

Sankofa: Remember. Reclaim. Rise.

The Giving Black Virtual Conference 2025

Thursday October 9, 10:00am-12:30pm (EDT)

Your Program Guide



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“ Giving back is like chicken and dumplings
for the giver’s soul ... warm, familiar and filled
with rich and nourishing content”.

– Valaida Fullwood, Giving Back.

A Warm, Familiar, Rich and Nourishing, Giving Black Family Welcome

Hello Giving Black Family, wherever in the world you are! Welcome to the Fifth Annual Giving Black Conference. Thank you for joining us. It is truly a joy and privilege to be in community with you. We’re sharing an extra special welcome to our brothers and sisters in the UK, who are celebrating Black History Month, this October.

Whether this is your very first Giving Black Conference—or your second, third, fourth, or even your fifth—we are delighted to have you with us. This is your conference, created with you in mind. Borrowing from the words of Ms. Fullwood, author and creator of Giving Back: A Tribute to Generations of African American Philanthropists, we want you to feel warm, familiar, and filled with the rich nourishing content we’ve prepared for you.

The Giving Black Conference is free to attend because it is itself an expression of Black Philanthropy. Our hosts, presenters, and speakers are simply paying forward what we ourselves have received. In Black traditions of philanthropy, reciprocal and mutual generosity are a privilege. **As we have not charged a registration fee, we invite you to join us in making a donation to Wanasah, the mental health agency that supports Black youth.**

Thank you, once again, for being part of this gathering. If philanthropy is the heartbeat of the world, then you, our Giving Black family, are the heartbeat of this conference.

If you value the Giving Black community and wish to honour the spirit of philanthropy that defines our gatherings, please make a donation to Wanasah by clicking here:


wanasah
[Donate to Wanasah](#)



Ngunan Adamu



Olumide Akerewusi



Dr. Camila Pereira



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Celebrating Giving Black

Giving Black is a celebration of Black Philanthropy Month, drawing on traditions of generosity among continental Africans and Africa's global diaspora in the Caribbean, Europe, the Americas, the UK, and across the world.

[The Giving Black Virtual Conference](#) brings together a global community of Black philanthropy experts. This free, virtual conference attracts diverse audiences from Australia to Zimbabwe and offers community development through learning about traditional and contemporary customs of generosity among Black people.

[The Giving Black Podcast](#) is the world's first podcast dedicated to global Black philanthropy and generosity. Series One of the podcast is based on 12 episodes detailing diverse aspects of Black philanthropy. In honour of the Giving Black Conference this year, we are proud to release a special recording of the podcast featuring Ray Williams, Chair and Co-Founder of Canada's Black Opportunity Fund.

[The Giving Black Marketplace](#) is a new addition to the Giving Black suite of offerings. The Marketplace features exclusive Giving Black merchandise and showcases a range of customized high quality items, including limited edition hoodies, sweatshirts, T-Shirts, mugs and water bottles. These are perfect as gifts for friends, family, or a little treat for yourself!

The Giving Black Soirée is a private evening cocktail gathering and an opportunity to celebrate the successful conclusion of another Giving Black Conference. As an invite-only event, the Soirée is a special opportunity to network and further connect with and honour thought leaders in the Black Community.



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The Giving Black Conference Theme 2025: Sankofa: Remember, Reclaim, Rise.

This year, we unite under the theme of Sankofa—an Akan tradition from Ghana, reminding us that to move forward, we must look back, ensuring no one is left behind, marginalized, or made invisible.

This fifth conference seemed impossible at one stage – it nearly didn't happen. A restful Spring and a relaxing Summer culminated in a well-deserved rest from work. Thanks to our sisters in the Black Canadian Fundraisers' Collective, and Brother Floyd Jones at Black Philanthropy Month, we gradually started to piece together the plans for a conference we could be proud of.

