

**Association for the Study of African American Life and History
Executive Council
Awards Committee**

**Revised
2020 Awards Nominations Report
August 24, 2020**

Awards Committee Members: Gloria Browne-Marshall, Natanya Duncan, Annette Palmer, Sheila Flemming-Hunter (Chair)

Carter G. Woodson Scholars Medallion Award Nominations

Louis S. Diggs is a distinguished historian, researcher, scholar, teacher, lecturer, community activist and author. He was born in Baltimore City in 1932, educated in the public schools and received both his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees from the University of Baltimore. He specializes in the African American history of Baltimore County, Maryland. As a chronicler of the county's African American legacy, his work illuminates the historic past of its Black communities. In addition to the social history of residents of Baltimore County, he has spent over three decades enlightening the populace of Baltimore County and beyond to the presence and role of African Americans in Baltimore County, Maryland. He has documented, preserved and disseminated knowledge of little-known facts about the presence, history and life of African Americans within the Baltimore County communities from the 18th century to the present. Additionally, he has published on Baltimore African American military records from the Civil War and the Maryland National Guard. He is author of thirteen (13) books of which eight (8) document the history of African Americans in Baltimore County communities, and five (5) are on African American military records from the Civil War and the Maryland National Guard. Diggs is a lecturer, consultant, historical bus tour organizer and guide who informs the general public about the African American legacy in Baltimore County. He is founder, curator and President of the Diggs-Johnson Mini-Museum in Granite, Maryland and board member, organizer and participant in the Baltimore County African American Cultural Festival since its beginning (1996- Present). He is the recipient of the Henrietta Lacks Legacy Group (HLLG) Service Award (2019).

John H. Morrow, Jr., Franklin Professor of History at The University of Georgia, earned his BA with Honors in History from Swarthmore College (1966) and his PhD in Modern European History from the University of Pennsylvania (1971). In 1971 Professor Morrow became the first African American faculty member in the College of Arts and Sciences at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, where he taught for seventeen years. During that time, he was selected a National Alumni Association Outstanding Teacher and University of Tennessee Macebearer, the highest honor that a faculty member can receive. Morrow served as Head of the UTK History Department from 1983 to his departure from the University in 1988. Morrow was invited to join the faculty of the University of Georgia in 1988 as Franklin Professor, and in 1991 was elected History Department Chairman, a position to which the faculty elected him again in 2010. He

served as Associate Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences from 1993 to 1995 before returning to full time teaching and research. Twice selected an Honors Professor for superior teaching, he teaches undergraduate and graduate courses in the history of Modern Europe and of warfare and society. He taught German history as a visiting professor at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point spring semester 2005, for which the Department of the Army awarded him its Outstanding Civilian Service Medal.

He is presently a consultant on a forthcoming exhibit at the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC. Morrow's books, *German Airpower in World War I* (1982) and *Building German Airpower* (1976), were the first to examine early aviation as a case study in the development of the modern military-industrial complex. His book, *The Great War in the Air: Military Aviation from 1909 to 1921* (1993 [2009]), is considered the definitive study of air power in the First World War. His edited volume, *A Yankee Ace in the RAF. The World War I Letters of Captain Bogart Rogers*, appeared in 1996. His comprehensive history of the First World War, *The Great War: An Imperial History*, examines the war as an imperial conflict with attention to gender and race. It was published by Routledge Press in 2004 (paperback, 2005) and appeared in a centennial edition in 2014. His chapter on "The World Wars in a Century of Violence" appeared in the American Historical Association's volume on the twentieth century (2011) and was also released as an AHA pamphlet. He wrote the chapter on the air war in the *Oxford Illustrated History of the First World War* (1998 [2014]) and the chapters on the air war and the imperial context in the *Cambridge History of the First World War* (2014). In April 2014 the University of Kansas Press published Jeffrey T. Sammons's and Morrow's book, *Harlem's Rattlers and the Great War: The Undaunted 369th Regiment and the African American Quest for Equality*, which is considered the best and most detailed study of the history of that famous regiment. Morrow is currently writing a manuscript on the global and imperial nature of the Second World War.

