



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TITLE: Arkansas Will Host a Week-Long Observance of the National Day of Racial Healing Beginning January 19

TAGLINE: We choose healing over hatred, belonging over bias, and unity over division.
#HOWWEHEAL

On January 19, 2021, the day after Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. National Day of Service, the State of Arkansas will observe the fifth annual "National Day of Racial Healing (NDORH)." This will be the second consecutive year that this day has been observed by communities throughout the state of Arkansas. And, as part of last year's inaugural observance, Governor Asa Hutchinson became this nation's first governor to issue a gubernatorial NDORH proclamation, which was immediately followed by proclamations issued by Pulaski County Judge Barry Hyde and the mayors of Cammack Village, North Little Rock, and Wrightsville, as well as Little Rock School Superintendent Mike Poore.

This year, Arkansas Peace & Justice Memorial Movement (APJMM) continues its role as the lead sponsor of the “2021 National Day of Racial Healing in the State of Arkansas,” which includes a statewide week-long schedule of several virtual events set aside to share truth, deepen relationships and build trust in order to create courageous environments where citizens can have difficult conversations about how the social construct of race has perpetuated structural violence within our state, leaving us all as victims, in some form or another, regardless of our racial identity, our historical familial connections, our socioeconomic background, or our political or religious affiliation. Once these conversations have begun, access to continuing tools and resources will be provided to the participants with the expectation that they put into action what they have learned from those conversations and work together to build a more just and equitable world anchored in truth, racial healing and transformation.

Joining APJMM this year as co-sponsors (alphabetically) are: APJMM Pulaski County Community Remembrance Project, Arkansas Municipal League, Arkansas State Conference of the NAACP, Braver Angels Central Arkansas, Coming To The Table (National Office), Just Communities of Arkansas, UA-Clinton School of Public Service, UAMS College of Public Health, UAMS Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, UCA Center for Community & Economic Development, Urban League of the State of Arkansas, Washitaw Foothills Youth Media Arts & Literacy Collective, and The Yarn Storytelling.

One of this year's goals is to have Arkansas become the first state where ALL of its municipal and educational executives (mayors, city managers, city administrators, county judges, school superintendents, college presidents, and university chancellors) issue proclamations along with the Governor. Answering APJMM's call were the mayors of the following cities: Blytheville, Conway, Crossett, El Dorado, Fayetteville, Greenwood, Hamburg, Hope, Little Rock, Mountain View, Mulberry, North Little Rock, Pine Bluff, Prairie Grove, Siloam Springs, Stephens, Sulpher Springs, Tontitown, just to name a few of the many. The chancellors of UCA, UA-Fayetteville, UA-Little Rock, and ASU-MidSouth, have also issued NDORH proclamations.

The schedule for this NDORH weeklong virtual observance can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/5thNDORH2021ARSchedule> where Arkansans can register for the limited amount of spaces available for the live virtual events. All events, except the film festival, will also be recorded and made available at www.APJMM.org the following week.

SCHEDULE

Day ZERO (Monday, Jan. 18th)

* 6:00PM-8:00PM -- University of Arkansas--Pulaski Technical College will host MLK DAY 2021 featuring Dr. Michael Eric Dyson.

(Registration Link is: <https://uaptc.edu/mlk>)

Day ONE (Tuesday, Jan 19th)

* 9:00AM-10:30AM – In-Person Press Conference to announce the National Day of Racial Healing in the State of Arkansas. The press conference will be held at the Arkansas Municipal League headquarters in North Little Rock to announce the gubernatorial and mayoral 2021 NDORH proclamations. The following municipal executives will issue a joint statement of truth, racial healing and transformation: Mayor Gary Baxter (Mulberry), Mayor Harry Brown (Stephens), Mayor Terry Hartwick (North Little

Rock), Mayor Lioneld Jordan (Fayetteville), Mayor Doug Kinslow (Greenwood), Mayor James Sanders (Blytheville), Mayor Frank Scott, Jr. (Little Rock), and Mayor Shirley Washington (Pine Bluff).

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARDay1>)

* 12:00PM--University of Arkansas--Clinton School of Public Service's Center on Community Philanthropy will announce the recipients of the 2021 Advancing Equity Award.

