



African American/Black Student Success Advisory Group

September 7, 2022

Agenda

- Gavel In, Welcome, Roll Call
- OEDI Assistant Superintendent & Director Welcome and Updates
- New Grantee Presentation - *Black Parent Initiative (BPI)*
- New Grantee Presentation - *Southern Oregon Education Service District (SOESD)*
- Break
- For the Good of the Order
- Team Building Activity
- AABSS Plan Revisions Update
- Community Announcements & Updates
- Adjourn



OEDI Assistant Superintendent & Director Welcome & Updates

Deborah Lange, OEDI Assistant Superintendent

Laura Lien, OEDI Director



Black Parent Initiative



**BLACK PARENT
INITIATIVE**

Our Mission

We believe the children and families we serve are inherently capable, brilliant and beautiful though social service systems and society have historically neglected to center their strengths, wisdom, promise and genius.



Our Model

3' M's Model

- Post Traumatic Slave Syndrome (PTSS) (DeGruy, J. A. (2005))
- The Theory of Triadic Influence (TTI) (Flay, B.R., Snyder, F., & Petraitis, J. (2009))
- Relationship Model (RM) (DeGruy, J. A. & Nicholas E. J. (1990))



Our Approach

BE THE HEALING WINTER SYMPOSIUM 2022

A Weekend of Truth for Our Collective Wellness



The HEET Community of Schools, Joy DeGruy Publications,
and the MacArthur Foundation Present

MacArthur
Foundation



Our Approach

WELLNESS WEDNESDAYS
BE THE HEALING *with* Dr. Joy & Bahia

*Lessons in
Liberation*

Wednesday, June 16, 2021
5:30PM PST/ 7:30PM CST

 YouTube [Youtube.com/drjoydegruy](https://www.youtube.com/drjoydegruy)
 LIVE @JoyDeGruyPublications



Our Team



Our Programs

- **BPI Family Resource Center**
- **Sacred Roots Lactation and Doulas**
- **Together We Can (TWC)**
- **Sawubona** (I see you, I value you)



Family Resource Center



Free

Black Lit is Lit!

Cultural Literacy Event & STEM Fair
Saturday, February 22, 2020
9am-3pm



**BLACK PARENT
INITIATIVE**



BARNES & NOBLE
CLACKAMAS TOWN CENTER
12000 SE 82nd Ave, Happy Valley, OR 97086

Giveaways: **DRAWINGS • FOOD
BOOKS & SWAG ITEMS**

Each kid attending a story time
will receive an autographed
copy of the book read

FEATURED AUTHORS:



April Allen
"It's Nice to be Nice"



Dr. Arlyne Simon
"Abby Invents
Unbreakable Crayons"



Montrell "Chillin' the Poet" Goss
Chillin' the Courageous Coyote
Meets the Young Kids

BPI Book Fair ID#12567079

Shop at ANY BARNES & NOBLE in-store Feb. 22, 2020
or ONLINE Feb. 22-27 and use the **BPI BOOK FAIR ID#**
listed above at checkout and BPI will receive a
minimum of 15% back which will be used to purchase
culturally specific books to be distributed to children
and families at our upcoming events.

Activities:

Story Times



SMART
"BEING A READER TODAY"



**COMMUNITY
VISION**



**portland
children's
museum**



P



OMSI



**Portland
Community
College**



**STEM
Spaces**



**Myriq's
Tug Tug**



**play
house**

Special Guests:



Leon the
Literacy
Lion
(BPI
Masco!)



Chillin' the Courageous
Coyote



Blaze the
Trail Cat
(Portland
Trail Blazers
Masco!)

For more information contact: leigh.bohannon@thebpi.org





▶ WHAT DO LACTATION CONSULTANTS DO?

We help provide breastfeeding assistance to address common concerns such as:

- Uncomfortable infant latch on
- Breast milk supply issues
- Infant weight loss and slow gain
- Birth control and Breastfeeding
- Breast milk pumping guidance to return to work or school
- Safe breast milk storage guidelines
- When and how to start solid infant foods

▶ SACRED ROOTS LACTATION SERVICES

- Culturally specific Lactation Consultants
- Consultants for Black, African, and Multi-Ethnic families
- We come to your home anytime after you leave the hospital
- We provide breastfeeding education individually or group classes
- We facilitate support groups with community partners



Sacred Roots Doula Cohort '21



Together We Can (TWC)

- PAT-(Developmental/Milestones)
- Group-Based Model-Parenting Support Circles
- Be The Healing Model -Dr. Joy DeGruy (PTSS)



Together We Can (TWC)

Who: Children from infancy (2 months) to 5 years, entering Kindergarten

How: Home visitors are PAT (Parents As Teachers) certified

Why:

- Provide education and training on parenting support services that helps strengthen cultural identity and practices
- Strengthen child development milestones & parent-child bond
- Create safe and healthy family environments
- Promote the family's healthy engagement
- Reduce the infant mortality rate in the black community



Pictures...

OMSI
Friendsgiving
Pumpkin Patch
Zenger Farms



Sawubona

Program Mission: Be the healing that positively impacts the educational journey of black students in the State of Oregon.

Parent/Caregiver Engagement
Student literacy & behavior support
Student Affinity Groups
Community partnerships



Sawubona

Parent/Caregiver Engagement

Parents/Caregiver Affinity Groups

Parent Classes

Parent mentoring and goal setting



Sawubona

Student Literacy & Behavior Support

Education Impact Coordinators (EIC) provide literacy support to students in 4 PPS elementary schools.

Small group tutoring sessions 1 to 2 times a week.

EIC's offer behavior support to assigned and unassigned students.

Video: <https://youtu.be/X4wGQa4mjzw>



Sawubona

Student Affinity Groups

Black Student Union Groups at Beaumont & Faubion

- Positive cultural identity discussions
- Develop thought provoking experiences through storytelling and short films.