The number five was a recurring inspiration and theme in our exploratory discussions about the 2025 conference:

- **5 years** since the publication of [Collecting Courage](#), an anthology capturing the voices and experiences of 14 Black Fundraisers in North America.
- **5 Years** of Celebrating [The Giving Black Conferences](#) in honour of Black Philanthropy month and the generous traditions of Africa's diaspora all over the world.
- **5 years** (well, actually, six years but who's counting?) since the release of agentsC's [COVID-19 Research Series](#), which sparked our commitment to sector-wide research at agentsC., and highlighted the unique experiences of Black Fundraisers during the pandemic and amidst the global reckoning after George Floyd's murder.

We knew this Giving Black Conference must be steeped in the Black Philanthropy Month call to action, Sankofa: Remember, Reclaim, Rise! Once our ideas crystalized, we decided to shift our usual conference date from August (Black Philanthropy Month) to October (Black History Month in the UK). In between, we created videos and podcasts to celebrate our five-year milestones, all of which may be found on The Giving Black Website: www.givingblack.ca.



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Your Giving Black Conference People, Program, and Agenda

Guided by the call to action—Sankofa: Remember, Reclaim, Rise—our conference spotlight is on agentsC's new research, ***Fundraising While Black: Harm, Happiness, and Healing***. With a publication date of November 2025, the research reveals how Black fundraisers in Canada and the USA navigate systemic anti-Black racism within predominantly white Institutions, drawing on happiness through their networks, and wellness from mindful practice.

Our incredible Spotlight Panel—featuring Chairs and founding members of five Black Fundraising Membership Associations (BFMAs) in Canada and the USA—shine a light on how their associations create spaces of belonging, safety, and connection, where Black fundraisers can heal, grow, and rise together, free from the discrimination they face in Predominantly White Institutions of the non-profit sector.

Kimahli Powell LL.D (Hons) an International Human Rights Activist working at Harvard University's Kennedy Centre is a Carr Ryan Fellow, at a time when the university is under government threat and as freedom of speech, and the rights of intersectional and marginalized people are being challenged. He's answering a central question, what is the role of Black philanthropy during our trialling times.

We'll hear from many other wonderful people...

Ngunan Adamu my co-presenter and incredible BBC presenter

Olumide Akerewusi Convenor of The Giving Black Conference

Dr. Mary Asabea Ashun who will lead us in knowing the true meaning of Sankofa in the context of Black philanthropy

Kimmel Alcide our wellness guide

Nasra Ayub our young social impact activist, discussing how work and wellness can combine

Annyce Brackins, MPA, sharing perspectives on navigating the fundraising profession as a young Black woman

Marcus Brewer, speaking about the experiences of Black men in the fundraising profession

Birgit Smith Burton, grounding us in her career journey to becoming arguably the leading Black woman fundraiser in the USA

Christal M. Cherry, representing the voice of Fabulous Black Female Fundraisers

Camila Pereira, PhD, Co-presenting fundraising spotlight centred on *Fundraising While Black*, a new report documenting the experiences of Black fundraisers in Canada and the USA

Brenda Maynard-Richardson, leading us in breathwork, a relaxing practice to balance mind, body and soul

Nicole Salmon inspiring us with words of wisdom through her connective poetry

Marva Wisdom a city builder speaking to the importance of fundraising within Black communities



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The Giving Black Virtual Conference Agenda 2025

Sankofa: Remember, Reclaim, Rise.