(Registration Link is: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARClinton1>)

* 2:00PM-3:30PM--National Livestreaming Event hosted by Baratunde Thurston and sponsored by W.K. Kellogg Foundation.

(Registration Link is: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021NationalEvent>)

* 5:00PM-7:00PM -- The Collegiate Art of Racial Healing: H.E.A.L.E.D. through Hip Hop.

We as a people have found creative expression a part of our freedom just as much as marching and rioting. From Spirituals to blues to Hip Hop, music has been a hidden code of communication and healing. In this session, Dr. Alexis Davis will guide us through the healing properties of Hip Hop and end with an interactive activity, accompanied by hip hop performance group NuBlvckCity.

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARDay1>)

* 8:00PM-9:30PM -- Shelter-in-Place Virtual Film Series NDORH 2021 Mini-Festival: "Imaginary Walls: A Documentary About Healing Racism" (This film screening + panel discussion is sponsored by Coming To The Table (National Office).)

(Registration/View Link is: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARFilm1>)

Day TWO (Wednesday, Jan 20th)

* 1:00PM-3:00PM -- UAMS College of Public Health & UAMS Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion will co-host a special Racial Healing Space

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARDay2>)

* 5:00PM-7:00PM -- Lifting Their Names, Past & Present ceremony honoring the memory of the 47 unarmed Arkansans who died in police custody between 2015-present.

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARDay2>)

* 7:00PM-7:30PM -- Clarice & Kwami Abdul-Bey with sit with Rosanne Cash to discuss her how her coping with the 2020 Summer of International Protests for Racial Equity and Social Justice led to her partnership with APJMM through the release of her new singles, "Promised Land" and "The Killing Fields."

* 7:30PM-9:00PM -- Shelter-in-Place Virtual Film Series NDORH 2021 Mini-Festival: APJMM Pulaski County Community Remembrance Project presents World Premiere of Little Rock native Korey Isbell's film "Vilified" about the 1927 lynchings of Lonnie Dixon & John Carter in Little Rock, followed by a panel discussion with descendants

(Registration link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARFilm2>)

Day THREE (Thursday, Jan 21st)

* 6:00PM-7:30PM -- APJMM Pulaski County Community Remembrance Project & UA-Clinton School of Public Service will co-sponsor virtual community discussion on racial healing and restorative justice

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARClinton2>)

* 8:00PM-10:00PM -- Shelter-in-Place Virtual Film Series NDORH 2021 Mini-Festival: "Divided We Fall: Unity Without Tragedy" (This film screening + panel discussion is a With Malice Towards None Initiative sponsored by Braver Angels Central Arkansas.)

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARFilm3>)

Day FOUR (Friday, Jan. 22nd)

* 9:30AM-11:00AM -- Virtual Press Conference on steps of Arkansas State Capitol to (1) announce the 28-day Arkansas Racial Equity & Social Justice Challenge, (2) introduce proposed legislation to establish a statewide Truth, Racial Healing, and Transformation Commission, and (3) submit petition to fully exonerate ALL defendants of the Elaine Race Massacre

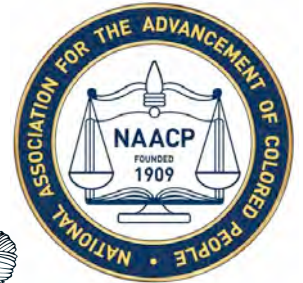
(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARDay4>)

*6:00PM-6:45PM -- The Yarn Storytelling will host its "Building an Inclusive Culture Through Storytelling" workshop as the kick-off of its weekly workshops during the 28-Day Arkansas Racial Equity & Social Justice Challenge

* 7:00PM-9:00PM -- Shelter-in-Place Virtual Film Series NDORH 2021 Mini-Festival: "How to Love Your Enemy: A Restorative Justice Story"

(Registration/View Link: <http://bit.ly/NDORH2021ARFilm4>)

2021 NATIONAL DAY OF RACIAL HEALING IN THE STATE OF ARKANSAS
LIST OF SPONSORS



COMMUNITY REMEMBRANCE PROJECT

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