



adePROJECT

STAND  
AGAINST  
RACISM

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
**ywca**

+ RACIAL JUSTICE COALITION

# JUST US

an online gathering where earth + racial justice meet

APRIL 25, 2020 | STREAMING ONLINE | 7:15AM - 11:59PM EST



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## JUST US: Meaning of the Moment.

JUST US is a community-led, donation-based online gathering welcoming and calling in attendees from around the globe who share our vision for creating an equitable, inclusive and JUST world. This event is family-friendly, youth-welcoming, and organized by members of Black, indigenous, Latinx, LGBTQ communities. Artists, organizers, community leaders, educators, and entrepreneurs are coming together for this special moment in history - in a world that is paused by COVID-19, we find grace and thanks in the space we have to come together and vision anew. All, all, all are welcomed to this event, and we are grateful that you have chosen to be to be part of it.

#justusonline #standagainstracism #earthday

# Organizers.





**Alina Talladen**

Soul + Soil Project  
Nawaya Village

Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT)

**Alina Talladen** is an artist and explorer of ancient futurism and radical peace. A visionary creator, musician and integrative entrepreneur, Alina focuses on pragmatic solutions which nourish our relationship with the earth and empower our societal potential, both as individuals and communities. In service to Planet Earth, humanity and Spirit, she plays various roles as catalyst, spearheader, and supportive participant of bayanihan, or the spirit of community solidarity.

She is a cofounder and food sovereignty worker of Soul and Soil Project, a regenerative-organic educational farm and resiliency nonprofit; founding director and creator of Nawaya Village, a developing real estate cooperative and eco-micro-town for affordable home ownership and mission-led businesses; song artist (Ma Mockingbird), member of Adé Project, auntie, culture-bearer and lover of travel.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
lunch from the diasporic kitchen



**Cortina Jenelle Caldwell**

Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT)  
CortinaJenelle.com

**Cortina Jenelle Caldwell** is a queer, Two-Spirit descending from generations of Southern, West African & indigenous farmers, artists, engineers, entrepreneurs and creatives. Cortina is an entrepreneur that learned at her grandmother's hand, a published poet/writer, life-long writer, motivational speaker, artist of many mediums, community builder, cultural organizer, creative facilitator, event + experience designer, and consultant/coach for individuals, groups, businesses, and communities seekly to more deeply connect with their creative possibilities. Cortina is the Founder & Creative Community Organizer of Artists Designing Evolution, LLC (adé PROJECT), an artistically rooted black + brown led, intergenerational grassroots cooperative catalyzing racial equity through re-imagination, reparation, and reclamation.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
water, earth, air + fire ceremonies



**Larissa Lopez**

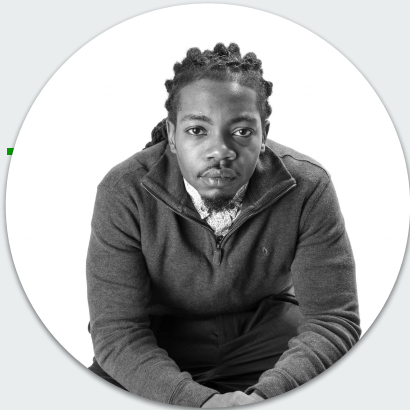
Institute for Sustainable Communities  
Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT)

**Larissa Lopez** is a Program Coordinator for ISC's U.S.-based community-led resilience programming. In this role, Larissa provides project management, administrative, logistical and programmatic support to advance equitable climate resilience outcomes in U.S. communities.

Larissa is an ongoing organizer with Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT), a multi-generational, intersectional grassroots cooperative bringing artists of color who call the Southeast home together to actualize equity, spark creative inquiry + reclaim the narrative.