9:55	Doors Open
10:00	Opening Welcome & Sankofa Conversations Hosts Olumide Akerewusi - Founder and CEO, agentsC Inc. and Ngunan Adamu - Founder and Managing Director, iWoman Academy CiC
10:10	Opening Plenary: Sankofa in Practice - Learning From the Past, Moving Forward Dr. Mary Asabea Ashun - CEO, Ghana International School (GIS)
10:30	Keynote Speaker: Building Tomorrow Together Kimahli Powell LL.D (Hons) , Fellow at the Carr-Ryan Center for Human Rights at Harvard Kennedy School
11:00	Breathwork: Grounding Ourselves in Generosity Brenda Richardson - Founder, NuGenesis Breathwork
11:10	The Giving Black Conference Spotlight: The Fundraising While Black Panel Featuring Birgit Smith Burton - Chief Executive Officer, African American Development Officers, Marva Bailey Wisdom M.A. O.Ont. L.L.D - Founding Member Black Canadian Fundraisers' Collective, Christal M. Cherry - Fabulous Female Fundraisers, Marcus Brewer - Chair, Men of Color in Development, Annyce Brackins - Co-Chair, Rising Professionals of Color in Fundraising, Moderated by research authors: Olumide Akerewusi and Dr. Camila Pereira
11:50	Poetic Offering: Encouraging Reflections Nicole Salmon , Our Resident Poet - Founder, Boundless Philanthropy
11:55	Embodied Practice: Mindful Renewal
12:05	Wellness at Work: Caring for Ourselves While Caring for Others Nasra Ayub - Programs Officer, Global Fund for Children
12:25	Closing Reflections: What We Carry Forward Hosts Olumide Akerewusi - Founder and CEO, agentsC Inc. and Ngunan Adamu - Founder and Managing Director, iWoman Academy CiC
12:30	Conference Close
12:35	Community Chill Out: Palm Wine & Cola Nut - A virtual networking gathering for conference attendees



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Announcing The Giving Black Award for Philanthropic Achievement

In 2024, we introduced The Giving Black Award for Philanthropic Achievement. Our inaugural recipient was Mark Beckles LLD, ICD.D, One of Canada's leading Black Social Impact advocates.



Mark Beckles LLD, ICD.D receiving The Giving Black Award For Philanthropic Achievement 2024, from Olumide Akerewusi, Host and Convenor of Giving Black.

Mark was Vice President, Social Impact & Innovation at Royal Bank of Canada, where he led pioneering initiatives such as RBC Future Launch and RBC Tech for Nature, and championed programs supporting Black students success, Black entrepreneurship, and broader Black community advancement in Canada. For decades, Mark has been involved in groundbreaking projects such as CEO of the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund.

This year, we will honour another inspiring leader with a remarkable track record of elevating Black communities through their work.

The Giving Black Award for Philanthropic Achievement goes to Birgit Smith Burton, Founder and Chair of the African American Development Officers (AADO) network.

Birgit is a treasured friend and revered sister to many in the global non-profit sector. She approaches her work with love and compassion. She is a mentor to hundreds if not thousands of fundraisers. Birgit leads with vision, strength and courage. She is a skilled songstress, and wonderful storyteller. Her jokes are legendary and her generosity has no limit.

