

# UNLEARNING WHAT YOU THOUGHT YOU KNEW

## *Culturally Immersive Forums on Race & Social Justice*

Join Us!  
**JULY**

12, 13, 14

19, 20

6-8pm

Educational  
Series

FREE

A Safe Place

## FORUM TOPICS

### **July 12** Why Do I Need To Learn All This Black Stuff?

Alan Burgess, Creative Director of  
Benduka Arts, Los Angeles

### **July 13** Manifest Destiny, White Supremacy & Microaggressions

Candace Kelley, J.D., M.S.

### **July 14** The Truth of the Matter

Alan Burgess, Creative Director of  
Benduka Arts, Los Angeles

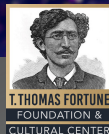
You are invited to the T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center to engage in a conversation. A safe space to foster self-reflection, to explore perspectives and open up new levels of engagement around race. Join us and walk away with an understanding as to why social justice, as the foundation and basis for change, is a prescriptive for all that ails this society.

## SIGN UP TO BE THE CHANGE

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## Unlearning What You Thought You Knew Culturally Immersive Forums on Race & Social Justice

Join us in person for these conversational workshops  
July 12- 13th 14th and July -19th, 20th 6-8pm

*"The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends toward justice,"*  
- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The T. Thomas Fortune Cultural Center's mission is to uphold the civil rights and social justice legacy of T. Thomas Fortune. The center is inviting everyone to engage in a conversation. Teachers, administrators, community leaders, and those interested in participating will walk away with the tools to help create a new American narrative that is not race centered.

One of the goals of these forums is to foster more culturally relevant teaching methods - not just for teachers - but for anyone willing to learn and teach others. Each session will include the arts as a starting point. Excerpts from movies including Spike Lee's seminal film *Do the Right Thing* and Tom Kaye's *American History X* will allow perspectives to be exchanged, insights to be shared and beliefs and assumptions to be addressed. We look forward to hearing all sides of the debate that often keeps us from saying who we are and who we want to be - an equal opportunity nation.

### FORUM CALENDAR

**July 12, 6-8pm**

**What's Going On? – Alan Burgess, Creative Director of Benduka Arts, Los Angeles, CA**

Educator and activist will lead the conversation on *Why Do I Need To Learn All This Black Stuff*. These turbulent cultural times demand that educators, parents, and on the most basic level, human beings in America start to do the work we have to do. This session will connect the dots between the history of Blacks in America and the fulfillment of our promise as a nation that everyone is created equally. All the buzz around "critical race theory" and

"cultural relevant" methods of teaching are hot button issues that will factor into this forum. This education system has failed to use a social justice model for creating a more democratic society. Everyone will be given the opportunity to be heard. Burgess will not be preaching to the audience, instead he will ask tough questions and help develop a course of action. What we're calling "Black stuff," is really EVERYONE'S STUFF.

**July 13, 6-8pm**

### **Manifest Destiny to White Supremacy & Microaggressions**

**Candace Kelley, J.D., M.S.**

Candace Kelley is a legal scholar, a Communications Law Professor at Rowan University and Broadcast Journalist. She will lead the conversation on white supremacy as an ideological driver of the U.S., white liberalism and microaggressions that continue to shape America. How do these psychological slings erode the quality of one's life experience and what is the root cause? This highly interactive session will challenge your beliefs and requires that you participate by giving your opinions, so that you can then go out in the world and participate in your daily interactions with others to reshape social inequities.

**July 14, 6-8pm**

### **The TRUTH of the Matter**

**Alan Burgess, Creative Director of Benduka Arts, Los Angeles, CA**

Burgess will peel back the onion and get at the crux of EDUCATION FOR WHOM AND FOR WHAT? Does social justice have a place in public education? Let's find out why it does. The works of writer and activist, James Baldwin, when he points to the rage that African American people, particularly males, endure having to live between two worlds. Other literary figures will be explored and held up as useful resources for personal gain, as well as for educators.

*Week 2 Forum Leaders TBA*

*July 19, 6-8 pm*

*July 20, 6-8 pm*