Larissa has a Bachelor of Science in Natural Resources from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Sustainability Studies at Lenoir-Rhyne University in Asheville, NC where she resides.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
open space



**Robert Thomas**

Racial Justice Coalition of Asheville

**Robert Thomas** is an experienced Community Leader with a knack for innovation, who centers his work around advocating for those most impacted by the inequities of the Criminal Justice System. As a former Justice involved individual himself, he understands the negative impacts and disparities faced by people of color in the carceral system. With over 10 years of direct experience, Robert has now narrowed his focus to racial justice, decarceration, and activism around police accountability. In addition, Robert is the newly named Community Liaison for the Racial Justice Coalition of Asheville, he is the Chief Financial Officer of a minority-owned Dump Truck Company and a partner of a minority-owned Equity Consulting Firm.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
decarceration as the new normal



**Savannah Gibson**  
YWCA of Asheville

**Savannah Gibson** is originally from Greenville, SC, after living in Arizona for 7 years completing an undergrad and masters degree she is excited to return back and be organizing in the southeast. Since returning she has begun working with the YWCA of Asheville as the Racial Justice Coordinator and is excited to be working with and serving such an amazingly beautiful community.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
self-care for the black woman

Art is our RESPONSE.

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**Babalawo Oluseyi  
Olaboyede Atanda**  
Asheville Sister Cities  
HATTAF International, Nigeria

**Dr. Oluseyi Atanda** is a Babalawo/Ifa Priest (traditional Yoruba priest), the Ajana Awo of Osogbo, Nigeria.

He acts as Coordinator of HATTAF International , Nigerian chapter, General Secretary of Traditional Religion Worshippers Association, State of OSUN (TRWASO),Nigeria and is a practicing OBGYN physician with sub specialty in Assisted Reproduction Technology.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
earth ceremony



**Biko Casini**  
Rising Appalachia  
+ many other creative projects!

**Biko Casini** was born in Ireland and grew up on "The Farm", a famous intentional community in southern Tennessee. As a child his father played songs in many different languages, opening Biko's awareness to a diverse range of cultures and music. Biko is a singer, songwriter, and skilled percussionist who values music as a tool for bringing people together to strengthen human values. It is Biko's hope the work will carry this timeless music and tradition where it is needed, connecting the many branches and pathways of modern life to the ancient roots of ancestry. Biko is a member of Rising Appalachia, as well a collaborator with Arouna Diarra.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
fire ceremony



**Juan Sanchez-Martinez**  
UNC Asheville

**Juan** is originally from the Andes (Bogotá, Colombia). He joined UNC Asheville in Fall 2016. His interest in indigenous cultural expressions and ancestral epistemologies introduces (into the classroom) old/new ways to approach culture and nature, challenging traditional theories about language, genres, and periods, as well as colonial concepts such as nation, race, and progress. From both his involvement in solidarity networks and his research into the works of contemporary indigenous writers, Juan has built a trans-indigenous corpus, highlighting the tensions between indigenous literary nationalisms, migrant experiences, and expectations on indigeneity. His scholarly efforts are devoted to bringing researchers, students, advocates, elders, and writers together to create intercultural publications, weaving South, Central and North America into one cultural braid.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
air ceremony



**Lucia Daugherty**  
Buncombe County Community  
Engagement Team  
Resources for Resilience Facilitator  
Community Farmer + Artist + Organizer

**Lucia Daugherty** is a master grower of people, plants, and projects. As one of the founders of the Pisgah View Garden, along with late husband Bob White, and an early tutor for I Have a Dream Foundation at Pisgah View Apartments, Lucia Daugherty has plenty of wisdom on community cohesiveness, and the necessity of water. She puts that skill at relationship building to good use as the Executive Director of Asheville-Buncombe Community Relations Council (ABCRC) whether it is working with law enforcement or the schools. When Lucia has a task before her, she focuses entirely on it. Currently serves on the Buncombe County Community Engagement team, and in the past has served as the Civil Rights Specialist with SPARC Foundation and continues to show up as the Community Resource Liaison for Deaverview Apartments, in conjunction with Buncombe County Schools' Student Success office.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
water ceremony



## Film Screening: The Twelve.

**The Twelve** is a feature length documentary that **gives a voice to wisdom traditions through the words of twelve Elders** that united in a council at the United Nation (New York City) in November 2017. This film is about giving them the opportunity to speak their truth and let the world know about what they did for the benefit of all. It is also about **highlighting how wisdom traditions can be an amazing source of inspiration and solutions for ourselves and our modern society**. The film is produced by La Ciel Foundation, which is a UK based Charity, with a mission to **reconnect Humanity with Nature and all living beings through conscious projects and initiatives**.