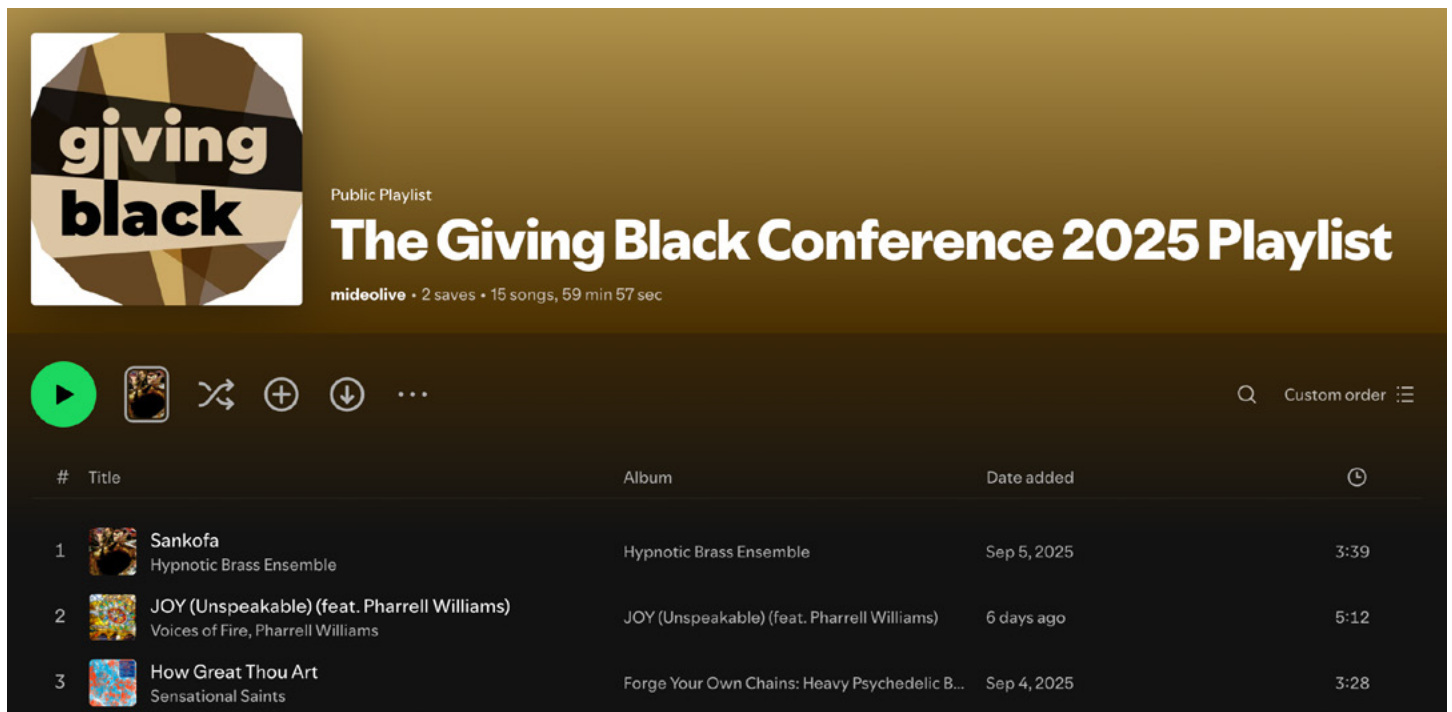


Birgit is a trailblazing leader in global philanthropy and a passionate advocate for equity in fundraising. As Founder and CEO of the **African American Development Officers Network**

(AADO), she has spent over two decades advancing fundraisers of colour through mentorship, education, and community. At **Georgia Tech**, where she served for 26 years, Birgit led foundation relations that raised more than **\$700 million** for scholarships, programs, and capital projects. In 2023, she made history as the **first African American woman elected Chair of the Association of Fundraising Professionals (AFP) Global Board**. Her work is featured in **Collecting Courage** and **The Philanthropic Covenant with Black America**. A recipient of **CASE's Opportunity and Inclusion Award**, Birgit continues to champion inclusion, leadership, and opportunity, inspiring a generation of fundraisers to build a more just and connected philanthropic sector. Join us in celebrating Sister Birgit for her remarkable achievements and lasting impact in fundraising and philanthropy.



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[Listen to The Giving Black Conference 2025 Playlist](#)

This year's play list is steeped in rare groove and reggae with a gospel theme. There are songs about Sankofa, songs about war, and songs about joy. One song reminds us of the feeling that *"Things a get from bad to worse every day...."*, another encourages us to be *"Optimistic"*.

These are inspiring words we can all certainly live by! We hope you enjoy listening to the tunes we selected for you.

Optimistic Sounds of Blackness - 1991

*You hear the voice of reason
Telling you this can never be done
No matter how hard reality seems
Just hold on to your dreams, yeah
Don't give up and don't give in, although it seems you
never win
You will always pass the test as long as you keep your
head to the sky
You can win as long as you keep your head to the sky
You can win as long as you keep your head to the sky
Be optimistic
If things around you crumble
No, you don't have to stumble and fall
Keep pushing on and don't you look back, oh woah
I know of storms and strive
Out of your album of life
Just think ahead and you'll be inspired
To reach higher and higher
You'll always do your best if you learn to never say never
You maybe down, but you're not out
That's when I felt lifted*



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The Giving Black Conference

Producers, Presenters, and Speakers

There would not be a Giving Black Conference without exceptional Giving Black Producers, Presenters, and Speakers. Find out more about the wonderful people you will encounter in Giving Black 2025.



