



Art Gallery, Inc.

Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi, DrBA, MBA

Executive Director, Business Researcher & Analyst, Artist, Author,
Economist, and Orisa & Ifa Priest

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BLAAC 2 BASICS

Bailey Learning and Arts Collective

*Founded by Terri L. Bailey, MA
Writer, Educator, Poet, & Community Organizer*

July 2021

Greetings! I am Terri L. Bailey. I am the founder of the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective (BLAAC), a community education and outreach organization. I am a Gainesville native, born and raised in the 5th Avenue/Pleasant Street District and wanted to do something to contribute to my community and help educate community members on issues that affect us every day.

The mission of the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective (BLAAC) is to help build knowledgeable, socially responsible communities and leaders utilizing a grassroots ideology. We accomplish these goals through community outreach, education and partnerships, social entrepreneurial opportunities, and artistic expression and instruction.

Our Vision:

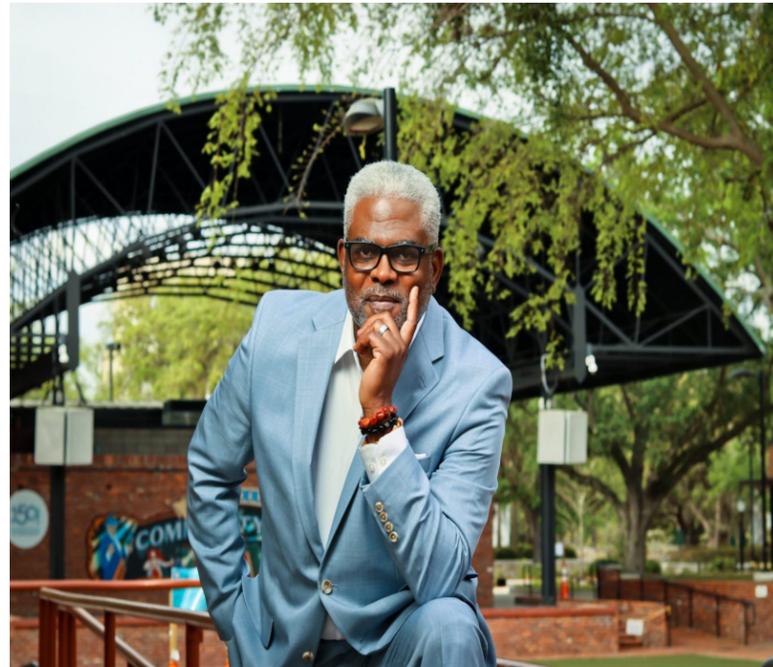
- Sponsor events that promote individual and community activism, organizing and empowerment.
- Provide community consultation and organizing expertise for individuals, and to non-profit/community-based organizations for community outreach efforts.
- Promote cultural, visual, literary and folk-art education through conferences, workshops, festivals, classes and individual artist promotion.
- Create economic development and sustainability opportunities for individuals, community-based organizations and non-profit agencies.



The Queens Room is your safe space for self-care, healing and empowerment! **Our services include:** self-care plans, life coaching, tapping to heal sessions, writing to heal workshops, a venting room, self-help articles and more!

Visit our virtual S.H.E. Shed at
<https://queensroom.org>
or call 352.327.8771 for more info.

Poetry for the Community



Congratulations to E. Stanley Richardson for becoming Alachua County's first Poet Laureate! As part of a new initiative to bring recognition to local artists, the County Commission selected Mr. Richardson at their January 14, 2020 meeting. The two-year role pays \$2,000 a year, and the Poet Laureate must become involved in the community by reading poetry at various events. Now in his second year, Mr. Richardson remains active by spearheading the Youth Poet Laureate program in partnership with his own organization, ArtSpeaks. The goal of the program is to select two young poets - one to represent Alachua County, and another for North Central Florida. These poets will give a much-needed voice to issues affecting today's youth and become an important part of youth community activism.

Besides the Youth Poet program, ArtSpeaks also hosts presentations meant to increase community awareness for the importance of Art Education. At their latest March 1st event, J. Todd Frazier gave a presentation to fine arts teachers of the Indian Prairie School District 204. We are on the lookout for more presentations, but Mr. Richardson's last few months as Poet Laureate will surely be busy as pandemic restrictions wind down and community events become more widespread.

For more information, contact E. Stanley Richardson at estanleyrichardson@gmail.com or visit www.artspeaks.net.

Don't miss these weekly events!