The Verdict: <https://youtu.be/dmboZINJwOI>



Sawubona

Community partnerships

Airway Science Academy (ASK)

- Saturday class for Parents and students
 - 1 x month until June





Questions



THANK YOU



**BLACK PARENT
INITIATIVE**



Southern Oregon Education Service District

AfroScoutz

Southern Oregon



AfroScoutz

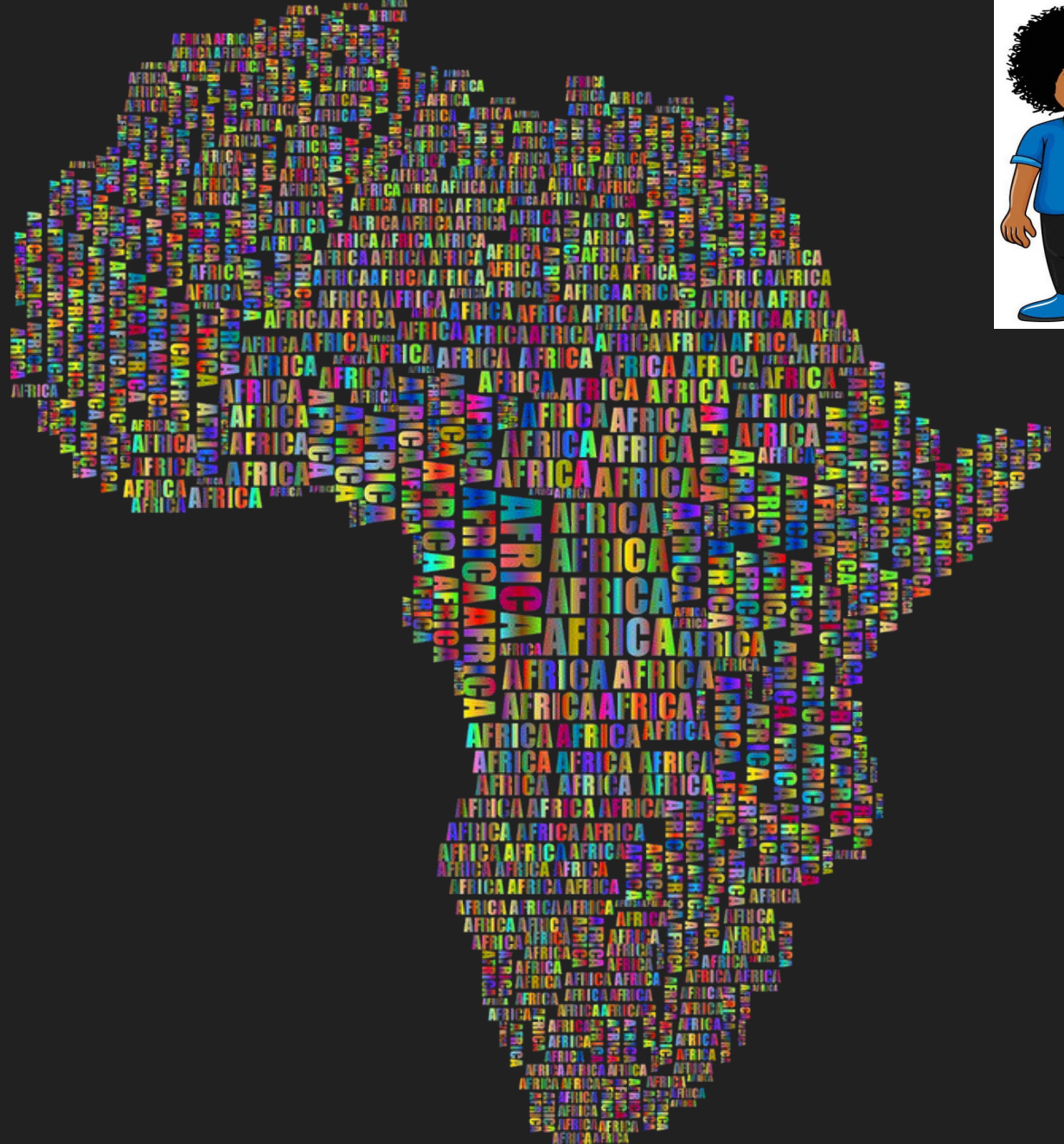


AfroScoutz was created for children of African/Black descent to inspire development, leadership and socialization. Leaders provide diverse expertise and talent to create environments that encourages and motivates our Afroscoutz to be culturally knowledgeable, empowered and respected members of our community.



Learn Love Laugh

Our Afroscoutz program encourages you to to experience many philosophies through a cultural lens which will help support and guide you throughout your life's journey.





AfroScoutz

Pledge I am Black
Beautiful and Proud

WHAT WE DO



Share Space

Representation/Community

Empower

Support

Education

Share New Experiences

= Inspire Leadership



AfroScoutz



HOW WE DO IT

CULTURALLY INSPIRED CLASSES

SCOUTZ see
themselves and can
relate



MUSIC CLASS



AFRICAN DRUMMING
RHYTHM AND BLUES
ANCESTORS
HISTORY
MOVEMENT & BEAT

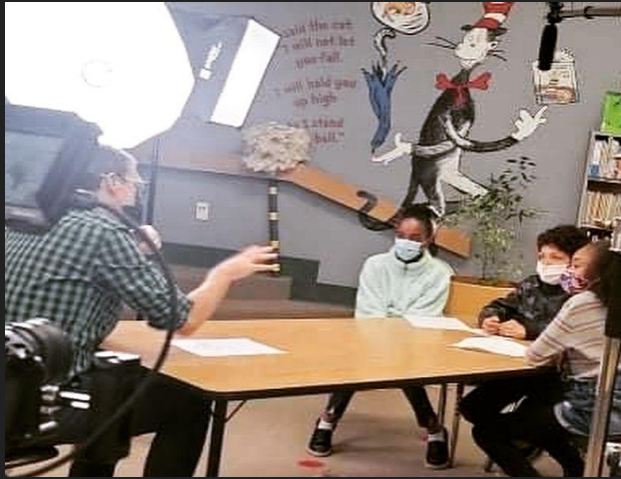




DANCE



THEATRE AND FILM



KWANZAA CELEBRATION



AfroScoutz Juneteenth



Juneteenth is a federal holiday in the United States commemorating the emancipation of African-American slaves. It is also often observed for celebrating African-American culture. Originating in Galveston, Texas, it has been celebrated annually on June 19 in various parts of the United States since 1865



COOK OFF



Bowling





AfroScoutz Field-Trips



AfroScoutz is and will continue to change Oregon and the United States

CHANGE OUR SCHOOLS

CHANGE OUR COMMUNITY

CHANGE OUR STATE



Okaidja & AfroScoutz



Opera w/ Afroscoutz



BLACK STUDENT UNIONS

At Ashland High, Ashland Middle,
Walker Elementary, North and South
Medford High, Eagle Point High