"Such an epic film. Spine tingling, potentially life changing."

"It is extraordinary to see something so raw in a film today. It felt as the viewer is being treated to a sacred glimpse of the source of life..."

# Speakers + Panels.



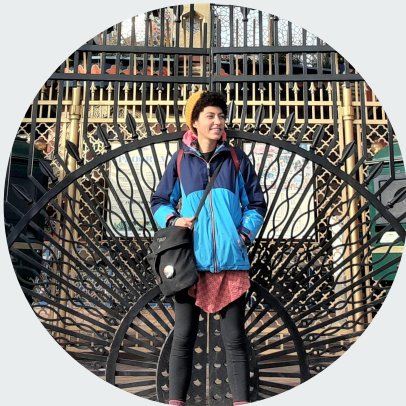




**Bobbi Williams**

Exquisite Sacred Counsel  
DJ Smokifantastic  
Earth Magick

**Bobbi** is an interdisciplinary global artist, healer and medium . Williams has an MFA in Acting and playwriting from Carnegie Mellon University and Moscow Art Theater. Bobbi is a graduate of the Academy of Natural Healing in New York City. Bobbi has been a healing practitioner for the past 19 years. Williams is a Yogini (one who practices yoga everyday). She has practiced yoga everyday for the past 29 years. She also has practiced meditation for 43 years. Bobbi is a practitioner and teacher of Reiki, Yoga, Body Evolution, acupressure, color therapy, tantra, polarity therapy, shamanism, acting, art, directing, playwriting, dance, meditation, spiritual and emotional counseling, business, creative dreaming, authentic movement, Goddess empowerment and psychic development. Williams is a Certified Fairyologist. Bobbi's gift of mediumship was passed down to her from her mother Vivian. Bobbi has been reading the tarot for 18 years. Bobbi's interests include: environmentalism, sustainability, entrepreneurship, gardening, wild walking, urban foraging, crystal healing, astrology, tarot, and djing. **appears on the schedule ://:** the urgency of imagination: becoming your own superhero



**Chloë Moore**

Sunrise Movement of Asheville

**Chloë Allegra Moore** is a climate justice activist with Sunrise Movement Asheville and a passionate food grower. She works as a research assistant for the NC State University Agricultural Extension Program with organic vegetable and medicinal herb production, as well as growing food at Shiloh Community Garden. Chloë believes in creating a food system that is not only just and delightfully diverse, but that one which re-imagines our relationship with land and treats agriculture not as a climate issue, but as one of its most powerful solutions.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
planetary healing for the soil + soul



**Dawn Blagrove**  
Emanicipate NC  
Carolina Justice Policy Center

**Dawn Blagrove** is an attorney and graduate of Florida Agricultural and Mechanical University (FAMU) and North Carolina Central School of Law.

After graduating law school, Blagrove worked for eight years as a post-conviction staff attorney with North Carolina Prisoner Legal Services, where she co-managed the jail credit team of five paralegals dedicated to jail credit issues. Blagrove also litigated federal habeas actions in U.S. District Courts in N.C.; the Fourth Circuit Court of Appeals in Richmond, VA.; and the Supreme Court of the United States. Today, Blagrove's experience as a post-conviction attorney, combined with her undergraduate training in Secondary Education, fuel her passion for educating youth and the public about challenges in the criminal justice system as Executive Director of the Carolina Justice Policy Center. Blagrove also serves as an adjunct professor for the Criminal Justice Department of Fayetteville Technical Community College. She is also a proud co-sponsor of the Capital City Chapter of Jack and Jill of America.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
decarceration as the new normal



