



Decolonizing Dreams: A BIPOC Celebration of ADA 30

For the longest, disabled Black Indigenous People of Color (BIPOC) have been dominated by our connection to the medical industry and institutions. These images and stories often evoke pity, pain, and even brutality. Although that is part of our reality, it only gives a narrow perspective on the narrative of people with mental/physical health conditions and often erases race altogether.

Hosted by the National Alliance of Multicultural Disabled Advocates ([NAMD Advocates](#)), we are proud to announce our upcoming event, [Decolonizing Dreams: A BIPOC Celebration of ADA30](#). Through a two-day virtual event, hosted on July 24 and July 25, participants will engage in creative conversations that explore the complexity of racial identity mixed with mental and physical health conditions. The NAMD Advocates in partnership with Jen White Johnson will conclude the celebration by hosting a live mural painting on July 26 to honor Black disabled people, and those that have lost their lives to state violence. Ultimately, Decolonizing Dreams will create a space for disabled BIPOC to acknowledge the legacies of disabled people of color, discover the culture of disability in color, and celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

Schedule

Imposter Syndrome and Internalized Behaviors July 24, 2020 at 1pm EST

We deserve to be here. We deserve to take up space. Whether at work, at school, or in our communities, we're worthy of belonging. So, why do so many of us feel we are undeserving of opportunities?

Imposter Syndrome is the experience of believing you are inadequate despite your success. Those who experience it may diminish or deny their achievements. For disabled BIPOC, navigating a world steeped in white supremacy and ableism exacerbates the likelihood of imposter syndrome coinciding with, or evolving into, depression. Attendees will leave this panel with an understanding of how to recognize the internalizing behaviors that can accompany imposter syndrome, as well as ample resources on how to contend with it.



Black Hair and Brown Bodies: Social Survival in the Workplace
July 24, 2020 at 3pm EST

As a BIPOC, you may be one of the few people who looks like you in the workplace. Add on your lived experience as a disabled person, and it becomes even more likely that you're the "only one." How do we truly gain economic empowerment in the face of racial discrimination and ableism? What sort of support can we offer to each other in order to not merely survive in a workplace, but also to transform it to be inclusive of all of our identities? Panelists will share personal insights on making workplaces accessible to BIPOC with disabilities, from navigating the initial interview process all the way to advocating for a promotion.

Names and Frames Part 1
July 24, 2020 at 6pm EST

The NAMO Advocates intend to create a space honoring our ancestors' contributions, and our history as disabled Black Indigenous People of Color. So much of this history is unknown or has not been acknowledged. To address this void, we have collectively built a space to celebrate, commemorate, and grieve our ancestors and the achievements of their work, sacrifices, and lives. So many disabled folks deserve to be remembered and memorialized. Members of our planning team have developed a form to provide names and share stories; the link [is here](#). Paying homage to our ancestors is crucial as it will allow us to recognize their bravery, learn of their strength, and grieve together as a community. By sharing and uplifting our history, we can reduce erasure, and build a stronger movement and community. Please join us on social media, through hashtags #ADA30inColor #ADA30, in amplifying their names.

Working while Healing from Trauma
July 25, 2020 at 1pm EST

Every news headline highlights yet another story of your community being terrorized by the state. At home you grieve openly, reeling with the memories of past trauma that the moment invokes. It feels as if the world should stop, but it doesn't. You still have to work. How do we navigate working while healing from, and often re-experiencing, trauma? Panelists will discuss the unique challenges faced by BIPOC when it comes to work and trauma, as well as strategies for centering our healing.



The State of BIPOC with Disabilities in America: Roundtable Discussion
July 25, 2020 at 3pm EST

This roundtable discussion is an opportunity to explore and define the social, political, and economic priorities of BIPOC with disabilities in the United States. We will use this space to lay the groundwork for a robust agenda of shared priorities that can guide us as we work towards our liberation.

Names and Frames Part 2
July 25, 2020 at 6pm EST

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Decolonizing Dreams: Live Mural Celebration
July 26, 2020 at 3pm EST

The NAMD Advocates are proud to partner with Jen White Johnson to host a live mural painting to honor Black disabled people, and those that have lost their lives to state violence. We will invite disabled BIPOC artists, activists, advocates to come and participate in a live mural painting (in DC) dedicated to and in memory of Black disabled lives. Please note, we will provide instructions for participants to practice social distancing. This segment will serve as a celebration for our community to amplify the message that #BlackLivesMatter and #BlackDisabledLivesMatter.