Barbara McCaskill was nominated for the Carter G. Woodson Medallion but is not an historian. She is Professor of English and Associate Academic Director of Willson Center of Humanities and Arts, University of Georgia

Mary McLeod Bethune Service Award Nomination

Rita Fuller-Yates is a historian from Columbus, Ohio, and a history major graduate from Ohio University. She has worked diligently to tell the story of African Americans "in her backyard" by presenting her research through a series of clips and documentaries that she feels will reach a new generation. Her weekly Facebook watch series traces the people, places, homes and stories of amazing African Americans from her Columbus, Ohio community: the first Black doctor, pastors, music legends that passed through the "Chitlin circuit", homes that played a role in the Underground Railroad, green book listings, schools, and banks.

Living Legacy Nominations

Maurice Daniels holds a bachelor's degree in psychology, a master's degree in social work and a doctoral degree in higher education from Indiana University. As dean of the University of Georgia School of Social Work, Daniels advanced interdisciplinary scholarship and social justice through the development of new degrees, endowed professorships and a research center. During his tenure, the school created dual Master of Social Work degrees in law, public health and divinity-each one a first for the state of Georgia. He also promoted the endowment of two professorships: the Donald L. Hollowell Distinguished Professorship of Social Justice and Civil Rights Studies, the university's first distinguished professorship named for an African-American, and the Georgia Athletic Association Professorship in Health and Well-Being. In addition, he ushered the creation of the interdisciplinary Center for Social Justice, Human and Civil Rights. Daniels is the author of "Saving the Soul of Georgia: Donald L. Hollowell and the Struggle for Civil Rights" and "Horace T. Ward: Desegregation of the University of Georgia, Civil Rights Advocacy, and Jurisprudence." He is the executive producer of four critically acclaimed public television documentaries, including "Donald L. Hollowell: Foot Soldier for Equal Justice," which originally aired on Georgia Public Broadcasting in 2010.

Prior to becoming dean, Daniels served as the school's associate dean, director of its Master of Social Work degree program and director of the Patricia Roberts Harris Fellowship Program. Honored repeatedly for his research, teaching and service, Daniels was also recognized by the 113th General Assembly of the Indiana House of Representatives with House Resolution No. 74, which acknowledged his "accomplishments in the areas of civil and human rights and social justice." He also recently received the Award for Excellence in Research using the Holdings of an Archives from the Georgia Historical Records Advisory Council for his book on Hollowell. He is co-founder of the Athens Area Habitat for Humanity and the UGA Black Faculty and Staff Organization and played a key role in the establishment of the UGA Institute for African American Studies, Department of Minority Services and Programs and Office of Institutional Diversity. He is a life member of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH) and the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc.

Thomas "Tom" Joyner-A graduate of Tuskegee University, Joyner is most known for the radio syndicated show, "The Tom Joyner Morning Show," featuring Joyner and a team of comedians and commentators reporting and discussing the latest news and sports of the day, and playing popular R&B songs from the 1970s through the 1990s as well as contemporary R&B hits. He retired from his morning show on December 13, 2019. Capitalizing on the popularity of the *Tom Joyner Morning Show*, Joyner founded The Tom Joyner Foundation. The mission of the foundation is to support historically black colleges and universities (HBCUs) through student scholarship, endowment, and capacity building enhancements. In the foundation's first month, \$20,000 was raised in 'Dollars for Scholars' scholarship money. Since 1998, it has raised more than \$65 million to help keep students enrolled at HBCUs. The charitable foundation prides itself in having the capability of providing donors specifics of what institution and what student is on the receiving end. The Tom Joyner Foundation also hosts an annual cruise named the Fantastic

Voyage which also raises money for HBCUs. Joyner is also founder of Reach Media, Inc. and Black America.com.

