

HUMANITY IN ACTION

UNAPOLOGETIC: THE JOHN LEWIS LEGACY AND THE FIERCE URGENCY OF THE NOW

A VIRTUAL GATHERING INSPIRED BY CIVIL RIGHTS ICON JOHN LEWIS AND
MOVEMENT-MAKERS OF THE PAST AND PRESENT

JULY 8-11, 2021

THURSDAY, JULY 8TH

Via Youtube Live Stream: <https://youtu.be/7kpHcyhqO2w>

*Thursday sessions are free and open to the public via YouTube Livestream.
All times listed are CET.*

10:15 PM CET

Conference Launch/Welcome Remarks by Dr. Kali-Ahset Amen

10:30 PM CET

Documentary Film Screening "John Lewis: Good Trouble"

This intimate account of legendary U.S. Representative John Lewis' life and legacy takes us through his more than 60 years of activism – from the bold teenager on the front lines of the Civil Rights movement to the legislative powerhouse he became.

12:00 AM CET

Post-Film Discussion "Reflections on a Remarkable Life: Tuere Butler in conversation with Dr. Kali-Ahset Amen"

Butler, who served in various leadership roles on John Lewis' Congressional staff for 12 years, joins in reflection on the film and her remembrance of Lewis as a friend and colleague.

12:30 AM CET

Concert "Movement Music from the Selma Road to the BLM Protest Summer of 2020", led by artistic director Rev. Dr. Dwight Andrews, Senior Pastor of First Congregational and a renowned music scholar.

A musical showcase of Black music traditions and spoken word at Atlanta's Historic First Congregational Church, featuring the soundtrack of mass protest and black freedom struggle across the generations.

1:30 AM CET

Post-Concert Dialogue "Afterword: Reverend Dwight Andrews in conversation with Dr. Kali-Ahset Amen"

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FRIDAY, JULY 9TH

*Sessions will occur on the Zoom platform. Pre-registration is required.
Times listed are CET.*

2:00 PM CET

Meet and Greet “John Lewis Fellows - Early Birds & European Reunion”

2:45 PM CET

Break

3:00 PM CET

Official Conference Welcome “John Lewis Fellows ‘Roll Call’”

3:15 PM CET

Spoken Word Performance “An Ode to Lewis” presented by 2015 Senior Fellow **Antonio Lopez**

3:30 PM CET

Panel Discussion “Elders Forum: Reflections on the Atlanta Student Movement”
Dr. Roslyn Pope and **Charles Black** in dialogue with **Tanya Washington**, Fmr. John Lewis Fellowship Director (2016-2018)

4:30 PM CET

Fellows Only Networking Space “What Good Trouble are you in?”

6:00 PM CET

Dinner Break with virtual yoga led by **Irijah Stennett**, Kemetic Yoga master

Yoga will run during dinner from 6:00 - 6:45pm

7:00 PM CET

Afternoon Keynote by **Professor Carol Anderson**

Veteran JLF program speaker and historian Carol Anderson will relate Lewis’ political advocacy to the complex history of race addressed in her latest 2021 book release, “The Second: Race and Guns in a Fatally Unequal America”.

8:00 PM CET

Break

8:15 PM CET

Artistic Presentations introduced and facilitated by 2020 Senior Fellow **Grace McMickens**

“Coming Home: The Life & Legacy of John Lewis” a presentation by 2020 Senior Fellow **Dorothy Mukasa and Company**

A virtual performance featuring original songs and poems inspired by John Lewis. This concert serves as a reflection on how Congressman John Lewis’ Legacy continues to inspire younger generations to fight for freedom with whatever gifts they have.

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8:45 PM CET

Live Q&A with performers, moderated by **Grace McMickens**

8:55 PM CET

"float free // singing as liberation work" co-led by 2019 Senior Fellow **Leilani Douglas**

A mixed-media performance exploring how the voice, sound and collaborative artmaking fit into our struggles for liberation. Created by the Chicago-based vocal ensemble, Co.Operative

9:20 PM CET

Live Q&A with performers, moderated by **Grace McMickens**

9:30 PM CET

Break

10:00 PM CET

Evening Keynote "The Future of Atlanta Activism: Activist-Artist **Killer Mike** with Historian **Maurice Hobson**"

A live streamed barbershop conversation at The SWAG Shop located in the historic Sweet Auburn Black Business District, featuring Keynote Speaker Killer Mike

Please Note: Killer Mike's segment will take place via Youtube Livestream

Event Link: <https://youtu.be/8WZp-OwhxIw>

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SATURDAY, JULY 10TH

A full day of presentations, workshops and networking sessions curated by John Lewis Fellowship alumni. All sessions will occur on the Zoom platform. Pre-registration is required. Times listed are CET.

