



BUILD

BLACKS UNITED IN LEADERSHIP & DIVERSITY

Welcome to BUILD

June 17, 2021



Welcome

Megan Matthews, chair

9:00 – 9:15



Land Acknowledgment

Taja Blackhorn

A Land Acknowledgement Gift

**From the Frain, Donelson, and Blackhorn families of the Kahosadi People
from Southern Oregon to BUILD BRG of Washington State**

Our voices were silenced, our ways and dances banned
How could we share when there was no space to understand
Yet, we are still here

Our realities hidden from history
Our truths deliberately shrouded in mystery
But, We are still here

Yet, BUILD welcomed us with open-armed hospitality
Sharing with each other, in mutual generosity
Acknowledgment that, we are still here

Our stories shared and sung: histories, trauma, triumph, and hope
Learning, Understanding, Healing, and Growth
Recognition that, we are still here

Together we build bridges of past, present, and future unity
Honoring the strength and resilience of both our communities
Celebrating that, we are ALL still here

Together we awaken positive self-identity, inspire curiosity
Together in this moment, this space, we create a new history
Because We ALL are still here

We will bring the truths of the past to light
We will unmask the wrong and the right
Because We ALL are still here

Together we will speak the truths of past, present, and future
Reclaiming, revitalizing, inspiring, as future generations we nurture
Because We ALL are still here

You see this sacred land and our people, and we see you
True and full humans, with respect and honor due
Walking our talk at one with the lands, for we are ALL still here

You hear the songs of nature and our people, and we hear you
Standing straighter and stronger together, as humans welcomed and true
Joining our voices for a better future, for we ALL are still here

Together we will dance, with the truth of our hearts in each step we make
Songs of ancestors and future generations, in every breath we take
Because we are ALL still here

Today we stand together on this sacred and much loved land.
Taking a new step in life's dance, hand in hand
Because we ALL are still here

Honoring in song all the generations, whether potential, living, or dead
Honoring the connection of all life and our shared path ahead
For WE, ARE, ALL, still here

Be well, be welcomed, be honored - Ariss

Zoom Instructions

Beth Winstead, Executive Assistant

- Participants are muted upon entry. Please raise your virtual hand if you would like to speak.
- BUILD leadership will be on video. Participants are welcome to enable your video or not, it's up to you.
- Please right click on your name (however it shows up) and change it to your first and last name. This helps us to navigate the participant list and assign breakout rooms.



QR code to sign our attendance roster

For a better virtual experience:

- Disconnect from VPN, or
- Download and use zoom for free on your personal device

If you experience connections problems:

- Disable your video, or
- Leave and return to the meeting

If problems persist:

- Call in to 253-215-8782 (Mtg ID 969 768 274
Password 146309)
- Click/Tap **MEET** using the in-call controls
- Click/Tap **MERGE**
- More about merging a phone call and meeting [here](#)

If you are unable to attend the meeting for any reason, know that we will record and post the meeting video as soon as possible and notify our members when it's ready to view.

COVID-19 Resources

- Facts and resources about COVID-19 in Washington State:
 - Washington State: coronavirus.wa.gov
 - Department of Health: www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus
 - Governor Inslee's Website: www.governor.wa.gov/tags/covid-19-coronavirus
 - Washington 211 COVID-19 call center is a general information line related to COVID-19. If you need information or have a general question, call 1-800-525-0127 or text 211-211 for help. You can also text the word "Coronavirus" to 211-211 to receive information and updates on your phone wherever you are. You will receive links to the latest information on COVID-19, including county-level updates, and resources for families, businesses, students, and more.
- Assistance and information in Washington State about paid leave and for jobs, unemployment, businesses:
 - Employment Security Department: esd.wa.gov
- Mental and emotional health and wellbeing for WA employees and their families:
 - Employee Assistance Program: eap.wa.gov
 - Washington Listens helps people manage stress and anxiety they may be experiencing because of COVID-19. If you or anyone you know is having difficulties managing stress, call the [Washington Listens](https://washlistens.org) support line at 1-833-681-0211. Hours are from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Monday through Friday, and 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays. TTY and language access services are available by using 7-1-1 or their preferred method. Resources and self-help tips are available on [walistens.org](https://washlistens.org).
- National information about COVID-19:
 - US Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC): www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html



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Announcement: New BUILD Executive Leadership

Megan Matthews

Welcome to the Cookout!



"STAND UP" [VIDEO](#)



From Africa's heart, we rose

Already a people, our faces ebon, our bodies lean,

We rose

Skills of art, life, beauty and family

Crushed by forces we knew noting of, we rose

Survive we must, we did,

We rose

We rose to be you, we rose to be me,

Above everything expected, we rose

To become the knowledge we never knew,

We rose

Dream we did

Act we must

*Official Juneteenth Poem:
"We Rose"*

By: Kristina Kay



Video: The Slavery Detective of the South

Marvin Williams



Video: History of Juneteenth Dialogue

Charleen Anderson and Megan Matthews

Breakout Session

Facilitators: Charleen Anderson, Lesa Gomez, Altavia Jones, Megan Matthews, Terrence McCall, Tammy Pitre, and Tony Rice





Keynote Speaker: Dr. Karen A. Johnson

*Director, Washington State Office of Equity
Office of the Governor*



History of Tap Dance in America and Performance

*Melba Ayco – Northwest Tap Collective
Lesa Gomez, Thais Marble, Tony Rice*



Bootless in America

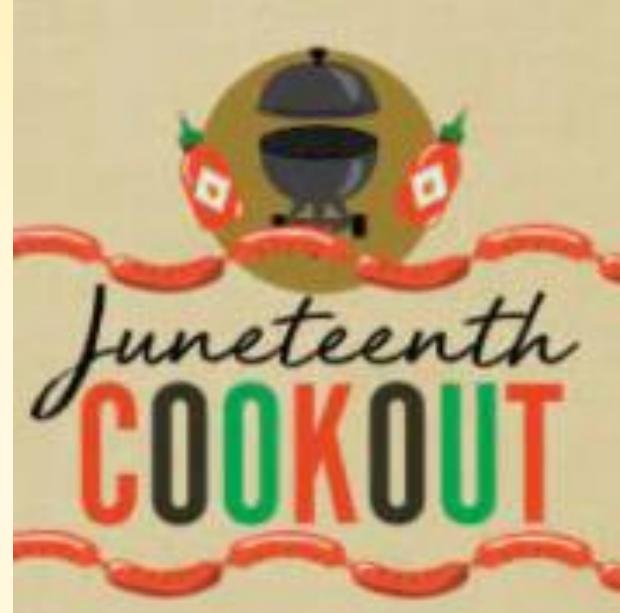
[Video](#)



History and Impact of HBCUs

Charleen Anderson, Dionne Dycus, Lesa Gomez, Thais Marbles

[Video](#): HBCU Interviews



The Cookout!

Dionne Dycus and Lesa Gomez



*"History, despite its wrenching
pain, cannot be un-lived, but if
faced with courage, need not be
lived again."* – Maya Angelou

Closing

Megan Matthews