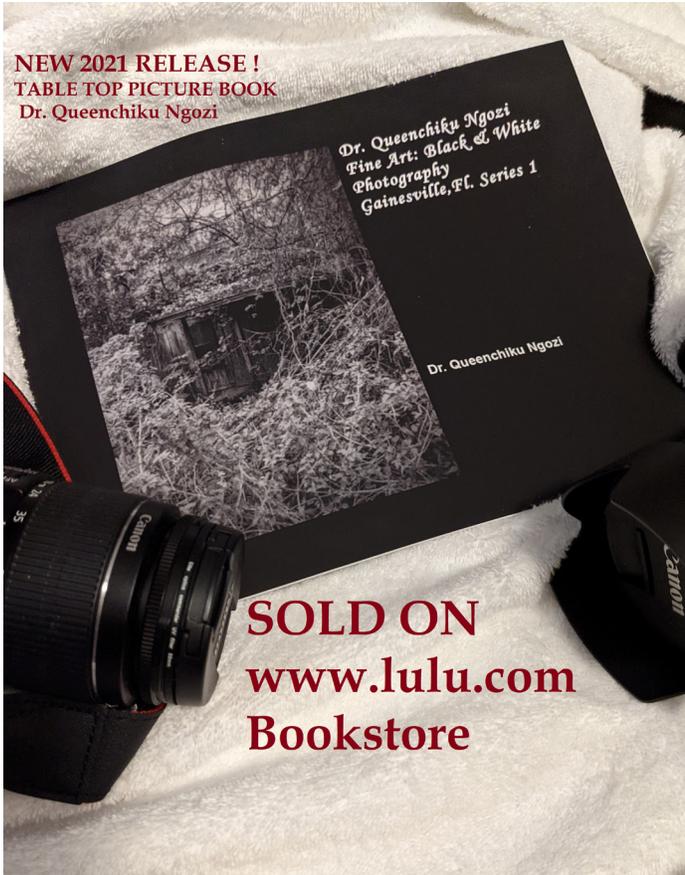


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BLAAC 2 BASICS

Bailey Learning and Arts Collective

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

November 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.

Check out our website at blaac2basics.com. Email: blaac2basics1@gmail.com



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.

Contact us through email at info@queensroom.org

Check out photos from past events!



Tabling at the North Central Florida March for Reproductive Rights and Justice! Featured are our interns and E.D. Terri Bailey!



Our recent tabling at Museum Nights: Reframing the Lens at the Harn Art Museum!



“Illumination in Darkness Project”: A Visual Narrative Project of an African American cemetery in Alachua County, Florida.



Dr. Queenchiku Ngozi is a renowned artist, fine art photographer, curator, author, independent scholar, business researcher & strategy analyst, and a single parent. She has accomplished so much in her life and the journey continues.

Presently, she is engaged in **developing a visual narrative (visual storytelling) project about African American cemeteries in Alachua County** which will serve as a pilot for the rest of the counties in the state of Florida. The title of this project is called “Illumination in Darkness Project”. Project mission is to develop, produce, record,

publish and acknowledge the vanishing and or abandoned Alachua County historical African American cemeteries. Basically, to memorialize Alachua County African Americans cemeteries. This project also is a pilot for other counties in Florida.

This project is partly supported by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Arts and Culture, and Council on Arts. The timeline is July 2021 to 2022. Follow her on FaceBook (Meta).