ADVISORS:

EVE BENTON
TIFFANY BEACH
PAUL CYNAR
KYLE RUMERY

ROBERT JOE
D.L. RICHARDSON
SESSCEAL REYNOLDS

Administrative Support:

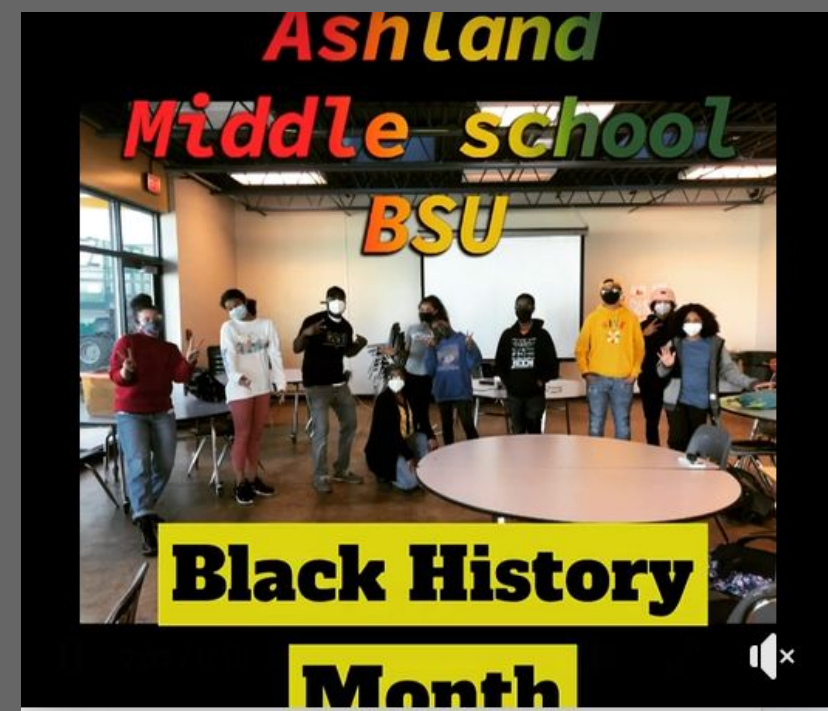
Vance Beach
Charlie Bauer

BLACK
BEAUTIFUL
&
PROUD

New BSUs
planned for next
year at Crater
High, Scenic
Middle, Hedrick
Middle and
Klamath Union
High

BSU Student, volunteers her time with BASE youth program, we granted her a scholarship so she could participate in cheerleading since it's a cost and for our low income Black families it's a barrier. We wanted her to pursue her dreams.





BSU South Medford
engaged!



We had a fundraiser for our local food center Access and gave our donations to them to feed our local families and we raised awareness for BSU.

Halloween



Eagle Point BSU

Kwanzaa



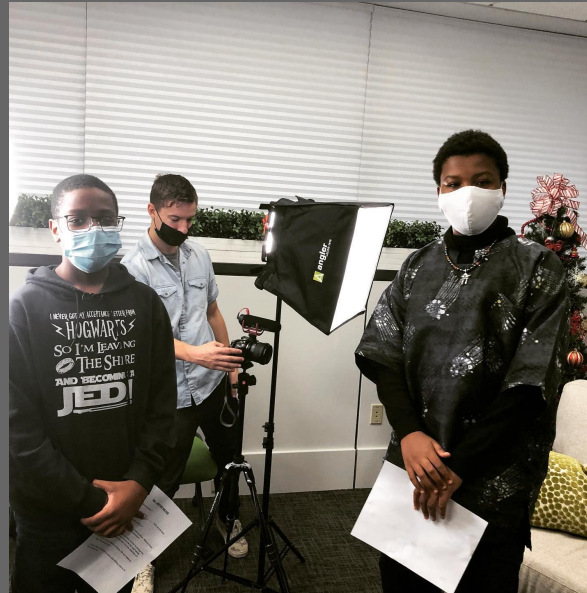
North BSU spoken word



Ashland and South
Medford BSU

DR. MARTIN LUTHER KINGS JR CELEBRATION

OUR YOUTH INTERVIEWED THE LOCAL POLICE CHIEFS, MAYORS AND
GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS





We are united and
proud thankful for
having a BSU

BLACK YOUTH LEADERSHIP NORTH & SOUTH MEDFORD HIGH SCHOOL



COLLEGE TOUR UNIVERSITY OF OREGON



THE GREAT OUTDOORS JET BOATING, AND RAFTING



BSU CONNECTIONS AND NETWORKING LASER TAG & PIZZA



ASHLAND BSU
NORTH BSU
SOUTH BSU
EAGLE POINT BSU

CELEBRATING JUNETEENTH

1. COMMUNITY
2. FREEDOM
3. REPRESENTATION
4. TEAM WORK



BSU CONNECTION AND APPRECIATION FOR OUR COMMUNITY ELDER/LEADER Dr. Geneva Craig

DODGEBALL

CARRIBEAN FOOD

MOVIE NIGHT

MENTORING



AMS BSU & Affinity Groups created Flags for their School



AHS BSU created affinity ring project



END OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION

1. CONNECTING WITH OTHER BLACK STUDENTS
2. ACKNOWLEDGMENT OUR LEADERS
3. FUN AND KICK BALL
4. CORN HOLE
5. VOLLEYBALL
6. GATHERING OF MINDS



4th Annual Southern Oregon Black Youth Leadership Summit

2022




SAVE THE DATE
FEBRUARY 24, 2022

2022 Theme:

***And The Children's Voices Shall Lead The
Way***



Key Goals and Takeaways from the Summit



?This one-day event provides opportunities for African American and Black students to hear from Black Leaders, network with fellow students, as well as explore ways of using their voices and skills to articulate the uniqueness of the black experience

Key Goals and Takeaways from the Summit



Dr. Geneva Craig

?This event allows students to learn about their cultural history, as well as, allows them to learn about personal growth, importance of education, and how to prepare as an African American, not only a BIPOC.