**Eboné Graham**  
Aisha Adams Media  
Asheville Sister Cities  
Artists Designing Evolution  
(adé PROJECT)

**Eboné Oshunyemi Graham** is a healer with a specialty in divination, providing Akashic Record, Tarot and Astrology readings. She is also a Kundalini Reiki Master and has initiated a dozen other practitioners. As an Aborisha and Ifa practitioner, Oshunyemi has been identified as a Child of the Nigerian Goddess, Oshun, the custodian of the feminine essence. It is with this same intent that Eboné serves her community: Teaching women how to grow their selfdom to support the lives they should have. She has been thrilled to provide an astrology based offering, Moon Sign & Destiny, as apart of adé PROJECT's Lounge of Legba: Heritage, Arts + Wellness Room at the African-Americans in Western NC and Southern Appalachia Conference.

Eboné presently serves as the Chair of Sister Cities International, Inc. - the Asheville chapter, which is directly linked to Osogbo, Nigeria; a contributing writer for Asheville View; a member of the Aisha Adams Media team; and an artist with creative links to the healing arts, craft, event management, and personal development work.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
self-care for the black woman



**Kasia Maatafale**

**Kasia Maatafale** is a divine creator, community organizer & people supporter. Born in Vallejo, California, she has lived in a state of constant transition, moving to and from different states from the east to west coasts. Kasia moved to Asheville in 2008 from College Park, Ga. As an Asheville High Cougar, Kasia cheered on Varsity, was an AVID scholar and a member of CAYLA (City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy). Kasia continues to build upon the foundation of "all it takes is one" for how she sees herself interacting & impacting individuals and ultimately the world. As a Results Specialist at UNCA, Kasia supports the Culture of Results initiative, designing work and evaluation plans for fundraising, marketing and technical support. While work is important, Kasia loves to play, laugh and is learning how to be a better listener. Prioritizing herself, her hobbies, her people and her passions & artistry, Kasia believes that through faith and action anything can be achieved. Kasia is an avid bird watcher, plant talker & lover of all. She also loves bubbles!!!

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
self-care for the black woman



**Miranda Williams**  
Asheville High/SILSA  
Artists Designing Evolution  
(adé PROJECT)  
Mother Love + MotherReed

**Miranda Williams** is Asheville's youngest certified doula - by intention. As a teen, Miranda started designing her life early and set out with a mission to support those without the access, opportunities, and tools they need in order to THRIVE and improve their quality of life. In her early years, Miranda set out to be a criminal & justice lawyer and in pursuit of that goal, set out to learn as much as possible about the legal and criminal justice system so that this information can be shared and passed along to others. Presently, Miranda serves as a community facilitator as well as a spokesperson for the lives of Black babies, Black teens and communities of color in spaces such as Mother Love, MotherReed, and a girl's empowerment group based at Asheville High School/SILSA. Miranda is the Youth Education Organizer with Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT).

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
self-care for the black woman



**Nicole Townsend**

Townsend for AVL  
CoThinkk

I am unapologetically Black and Queer. I believe in a world where people, regardless of identity can live a full life that allows them to thrive in a way that feels true to who they are. I believe that no one is free until those who are Black, trans, queer, immigrant, and poor are free and able to live a life without being targeted.

Currently, I serve the Asheville community as a board member of the Human Relations Council of Asheville, Bountiful Cities, and Asheville Writers in Schools & Communities. I am a member of CoThinkk, Grassroots Equity Alliance, and the YWCA Racial Justice Coalition.