Community Arts



Rendering Tension: A piece by Korean- American artist Tyler Quintin
Photo credit: Isabella Lopez



Terroir by Katie Baczeski
Photo Credit: Isabella Lopez



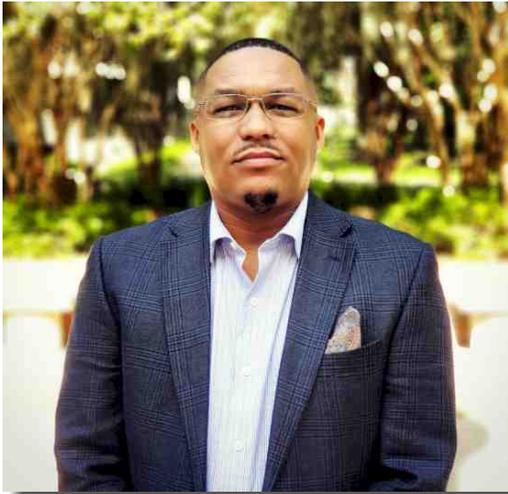
Through God's Eye by Lexus Giles
Photo Credit: Isabella Lopez



Traditional dance performed by Madison Worrell (one of our interns!) at the Chinese American Student Association's rendition of the Mid-Autumn Festival on October 24, 2021.

Osubi Craig and the Center for the Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship: The interaction between technology, arts, and diaspora

by Isabella Lopez



Osubi Craig - Gainesville, Florida

Osubi Craig is a talented African Diasporan percussionist, performing arts contributor and advocate, a higher education administrator. He earned his B.S. in Industrial Engineering and a minor in Jazz Studies and earned an M.A. in arts administration. He is currently the director of the Center for the Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship (CAME) affiliated with the College of the Arts at the University of Florida. He is from Brooklyn, New York and is a third generation percussionist passionate about the preservation and study of the art that came out of the African diaspora.

Can you speak about your experiences as a third-generation percussionist? What inspired to pursue arts administration? What was your journey?

"I grew up in a household surrounded by music. Music has always been around me. Growing up in New York, I was exposed to traditional African music, Afro-Cuban music which came from the African diaspora. There was always African music playing. My family would always end up drumming.

As a leader of performing arts collectives and drumming groups, I had to do the work of getting contracts together, marketing, staying engaged with presenters so we can get gigs. I had a talent for that; I understood

what was required. And you know, sometimes, that stuff is a tough path. You're trying to cultivate a bunch of gigs in a short time and calling people cold. It definitely takes a mindset of being positive and not being caught off-guard when someone saying "no" to you; don't take it personally, you move on to whatever the next thing is.

How do you feel about returning to Gainesville? Do you have any exciting plans to share with the student body and staff at the University of Florida?

So I returned in July of 2019 and at the end of July 2022, it'll be three years, which is amazing to me. And I left [Gainesville] after I graduated from high school and went up to undergrad and I honestly left thinking, "I'm not ever coming back to Gainesville". You leave your hometown and you're like - you're gonna do all these things - and so it is ironic and funny to have returned to Gainesville, even more ironic for me to return to UF because as a kid growing up in Gainesville at the time that I was here, me and my friends were riding bikes and riding skateboards and you know, doing all the stuff that, at that time, would get you kicked off of campus. So, I got chased by UFPD all the time. To be on the same campus that I got chased away from, it's cool and poetic in a lot of ways. It lets you know that, you never know where life is gonna take you and I am thankful to be here.

Any information about the Center for Arts, Migration, and Entrepreneurship?

At our center, we are focused on arts, migration, and entrepreneurship. That's really leveraging the fact that Florida is a state, but is also in many ways, the cultural cradle of all the Caribbean and Latin America and South America. Culture has a very significant impact on the economy of the state. ***In many ways, our state is built upon the fact that people are excited to come and visit and interact with culture here.*** The culture that we have in Florida is not one thing, it is a melting pot of so many different influences, so many different languages, so many different people. And so that's one of the things, ***as a center, we're looking at, tracing and tracking those connections of networks*** that go from wherever people arrive from, to where they are now and how there's information being moved back and forth.

Any events coming up at CAME?

On **December 9**, we have a talk on Dance and IP (Intellectual Property) in the TikTok Age. And we're looking at doing a series of conversations with our Maker-in-Residence.