3:00 PM CET

Introduction to the Day's Program

3:15 pm CET

Session 1: Dr. Karcheik Sims-Alvarado, Inaugural John Lewis Fellowship Director (2014 - 2015), "Discovering the Past, Transforming the Present through Social Justice Education: Designing a Fellowship to Teach the Structure and History of America's Social Movements"

3:45 PM CET

Break

4:00 PM CET

Session 2: Interactive Talks moderated by 2017 Senior Fellow Hope Anderson

4:10 - 2:30 PM CET

- 2018 Senior Fellow **Gino Nuzzolillo**, "The Neighborhood Union and Visions of the New South in Black Atlanta"

At the turn of the 20th century, the city of Atlanta flaunted its status as capital of the New South. For all of its New South aspirations, however, inequality along lines of race, class and gender defined daily life. In September 1906, a violent massacre – which left dozens of Black Atlantans dead at the hands of a white mob – tarnished Atlanta's New South veneer and made clear the ways in which competing visions of a "New South city" were playing out in Atlanta's streets, saloons, and neighborhoods. This presentation provides an introduction to these many visions, primarily from the perspective of Black women who radically confronted systemic inequality and racial violence in early 20th century Atlanta.

4:30 - 4:50 PM CET

- 2015 Senior Fellow **Devon Crawford**, "Achieving our Country: Creating Justice in Real Time"

Description forthcoming.

4:50 - 5:10 PM CET

- 2019 Senior Fellow **Ishan Sharma**, "Emerging Surveillance Technologies & 21st Century Democracy"

In the last decade, global demand for surveillance technologies has skyrocketed, changing what is possible from autocracy and what is required to preserve democracy. From the rise of digital facial recognition and remote phone hacking equipment, to the continuous use of aerial drones and social media monitoring, these transformational methods are delivering the capacity for systematic, population-wide harm in at least 100 countries. What will we see in the next decade, as new methods of surveillance emerge and the second half of the world gains access to the Internet? And how should we as citizens, the United States, and democratic allies respond?

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5:10 PM CET

Q&A

5:20 PM CET

Break

5:30 PM CET

Session 3: Concurrent Workshops moderated by 2020 Senior Fellow **Beth Awano**

- Breakout Room A: “Educational Equity: Implementing an Ethnic Studies Curriculum”

2017 Senior Fellow **Alex Mabanta**, Campaign Manager, California Asian American and Pacific Islanders Campaign, Asian Pacific Islander School Board Members Association, and **Karen Korematsu**, Founder and Executive Director, Fred T. Korematsu Institute

Ethnic Studies is a powerful tool to transform classrooms: empowering all students with the narratives and contributions of people of color. This event features the evolution and adoption of the Ethnic Studies Model Curriculum in the state of California, the first-in-nation K-12 curriculum to elevate African American Studies, Chicana/o/x and Latina/o/x Studies, Asian American and Pacific Islander Studies, and Native American Studies. As a call-to-action, the event features a workshop for how participants may develop an ethnic studies curriculum for their specific profession or community of practice, and/or inaugurate Ethnic Studies in their local school districts, so that one day, youth and adult learners in all 50 states may acquire a more equitable and inclusive education centered on anti-racism and social justice.

- Breakout Room B: “Moving Money: A Financial Activist Playbook for Racial Justice”

2018 Senior Fellow **Jasmine Rashid**, Impact Investor, Oakland-based firm Candide Group

We all have the power to influence the flow of money in our communities. Join Jasmine Rashid for this interactive workshop on how you can take actions big and small for moving money in line with racial justice. From influencing millions out of the private prison / immigrant detention industry, to directing investments into social impact companies, to changing who you buy from and bank with, this workshop is designed to be valuable to everyone regardless of how much money you have (or don't have) in the bank.

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6:30 PM CET

Dinner Break with virtual yoga led by **Irijah Stennett**, Kemetic Yoga master

Yoga will run during dinner from 6:45 - 7:05 pm.

7:15 PM CET

Session 4: Concurrent Workshops moderated by JLF Associate Director **Hanane Abouellotfi**

- **Breakout Room A:** “Organizing as Abundance: Building New Worlds Through Pleasure” 2019 Senior Fellows **Jess Pires-Jancose** and **Momo Wilms-Crowe**

How do we make organizing feel good and tap into the radically transformative power of joy to build the world of our dreams? What might your community look like if it were centered around pleasure, healing, and justice? What would it feel like? Join Momo and Jess as we explore transformative examples from past movements as well as from our own organizing work, and engage in a collaborative exercise where we imagine how we might rebuild our communities in a way that centers abundance and collective thriving by asking: what if?

