

Our Presence > Our Power > Our Path Forward



Join us November 8, 2021

Welcome

Toria Jones- Our Emcee

Toria Jones (she/her), a 28 year old Black podcaster from Houston, TX lives with a disability called dwarfism. She just recently started a podcast with her best friend in hopes of spreading awareness about disability-related topics and share her experiences being a little person. She strives to have fun in her work while also bringing education to those who listen. In her work, she's intentional about bringing disabled folks to the forefront and have representation in all media spaces. What motivates her is thinking about what her younger self wished for and that's seeing a Black Disabled Woman be seen as human. Now when she's not spreading awareness and having a good time on the podcast, she is living her very best life making memories with friends and family.



Sabeerah Najee – Our DJ

Sabeerah has been described as an amazing person, friend, advocate and educator. She brings these diverse perspectives to her many roles, as a Soulection DJ, Golden Voice Black consultant, Accessible Festivals consultant, and all around good vibe. Sabeerah lives off of the positive energy that she receives and strives to reciprocate that every chance she gets. Her sets are as lively and turnt as she is and her main goal is to inspire and create pathways for her entire community!



Keri Gray

Keri Gray is the Founder and CEO of the National Alliance of Melanin Disabled Advocates (NAMD Advocates). The NAMD Advocates consults with organizations on issues related to disability, race, gender, and intersectionality. It also serves as a membership hub to support the leadership of Black and Brown disabled advocates, change agents, entrepreneurs, and communicators who are enhancing the social, political, and economic standards of their communities.



Through her various roles, Keri has recruited approximately 4,000 professionals for over 100 organizations and Fortune 500 companies. She has also designed and managed programs for over 1,000 professionals that has helped participants secure competitive employment, identify transferable skills, build an influential network, and gain notable opportunities.

Keri's work has been featured in Teen Vogue, People Magazine, Time Magazine, Madamemoire, PBS Newshour, and the Diet Coke campaign #Unlabeled.

Session 1: Campaign Planning 101

Jordan DeLoach

Jordan DeLoach (any pronouns) is the Director of Communications with State Voices, a network of 22 State Tables and over 1,000 partners using people powered campaigns, civic tech, and coalition building to achieve a multiracial democracy. Jordan DeLoach designs and executes communications strategies for State Voices, including narrative strategies that center marginalized people in the pursuit of a healthy democracy and the freedom to vote.



Jordan is an organizer, writer, and artist from Maryland who uses storytelling uplift marginalized perspectives in the fight for freedom. With experience as a communications leader at Black liberation group BYP100 DC and the campaign to decriminalize sex work in DC, DECRIMNOW, she believes in the power of media and messaging to shift hearts and minds and create new possibilities.

Chad Stanton

Chad Stanton currently serves as the Senior Political Manager for Color Of Change and Color Of Change PAC, after beginning as a Campaign Manager. Previously, I worked as Campaign Manager for 270 Strategies and Constituent Services and Community Liaison for Congresswoman Johnson. Throughout my career and work as a volunteer, I've always been dedicated to serving to uplift the Black community. I want to make sure that everyone is given the tools, opportunities, and support to live comfortably and be fulfilled. My work has allowed me to visit many communities and I'm always warmed and revitalized by the love of the people we're working for and in community with.



Jen White-Johnson

Jen White-Johnson is a Afro-Latina, disabled artist, designer, educator, and activist, whose visual work explores the intersection of content and caregiving with an emphasis on redesigning ableist visual culture. As an artist-educator with Graves disease and ADHD, her heart-centered and electric approach to disability advocacy bolsters these movements with invaluable currencies: powerful, dynamic art and media that all at once educates, bridges divergent worlds, and builds a future that mirrors her Autistic son's experience. Jen was born in Washington D.C. and currently lives in Baltimore.



Her activist work has been featured in The Washington Post, New York Times, AfroPunk, Google Stories, and is permanently archived in Libraries at The Metropolitan Museum of Art and the National Museum of Women in the Arts. She's



worked within disability advocacy initiatives presenting at companies like Converse, Twitter, Amazon, Nike, Today at Apple, Crip Camp: The Official Virtual Experience, and in 2020 she was selected as an honoree on the 2020 Diversability's D-30 Disability Impact List.

