

TED^x Asheville

x = independently organized TED event

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27

BUILDING BRIDGES
DOORS OPENING

ideas to invite connection
+ momentum forward

After a COVID-hiatus in 2020, we're excited to be relaunching TEDx Asheville! Our theme *Building Bridges, Opening Doors* is designed to re-engage our community by sharing inspirational stories of personal growth, community engagement and, as always, groundbreaking ideas.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 2022

Wortham Center For The Performing Arts

Leading the return of TEDx to Asheville aligns with my passion to uplift others to excel and be exceptional. Since 2009, TEDx Asheville has had four former executive directors ushering over 50 speakers onto the stage and into the TEDx spotlight.

When you pull back the curtain on TEDx Asheville, you'll discover that we are so much more than this one-time event.

We are a community of businesses who contribute, a cast of speakers who take a deep dive into the heart and soul of their message, a team of volunteers who enthusiastically show up, and a core team who offer a massive amount planning, organizing, and implementing. And finally, you – the audience who are here to enjoy, learn and participate. Truly, this is community collaboration at its best – a human endeavor seeking to expand our knowledge, connection, and our possibilities.

Barrie



PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION video to TEDx

WE WELCOME YOU!

- **Amy Climer**, Emcee
- **Reggie Tidwell**, Emcee
- **Barrie Barton**, Executive Director

REFLECT & CONNECT: Building Bridges; Opening Doors

What resonates with you about the theme? Why?

SPEAKERS

- **Justin Jones-Fosu**
Don't Take the Exit on People: A heart-based Approach to Diversity and Inclusion
- **Nikki Robinson**
Negotiating the Right-of-Way Between Humans & Wildlife
- **Jeffrey Kaplan**
How to Build a Better Entrepreneur
- **Ginger Huebner**
Cultivating Connection through Creativity

REFLECT & CONNECT

Take 60 seconds to reflect on at least one of the TEDx Talk questions. Jot down your thoughts.

1. What might become possible if I don't take the exit on people?
What is one thing I could do this week to create connection?
2. What step or action might I take to live in greater harmony with the animal world – either wildlife or domestic animals?

3. If I chose to celebrate simple milestones of my work, what would the first milestone be? How might I make this milestone special and meaningful?
4. What issue or topic would I like to explore through a creative language? What creative language would I choose and why?

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WELCOME: Building Bridges & OpenDoor organizations.

30 MINUTE INTERMISSION

REFLECT & CONNECT: Climer Cards

What is an insight you've had so far today?

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SPEAKERS

- **Maiysha Clairborne**
The Perspective You May Be Missing
- **Hannah Williams**
Inside the Mind of A Native Digital
- **Lyndon Harris**
Heal the Past, Create Your Future through Forgiveness

REFLECT & CONNECT

Take 60 seconds to reflect on at least one of the TEDx Talk questions. Jot down your thoughts.

1. What current perceptions are creating my inability to build bridges and open doors? What becomes possible if I choose to see my “filters” and re-examine my perceptions?
2. I’m someone who is challenged by the digital world. Can I work toward greater flexibility with the digital? If yes, what action can I take to overcome my hesitancy?
3. I’m someone who is at home with the digital world, but uncomfortable with analog. Can I work toward greater comfort with it? If yes, what action can I take to overcome my hesitancy?
4. Do I have a grievance that’s holding me back? What becomes possible if I choose forgiveness? How can I start right now?

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SPEAKERS

- **J. Hackett**
Black Wall Street: The Key to Unlocking Any City’s Economy
- **Jennifer MacDonald**
Play as a Survival Skill for Displaced Youth

REFLECT & CONNECT: Moving forward

Given what you’ve learned today, what is something you aspire to move towards?

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CLOSING

OUR EMCEES



AMY CLIMER, PhD

Dr. Amy Climer is a facilitator, speaker, and coach focused on innovation and teams. Her clients have included the Mayo Clinic, the US Department of Homeland Security, and the University of Wisconsin. Amy is also host of THE DELIBERATE CREATIVE™ podcast and the designer of CLIMER CARDS, a creativity and teambuilding tool used by thousands of educators to deepen conversations and generate ideas. Amy holds a Ph.D. in Leadership and Change from Antioch University. You can learn more about Amy and her work at CLIMER CONSULTING.COM and at CLIMERCARDS.COM.