TUE

2:45 P.M. - Free Grocery Store

THU

5:30 P.M - Sign up to volunteer
8:00 P.M. - Poetry Jam

SAT

10:00 A.M - Yoga
2:00 P.M.- Free Store



The Goddess Project

The Goddess Project strives to educate and empower women seeking solutions to feminine wellness related issues through alternative options and supports. We provide holistic services that nurture women spiritually, physically, and emotionally.

The Goddess Project is committed to standing with women on their journeys of self-care. Women of color disproportionately suffer from high blood pressure, diabetes, fibroids, and other health issues at the higher rates than white women. Supports such as yoni steams, energy healing and wellness coaching provide members with opportunities to explore their problem areas.



July 9th New Moon Group Steam

July 23rd Full Moon Group Steam

Donation: \$40 per person
\$25 student

July 30th Waist Bead Party

Donation: \$25 waist beads only
\$65 steam and waist bead

Discover H.E.A.T



The Health Education and Training Center of Gainesville, Inc. (H.E.A.T.) is a holistic health and wellness center for underserved minorities in Gainesville, FL. The center was founded on August 20, 2019. We started teaching health and wellness classes out of the Library Partnership and the Headquarters Library in April 2019. The center was founded by Brianna Chesteen and her love for wellness education for minority health.

We provide charitable and educational wellness services to the underserved community through health education classes, seminars, exercise groups, workshops, and educational newsletters. The H.E.A.T center services the community through teaching health education and wellness classes by trained health and wellness coaches that facilitate classes based upon a wellness topic each month. The classes are structured to meet the needs of the community through health education workshops and feedback surveys.

The center helps to bridge the gap between health education and accessibility to resources within the community. We wanted to create a center geared toward a holistic approach for minorities, and that is accessible to the rural side of East Gainesville. To alleviate the stress of the transportation barriers within the Eastside of Gainesville, we offer our classes and courses remotely; therefore, our clients can access our platform anywhere. By using this approach, we alleviate the stress of the lack of accessibility to resources and can focus on the community's overall well-being. Find out more at <https://www.heat-education.org/>.

Gainesville's Heir Property Project



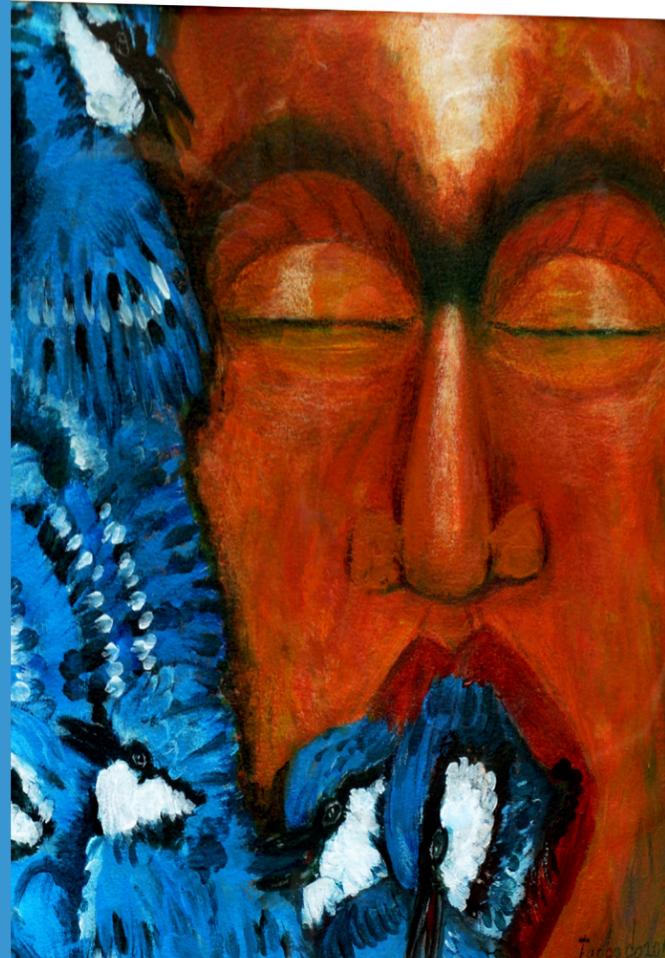
In our continued effort to promote the importance of heirs' property, we contacted commissioner Harvey Ward to get his thoughts on the city and county's recent initiative:

The City of Gainesville currently has a Request for Proposals (RFP) out for legal services organizations to offer assistance to Gainesville neighbors with heirs property issues. The deadline has passed, and we expect a contract to be awarded soon.