Key Goals and Takeaways from the Summit

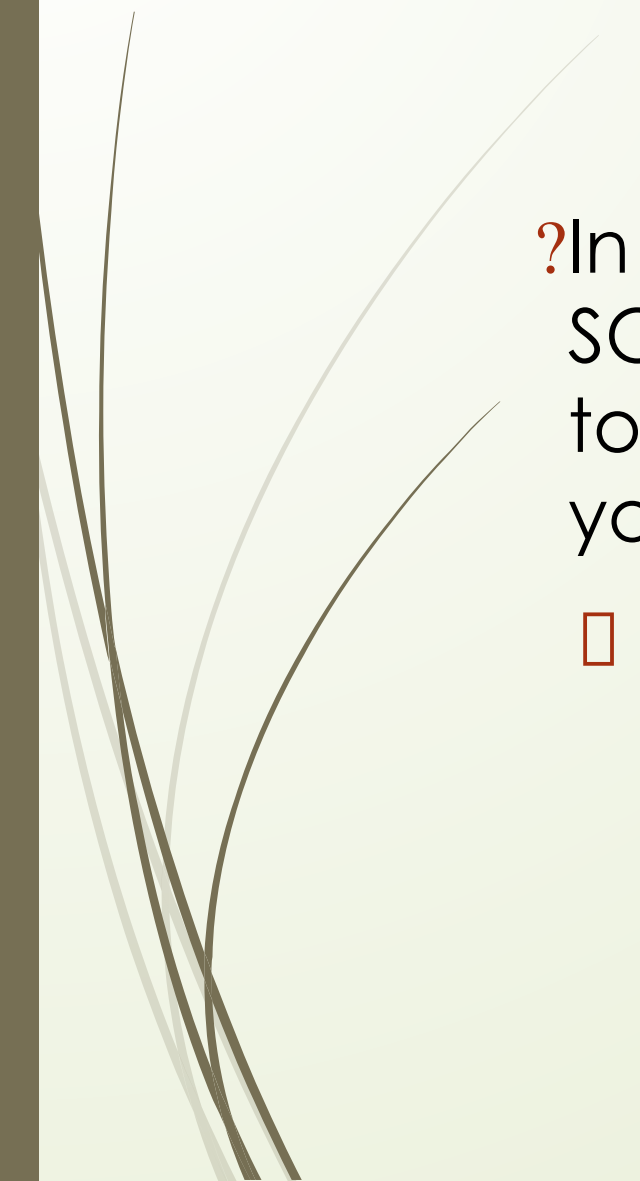
? This event allows students to learn about their cultural history, as well as, allows them to learn about personal growth, importance of education, and how to prepare as an African American, not just a BIPOC.

? Provided an Affinity Space for Students to discuss and share.





Key Goals and Takeaways from the Summit



? In response to a request that came out of the SOESD Curriculum Directors meeting, we wanted to know what the students felt like they wanted you and the Superintendents to know.

- The number one issue that came up with Everyone was Hate Speech.



?One of our fellow partners came up with this idea, that I think said it best:

I have been really pondering the massive hate speech problem occurring not only at my school, but every school across the state, for some type of solution, or major step to take.

A solution that has been really speaking to me, would involve adding hate speech to the list of child abuses covered in the mandatory reporting responsibilities. This would make it the law to report these incidents and be treated as the serious safety issue that they are, as well as creating a direct Statewide legal accountability for every adult that works with youth, and School Board legal accountability.

However, I do not know the processes involved in progressing something like this, or the resources required to do so, or how much of a battle this would be, I just believe that it needs to happen. I am writing you all for help, guidance, ideas, resources, advice, etc., and look forward to your responses.



Key Goals and Takeaways from the Summit

- ?First Summit under SOESD
- ?We came together with at Least 3 local CBO's, 8 school districts, two universities, one community college, the statewide *Black Student Success Network* (Organized by the Oregon Community Foundation), and a host of parent and community volunteers.
- ?We had 154 students register and participate
- ?We had classes for grades 3-12 and we put it together in a Hybrid format, by using Zoom as our main landing page, which we did with Software known as WHOVA, as well as have Districts provide classrooms for the day, just for this program. Districts provided transportation for all their students to get to their specific centralized locations. It Literally took a Village.
- ?There were some issues, but as such a grand undertaking, we have to say it was a success, because the **Students Said It Was.**

Partners



BLACK SOUTHERN
OREGON ALLIANCE



Medford
SCHOOL DISTRICT
LIVE. LEARN. LEAD



EAGLE POINT
— SCHOOL DISTRICT 9 —
Every Student - Every Class - Every Day!

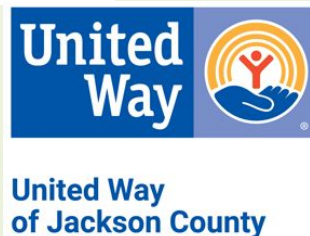



Ashland School District
inspiring learning for life

Oregon
Community
Foundation




PROJECT
YOUTH+





The Only thing that made me happier than seeing all those logos of the people who came together to make this work, are the images of the folks we did it for:

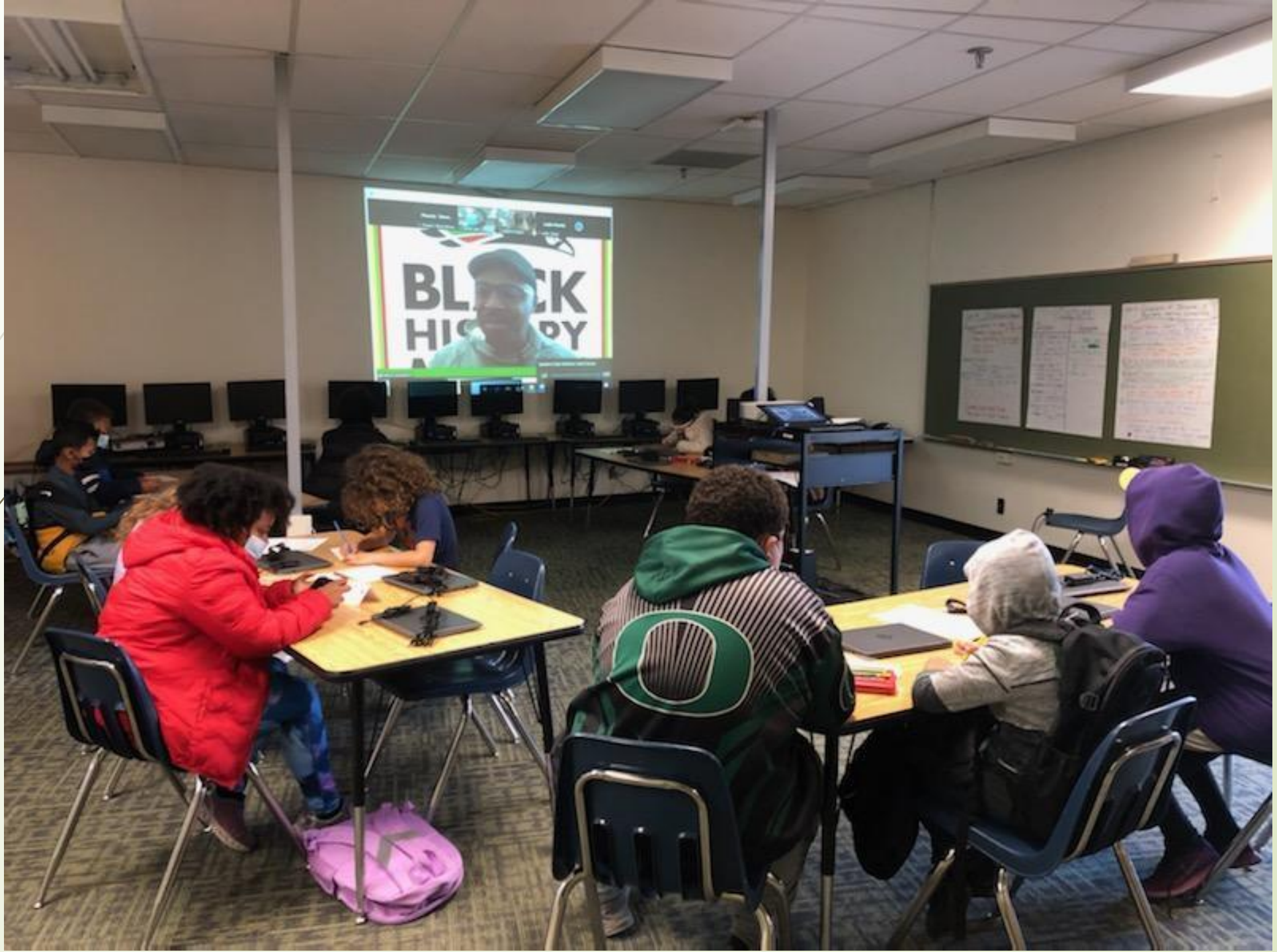


Students from the Following Districts:

*Ashland, Phoenix-Talent,
Medford, District 6, Eagle Point,
Grants Pass, Three Rivers.*

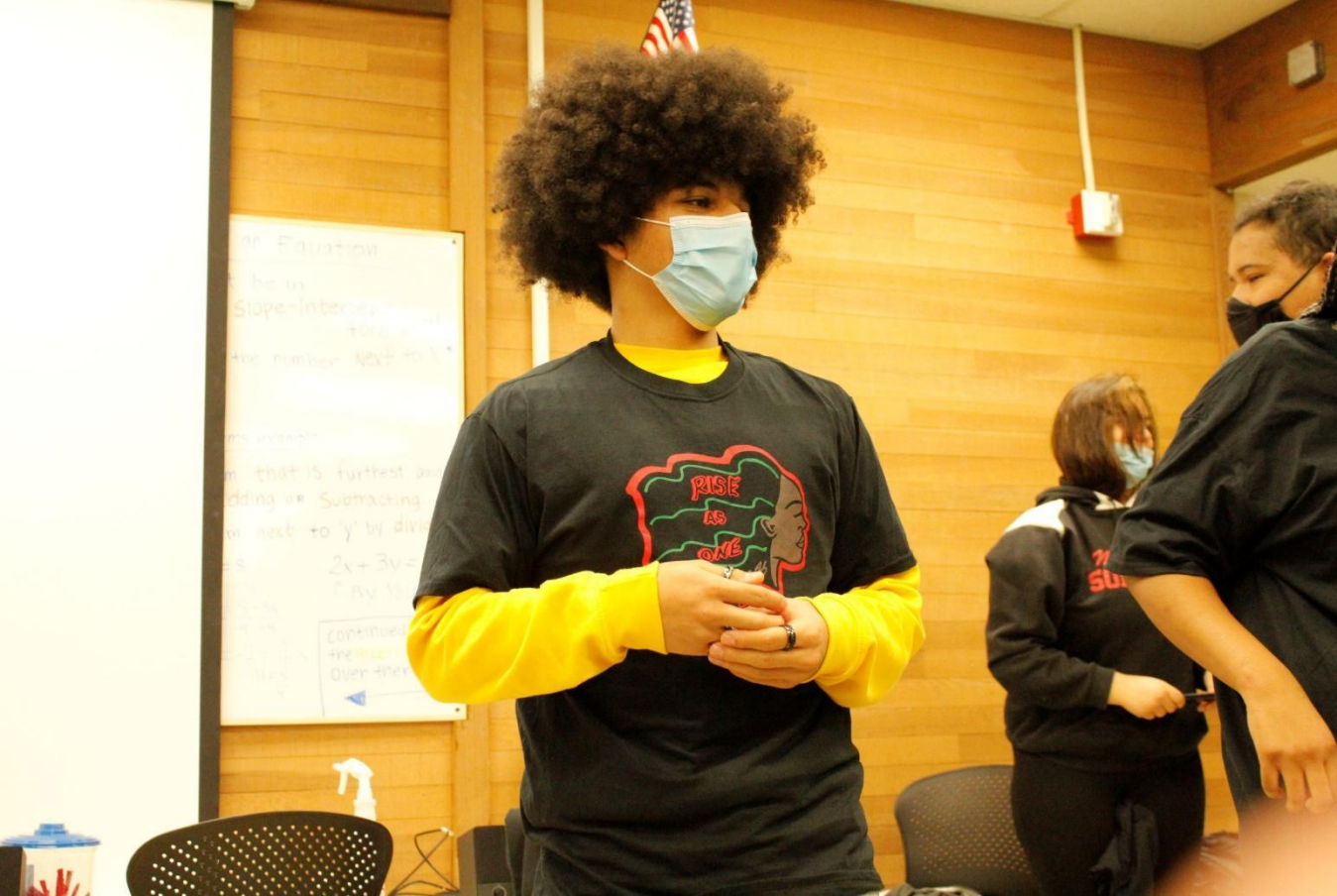


Every Student Received a T-Shirt designed just for BYLS









Ashland Black Student Unions

Strong



Ashland BSU Strong Ice Cream Social

This was an event to celebrate Ashland BSU's, held at the Science Works Museum in Ashland, Oregon.

