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# State of Africatown 2021: Where Do We Go From Here?

Posted by [Africatown](#) | 19 - Feb - 2021

**The State of Africatown** is back, in its 8th annual edition, to provide Seattle's African American and African Diaspora community with news they can use to continue to strengthen, develop and thrive.

Saturday, February 20

10am - 1pm

[ONLINE](#)

Answering the question **Where Do We Go From Here?**, this year's **power-packed line up** of activists, politicians, organizers and community members are converging on Africatown's virtual platform to address the current challenges, opportunities, strategic goals and **visions for 2021 and beyond.**

Africatown will honor **Elder of Distinction, Gus Newport, former Mayor of Berkeley, CA**, who helped found the Organization of African American Unity with Malcolm X and was a former member of the United Nations Committee Against Apartheid. His current expertise includes community land trusts, developing affordable housing, establishing community mental health services and promoting small businesses.

National organizations **LIFE Camp, Inc, founded by Erica Ford; GirlTrek, co-founded by Vanessa Smith Garrison; and the ZOLA Experience, founded by Katurah Bryant** will share proven solutions that address community trauma, health and healing.

and **Majestic Lane, Chief Equity Officer for the City of Pittsburgh** will speak to how they use their positions to put the needs of their most vulnerable constituencies first by prioritizing affordable housing, business development, health care and business opportunities.

The **Hon. Dawn Mason, Former State Representative and Co-Convener of TAAAG** will join current local elected officials **Girmay Zahilay, King County Councilman, District 2** and **Kristen Harris-Talley, State Representative, District 37** in giving their assessments and action plans for how they will serve the Black community through the legislative process.

Local community builders **Munira Mohamed, Executive Director, East African Community Services, TreaAnna Holiday, Director of Media, King County Equity Now, Yordanos Tefari, Esq. of the Multicultural Center, Dominique**

**Davis, Executive Director of Community Passageways** and **Inye Wokoma, Co-Founder Wa Na Wari** will share strategies for creating spaces for Seattle's Black community to grow and thrive.

Youth organizers **Cashayla Rodgers** and **Elijah L. Lewis, Founder of Flourish Financial** are slated to share their vision of how to meet the needs of Black youth and how to support them in moving forward.

And **Africatown Community Land Trust CEO, K. Wyking Garrett** will give the convening statement, sharing last years accomplishments and a strategic outlook 2021 and beyond in his **State of Africatown address**.

This is not to be missed!

Tickets are free - register [here](#).

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