REGGIE TIDWELL

Reggie is the founder of CURVE THEORY, an award-winning, multi-disciplinary, 20+ yr graphic design and media business located near Asheville, NC. Reggie has dedicated his career to helping small and large businesses and organizations effectively connect with their audiences. Reggie serves on the Board for the Public Art and Cultural Commission Committee for the City of Asheville and chairs the Professional Services Committee for the Art Coalition of the Asheville Area Arts Council. He is also the founding president of the Asheville chapter of the professional design association, AIGA.

2022 SPEAKERS

Justin is a highly sought-after business consultant, social entrepreneur, and diversity/inclusion researcher. He is the founder and CEO of Work. Meaningful., where they partner with companies, organizations, and associations in the US and internationally to embrace meaningful work and diversity/inclusion. Justin embraces his heritage as a dual-citizen of both Ghana and the US.



JUSTIN JONES-FOSU



**NIKKI
ROBINSON**

Nikki manages conservation projects, coalitions, and initiatives that Wildlands Network is pursuing in NC. Her career as a science communicator and educator spans across diverse ecosystems from the Florida Keys, to the Rocky Mountains, and the Southern Appalachian Mountains. She earned her master's degree in plant biology at the University of Vermont in the Field Naturalist and Ecological Planning Program; and a Bachelor of Science in environment and natural resources from Clemson University, with a concentration in conservation biology.

Jeffrey is the Director of Venture Asheville, an organization which serves as a catalyst for high-growth startups by building entrepreneurs and getting startups funded. He is also the local director of VentureSouth's Angel Investment Group, the Asheville Angels, and advisor to the Pisgah Fund, a \$50M digital health innovation fund. Prior to leading Venture Asheville, Jeffrey earned his master's degree in Entrepreneurship and instructed Entrepreneurship at the University of Florida.



**JEFFREY
KAPLAN**



**GINGER
HUEBNER**

Ginger is the founding director of Roots + Wings School of Art and Design in Asheville, where innovative art and design education programs are offered for all ages across the community. She also serves as Visual Art Advisor to PBS for their Online Learning platform, Arts Curriculum, and the *Pinkalicious* series. With foundations from both a Bachelor of Architecture and a Masters in Teaching Visual Art, she weaves a unique perspective into all that she does... as an artist, educator, facilitator and collaborator.

Dr. Maiysha is a Physician, Trainer of Neurolinguistic Programming (NLP), Hypnosis & Time Line Therapy® and Founder of the Mind Re-Mapping Academy®. She teaches that mastering our language (both internal and external), we ultimately put ourselves in the driver's seat of our thoughts, feelings, and behaviors. Dr. Maiysha is a graduate of Emory University, completing her medical degree at Morehouse School of Medicine, and her Family Medicine Residency at Florida Hospital.



**MAIYSHA
CLAIRBORNE**



**HANNAH
WILLIAMS**

Hannah is *the* Gen Z CEO Advisor. She enrolled in college at age 14 and graduated with an undergraduate degree in international business at age 18. Now, as a 23-year old Gen Z'r, she consults businesses from start-ups to Fortune 500 companies, and is on a mission to help business owners unlock the power of Gen Z talent as a competitive advantage. Her recent book, *A Leader's Guide to Unlocking Gen Z*, is the first of its kind handbook for leaders who want to understand and remain relevant to native digitals as the talent world shifts.



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Lyndon is a forgiveness teacher and coach, and inspirational speaker. His work at Ground Zero in New York City has been written about widely, and his work on a Garden of Forgiveness for Ground Zero in NYC is featured in the award-winning documentary, “The Power of Forgiveness” (Journey Films: 2006). Lyndon is currently working with Stanford’s Dr. Frederic Luskin (Stanford Forgiveness Project) to coordinate a team of researchers, clinicians and educators in the creation of a public information campaign about the public health benefits of forgiveness.