Freedom Scholar Nomination

Dorothy Hines Datiri-Assistant Professor of African and African American Studies and Curriculum and Teaching at the University of Kansas. She received her Ph.D. in Educational Policy in 2014 from Michigan State University; Master's in Public Administration in 2008 from North Carolina Central University and her Bachelor of Political Science in 2004 from North Carolina State University. Her honors and awards include: Community Engaged Scholarship Award in 2019 for the faculty member at the university of Kansas who is bridging academic scholarship with community engagement; the Social Justice Fellow at the University of Kansas to develop skills to advocate and create systemic change on college campuses; and the Paula Silver Case Award from the University Council of Educational Administrators in 2018 for the most outstanding publication in the *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership* (2015 volume). Included among Datiri's twelve refereed journal articles are: "You Can Really See the Hate: Confronting AntiBlackness in School Discipline," *Equity and Excellence in Education*; "The Impossibility of Motherhood in the Ivory: On Race, Gender, and Humanizing Black Mothers", *Journal of Women and Gender in Higher Education*; and "When Police Intervene: Race, Gender, and Discipline of Black Male Students at an Urban High School", *Journal of Cases in Educational Leadership*. Currently at press with Information Age Publishing is an edited volume by Datiri, M. Boveda, T. Hollis, & E. Lindo, *Racism by Another Name: Black Students, Overrepresentation, and Carcerality in Special Education*. Datiri has seven book articles at press and published four book articles, all relating to her expert areas on education, African American Studies, and women's studies. She is sought after as a speaker and presenter in the academy and the community making her an excellent nominee for the Freedom Scholar Award.

Council Award of Special Recognition Nominations

Fred O. Smith Sr., a retired Georgia Department of Labor official, has been named Executive Director of the East Athens Development Corporation. The Board of Directors unanimously voted for him to assume the position during their Feb. 17 meeting, effective immediately. Smith served 18 months as Interim Executive Director of the organization. Smith reports to the board and is responsible for day-to-day operations, which include managing staff and committees, as well as developing initiatives and partnerships that support the organization's mission. Smith brings a broad range of professional experience and grassroots involvement to the role. He spent more than 30 years in state government, retiring in 2013 as District Director of the Georgia Department of Labor. He oversaw a multi-million-dollar budget and more than 100 employees. His district, responsible for career and unemployment services to citizens in 27 Georgia counties, encompassed the Central Savannah River Area (CSRA) and the Northeast Georgia Region.

Prior to his appointment as District Director in 2008, he was a Regional Representative in the Labor Department's Career Development Division in Atlanta where he provided technical assistance and support to the state workforce areas. He also served on the Labor Department's program review and data validation teams. Previously, he spent 14 years in Athens as a Regional Administrator in the Georgia Department of Community Affairs' Rental Assistance Division. In 1993 he was promoted to the central office in Atlanta where he designed and headed DCA's Family Self-Sufficiency Program. A savings incentive program, FSS encouraged and supported economic independence by families receiving federal rental assistance. Under Smith's leadership, numerous low-income family members gained jobs or better jobs, furthered their education, and started escrow savings accounts; several went from receiving public housing assistance to homeownership. Smith holds a degree in sociology from Augusta's Paine College (1975) and a master's in journalism and mass communications from the University of Georgia (1978).

His community involvement includes Co-Founder of the Athens Area Black History Bowl. He is a member of the Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH), serves on the board of the Athens Historical Society, and is a member of Clarke NAACP education committee. A supporter of higher education for under-served students, the local scholarship committee he chairs has raised more than \$25,000 since 2013, for Paine College and the United Negro College Fund (UNCF). He is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2019 Dr. Ray McNair Lifetime Achievement Award and the Zeta Beta Chapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's 2018 Athens Citizen of the Year. In 2017, he, along with his wife, received the University of Georgia President's Fulfilling the Dream Award. The NAACP awarded him the Ralph Mark Gilbert Award for his activism on behalf of the enslaved people burial grounds on the University of Georgia campus.