The Picture includes students, advisors, and parents from Walker and Helman Elementary schools, Ashland Middle School, Ashland High School, and Southern Oregon University.

Ashland Black Student Unions

Strong



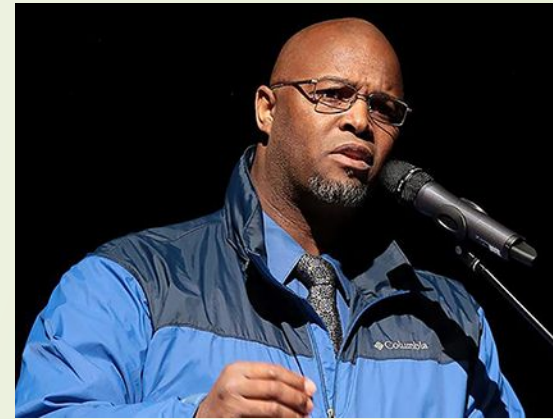
Black Southern Oregon Alliance (BSOA)



Becca Laroi-
Ashland High School



D.L. Richardson



Marvin Woodard-SOU



Carl Thomas-OIT

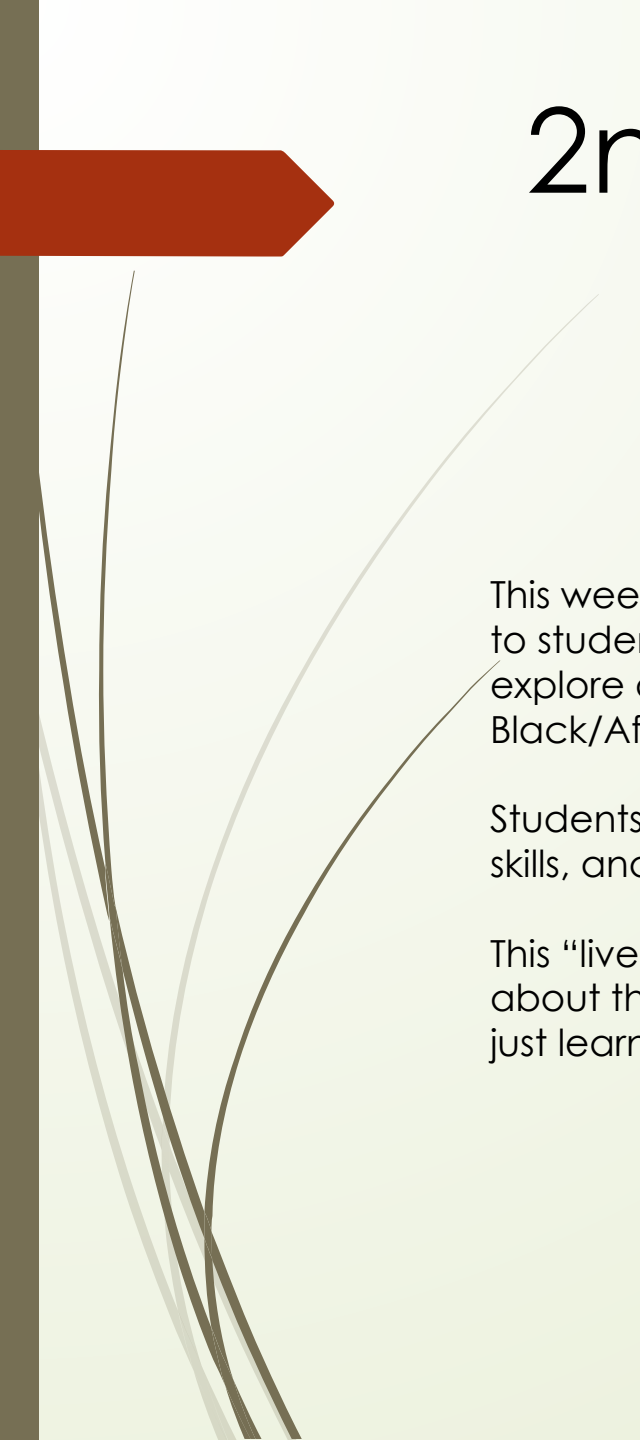
Southern Oregon Education Service District



Charlie Bauer
SOESD

?Once we Finish the Summit, I asked Marvin if we were now ready to take on the Black Youth Summer Institute? This Was his reply:





2nd Annual Black Youth Summer Institute (BYSI) June 15 - 19, 2022

This week-long Afro-Centric summer residency camp, where students will live in a residential hall at SOU, is open to students completing 5th grade by spring of 2022 through 12th grade. BYSI is an opportunity for students to explore a wide range of classes, physical/recreational activities, as well as events that highlight Black/African-American culture.

Students will participate in classes that develop their public speaking techniques, enhance their critical thinking skills, and help discover their capacity for impacting their communities.

This “live & dine on-campus” camp will be a highlight with students who have a genuine interest in knowing more about the black diaspora, the college experience, and themselves. BYSI provides students the opportunity to not just learn their own history, but to also build a lasting community in the southern Oregon region.

Letter to Parents of students who identify as African Americans or Black Immigrants in Southern Oregon

The idea of this Institute came out what we have seen as a need to help students who identify as Black or African American, not just see, but feel a sense of community in southern Oregon. We wanted the students to know they are supported here and that are not alone. We want them to not feel that that this region is somewhere they can always call home, and have success.

We always say that our focus is three-fold: 1). Serve as Advocates for the Black/African American Students of the Rogue Valley, 2). Support the families of those students in whatever way they deem necessary, and 3). Educate the educators on practices to make sure our students are supported and safe. Some have asked why we use the turn "Black/African American." We do so because we want to make sure that our youth realize we are not just there for students who identify as African American, but also students who have come to our region who are African Immigrants, and anyone who is a part of the African Diaspora.