Ngunan Adamu
Founder and
Managing Director,
iWoman Academy CiC

Ngunan is an experienced producer, presenter, and international multi-media trainer, with over fifteen

year's experience at the BBC. she currently produces and presents BBC Merseyside's popular 'Upfront' programme, an African Caribbean specialists show that promotes and tells stories from the African Caribbean community and African Caribbean lens.

As an entrepreneur and community leader, Ngunan has developed and lead initiatives aimed at promoting diversity in the media. She is also the founder and CEO of iWoman Media – a peer to peer organisation set up by women to empower, entertain, explore and inspire women around the world.



Olumide Akerewusi
Founder and CEO,
AgentsC Inc.

Olumide Akerewusi, is host and convenor of The Giving Black Community, a movement within the global Black community

to grow and celebrate Black generosity around the world. Olumide is a social justice advocate and certified Corporate Social Responsibility Practitioner, born and raised in the UK to Nigerian parents, he now lives and works in Toronto, Canada. Mide is also Founder and CEO of agentsC Inc., an international, B-Corp Certified full-service consulting agency offering person-centred solutions to fundraising, philanthropy, research, evaluation, and change management. Mide is a co-author of *Collecting Courage*, an anthology of perspectives shared by 14 Black fundraisers in North America. He has published numerous research reports that shed a spotlight on diverse aspects of philanthropy. His latest research project, ***Fundraising While Black: Hurt, Happiness, and Healing***, delves into the connected experiences of racism among Black fundraisers in Canada and the USA. Mide is a member of the Wilson College Advisory Council at McMaster University.



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Kimmel Alcide
Founder, The Everyday Yogi Inc.

Kimmel is passionate about guiding individuals, teams and communities to self-discovery through mindfulness practices. She is the founder of The

Everyday Yogi, a platform for bringing yoga and meditation to people around the world. She is also a certified End-of-Life Doula and is currently pursuing a degree in Metaphysics.

She has attained over 8000 hours in the wellness industry and has worked with several major brands including lululemon, Team Canada, Hershey's Chocolate, Canada Goose and Uber Canada to bring mindfulness into their work and professional space.

Kimmel's core values are centred around personal responsibility, connection, inclusivity and contribution. Her favourite quote is, "When one of us is liberated, we are all liberated."



Dr. Mary Ashun
CEO, Ghana International School (GIS)

Dr. Mary Asabea Ashun is CEO of Ghana International School, one of West Africa's premier international institutions, where

she has driven educational innovation for over nine years. A 2023 Africa Education Medal Top-10 finalist and Klingenstein Fellow (Columbia University), she holds a PhD in Biochemistry from SUNY Buffalo and brings over 30 years of cross-sector leadership spanning Canada and Ghana. She serves on the board of the Association of International Schools in Africa and chairs the Mastercard Foundation advisory committee in Ghana, championing inclusive education and EdTech innovation across the continent. Dr. Ashun co-founded His Majesty's Christian School to deliver transformative education in rural Ghana and has spearheaded initiatives including TEDxSixteenMileCreek, the TIME Educators Conference, and mentorship programs through the African Leadership Academy. A distinguished Ghanaian-Canadian author writing under the names Mary Ashun, Asabea Ashun, and Abena Apea, she has published over ten works bridging science and storytelling, making STEM accessible to young readers while celebrating African experiences.



Nasra Ayub
Programs Officer, Global Fund for Children

Nasra Ayub is a multi-award winning campaigner, writer, and public speaker passionate about tackling racism, ending violence against women and girls, and

empowering young people. She works in grant-making at the Global Fund for Children and has been featured on BBC, Channel 4, ITV, and has written for publications including Stylist and Dazed. Her writing explores issues of racial injustice, gender inequality, and social justice more broadly. She is also the speaker of the TEDx Talk, "What If Young People Ran The World?"