#BlackLivesMatter (BLM) was founded in 2013 in response to the acquittal of Trayvon Martin's murderer. Black Lives Matter Foundation, Inc is a global organization in the US, UK, and Canada, whose mission is to eradicate white supremacy and build local power to intervene in violence inflicted on Black communities by the state and vigilantes. By combating and countering acts of violence, creating space for Black imagination and innovation, and centering Black joy, the organization has made the phrase "Black Lives Matter" a global testimony to revere black people's bodies and lives.

The three women the world must thank for this phenomenon are: **Patrisse Khan-Cullors, Alicia Garza, and Opal Tometi.**

- **Patrisse Khan-Cullors** is Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter and Strategic Advisor. She is an artist, organizer, and freedom fighter from Los Angeles, CA. She is also Founder of Dignity and Power Now, a New York Times Best Selling Author, Fulbright scholar, popular public speaker, and Sydney Peace Prize awardee. Patrisse recently toured her multimedia performance art piece, "POWER: From the Mouths of the Occupied," a

gripping performance piece highlighting the impact of mass criminalization and state violence in Black communities across the United States.

- **Alicia Garza, Co-Founder of Black Lives Matter**, is an Oakland-based organizer, writer, public speaker, and freedom dreamer who is currently the Special Projects Director for the National Domestic Workers Alliance, the nation's leading voice for dignity and fairness for the millions of domestic workers in the United States. Since the rise of the BLM movement, Garza has become a powerful voice in the media. Her articles and interviews have been featured in Time, Mic, The Guardian, Elle.com, Essence, Democracy Now!, and The New York Times. In addition, her work has received numerous recognitions, including being named on The Root's 2016 list of 100 African American achievers and influencers, the 2016 Glamour Women of the Year Award, the 2016 Marie Claire New Guard Award, and as a Community Change Agent at the 2016 BET's Black Girls Rock Awards. Most important, as a queer Black woman, Garza's leadership and work challenge the misconception that only cisgender Black men encounter police and state violence. While the tragic deaths of Trayvon Martin and Mike Brown were catalysts for the emergence of the BLM movement, Garza is clear: In order to truly understand how devastating and widespread this type of violence is in Black America, we must view this epidemic through a lens of race, gender, sexual orientation, and gender identity.
- **Opal Tometi, Co-Founder of BLM**, is a New York-based Nigerian-American writer, strategist, and community organizer. Opal is credited with creating the online platforms and initiating the social media strategy during BLM's early days. The campaign has grown into a national network of approximately 40 chapters. Opal is currently at the helm of the country's leading Black organization for immigrant rights, the Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI). Founded in 2006, BAJI is a national organization that educates and advocates to further immigrant rights and racial justice together with African-American, Afro-Latino, African, and Caribbean immigrant communities. As the Executive Director at BAJI, Opal collaborates with staff and communities in Los Angeles, Phoenix, New York, Oakland, Washington DC, and communities throughout the Southern states. The organization helped win family reunification visas for Haitians displaced by the 2010 earthquake. BAJI is an award-winning organization with recognition by leading institutions across the country. A transnational feminist, Opal supports and helps shape the strategic work of Pan African Network in Defense of Migrant Rights, and the Black Immigration Network (BIN) international and national formations respectively, dedicated to people of African descent. She has presented at the United Nations and participated with the UN's Global Forum on Migration and Commission on the Status of Women. Opal is being featured in the Smithsonian's new National Museum for African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) for her historic contributions. Opal has been active in social movements for over a decade. She is a student of liberation theology and her practice is in the tradition of Ella Baker, informed by Stuart Hall, bell hooks and Black Feminist thinkers. She has been published in the

