

# February 2024 Newsletter

Cultivating a campus community championed by the pillars of diversity, equity, and inclusion

## CLIMATE AND CULTURE

### February Affinity Highlights

The Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion celebrates the rich tapestry of human experiences at Emory University. This month, February 2024, we recognize Black History Month. In collaboration with campus partners, we have curated resources that highlight, educate, and encourage a sense of community.



With events spanning the entire month of February — even the bonus day this year — Black History Month promises to have something in store for everyone. From book readings and lectures to performances and beyond, this is a time to come together in community and pave a better way forward.

Students, faculty, staff and community members are invited to participate in activities that explore the Black experience in America, in both historical and present-day contexts.

#### READ MORE & ACCESS CALENDAR



#### The Power of Their Stories

School of Medicine  
Virtual  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Two pioneering sisters, doctors and scientists, in the School of Medicine share their stories about creating an inclusive climate and challenging health disparities in the Black community. This event is hosted by the School of Medicine's Office of Equity and Inclusion and is free and open to the public.

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#### "For Such a Time as This:" Dean Badia Ahad in Conversation with Tameka Cage Conley

Oxford College  
Phi Gamma Hall  
Tuesday, February 13, 2024  
7:00 pm

In celebration of Black History Month, Dean Badia Ahad and Tameka Cage Conley will join in a conversation inspired by Ahad's book, "Afro-Nostalgia," which centers on joy, nostalgia, literature and art in contemporary Black culture. Discussion will include identity and institutional dynamics that define America's modern, socio-cultural landscape, as well as Diasporic concerns and interests that have influenced America. Ahad and Cage Conley will explore cultural questions about the journey of intention and guidance and what it means to make room for spontaneity, creativity, uniqueness and that most rich ingredient — *community* — necessary to stand upright and vigilant for generations that follow.

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#### Douglass Day Transcribe-a-thon

Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives and Rare Book Library | Emory Writing Program  
Wednesday, February 14, 2024  
Rose Library - Woodruff Commons  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Bring your laptop and some friends and help transcribe the handwritten letters and speeches of abolitionist and orator Frederick Douglass (1818-1895). Come early and get a gingerbread cupcake (the favorite flavor) in honor of one of our most revered historical speakers. Open to Emory students, faculty and instructors, and staff.

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#### African American Studies in the 21st Century: A Multidisciplinary Panel of Emory AAS Faculty

Department of African American Studies  
Friday, February 16, 2024  
White Hall, Room 205  
1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

Hosted by the Department of African American Studies, panelists will deliver short presentations about topics related to African American culture, history, art and expression, imagination, spirituality and religion, and more. Panelists include Kyrah Malka Daniels, associate professor of African American Studies; Kimberly Wallace-Sanders, associate professor of American & African American Studies; Calvin Warren, associate professor of African American Studies; and Meina Yates-Richard, assistant professor of African American Studies & English. Kall Gross, National Endowment for the Humanities Professor of African American Studies, will moderate.

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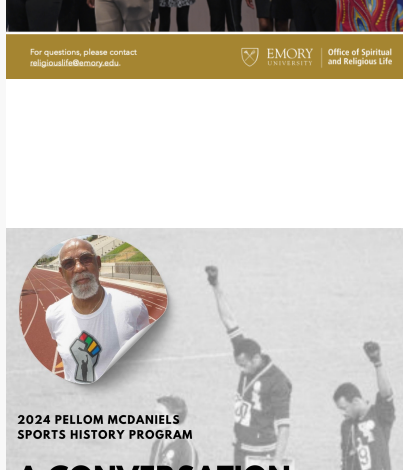
#### Poetry Reading by Major Jackson

Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library  
Sunday, February 18, 2024  
Schwartz Center for Performing Arts  
3:00 pm

As part of the annual **Raymond Danowski Poetry Library Reading Series**, Major Jackson—award-winning poet and host of the podcast *The Slowdown*—presents a free public reading. Jackson's books will be for sale, with a signing immediately following the event. This series is funded by the **Stuart A. Rose Manuscript, Archives, and Rare Book Library**.