Annyce Brackins
Co-Chair, Rising Professionals of Color in Fundraising

Annyce Brackins, originally from Chicago and now based in Northern New Jersey, discovered

her passion for fundraising as an undergraduate while working in her university's Phonathon Center. Since then, she has dedicated her career to advancing equity and addressing opportunity gaps through philanthropy. She serves as co-chair of Rising Professionals of Color in Fundraising, an affinity group of AADO that supports emerging professionals, and is the Institutional Giving Manager at Youth Represent, where she manages foundation and corporate partnerships as well as the supporting the Junior Board. Annyce holds a Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in Non-profit Management from Kean University and a Bachelor of Arts in Ethnic Studies with a concentration in Innovation & Entrepreneurship and a minor in Gender Studies.



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Marcus Brewer
Chair, Men of Color
in Development

Marcus Brewer is a dedicated leader in the non-profit sector, known for his commitment to advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion within fundraising

and community development. He currently serves as the Chair of Men of Color in Development (MOCID), a national network focused on supporting men of color in the fundraising profession.

In addition to his role at MOCID, Marcus is Chief Collaborator at MB Consulting. Marcus builds strategies to help non-profits: create mutually beneficial partnerships, and develop a process to help connect with corporations and foundations.

Marcus is also an advocate for Black philanthropy and has contributed to discussions on Black fundraising practices, including participating in the #CauseChat conversation about Black fundraising and philanthropy.

His leadership and advocacy efforts have made a significant impact on the non-profit sector, particularly in promoting inclusivity and supporting the professional growth of men of color in development.



Birgit Smith Burton
Chief Executive Officer,
African American
Development Officers

Birgit Smith Burton (USA) is the Founder and Chief Executive Officer of the African American Development Officers Network

(AADO), established at Georgia Tech in 1999 to advance professional development, education, employment support, mentorship, and networking for fundraisers of color. A respected speaker on fundraising and diversity, she has authored articles on advancing equity in philanthropy and co-authored The Philanthropic Covenant with Black America. She also contributed to Five Minutes for Fundraising: A Collection of Expert Advice and shared her personal journey in Collecting Courage (2020), which highlights the lived experiences of Black fundraisers.

Over a 26-year career at Georgia Tech, Birgit's leadership secured over \$700M for programs, scholarships, and capital projects. She was the first African American woman elected Chair of the AFP Global Board and has served nearly a decade on AFP's board. Her accolades include the Opportunity and Inclusion Award from CASE, and the R.I.S.E. Fund was established in her honor to support women of color in fundraising.

Birgit chairs the A.E. Lowe Grice Scholarship Fund, serves on advisory boards for Somos El Poder and Women of Color in Fundraising and Philanthropy, and is a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority.



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Christal M. Cherry
Founder, Fabulous
Female Fundraisers

Christal M. Cherry is the Beyoncé of board leadership. Founder of The Board Pro, Christal is a nationally recognized nonprofit consultant, speaker, and coach who brings

courage, curiosity, and care to every boardroom. With over two decades of experience in fundraising, board governance, leadership development, and DEI strategy, she helps nonprofit leaders and boards move from stuck to soaring. Known for her humor, wisdom, and truth-telling, Christal turns board retreats into transformational experiences and trains CEOs to lead with intention and inclusion.

She's also a published author, adoptive mom, and breakfast lover who never shies away from the tough conversations—or the opportunity to make your board braver, bolder, and more effective. Learn more at www.theboardpro.com



Dr. Camila Pereira
Senior Manager of
Development, Child
Development Institute

Camila is a Black woman born and raised in Brazil. She understood from a very young age that race relations, identity

and gender roles were central not only to her family but to herself, including the harsh realities of how skin color can shape one's role, future, and existence within Brazilian society. Camila first engaged in philanthropy through her family's community initiatives, igniting a lifelong passion for racial justice and equity. Her career in the charitable sector is a means to contribute towards the eradication of all forms of prejudice preventing the advancement and betterment of humankind.

Camila is a senior fundraising professional in Toronto, an avid researcher and consultant on issues of race, gender, diversity, racial justice and equity, as well as a coach to Brazilians involved in philanthropy and fundraising in Brazil and Canada. She holds a PhD in Public Policy & International Relations.