Jen holds an MFA in Graphic Design from the Maryland Institute College of Art and a BA in Visual Arts from University of Maryland Baltimore County.

Jalyn Radziminski

Born and raised in Fort Wayne, IN, Jalyn Radziminski is an activist, whose work is dedicated to advocating for voter rights, racial equity, and accessibility for Black, BIPOC, and Disability communities. Radziminski is also an elected Commissioner for Indiana Disability Rights' Protection and Advocacy Services.



Radziminski graduated from Emory University with a bachelor's and linguistics and interdisciplinary studies with a human rights concentration. Jalyn has advocated for diversity, equity, and inclusion in Georgia by serving as a Fair Fight Action Political Fellow, creating statewide disability employment and transportation support networks, and advocating for legislation as a Chief of Staff for the Georgia House of Representatives. Jalyn saw the need to encourage more diverse voter turnout and political participation in their home state as well. Thus, Jalyn founded Count US IN, the first Indiana-based non-partisan nonprofit and movement that advocates to increase and diversify political participation and voter turnout. In partnership with Humanity in Action, Jalyn hosted a Racial Justice and Accessibility Fellowship through Count US IN to support civic engagement campaigns led by Hoosiers that identify as Black, in the Disability Community and impacted by incarceration.

Jalyn is also one of the American Association of People with Disabilities first Fannie Lou Hamer Organizers that advocated to increase Black, Disabled voter turnout nationwide in the 2020 election, and now works at the Bazelon Center for Mental Health Law, which historically helped establish the Americans with Disabilities Act to be included in Civil Rights. Internationally, Jalyn studied and worked in Japan, Germany, and the Netherlands to



advocate for human rights via the U.S. Department of State's Japan-American POW Friendship Program as well as non-profits like Humanity in Action.

Session 2: Leadership & Capacity Building

Tiffany Loftin

Tiffany Dena Loftin is a national social and racial justice organizer. She trains movement leaders on the fundamentals of power relationships and organizational capacity building to directly improve the conditions of communities of color. Tiffany served as the National Director for the Youth and College Division at the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). Her mission there was to train, organize and uplift young Black leaders everywhere who fight for the racial, social, and economic equity of all people. She worked with 340 middle, high school, and college autonomous chapters under her leadership who are constantly recruit new members that organize local and national campaigns like ending mass incarceration, ending gun and police violence, school safety, college affordability, and protecting and increasing democracy.



Ms. Loftin has a five-year background in national labor union organizing working at the American Federation of Teachers (AFT), the National Education Association (NEA), and the American Federation of Labor-Council of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO). As a labor civil rights organizer, she created the labor unions only national curriculum that helps workers understand better how race and inequality are part of every collective bargaining fight. She helped create coalitions with community organizations like Black Lives Matter, Dream Defenders, and United We Dream. Under her leadership she coordinated a national commission of 30 national presidents and vice presidents to meet with local community leaders to address the issues of police brutality, health care, and racism in the union and



worked to create a list of demands that both local labor leaders and national leaders could implement.

Valerie Novack

Valerie Novack (she/her) is a disability policy researcher focusing on inclusive and resilient communities. She focuses on lifting up the expertise of lived experience and grassroots efforts of marginalized peoples into policymaking at the local, state, and federal levels. Valerie started in a Center for Independent Living before becoming a 2019 Portlight Fellow focusing on legislative solutions to inaccessible emergency response practices in the United States. She was the founding Board Chair of the Partnership for Inclusive Disaster Strategies and has had the pleasure of partnering with Autistic Self Advocacy Network, FEMA, Neighborhood Access, and the National Disability Rights Network on efforts to build more accessible responses to climate change. Novack has a bachelor's degree in disability studies and urban planning from the University of Toledo and a master's degree in disaster preparedness and emergency management from Arkansas State University. She is currently pursuing her PhD at Utah State University.