In September 2016, I found myself in the midst of the Charlotte Uprisings protesting the murder of Keith Lamont Scott. That is when I found Southerners On New Ground (SONG). It is within SONG that I had the opportunity to co-facilitate the Southern Black Mama's Bail Actions, which is a part of a demand to end money bail and pretrial detention, rooted in a national collective that has been able to get over 400 Black mothers and caregivers out of a cage.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
decarceration as the new normal



**Olufemi Lewis**

Sierra Club

**Olufemi Lewis** is originally from Charlotte, NC but called Asheville, NC her home for almost 20 years. She's a mother, daughter, and avid community organizer, currently working with the Sierra Club as a Southeast Regional Distributed Organizer for the Ready for 100 Campaign. She also serves as a board member of Dogwood Alliance. Olufemi is also one of the founders of the Asheville Buncombe Food Policy Council, Buncombe County Cooking Oil Recycling Program, Ujamaa Freedom Market, Hillcrest Unity Garden, and Gardens United. She is a Fellow Member of the North Carolina Food Justice Fellowship (for People of Color). Her personal experiences with environmental and structural racism have called her to use her voice in movements that are working to dismantle systems of racial inequities and oppression.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
planetary healing for the soil + soul



**Philip Cooper**  
UpSkill WNC

**Philip Cooper** is a Western North Carolina native that fell in love with the streets at a young age. While growing up in poverty, he identified the drug dealers as they were the ones that appeared to run a more lucrative business. While in the streets he started using hard drugs which contradicted his career as a drug dealer and landed him years in prison for high level offenses. He is known for his statement, "prison saved my life." While in prison he completed self-help courses, rededicated his life to Christ, and was mentored by a man who had been in prison over 10 years. Upon release from prison, Philip immediately connected with the recovery community, which is where he found his love for counseling and peer mentoring. He became a peer mentor and worked as a case manager for 3 years before he transitioned into reentry services for returning citizens. Since then he has become a regional organizer and advocate for policy change and now manages an award winning reentry program called UpSkill WNC. Philip says that he continues to reach back and help others because the only way to keep what he has is by giving it away.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
decarceration as the new normal



**Ponkho Bermejo**  
BeLoved Asheville

**Ponkho** is a part of the intentional community of BeLoved Asheville. BeLoved works to make sharing and radical recycling an every day practice in building a new world in the shell of the old. Ponkho weaves his Mexican culture into his work as a cultural artist and community organizer. He creates public art out of recycled pallets that double as community gardens for elders and creates Neighborhood Fiestas to organize communities to support each other. He supported justice campaigns including the Charlotte Uprising, Housing Not Handcuffs, and an Emergency Food and Know Your Rights Campaign during the recent ICE raids. Ponkho is painter, graphic artist, and photographer with BeLoved's Rise Up Studio as well as a musician and song-writer.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
planetary healing for the soil + soul





**Tracey Greene-Washington**  
CoThinkk

**Tracey Greene-Washington** is the founder of CoThinkk, a social change philanthropy committed to improving the economic mobility, leadership, health and wellbeing, and education narrative of communities of color in Western NC.

Mrs. Greene-Washington most recently served as the director of special initiatives for the Kate B. Reynolds Charitable Trust, leading the strategic implementation of the foundation's two major long-term efforts. Prior to joining the Trust, Tracey served as the program officer for community economic development at Z. Smith Reynolds Foundation and was instrumental in creating a strategy to address the statewide racial and gender wealth gap in North Carolina.

Mrs. Greene-Washington currently serves on the board of Education NC and North Carolina Center for Public Policy Research. She is the former board chair for the Center for Leadership Innovation and Vice Chair for the Southern Rural Development Initiative, and previous Council on Foundations Next Generation Task Force member. She is a Certified Coach through Coach Diversity Institute.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
self-care for the black woman



Wellness + Self-Care.