Camila is a co-editor and contributor in the book "Collecting Courage: Joy, Pain, Freedom, Love" a collection of personal testimonies written by 15 Black American and Canadian non-profit professionals about racism and exclusion in the sector. She is a member of the Black Canadian Fundraisers Collective and serves on the Board of Directors of the Alzheimer Society of Ontario. Camila is a daughter, sister, aunt, wife and her family is complete with two lovely cats.



Kimahli Powell
LL.D (Hons)
Carr-Ryan Center
Fellow, Harvard
University

Kimahli is fellow at the Ryan-Carr Center for Human Rights at Harvard Kennedy School.

He is a senior leader in the INGO field with expertise in community building and strategic advocacy with a focus on international development, law and policy, HIV/AIDS, and internally displaced persons. Kimahli completed his undergraduate studies in Political Science at the University of Ottawa. He holds a Doctor of Laws from the University of Victoria. Among his career highlights is supporting Dignitas International's innovative work in supporting community based – system health strengthening in Malawi, as well as helping launch the HIV Legal Network's constitutional challenge to Jamaica's anti-sodomy law while developing a monitoring and evaluation framework on legal advocacy.

At Rainbow Railroad, Kimahli led the organization through transformational growth, helping thousands of people in the process. Under his leadership, Rainbow Railroad expanded its international reach and completed successful crisis interventions in Chechnya, Egypt, Uganda, Afghanistan and Ukraine. Most recently, Rainbow Railroad achieved a historic partnership with the Canadian government and working partnerships with the US government and the UN Refugee Agency. Kimahli has served as a board member for ILGA, former Chair of the Dignity Network and is a current board member of the Foundation for Black Communities and Refugee Council USA. Kimahli is a regular contributor to international media with appearances on CNN, MSNBC, CBC, BBC and a profile on 60 Minutes.



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Brenda Richardson
Founder, NuGenesis
Breathwork

Brenda is a certified breathwork facilitator and the founder of NuGenesis Breathwork, a wellness practice dedicated to helping individuals and

teams manage stress, improve focus, and build emotional resilience through guided breathwork.

Her approach integrates conscious connected breathing, meditation, and affirmations to support nervous system regulation and overall well-being. Drawing from her own lived experience with anxiety, burnout, and chronic stress, Brenda brings empathy, clarity, and grounded presence to every session.

Through NuGenesis Breathwork, Brenda offers:

- Workplace wellness sessions that reduce stress, enhance cognitive performance, and support emotional agility
- Group and individual breathwork experiences that promote calm, clarity, and inner alignment
- Inclusive healing spaces with a focus on supporting Black and POC communities navigating systemic and generational stress

Brenda partners with organizations that value employee well-being, inclusion, and sustainable performance. Her sessions are practical, accessible, and designed to meet people where they are—creating space for restoration, resilience, and transformation.



Nicole Salmon
Founder, Boundless
Philanthropy

Nicole Salmon brings extensive experience working in the nonprofit/ charitable sector as a curious leader and fund development strategist. In

2014, she founded Boundless Philanthropy, a values-led consultancy committed to building and sustaining healthy, equitable, mission and community-focused nonprofit and charitable organizations.

She is the co-editor and author of *Collecting Courage: Joy, Pain, Freedom, Love* and a former book review panelist and contributing editor with the online publication *The Charity Report*. As a published poet and writer, she taps the power of words and language to stir emotions, liberate, connect, and bridge divides.

As a community leader, Nicole's service extends beyond her professional roles. She actively serves on the board of two organizations; one offering community health services, and the other working to improve the lives of people living with HIV and other episodic conditions. She is also an active and founding member of the Black Canadian Fundraisers' Collective.

Shaped by her Jamaican roots and deeply influenced by spending over 2/3 of her life in Canada, Nicole's interests are eclectic, her curiosity boundless, pursuit of learning expansive and desire for growth continuous. She is anchored by a large family, committed to service, building connections and deepening personal relationships.