**Major Jackson** is the author of six books of poetry, including "Razze Dazze: New & Selected Poems" (2023), "The Absurd Man" (2020), "Roll Deep" (2015), "Holding Company" (2010), "Hoop" (2006) and "Leaving Saturn" (2002), which won the Cave Canem Poetry Prize for a first book of poems. His edited volumes include "Best American Poetry 2019," "Renga for Obama," and Library of America's "Countee Cullen: Collected Poems." He is also the author of "A Beat Beyond: The Selected Prose of Major Jackson" edited by Amor Kohli.

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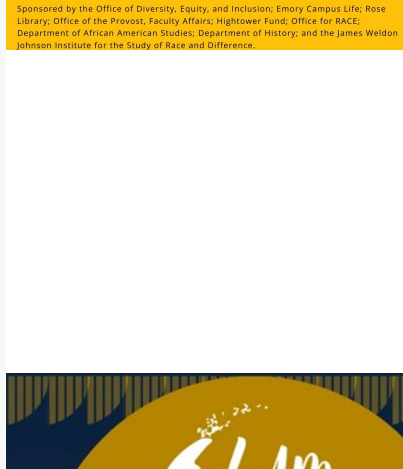


#### Soul Food Gospel Fest

Office of Spiritual and Religious Life | Emory Voices of Inner Strength Gospel Choir  
Sunday, February 18, 2024  
Emory Student Center, Multipurpose Room 1  
3:00 pm - 5:00 pm

The Office of Spiritual and Religious Life and Emory's Voices of Inner Strength Gospel Choir will be hosting Soul Food Gospel Fest on Sunday, February 18 from 3-5 p.m. in the Emory Student Center Multipurpose Rooms. Soul Food Gospel Fest is an event designed to bring together various groups in the community and to celebrate the love of Jesus and Black History Month. There will be gospel music from various gospel choirs from around Georgia, liturgical dance, spoken word, trivia, and games. Soul food and refreshments will also be served.

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#### 2024 Pellom McDaniels Sports History Program presents A Conversation with Dr. John Carlos

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | Emory Campus Life | Rose Library | Office of the Provost, Faculty Affairs | Hightower Fund | Office for RACE | Department of African American Studies | Department of History | James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference.  
Tuesday, February 20, 2024  
Woodruff Library | Jones Room  
4:30 pm

Join us for an exciting in-person event at the Robert W. Woodruff Library at Emory University in Atlanta, GA, USA. This year's distinguished guest will be renowned athlete and activist, Dr. John Carlos. Be part of a captivating conversation with Dr. Carlos, as he shares insights into the intersection of history and sports.

Don't miss the opportunity to delve into the impactful journey of an icon who has left an indelible mark on society.

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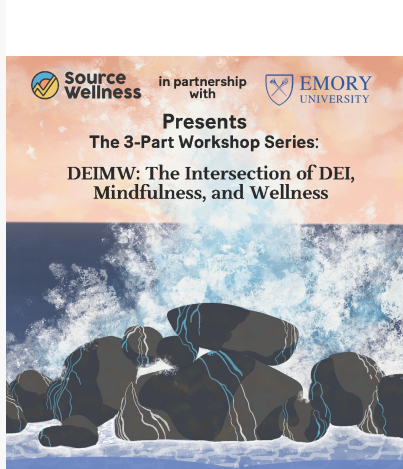
#### 20th Annual Hamilton E. Holmes Memorial Lecture

School of Medicine  
Wednesday, February 21, 2024  
School of Medicine | James B Williams Medical Education Building  
5:00 pm - 6:00 pm

This year's Hamilton E. Holmes Memorial Lecture is a panel discussion that focuses on the topic "I am My Ancestors' Wildest Dreams: A Discussion on Black Males in Medicine." Panelists will discuss their unique journeys as Black males in medicine who are working to foster health equity.

A reception will follow the event in the School of Medicine Lobby. The lecture is free and open to the public, but advance registration is required.

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#### Our Transformational Renaissance is Black Excellence (T.R.I.B.E.)

Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion | Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Initiative  
Thursday, February 29, 2024  
Virtual  
12:00 pm

In recognition of Black History Month and Women's History Month, the Truth, Racial Healing and Transformation Initiative is hosting a webinar entitled "Our Transformational Renaissance is Black Excellence (T.R.I.B.E.)" Wendy M. Nicholson will present her dissertation research and have an intimate conversation alongside Sharon Stroye about how Black women cannot afford to risk their lives and well-being for anti-Black systems. This session is open to the entire Emory Community and is part of the National Day of Racial Healing series "A Journey to Healing for One Emory."

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## Upcoming Programs



#### DEIMW: The Intersection of DEI, Mindfulness, and Wellness

Institute for Liberal Arts  
Multiple Dates in February  
Calloway S120  
6:00 pm - 7:15 pm

Source Wellness is excited to partner with Emory University's Institute for Liberal Arts for the first collaborative workshop series of DEIMW: The Intersection of DEI, Mindfulness, and Wellness.

For this series, Source Wellness co-founder Jacob Aqua ("19C") will facilitate this series, engaging with Emory University undergraduate students to cultivate an understanding about DEIMW, in one's personal practice, in relational approaches, and in systemic application.

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#### 2024 Tenenbaum Lecture | "Latinx Jews in their Adopted Homeland: Constructing New Realities and Claiming New Identities"

Tam Institute for Jewish Studies  
Wednesday, March 6, 2024  
Convocation Hall  
7:00 pm

The Tam Institute for Jewish Studies (TIJS) at Emory University will feature Prof. Laura Litwin of SUNY Old Westbury as the speaker for this year's Tenenbaum Family Lecture in Judaic Studies. The lecture, to take place on Thursday, March 6th at 7:00pm, will address the topic: "Latinx Jews in their Adopted Homeland: Constructing New Realities and Claiming New Identities."

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#### Agile Scholars Symposium

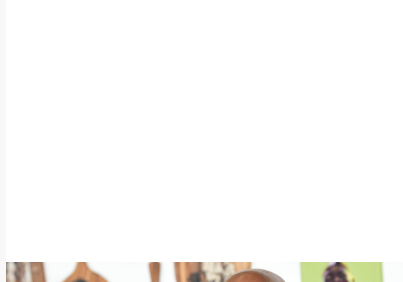
Agile Scholars  
Thursday, May 2, 2024  
Delta Flight Museum  
9:30 am - 4:30 pm

The symposium aims to equip faculty and staff with the necessary tools to engage and support Black students in the pursuit of education abroad.

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## ACCOUNTABILITY

### Noteworthy News



#### Emory Libraries receives 2024 Library Excellence in Access and Diversity Award from Insight Into Diversity Magazine

Emory Libraries received the 2024 Library Excellence in Access and Diversity (LEAD) Award from Insight Into Diversity magazine, the largest and oldest diversity and inclusion publication in higher education. The LEAD Award honors academic library programs, policies and initiatives that encourage and support diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) across their campus and surrounding community. These include, but are not limited to, research, technology, accessibility, exhibitions and community outreach.

Emory Libraries will be featured along with 55 other award recipients in the March 2024 issue of Insight Into Diversity magazine.

"Emory Libraries takes an expansive view of access and diversity, in close alignment with the university's mission and pillars," says Yaelita F. Dant, vice provost of Emory Libraries and the Michael C. Carlos Museum. "The work involves many key partners including library leadership, our DEI committees, the libraries' human resources team and the university's Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. The work is always evolving, and at its best it must be responsive, proximate and relevant to those we serve and the communities where we reside. We are grateful for this award and look forward to the work to come."

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#### Emory sociologist Karida L. Brown nominated for NAACP Image Award

Emory sociologist Karida L. Brown has been nominated for an **NAACP Image Award** for the anthology she and her husband, artist Charly Palmer, assembled as a reimagined, updated take on the first periodical for Black children.

The couple are among five nominated books in the Outstanding Literary Work — Nonfiction category for **"The New Brownies Book: A Love Letter to Black Families"**.