The intent is for the legal services contractor to offer services directly to residents, and the contractor will likely work with community organizations like BLAAC as been done in the past. The primary difference is that the city is able to offer significant funding, which should result in help for many more neighbors. More details will be available soon.

**Save the Date:
October 29th
"What Had
Happened Was...."
A BLAAC
Storytelling Event:
Four Truths and
One Lie**

Location info to be provided soon.



The Importance of Black Publishing Houses by E. Claudette Freeman

BookScan, one of the largest book sales reporting indicators noted that in 2020, the combined print book and e-book sales totals rose above 900 million units in 2020. That represented a close to 10% increase over the year before. According to Kristen McLean, executive director of NPD Books the print sales rose 8.2% over 2019, e-book unit purchases measured by NPD's PubTrack Digital service, rose 12.6%.

Part of that increase came in schools locking down, which drove sales up in juvenile nonfiction. And a nation on fire with racial discord and racially charged police involved incidents led to increasing sales of nonfiction titles related or egged on by the social distress. For many Black publishers, who primarily are boutique to just under medium size houses, the fight to be seen during those driving sales figures continued. Although many companies like mine, Pecan Tree Publishing, saw more authors reaching out for literary services and some even purchasing publishing packages; a substantial number of potential clients still flocked to larger corporate companies like Amazon, BookBaby, Lulu, Versavante and others.

There was also a steady flow of sales for urban fiction books, and urban publishers experienced a small degree of the fiction unit sales increase.

For others, the pandemic shift caused us to come up or lean more towards other services to stay viable.



In fact, PTP has begun looking at shifting its model to produce more of its own titles in line with publishing industry trends and anticipated strong sales markets. Black publishers, specifically independent and hybrid publishers also continue to vie for a place on the shelves in chain bookstores and in some cases independent bookstores.

Supporting Black publishers means supporting the continuation of sharing and telling our stories within our cultural understanding and dynamic. While some publishers of color may not have the more robust distribution channels other companies might offer; the quality of work and dedication to their authors' success is paramount. The teller of the Black story must intentionally seek to partner with the producer of Black stories; so that those stories can continue to remain true, sincere and untainted. Aside from choosing Black publishers as your company of choice, even if the investment is a little more (price is always contingent upon volume); another way you can support African American publishers to purchase titles from their catalog; make them part of your regular book club choices. For bookstore owners and media – feature the companies' stories and titles on your shelves and in your medium.



Are you an aspiring writer looking for some motivation to finally finish that book or a willing critic to help perfect your stories? Do you simply like to read? The Writers' Alliance of Gainesville can help you from the comfort of your own home.

Now offering online events, the Writers' Alliance of Gainesville creates a community of writers focused on helping each other perfect their craft. Join a critique pod and edit your writing, attend presentations by professional authors and those involved in the publishing industry, promote your work by joining the WAG Speakers Bureau, and much more. Learn about the Writers Alliance of Gainesville at <https://writersalliance.org/>.

Upcoming Events

- **Author Elizabeth Randall: Creating In-Depth Storylines and Plots for Fiction and Non-Fiction**
July 11, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM at Online via Zoom

- **Literary Agent, Peter Miller: The Future of Publishing & The Entertainment Business**
August 8, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM at Online
- **WAG. Where We've Been. Where We Could Go**
September 12, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM at Online
- **2021 Bacopa Debut**
October 10, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM
- **Dan Sharp: 12 Tips to Help You Beat the Public Speaking Jitter**
November 14, 2:30 PM - 4:00 PM at Online



According to Godsville Dream Defenders Lead Organizer Manu Osorio: Our position is that our people deserve to be free to speak out and protest for justice. HB1 is a racist tool by Ron Desantis to please his followers. We will not succumb to his tactics to destroy BLM and we will continue fighting for what's right. We have to get Desantis out of office and we cannot let his tactics scare us.

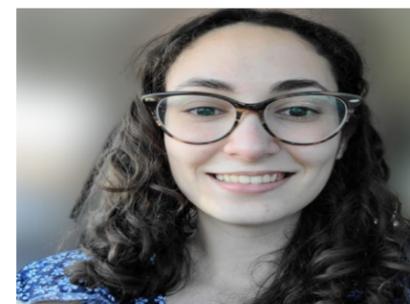
Meet Our Interns!

A Message from our Interns: "We are grateful for The Center for Adaptive Innovation, Resilience, Ethics & Science at the University of Florida for giving us the opportunity to serve and intern at the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective."



Catherine White

My name is Catherine White. I am studying Political Science and English and the University of Florida. I want to learn the behind-the-scenes of nonprofit work and how community arts projects make a positive impact in Gainesville. I hope to attend law school and work as a civil rights lawyer.