We are honored and proud that you have given us the opportunity to be a part of your student's lives through this Institute. It is a continuation of our February program, the Black Youth Leadership Summit, and it allows students to have an experience similar to a university experience, where they will take classes, learn how to work in a community, share in cultural awareness, and learn about their extraordinary role in our nation's history.

From classes on the Civil Rights Movement and Positive mental health practices, to outdoor activities that include rock climbing and hiking in southern Oregon, to sharing together two Oregon Shakespeare Festival shows, one from one of the best known African American Playwrights of all time, your students will be enriched and filled. We hope that not only will they learn, but that they come back with more questions, that will encourage them to continue on a life-long adventure of learning who they are, and what a grand people they come from.

Opening Evening and Dinner



Dr. Toya Cooper; Vice President for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion-SOU

Marvin Woodard; Equity Coordinator for Racial Justice-SOU

Opening Evening and Dinner

Dr. Geneva Craig

Will Young; Guest Speaker, United
Way

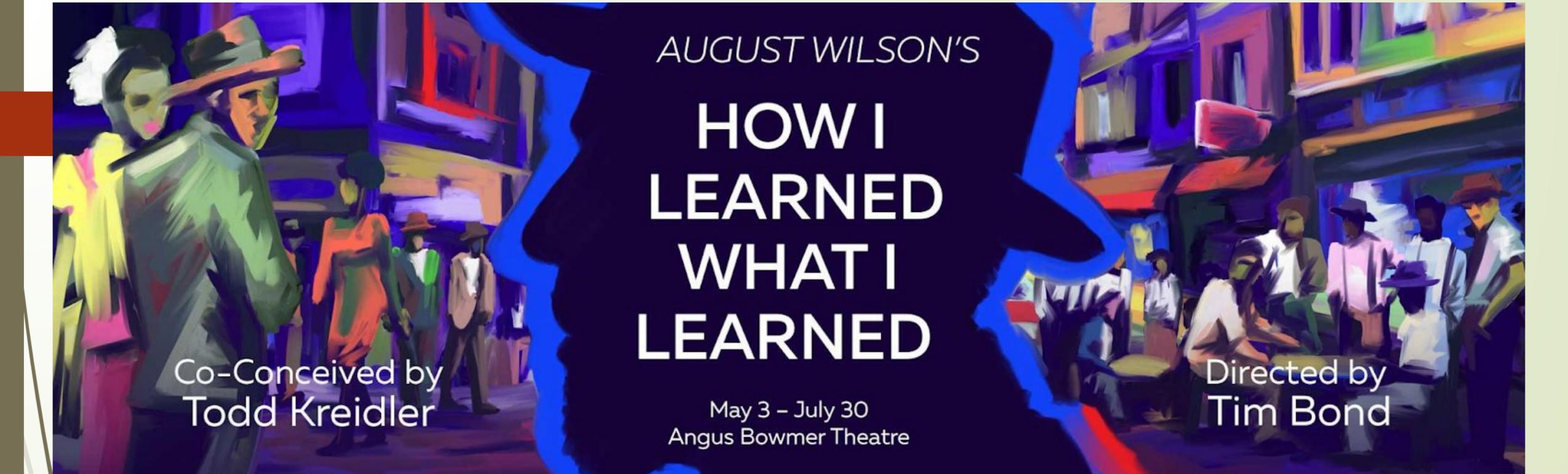


Opening Evening and Dinner, Sharing Our Truth



Breakfast and Lunch





AUGUST WILSON'S
**HOW I
LEARNED
WHAT I
LEARNED**

Co-Conceived by
Todd Kreidler

May 3 – July 30
Angus Bowmer Theatre

Directed by
Tim Bond



SOMETHING
IS NOT ALWAYS
BETTER

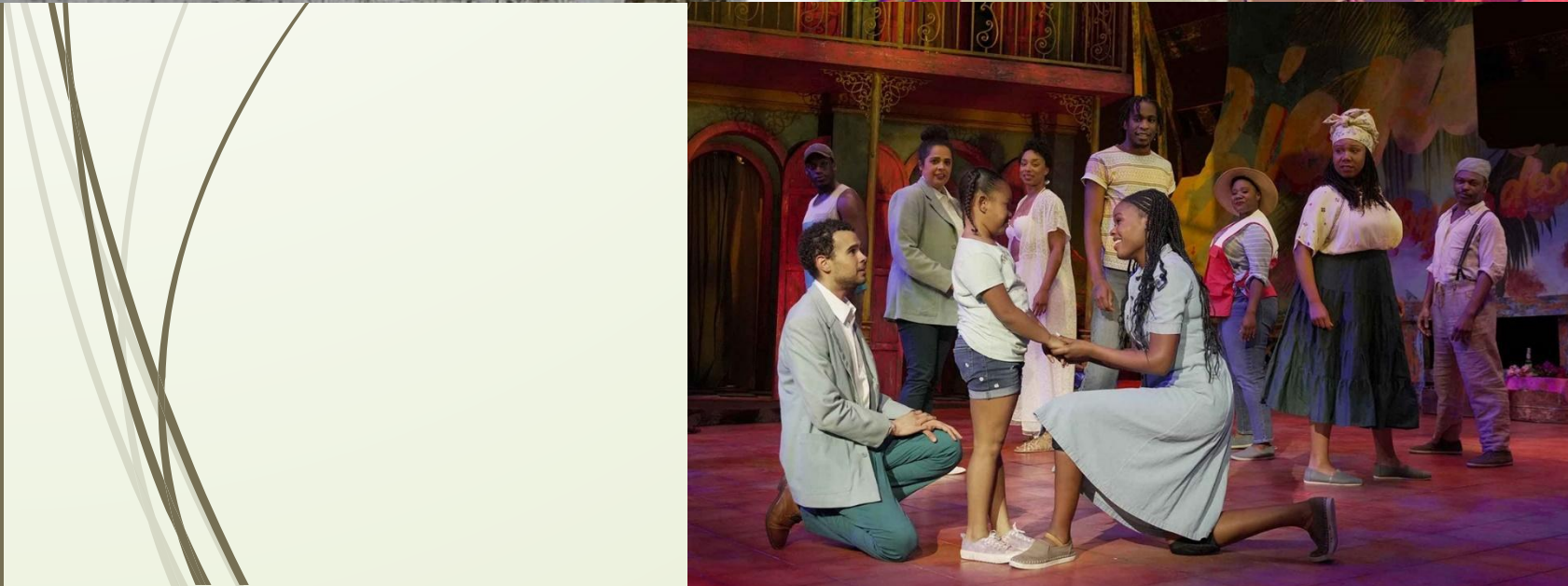


Tim Bond

In a nation still plagued by systemic racism and divided about the teaching and accountability of our racialized history, *How I Learned What I Learned* is a clarion call.