Oxford Dictionary of African Biographies, was #10 on the 2015 Root 100 list and she was named a “New Civil Rights Leader” by the Los Angeles Times in 2015 and ESSENCE magazine in 2014, for her cutting edge movement building work which bridges immigrant and human rights work to the ever-growing Black liberation movement. She was a lead architect of the Black-Brown Coalition of Arizona and was involved in grassroots organizing against SB 1070 with the Alto Arizona campaign. Opal is a former Case Manager for survivors of domestic violence and still provides community education on the issue. Opal holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and a Master of Arts degree in Communication and Advocacy. The daughter of Nigerian immigrants, she grew up in Phoenix, Arizona. She currently resides in the Republic of Brooklyn, New York where she loves riding her single speed bike and collecting African art.

In 2016, in recognition of their contribution to human rights, Opal Tometi, Patrisse Khan-Cullors and Alicia Garza received an honorary doctorate degree, BET's Black Girls Rock Community Change Agent Award, recognition among the world's fifty greatest leaders by Fortune and POLITICO magazines, and the first ever Social Movement of the Year Award from the Webbs.

Celebrated annually in the month of February and in conjunction with Black History Month, Black Futures Month challenges us to envision and construct a world where Black people are liberated. A world where we are free. Throughout the month of February, Black Lives Matter Arts+Culture, through art, performance, and music, presents a future for Black folks centered in Black joy, love, restoration, and healing. The Founders of BLM believe that they will change the way we see the world and we see ourselves — free from white supremacy and oppression.

Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.

The Awards Committee recommends this organization in recognition of the 19th Amendment Centennial, the Women’s Suffrage Movement and the 2020 Black History Month Theme. On January 13, 1913, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was founded by twenty-two women at Howard University. Less than two months after the sorority's founding, the Founders of Delta Sigma Theta began their political activism by participating in the historic 1913 Women's Suffrage March on Pennsylvania Avenue in Washington, D.C. on March 3, 1913. The twenty-two Founders of Delta Sigma Theta marched with honorary member Mary Church Terrell under the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority banner on the day prior to Woodrow Wilson's inauguration. Besides the women from Chicago's Alpha Suffrage Club with Ida B. Wells-Barnett, the sorority members represented the *only* black women's organization to walk in the march. They believed that black women needed the right to vote to protect against sexual exploitation, promote quality education, assist in the work force, and empower their race.

Black female marchers were subjected to racism, not only by people who were opposed to the enfranchisement of women, but by march organizers reluctant to advocate suffrage for black women. Since 1890, white Democrats of the southern states of the former Confederacy had ratified new state constitutional amendments and passed legislation that effectively disfranchised most blacks and many poor whites. Black women marching for the right to vote reminded many

that black men had also been disenfranchised. Also, in those years, Washington was effectively a segregated city in public areas. Mary Church Terrell recounted that she and the Delta Sigma Theta Founders had to assemble in an area specifically allocated for black women. Several years later, Terrell confided her feelings about the National American Woman Suffrage Association and suffragist leader Alice Paul to NAACP representative Walter White. Terrell questioned Paul's loyalty to black women's rights, saying, "If [Paul] and other white suffragist leaders could get the Anthony Amendment through without enfranchising African American women, they would do so."

Although the young Founders were criticized for their participation in the suffrage march, none regretted her participation. Florence Letcher Toms commented, "We marched that day in order that women might come into their own, because we believed that women not only needed an education, but they needed a broader horizon in which they may use that education. And the right to vote would give them that privilege."

Today, the major programs of the sorority are based upon the organization's Five-Point Programmatic Thrust:

1. Economic Development;
2. Educational Development;
3. International Awareness and Involvement;
4. Physical and Mental Health; and
5. Political Awareness and Involvement.