Session 3: Building Relationships and Managing Stakeholders

Zoya Awan

Zoya Awan is the Senior Manager of Public Affairs at Walmart. In her role she directs the strategic outreach and engagement strategy for Walmart's strategic partnerships within multicultural and minority communities focusing on People with Disabilities, Native Americans, and Emerging Generations.

Prior to her work at Walmart, Zoya worked at Microsoft doing Government Affairs, in the State Department's office of the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan and various non-profits. Zoya has an MBA from Georgetown University and her B.A. in International Affairs and Communication Studies from American University.

Zoya is a proud Pakistani-American Muslim woman with a passion for giving a voice to the voiceless and using business to make a positive impact in communities. Born and Raised in Long Island, New York and a longtime Washingtonian, Zoya currently resides with her family in New York.



Ryan Easterly

Ryan Easterly is an experienced grant maker, strategist, and advocate who's driven by a desire to effect meaningful change. His vernacular and love for sweet tea reveal his proud Alabama roots. His experiences as an individual with multiple marginalized identities inform his commitment to bridging gaps and supporting people's access to resources and power.

Ryan has worked in philanthropy for more than a decade. He's held positions within the HSC Foundation and currently serves



as Executive Director of the WITH Foundation, a private foundation that promotes comprehensive healthcare for adults with developmental disabilities in the United States.

Widely regarded as a visionary leader on the intersections of race, class, and disability, Ryan was appointed by President Obama to the President's Committee for People with Intellectual Disabilities. He now serves as a member of the Presidents' Council on Disability Inclusion in Philanthropy which is co-chaired by Ford Foundation and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Ryan also serves as co-chair of Exponent Philanthropy's Disability Funders Peer Circle.

TeNita Ballard

TeNita Ballard is a Diversity Business Partner for SMG at Intel. She joined Intel in February 2021 as Global Supply Chain's Diversity Business Partner. Quickly after joining the team she partnered with key stakeholders to create Supply Chain's Diversity and Inclusion SharePoint site, was BHR D&I's point of contact for XLT's Authentic Leadership Pilot, presented Intel's D&I story at Modern Health's Juneteenth Panel, provided Supply Chain's African American Resource Group A3iS with the resources and support to get the data they needed to grow their initiatives.



In her previous role, she was the Lead Consultant for Diversity & Inclusion at AT&T. She led D&I strategy for the Asian Pacific Islanders, Individuals with Disabilities and Veterans segments where she partnered with both internal and external stakeholders to ensure AT&T is seen as a great place to work and their service provider of choice. TeNita joined DIRECTV in 2006 with roles as an Investigative Analyst investigating Customer Risk Management and as a Commercial Analyst where she was responsible for commercial dealer account auditing to ensure company policy compliance.

In 2013, TeNita's dedication to relationship building and community outreach inspired her to lead the group responsible for the creation and launch of DIRECTV's first African American employee resource group. BAALANCE (Building African American Leaders and Navigating the Company Experience) launched in January 2014 and quickly became known for providing access to influential African Americans at on-site networking events.



With the DIRECTV and AT&T merger, BAALANCE merged into Community NETwork, which is AT&T's African American Employee Resource Group. She served as the Community NETwork Los Angeles Chapter President and Vice President for the past 3 years.

TeNita received her B.A. in Psychology from Cal State Long Beach and her Master of Business Administration from Keller Graduate School of Management. TeNita also held a full-time HR position at Coca-Cola Bottling Company Los Angeles while pursuing her BA and a full-time position at DIRECTV while pursuing her MBA.

Nikki Brown Booker

Nikki Brown-Booker is the Program Officer for the Disability Inclusion Fund at Borealis Philanthropy. As a person with a disability and a biracial woman, she has devoted her work to advancing rights at the intersection of disability justice and racial justice. The daughter of a domestic worker who immigrated from the Philippines and a professional chef and a long-term SEIU member, Nikki was taught from a young age that justice is a human right. Nikki was the Executive Director for Easy Does It Emergency Services, a nonprofit that provides emergency services for people with disabilities and seniors in Berkeley, California. She has a master's degree in clinical psychology and is a licensed marriage and family therapist. Nikki continues to organize with Hand in Hand: The Domestic Employers Network and helped pass the California Domestic Workers Bill of Rights.