Ana Rodriguez

My name is Ana Rodriguez. I am studying Communication Sciences and Disorders at the University of Florida. I want to gain experience working on a community organization because I'm interested in doing a Family, Youth, and Community Sciences minor; the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective provides practical experience for this interest. I want to be speech pathologist and work with children. Additionally, we would like to thank Ana for working on the newsletter.



Vincent Weatherly

My name is Vincent Weatherly. I am studying Political Science at the University of Florida. I hope to learn an array of professional skills related to community outreach, event management, and media management. I hope to develop a career in media/political journalism.

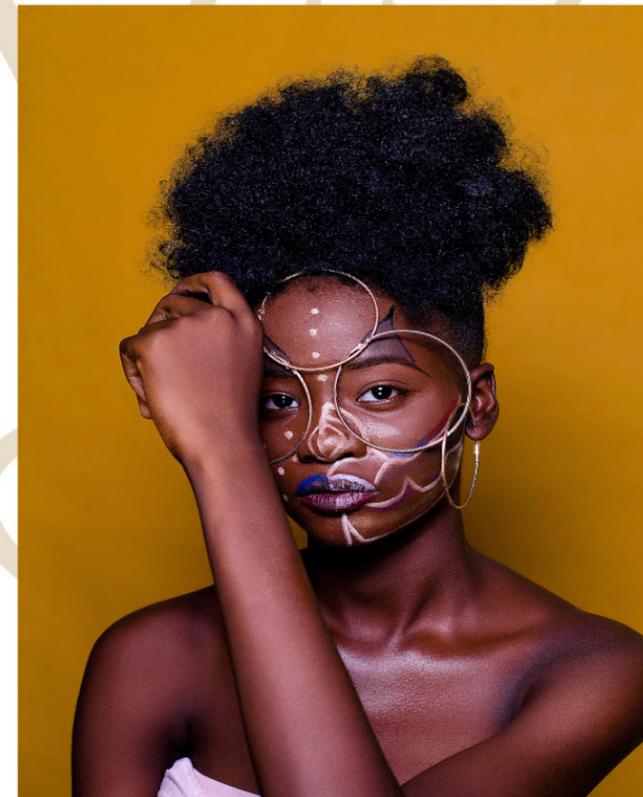


A Living Legacy: The A. Quinn Jones Museum and Cultural Center Returns by **Carol Richardson**

The A. Quinn Jones Museum & Cultural Center, housed in the former Jones Family home at 1013 NW 7th Avenue in Gainesville opened March 2017, as a project of the City of Gainesville's CRA. Due to COVID-19 forcing closure of City offices the A. Quinn Jones Museum and Cultural Center has been closed for over year. The A. Quinn Jones Museum and Cultural Center, a division of the City of Gainesville's Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs, serves as tribute to one of the most influential educators in the history of Alachua County. The Museum features a permanent exhibit on "Prof" Jones and surrounding communities. The Museum features oral histories centering on the African American experiences.

The AQJ 2021 - 2022 Museum and Cultural Center will host local, regional and international programs designed to educate, empower and celebrate the people, places and events of African Americans and of the Diaspora living in Alachua County and particularly the 5th Avenue/Pleasant Street Neighborhoods. Upcoming July 10th, Award -Winning Author Kentrell Martin, the creator of Shelly's Adventures, a series of children's book designed to teach American Sign Language to youth, followed by our Music on the Patio Series featuring music of Jazz, Blues, R&B, AfroPop and more.

For more information on the A. Quinn Jones Museum and Cultural Center contact Carol Richardson, Program Coordinator, 352-672-2122.



THE QUEENS ROOM PRESENTS WARRIOR WOMEN'S WELLNESS: SELF-CARE FOR THE LATINX FEMININE DIVINE JULY 13, 2021 7P-9P

A safe space to learn about self-care & build a virtual,
multigenerational, LatinX Feminist community
Zoom Meeting ID: 841 8794 9129

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

Dr. Jullian Hernandez: Author of *Aesthetics of Excess*

Maria Saldana: *Healing and the Collective Breath*

Ana Rodriguez: *LatinX Feminism in Our Daily Lives*

Jess Trochex (TBA)

Terri L. Bailey, MA, Queens Room Founder: *Self-Care Plan & Tips for Spiritual Wellness*

Alexandria Gibson, Womb Wellness Practioner, Doula & Owner, The Goddess Project: *Holistic Womb Wellness and Pu\$\$y Power*

Robynne Lucas & Araya Blakely: *WomenNow!*