coach and advisor, Angela Tennison brings expertise drawn from her tenure at the White House, where she notably served as the first woman of color to be White House Usher, and from her key role in Barack Obama's first presidential campaign. With over two decades of experience across corporate, government, and political spheres, Tennison has excelled in a variety of roles—from managing operations for the 44th President's family to spearheading leadership development at the U.S. Department of Education to executive leadership in the private sector. As the founder of The Leaders Coaching Institute, Angela empowers leaders with the clarity, confidence, and courage needed for transformative success.



DAVID DYLAN THOMAS

David Thomas is the author of *Design for Cognitive Bias* and the creator and host of the Cognitive Bias Podcast. He has developed crucial content strategy and provided insightful UX consulting for major clients in the entertainment, healthcare, publishing, finance, and retail industries. As the founder and CEO of David Dylan Thomas, LLC, he offers workshops and presentations on inclusive design and the role of bias in decision-making. Thomas has presented at TEDNYC, SXSW, Confab, An Event Apart, UX Copenhagen, UX Days Tokyo, and

other high-profile events, focusing on topics at the intersection of bias, design, and social justice.



DR. NYEEMA C. WATSON

Dr. Nyeema C. Watson is the Senior Vice Chancellor for Strategy, Diversity and Community Engagement at Rutgers University-Camden, where she oversees efforts to build an inclusive campus community while connecting the resources of the university with communities in Camden and across southern New Jersey. Working with students, faculty, and staff, Dr. Watson leads campus efforts to establish diversity, equity, and inclusion as key institutional values in recruitment, retention, the curriculum, and civic and community engagement. She serves as Rutgers-Camden's liaison to the office of the university's Senior Vice President for Equity as Rutgers embarks on the development of a university-wide diversity strategic plan.

JENNIFER WILLIAMS

Jennifer Williams is Regional Director of Wealth for New Jersey and greater Pennsylvania at JP Morgan Wealth Management, where she is responsible for the growth and delivery of investment solutions to clients across nine markets. Prior to joining JP Morgan in 2020, she spent 19 years at Merrill Lynch/Bank of America where she served in several leadership roles across wealth management and consumer banking. Williams serves on the board of the Northwest Area Foundation and is active in the Stanford Alumni Association. She is a graduate of University

of Chicago Booth School of Business where she received an MBA in analytic finance and Stanford University where she majored in biology. She also is a certified financial planner.



KADEEM WILLIAMS

As an independent consultant at Allied Will Consulting, Kadeem Williams is structuring a project management office at Subaru Headquarters in Camden, New Jersey. Williams has worked on the Department of Homeland Security's continuous diagnostic and mitigation efforts to help strengthen the country's cybersecurity structure. This is where he shifted from a budget management professional to an IT project management analyst. In 2018, Williams became a certified project manager and the next year, secured his first contracting opportunity with Subaru. In 2020, he started his consulting practice, Allied Will Consulting. He holds a Master of Business Administration from the Rutgers School of Business.

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- 2021 American University
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- 2023 The Citadel & The Citadel
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