**JoyMaat**

Spiritual Teacher, Facilitator,  
Artist & Author  
Mental Health Professional  
KemeticArts24.space  
Artists Designing Evolution  
(adé PROJECT)

**JoyMaat** a spiritual teacher and health and wellness practitioner who utilizes Kemetic principles and cosmology, traditional African and indigenous spiritual rituals and divination; and mental health modalities to help individuals to identify and strengthen elements of their mind, body and spirit. Their disciplines cover: Physical Health- through plant-based food energy education, meal planning, recipes & MaaticFlow Yoga™ (Kemetic Yoga™, RYT 200 Yoga Skills certified). Spiritual Cultivation- through spiritual guidance focusing on African Traditional Religious principles and indigenous rituals; including Metu Neter Oracle divination; and cosmology charting. Mental & Behavioral Health- as a professional and advocate certified in Behavioral Mental Health; mindfulness; meditation; and self-care practices. Facilitation and advocacy for Racial Equity in healing and health services for Black Indigenous People of Color. Arts- mixed media visual artist; and crystal energy work.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
sun salutation yoga



**Michele Ashley**  
Michagnikripa

As a spiritual guide, yoga teacher, life mastery coach and intuitive business consultant, Michele serves in many capacities. Her heart has always been devoted to creating sacred space for others to expand, explore and engage with their own inner wisdom as a path towards to dismantling racial inequities and liberation for all. Her ability to "hold space and anchor higher consciousness" allows for greater clarity, deeper insight, and higher accountability for those seeking to live life mindfully harming none. She is the Owner of Coeur Consulting, established in 2009 in NYC, and Founder of Heart, Hustle & Flow, a wellness community for health and healing of mind, body & soul. A strong believer that every life serves a purpose is the driving force for her passion and dedication in guiding others to live a powerful, authentic, and soul-aligned life.

As the former, Vice-Chair of the Western North Carolina Diversity Engagement Coalition in Asheville NC, Michele is an active member of the community and remains committed to building bridges for real conversations, authentic connections, and inclusive communities great and small.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
moon salutation movement



**Sherry Fields**

Buti/Mixedfit/Dance Fitness  
Dragonfly Conscious Health

**Sherilynne (Sherry) Fields** is a Licensed Massage Therapist, group fitness instructor, and owner of local wellness brand Dragonfly Conscious Health. Through her offerings she uplifts and motivates with sunshine and empathy. Her Mixedfit-Dance Fitness class is a blend of explosive easy to follow choreography and bodyweight toning that will light up our celebration!

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
dance freedom



**Tyson Sampson**

**Tyson Sampson** is a member of the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians, has collected, consumed and shared these plants since he first followed his mother and grandmother into the floodplain near their house at age 12. "From my cultural perception, we cultivate plants like sochani by expressing gratitude as we harvest it in the early springtime when it's young and tender," he explains. "I could never imagine viewing it as an invader." Back on that floodplain, he and the other kids watched and learned while the women would gather a big brown bag of greens. "That bag was enough to feed our large family for one meal," he says. Sampson still picks from the same spot. "We don't harm the plants. We don't pull them up, just pick the leaves, and the more we pick, the more it grows," he says. He also learned to identify, harvest and process many other varieties of native plants under the tutelage of his aunts, mother and grandmother.

**appears on the schedule ://:**  
greens + savories from grandmother



Open Space.



Open Space Notes.



Open Space Notes.



Open Space Notes.



## Open Space Notes.

## Where We Go From Here



To Keep Building - Complete

[JUST US ://: Contact Form](#)

To Get in Touch - Email Us

[connect@theadeproject.org](mailto:connect@theadeproject.org)

To Sustain the Work - Donate

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PO BOX 898  
Asheville, NC 28801

## Community, Thank You!

We give thanks to the ancestors for guiding this process, and providing hope in darkness. We give thanks to all hands involved in organizing and sharing this event. We give thanks to those that were doing the work long before. And most importantly, we give thanks for you - for being a part of visioning and creating an equitable, inclusive and JUST world. We invite you to keep building with us, for us because no one can make the changes needed...just us.

And so it is. Asé.

adéPROJECT

STAND  
AGAINST  
RACISM

eliminating racism  
empowering women  
ywca