Each program's development and implementation operate cooperatively, coordinated by committees, the national executive board, and national headquarters staff. Leaders belonging to the Program Planning and Development Committee, Social Action Commission, Commission on Arts and Letters, Information and Communications Committee, Membership Services Committee and Regional Officers also participate in developing programming to meet the Five-Point Thrust.

More than ten thousand members typically attend Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated's biennial national conventions, and each of the seven regional conferences (held during years when there is no national convention) typically hosts thousands of members. At its recent 51st National convention held in the District of Columbia, more than 38,000 members registered and attended. Since its founding more than 200,000 women have joined the organization. The sorority currently has 1,000 collegiate and alumnae chapters located in the United States, Canada, Japan (Tokyo and Okinawa), Germany, the Virgin Islands, Bermuda, the Bahamas, Jamaica, and the Republic of Korea.

Kiamsha Youth Empowerment Organization

Kiamsha, which means "*that which awakens me*" is a youth empowerment organization that serves the Washington Metropolitan Area and several states across the country. The organization instills *self-worth, self-respect, self-confidence* and *leadership* skills in today's youth through the practice of abstinence from the ills of society; thus positioning them to excel in education, their respective communities, their career of choice and overall life journey. Kiamsha is a 501(c)3 nonprofit that

provides group mentoring through history and character development training that turns mentees into mentors. Kiamsha's Mission is to use history, peer and intergenerational interaction to empower youth to abstain from pre-martial sex, drugs, violence, and prejudice (#KYEO).

We have made significant inroads to the fulfillment of our vision by educating youth from the he founded 104 years ago, and then providing opportunities for these youth to serve as youth spokespersons on behalf of ASALH. Kiamsha youth have now served as facilitators of ASALH's annual Youth Day each year since 2000. (2000 and 2001 in Washington, DC; 2002 in Orlando, FL; 2003 in Milwaukee, WI; 2004 in Pittsburgh, PA; 2005 in Buffalo, NY; 2006 in Atlanta, GA; 2007 in Charlotte, NC; 2008 in Birmingham, AL; 2009 in Raleigh, NC; 2010 in Cincinnati, OH; 2011 in Richmond, VA; 2012 in Pittsburgh, PA; 2013 in Jacksonville, FL; 2014 in Memphis, TN; 2015 in Atlanta, GA; 2016 in Richmond, VA; 2017 in Cincinnati, OH; and 2018 in Indianapolis, IN) Through the years they have reached thousands of youth in the host cities of ASALH's Annual Conference and Meeting. In 2006, for the first time, Kiamsha provided training for youth in Atlanta's DeKalb County to co-facilitate the Annual Youth Day for youth attending schools throughout the Metro Atlanta area. This model of engaging youth in the host city of the conference has continued to this date.

In 2019, ASALH has changed its model. The goal is to use this model concept to reach youth in advance of our annual conference by encouraging school systems to become Institutional Members and utilize materials provided by ASALH to introduce youth in cities throughout the United States and around the world to the Association founded by Dr. Woodson and others over 104 years ago, and to the enduring legacy of Dr. Carter Godwin Woodson who is not only known as the Father of Black History, but also a pioneer of multiculturalism. This model honors Dr. Woodson's legacy of dedication in reaching the younger generation with the truth of our collective history and his promotion of interracial understanding. Dr. Woodson accomplished this goal by personally training and mentoring scholars/historians to join him in documenting the truth of the account of those of African descent, especially those living in the United States, and also encouraged people of other cultures to do the same in an effort to ensure the historical account that is taught to our children in school settings everywhere would be inclusive and complete without distortion or omission.