"Karida Brown and Charly Palmer have edited and organized a spectacular volume, one that honors both the legacy of W.E.B. Du Bois and celebrates the voices and experiences of the volume's contributors," says Timothy Dowd, professor and chair of the Department of Sociology. "The New Brownies Book" will be impactful for families, students and scholars alike."

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#### Strengthening campus community through employee resource groups

Employee resource groups (ERGs) are relatively new to Emory University, but they have been making a big impact on campus, helping to foster stronger social connections and a sense of belonging within the university community.

The ERGs are voluntary, employee-led groups established around common interests, purpose and characteristics, typically for underrepresented identities and their allies. They aim to create a supportive and inclusive community at Emory.

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#### Emory Purpose Project offers opportunities for students to reflect on purpose and meaning

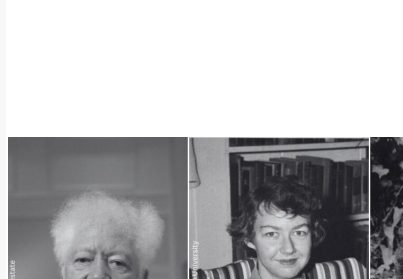
If Emory chose a word of the year as dictionaries do, "purpose" would be a strong contender. **Emory Purpose Project (EPP)** promises to further embed purpose and meaning into the fabric of the university's educational experience and culture through collaborative programs and workshops for Emory students, faculty and staff.

"Pursuit of purpose is a very personal journey, yet we don't embark on that journey alone," says **Ira Bedzow**, EPP executive director. "We therefore need to build a community where people care about each other and the impact each of us can have. That is what the Emory Purpose Project is working to do."

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## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT, EDUCATION, AND AWARENESS

### ODEI Learning Corner



#### Art as a Platform for Social Justice

National Museum of African American History & Culture

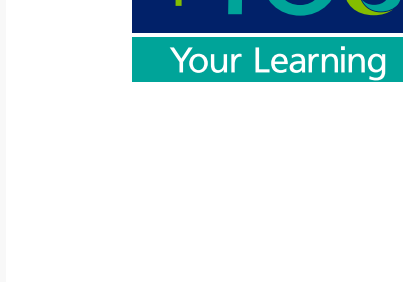
African American artists — poets, writers, visual artists, and dancers — have historically served as change agents through their crafts.

Drawn from their ancestors' ancient rites of passage and the shared hopes of liberty, Black artists continue to fuse the rhythmic cadence of creative expressions with the pulsating beats of progress. Our museum celebrates **Black History Month 2024** by highlighting the "art of resistance" and the artists who used their crafts to uplift the race, speak truth to power and inspire a nation.

[Digital Tool Kit](#)

[Initiatives](#)

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#### Celebrate African American History Month with poetry readings, exhibits, films, and more

Emory Libraries will celebrate African American History Month with poetry readings, exhibitions, films, graphic novels, and other resources that you can enjoy.

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#### Diversity and Inclusion Education and Outreach

The Diversity and Inclusion Education and Outreach team invites you to participate in training sessions. Please visit the website and register and learn more about course offerings.

2024 | QUARTER 1

## DIVERSITY & INCLUSION TRAININGS

Intro to DEI	Tue. 1/23   10:00 AM Wed. 2/7   10:00 AM Tue. 3/12   2:00 PM
Addressing Microaggressions	Tue. 1/30   10:00 AM
Multigenerational Workplace	Tue. 2/27   2:00 PM
Introduction to Neurodiversity	Wed. 3/27   2:00 PM
Transgender Communities	Thurs. 3/7   2:00 PM

All DJPO trainings are announced quarterly. For more information and registration, visit our website.

[LEARN MORE & REGISTER HERE](#)

#### Sign up for the ODEI e-newsletter

- Send an email to [LISTSERV@listserve.emory.edu](mailto:LISTSERV@listserve.emory.edu)
- In the text of the email, write **SUBSCRIBE ODEI** [your first name] [your last name], for example: **SUBSCRIBE ODEI** John Smith

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