You can check us out online at arts.ufl.edu/CAME

To read the full interview, visit blaac2basics.com



Writers Alliance of Gainesville

fosters creative expression through the written word

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **WRITER'S TALK AT RAWLINGS HOUSE SERIES RETURNS TO CROSS CREEK**

NOVEMBER 20 (1:30 PM) AT MARJORIE KINNAN RAWLINGS HISTORIC STATE PARK 18700 S CR 325, CROSS CREEK, FL 32640

- **2021 CRAFT FESTIVAL AT THE O'CONNEL CENTER**

DECEMBER 4 (10 AM - 5 PM) AT O'CONNELL CENTER, UF CAMPUS 250 GALE LEMERAND DR.

- **HOLIDAY READINGS AT THE HISTORIC THOMAS CENTER**

DECEMBER 12 (2:30 - 4 PM) AT THE THOMAS CENTER 302 N.E. 6TH AVE



A. Quinn Jones Museum

Upcoming Events

November 28th, at 6:30 PM: Bill Rogers Featuring Cynthia Allen: Neo Soul, Smooth Jazz & More

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

NKwanda Jah on the Cultural Arts Coalition, gentrification, and the environmental advocacy movement

by Isabella Lopez



CULTURAL ARTS COALITION

Educating and Empowering the Community Through Art

Gainesville Florida

The Cultural Arts Coalition, led by executive director NKwanda Jah, is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization based in Gainesville, Florida whose mission is to serve the local community by providing community-oriented programs focused on the arts, culture, and social awareness. The CAC has been established since 1979. Specifically, CAC promotes African-American art culture, educational programs on critical social issues, and also coordinates the annual 5th Avenue Arts Festival. The CAC also offers educational programs for at risk youth to foster interest in the environmental sciences and leading healthy lifestyles.

Tell me a little about the CAC.

We started off doing the festival and we're getting ready to do the 42nd festival. The same year we launched the festival we started doing cultural enrichment programs for young people and we have continued that throughout the 40 plus years. We've done different kinds of youth programming. In 1990, we started the Environmental Ambassadors. So, that program is 30 plus years old. We've continued to provide employment as well as environmental education for kids. Over the last ten years, we realized that we had schools and students were not doing real well. So, we started a science program. We wanted to take one of the most difficult subjects or topics that the kids had and make it be fun to learn.

I know that you are chair of the NAACP Environmental and Climate Justice Committee. Can you tell me more about your involvement with environmental justice initiatives?

I have served as environmental and climate justice committee chair for NAACP, for about 6 years now, maybe 7. And, I worked on environmental issues for probably 30 years, going back to the Environmental Ambassadors.

Most of the time, almost all of the time, I was the only Black in the room. But I knew that I was supposed to be there.

They were coming at it from a scientific perspective, and I was coming at it from - we all breathe the same air, we drink the same water, we're depending on the same food, and even before I really realized my responsibility to be doing that work. So, I was honored, in fact, to have the NAACP local president ask me if I would chair the Environmental and Climate Justice committee. I was glad to do it. I already had been working with a number of environmental organizations in town, like the Sierra Club. So, I get a chance to just bring together all of those environmental organizations that I've worked with over the last decades. We've had community-wide discussions around energy, healthy food, an intergenerational environmental discussion where one moderator was a teenager and the other was a professor, a psychologist from the University of Florida. We just had a county-wide discussion on moving towards 100% clean energy. Right now, the city of Gainesville has a goal of 2045. We don't think that that's fair. It is unacceptable, so, we decided that we, as a community, should talk about how we get there faster.



NKwanda Jah, ED of Cultural Arts Coalition

Are you planning to hold the 5th Ave. Arts Festival in 2022?

Yes, we plan to be both in-person and virtual. Last year, we did virtual, and it did pretty good. The real advantage to that is that we were able to have vendors from other countries that were on our site. So, we think that that was a great treasure found there. So, we want to continue participation from vendors who are here. We do want to return to the community here.