**LYNDON
HARRIS**



J. HACKETT

J is the founder of Black Wall Street AVL and founder of GRIND – Asheville’s first black-owned coffee shop. While actively working to advance economic development locally, he has previously worked on projects across the globe focusing on the UN sustainability goals. J is currently pastor of New Mt Olive Missionary Baptist Church and an instructor at Lenoir Rhyne University’s Equity and Diversity Institute. Aside from being married with three children, J is a diehard fan of Golden Girls.

Jennifer is a career teacher, traveler, activist, and proud mother of two grown children. She has a Master’s Degree in Arabic Language and Culture and speaks several other languages. In 2010, she established one of the first Arabic language programs for high school students in the Southeast. In 2014, she co-founded HADAYA Global, an organization that provides libraries and developmental toys to displaced children in several countries. Jennifer is also an award-winning film producer and writer who still loves to play.



**JENNIFER
MACDONALD**



ASHEVILLE
IDEAS
FEST



June 15 - 18, 2022

Come to our mountains,
where vistas abound and
the enlightened South
awaits. Experience the
diversity of thought that
inspires us, the arts that
lift us up, the outdoor
recreation that challenges
us, and the local cuisine
and craft beverages
that sustain us.

AshevilleIdeasFest.com



A new tradition this year... passing the 'torch', from past speakers to new. Building upon and sustaining our incredible TEDx community, this event honors the journey of our brave speakers.



Photography: Daniel Bradley

Can words actually change the world? The answer is 'Yes!' And so, the TEDx Asheville journey continues ... with our Red Rug Roundtable events, throughout the year, for continued conversation and learning.



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Credit: Tony Shivers, Still Smiling Photography





Asheville



Jeff & Jan Dek

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of TEDx Asheville!

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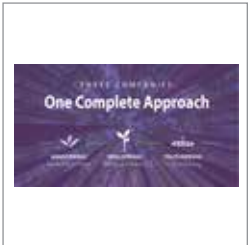
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Our community is vital to us, as are the amazing organizations doing great work here. Therefore, in 2022, we are highlighting these inspirational, local non-profit organizations:

BUILDING BRIDGES

Since 1993, Building Bridges has profoundly impacted people and institutions throughout WNC, through their mission of dismantling racism by fostering relationships that respect diversity, seek understanding and encourage action, as well as their educational courses. [**www.bbavl.org**](http://www.bbavl.org)

OPEN DOORS

OpenDoors' mission is to strengthen community by eliminating the race-based opportunity and achievement gaps for students through education. They directly support students in becoming active, engaged, lifelong learners ready for college and/or career by offering individual tutoring, best-fit school placements, academic assessments, financial literacy training, and year-round enrichment opportunities. [**www.opendoorsasheville.org**](http://www.opendoorsasheville.org)

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORING AGENCY

EAGLE MARKET STREETS DEVELOPMENT CORP.

Guided by their mission, Eagle Market Streets Development Corporation's vision is to bring more opportunity for economic and social independence to the low-to-moderate income community. They focus on property development, economic business and workforce development.

[**www.eaglemarketsts.org**](http://www.eaglemarketsts.org)

STELLAR PEOPLE WHO DESERVE SPECIAL THANKS!

Emily Breedlove, TEDx Selection Committee, Stephanie Hickling Beckman, James Navé, Focal Point, Asheville Pecha Kucha, Jay Hill, Michelle Barry Franco, Tony Shivers Photography, Daniel Bradley Photography, Brenden Almand Photography, The Wortham Center staff.

*Thank you
so much*

FOR OUR CORE TEAM

Barrie Barton, Vanessa Bell,
Stephanie Swepson Twitty,
Laura Wagenknecht, Amber Williams

FOR OUR SUPPORT TEAM

Lesley King, Linda Block,
Marlowe Weingart

FOR OUR PRODUCTION TEAM

Jim Abbott, Lindsay Wheeler,
Jacob Sutton, Brett McCall

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Stay tuned for a TEDx Asheville Salon in 2022
and another TEDx Asheville Event in 2023

www.tedxasheville.com