- **Breakout Room B:** “Building community solidarity and amplifying Asian voices in times of Covid-19” 2019 Senior Fellows **June Thalin-Worm** and **Hoangtran “Hany” Hieu Hanh**

This talk-and-skill session is based on a 2020 HIA action project called “Dinner & Dialogue,” a process of building solidarity among Asian communities living in Europe. The presenters will introduce the topic of anti-Asian discrimination throughout the pandemic and their efforts to tackle increased racism, derogatory language and physical attacks using art, identity-exploration, positive language and self-care as tools of activism.

8:00 PM CET

Fellows’ Social Meetup

Network and reconnect with your fellowship cohort in breakout rooms.

8:30 PM CET

Session 5: Interactive talks moderated by **Hanane Abouellotfi**

8:35 PM CET

- “Federal Indian Policy in the Age of Deb Haaland” 2017 Senior Fellow **Emily McDonnell**

In 2021, Laguna Pueblo Congresswoman Deb Haaland (D-NM-1) made history as the first Native American to serve as the Secretary of the Interior. Why is this significant and what does this mean for Tribal nations in the United States? In this session Emily will delve into the history of Federal Indian Policy in the U.S. and how Deb Haaland’s Cabinet appointment has enormous potential to shape public policy for Tribal nations in a way that we have never seen before.

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SATURDAY, JULY 10TH

9:00 PM CET

- “Black and Indigenous Solidarity” 2017 Senior Fellows **Trey Walk and Emily McDonnell**

In this session, Trey and Emily will explore the historical relationship between Black Americans and Indigenous (also called Native Americans) in the United States. This in-depth conversation will specifically address disenfranchisement, racial tensions, and the oppression both communities have faced--sometimes at the hand of each other. Through this dialogue our goal is to acknowledge the complicated and violent history which will instruct us in creating a path for Black-Indigenous solidarity going forward.

9:35 PM CET

Q&A

9:50 PM CET

Break

10:00 PM CET

Session 6: “Forging Racial Equity: Transforming Institutions and Communities”, moderated by JLF Program Associate **Adama Kamara**

10:05 - 10:20 PM CET

- **Michael Scott**, 2017 (Berlin) Senior Fellow and 2020 HIA Racial Equity Grant recipient and **Helen Kramer**, 2017 (Berlin) Senior Fellow, “Breaking Bread”

Breaking Bread is a conversation series that assembles diverse identities to explore multi-vocal perspectives on controversial topics. Join Michael (Co-Founder) and Helen (Managing Partner) as they walk you through the Breaking Bread team’s methodology for and lessons learned so far from the upcoming installment, which discusses the Black Lives Matter movement – with the intention to capture different viewpoints of the movement’s purpose, impact, and legacy.

10:20 - 10:35 PM CET

- **Jalyn Radziminski**, 2020 HIA Racial Equity Grant recipient, “#BuildBlackIndiana: Our Voices & Our Votes Matter”

Jalyn will share the impacts of Count US IN’s Racial Justice and Accessibility Fellowship that empowered people across the state of Indiana who are Black, in the Disability Community, and Impacted by incarceration to participate in voting and civic engagement. Jalyn will also walk through the lessons learned from local coalition building, education, and resource sharing in the effort create statewide campaigns to defend voting rights and diversify political participation.

10:35 - 10:50 PM CET

- **Samson Lim**, 2020 HIA Racial Equity Grant recipient and 2008 (Berlin) Senior Fellow, “Human-Centered Lawyering at the California Law Review”

Lim will share what he and his leadership team at the California Law Review have accomplished to push the legal profession toward greater equity and justice. Through a series of talks with practitioners, activists, artists, and community leaders, the California Law Review aimed to bring the law into context and conversation with the larger Berkeley Law and legal community, and beyond.

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10:50 PM CET

Q&A and Open discussion facilitated by **Adama Kamara**

11:15 PM CET

Closing the Day's program

HUMANITY IN ACTION

SUNDAY, JULY 11TH

Via Youtube Live Stream: <https://youtu.be/zln4mUqeT8E>

Sunday sessions are free and open to the public via YouTube Livestream. All times listed are CET.

4:00 PM CET

Going Home Ritual at Oakland Cemetery “Song and Silence in the Praise House: Journeys from the Rural South to Freedom” led by conceptual artist **Charmaine Minniefield**, 2021 Curator of Atlanta’s Flux Art Festival

A place-based public art commemoration and ‘homegoing ritual’ at Oakland Cemetery, dedicated to John Lewis and all who have perished along the liberation road.

5:30 PM CET

Closing of Conference Program

Reflections by past and present John Lewis Fellowship staff, Fellows and HIA Executive Director **Judy Goldstein**