Kiamsha youth also served as youth spokespersons at ASALH's first press conference promoting the restoration of Dr. Woodson's home that was covered by C-Spann, CNN and other local and national news media. On February 27, 2006, the Carter G. Woodson home became the 389th unit of the National Park System. Kiamsha youth have served as both demonstrators and in performance roles in Lafayette Park (also known as the Presidents Park located across from the White House in Washington, DC), reaching not only their peers but also an intergenerational audience. As the only youth component of ASALH's Carter G. Woodson Home Committee, Kiamsha has played an important role in identifying interpretive designs that would appeal to youth in the Carter G. Woodson National Historic Site. The designs have been approved as part of the interpretive exhibit for this Historic Home. Kiamsha youth also serve (since 1995) as youth spokespersons for bringing the story of the National Park System to their peers. Kiamsha's role in making history relevant to an audience of their peers has had far-reaching effects on future generations. Kiamsha is the only youth component on the Carter G. Woodson Home

Committee team bringing valuable information that will impact the next generation of scholars/historians. We appreciate what these youth and young scholars have done to help secure the future of ASALH.

On March 1, 2006, when Prince George's County provided this tribute to ASALH, ASALH's Director of Membership Services [Barbara Spencer Dunn] had formed for the first time a partnership with the Maryland State Department of Education securing Institutional Memberships in all 23 counties and Baltimore City representing the entire State of Maryland honoring this exceptional and historic partnership sharing with the State this Prince George's County treasure, Kiamsha Youth Empowerment Organization. We hope to replicate this model across the country, beginning in the home of Kiamsha, Prince George's County Maryland.

Woke Vote

Woke Vote is an intergenerational voter education and social policy awareness activist training group in the tradition of the Citizenship Schools of SNCC based in Alabama with a global outreach. It was founded by Ms. DeJuana Thompson. Ms. Thompson "believes there are systemic problems, beyond voter suppression, that are driving low rates of voter turnout and political participation for people of color in the South. Drawing on her strategic leadership and organizing experiences at the Democratic National Committee, in the Obama administration, and on numerous political campaigns, DeJuana is now dedicated to engaging, mobilizing, and turning out African American voters in the South. DeJuana is a firm believer that intentional engagement, coupled with strategic investment is the key to increased voter turnout in communities of color. Thompson is a Dial Fellow with the prestigious Emerson Collective. She's appeared on MSNBC, CNN, in Essence Magazine and the Washington Post among others as a thought leader on race, politics and social engagement strategy."

The mission is to invest in the activation, long-term engagement, training and development of new organizers, and mobilization of historically disengaged voters of color. The organization seeks to engage registered voters in a multifaceted approach that includes strategic social media outreach, impactful campus and faith-based outreach, social impact demonstrations, and intense mobilization (gotv) efforts.

Their credo: organizing for turnout is most effective when you execute a series of tactics, in a targeted universe, with a consistent presence. Since its inception they have drastically increased the percentage rate of turnout (in some of our targets by more than 45% and in all of our targeted communities by at least 5%). In fact, the Analyst Institute did a case study on their program model and found that their work is not only highly effective, but also has a higher rate of turnout measure than most traditional programs.

In keeping with the ethos of Dr. Woodson, Woke Vote seeks to educate and empower. They offer "an intensive web-based training Masterclass program for its alumni and seasoned

organizers across a 4-week timeline. Each week our program partner [BLUE Institute, LLC](https://blueinstitute.org/) covers topics participants will be able to use while working on progressive electoral campaigns such as: organizing strategies, direct voter contact tools, team building best practices and career mobilization.” <https://wokevote.us/2020-masterclass>

Woke Vote also offers a Summer Fellowship with a stipend of \$500 to anyone interested in training “fellows will be soldiers in the army to fight mass incarceration, voter suppression and urban gun violence. After successful completion, fellows will be encouraged to continue the Woke Vote movement across their respective cities and states. The goal of this fellowship is to train and empower people to enact change in their communities through effective outreach and partnerships.”

Woke Vote fellows are trained across the following target areas:

1. Social Media/Digital Organizing
2. Faith Outreach
3. Millennial / Campus Outreach
4. Data / Research
5. Campaign Operations
6. Turnout Models / GOTV Strategy
7. Fundraising
8. Partnerships / Allied Strategy