August's experiences and observations—that we, black and white (all Americans), “are victims of our history,” and that victimization leaves us “staring across a great divide of economics, privilege, and the unmitigated pursuit of happiness”—is urgent, uncannily resonant, and feels like it could have been written today.

It has been inspirational to examine and celebrate the legacy of self-respect and self-actualization of the monumental black artist who was the greatest American playwright of the 20th century.



I have been wanting to see *Once on This Island* through a Black interpretive lens for a very long time—since its debut, really.

For so long, this story has had the cultural specificity filed down in favor of a general Caribbean “flavor” to supposedly make it “more accessible.” I am excited to see what happens if we get more culturally specific.

I am excited to have an artistic conversation about Haiti and the ravages of colonialism, especially right now. I want to give better representation to the traditions of African diasporic religions like Vodou, which are usually exoticized, vilified, or portrayed as “made up” or “magical.”

I know there is more richness to be mined in this story than what we’ve seen.

Believe it or not, I’ve been pitching that idea for 30 years, and it took the vision of Nataki Garrett to finally hear “yes, let’s do it!”



Lili-Anne Brown



Nataki Garrett is the Artistic Director of the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, one of the largest theatre-producing organizations in the United States and is widely recognized as an innovative and influential arts leader.

Garrett is the first woman to artistically lead a \$44 million theatre company and OSF's first Black female in this role.

Off To The Oregon Shakespeare Festival



Off To The Oregon Shakespeare Festival



Graduation and an Evening to Relax, before Joining AfroScoutz Friends at Juneteenth



Break





For the Good of the Order

Shelaswau Crier, AABSS Coordinator

For the Good of the Order

- AABSS Advisory Group Retreat
 - Date:
 - Option 1: Wednesday, December 7, 2022
 - Option 2: Friday, December 9, 2022
 - Time
 - Option 1: 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
 - Option 2: 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.



AABSS Plan Revisions Update

Chemika Bolden, Princess Osita-Oleribe

Thank you Workgroup Volunteers!

Summer Workgroup: Objectives

- Develop fall work plan
- Review goals and strategy areas previously identified as in need of further attention:
 - Develop plan for incorporating
 - Added as stand-alone objective
 - Incorporated into existing objectives/strategies
 - Added to guidance document rather than included in core plan

Tentative Timeline/Fall Workplan and beyond

- September - community engagement planning; updated 2021-22 data added
- October - community engagement and planning cont.
- November - Plan edits
- December - AG retreat with first draft final
- January 2023 - incorporating AG retreat feedback
- February 2023 - presenting finished draft to AG
- March 2023 - publish updated Plan

Tentative Timeline: Additional Thoughts

- March 2023 - publish updated Plan
- March 2023-June/July 2023 - additional community engagement if needed
- August/Sept 2023 - if needed, edits to Plan or associated documents (ex. guidance) incorporating the additional public comment

Areas identified as in Need of Further Attention

- Discipline
- Immigration
- Reducing Impact of Bias & Racism
- LGBTQ2SIA+
- Recruitment & Retention of Black Teachers and Administrators

ELD- Early Learning Department

- ALL content areas to incorporate representational and affirming inclusion within curriculum and instructional practices
 - Idea to support structure is alignment with [Ethnic Studies \(HB 2845/ HB 2023\)](#)
- Data
 - What data is being collected and by which department/program in ELD.
 - *clear picture of what they will be collected by end of September*
 - *recently formed a committee to address objectives and data collection*
 - We want to use this data to inform AABSS Plan strategies
 - Moving forward; it was suggested that ELD joins and presents to Advisory Board (accountability partner)

Health

In the updated plan having separate sections that address the following two areas

Mental Health

- Significant mental health problem in schools and the need for culturally-specific addresses/support & strength-based approach
- Intersectionalities of identity (LGBTQ2SIA+)
 - There may be a way to design the School Climate and Culture survey (which is a new survey recommended by the LGBTQ2SIA+ SS plan to be created by ODE/OHA), so that it is gathering/offering data for all districts on feelings of belonging, connectedness, mental health supports, supportive educators, supportive peers, discipline, and bullying/discrimination in an intersectional way
- Currently in our plan mental health is mentioned in discipline of students. We would like to have mental health as a separate category that addresses holistically mental health of African-American Black Students
 - *How do we address teacher bias?*
 - *Violation of civil rights?*

General Health & Well-Being

- Safety (broadly defined - mental, physical, racist bullying)
- Physical health care access
- Social support (spaces for students to feel supported/thrive)

Special Education

Problem/Concern

- Over- referring Black students
 - Students who receive special education services are more likely to receive modified diploma vs regular diploma
- Early identification and support services for students
 - Behavioral vs learning disabilities

Strategies

- Need for a proactive not reactive early identification/intervention
- Investigate difference between behavioral and learning disability in students
- Ensure family supports with family rights and transition goal process in IEP meetings
 - advocacy organizations, county services, etc.

Fall Workgroup Opportunity

- 90 minute meetings
- Every Other Week
 - September 12-16
 - September 26-30
 - October 10-14
 - October 24-28
 - November 7-11
 - November 28-December 2
- [Doodle Poll](#)

Community Engagement & Feedback

Partnership with other organizations and programs throughout the state

- To generate community input on the AABSS Plan
 - Initial Thinking
 - 5 - 7 regional community meetings with possible involvement of teachers and administrators in same day
 - PDx metro area; Willamette Valley (Salem); Eastern Oregon; Southern Oregon; 2 coastal towns
 - Hosted by local community groups as one of their own events with ODE staff attending
 - Led by local community groups who can best understand and reach the community
 - ODE has some funding to help with the costs of these meetings (such as food, childcare, etc)
 - Logistics
 - In-person meetings facilitated by ODE team
 - coordinator +1 other person
 - (travel, evening work, etc.)

Community Engagement Breakout Rooms

Please discuss potential community partners and share organization and individual names and contact information in the Google doc.



Public Comment



Community Announcements & Updates