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Marva Bailey-Wisdom M.A. O.Ont. L.L.D

Founding Member Black Canadian Fundraisers' Collective

Marva Bailey-Wisdom is a committed leader with over four decades advancing equity and inclusive policy – locally and nationally. She is a Senior Fellow at U of T's Munk School of Global Affairs & Public Policy, focusing on women's issues and equity; a Fellow of the Environics Institute for Survey Research, she is a leader for the ground-breaking Black Experience research project and she co-director the international ArtsEverywhere Festival.

Marva chaired and co-chaired two national election policy platforms – both prime ministerial appointments. She has led two record-breaking United Way campaigns and the acquisition of an historical building in Guelph to serve the Black community.

A founding member of the Black Canadian Fundraisers Collective, Marva is a contributing author to the award-winning book *Collecting Courage: Joy, Pain, Freedom, and Love*, and has received numerous recognitions, including the Order of Ontario and an Honorary Doctor of Laws from the University of Guelph.



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About agentsC Inc. – The Conference Sponsor

Founded in 2015, agentsC Inc. is an international, B-Corp Certified consulting firm specializing in fundraising, philanthropy, and social change. Our team partners with socially and environmentally conscious organizations worldwide, providing smart change management solutions.

agentsC creates spaces and platforms for courageous conversations that lay the foundation for bold, transformative decision-making. Through research, data analysis, fundraising and program evaluation, community engagement, and philanthropic strategy development, we help organizations assess the strength of their partnerships—driving measurable impact across all sectors.

Our research practice has conducted national and international comparative studies in collaboration with global organizations and has produced extensive, sector-defining market insight reports, including:

1. Fundraising While Black: Hurt, Happiness, and Healing: A study into the experiences of anti-Black racism among fundraisers in Canada and the USA. Released November 2025.
2. [The Future of Giving: Looking Beyond The Selfie Unveiling Philanthropic Trends Among Canada's Generation Z and Millennial Donors: In Partnership with PayPal Giving Fund Canada, 2024](#)
3. [From The Mind to the Heart: Advancing Equity in Corporate Social Investment \(Bilingual - French and English\): In Partnership with RBC Foundation and Imagine Canada, 2023](#)
4. [The Duality of Giving: Contemporary Perspectives on Formalised African Philanthropy: In Partnership with Doctors Without Borders, Southern Africa, 2020](#)
5. [The COVID-19 Series: We're in This Together: A Snapshot of Canadian Non-Profit Perspectives During the COVID-19 Era, 2020](#)

When agentsC Inc. launched The Giving Black Conference in 2021, we did so out of a deep belief in the power of Black people giving back. We envisioned the conference as a gift to those working tirelessly in the non-profit, government, corporate social responsibility, and social and environmental good sectors—Black people creating meaningful, measurable, and lasting change around the world. For the past five years, this act of Black generosity and community building embodies the Giving Black motto: Philanthropy is the Heartbeat of the World. It is our hope that you will embrace this gift—offered by our inspiring community of speakers, dedicated volunteers, and steadfast partners—as a celebration and a means of connection.



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Thank You To Our Wonderful Supporters

Thank you to everybody who has supported The Giving Black Conference as a speaker, organizer, or gift giver over the past five years. In particular, I wish to thank our Communication Partners: The Black Fundraising Membership Associations: AADO, BCFC, MOCID, F3, RPOCF. As well we share appreciation and thanks to Intact Insurance and Imagine Canada for their support in raising awareness. Thanks also to Beacon Creative for another great Giving Black Conference Brochure!

Special thanks go to Jessica Rayne at My Evolving Doors event organizers for their special and generous support with conference production.



Listen To The Giving Black Conference 2025 [Spotify Playlist](#)

[Click here to listen](#)



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Abagiraneza
Stockvel
Harambee/Uhisani
Sankofa
Susu/Pawdna
Ubuntu
Ajo/Ara Eni
Chifundo
Kwabaswele
Uhisani

“Dua koro gye
mframa a, ebu.”

One tree alone cannot stand the might of a strong
wind or storm.

– (Twi Proverb)



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