I don't know if you're aware, but the reason that the 5th Ave. Art Festival got started was because gentrification was started in the 5th Ave community in 1979. They already started it. So, we and the festival, wanted to draw people's attention that gentrification was coming. That's where we started from. Gentrification is there in full costume. Sadly, the community that we were fighting for, there's only traces of it left. On the upside of it is that the 5th Ave Art Festival has lasted as long as the gentrifiers have lasted.

So, the festival is still around even though a lot of what we fought for, the people we fought for are now gone. The 5th Ave Arts Festival is still there.

To read the full interview, visit blaac-2basics.com

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BLACK SPA AWARDS



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guest speaker

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Presents:

Star Center Theatre

THE KINGDOM LAUGH TOUR

January 16, 2022
6:00pm - 9:00pm
Star Center Theatre
11 NE 23rd Avenue Gainesville, FL 32609

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ALISA "CHILLOLOGIST" CODY

BIG HOU

FUNNY BONE



CIVIC MEDIA CENTER

Weekly events

Tuesdays - Free Grocery Store
Thursdays - 5:30 PM - Volunteer sign-up
8:00 PM - Poetry Jam
Saturdays - 10:00 AM - Yoga
2:00 PM - Free Store

Upcoming events

Nov. 19, 2021 (6 PM) - Queer Full Moon Art Show at Civic Media Center (433 S Main St)
Nov. 20th, 2021 (7 PM) - GNV Trans Day of Remembrance at Bo Diddley Plaza

A self-care tip from De-
linda Kinney, a herbalist:

Visit her website at
ConsiderHerbs.com

Herbal Baths can be a simple, but effective way to relax and self heal during any season. Especially in the winter time when we might have dry skin or feel a little down. There are many ways to apply herbs to your bath. If you don't have the dried herbs on hand, one simple way is to use a Tea-Bag. Depending on your needs you can use chamomile for dry skin inflammation; rosemary for sore muscles; or lemon balm for relaxation to help revive and lift your spirits. Once you have your desired herbs, pour 1 qt of boiling water over 6-8 tea bags. You can adjust this to your needs. Cover and let them steep for 30 minutes. Add the tea and tea bags to your bathwater and enjoy.

Meet Our Interns!



Ashley Ndip

My name is Ashley Ndip and I am a fourth year, health science major. I am currently on the pre-occupational therapy and I have a minor in disabilities in society. I am excited to work with the Bailey Learning and Arts Collective to promote community health and learn more about the foundations of non-profit work.



Isabella Lopez

My name is Isabella Lopez and I am a 2nd-year student at the University of Florida. I am an anthropology major with an emphasis in medical anthropology minoring in nonprofit organizational leadership. As an intern at BLAAC-2Basics and Queen's Room, I hope to promote the organization's mission of empowering communities in Gainesville through assisting in the development of accessible, low-cost event programming and uplifting women of color through my work in social media management and outreach.



Madison Worrell

My name is Madison Worrell. I am a second year aspiring nursing student at the University of Florida. I am looking forward to helping and learning more about the Gainesville community through events, workshops, and more. As an intern for BLAAC2Basics, I hope to create a stronger sense of community and advocate for health education.



Aaliyah Westbrook

Aaliyah Westbrook is the 24 year old daughter of BLAAC founder Terri Bailey. She was born with severe cerebral palsy. She communicates using a communication device and by answering yes or no questions. She asked if she could “write” something for the newsletter because she wanted us to know her opinion on a few things.

Gainesville **needs** more programs for young adults with severe disabilities. She would like more opportunities to be social and hang out with her friends, more learning opportunities and more independent living programs. She also thinks the city needs programs that will help her get and keep a personal care assistant. She thinks if people were paid more, then her and others who need assistance would be able to have better care services.

Aaliyah also talked about her experience in middle school and high school. She understands that kids in elementary school have to let their parents choose what school they have to go to. She thinks that middle school and high school students should be allowed to choose the type of school they go to. Aaliyah feels that **Gainesville should have more options for public schools for children with physical challenges**. She feels that they should offer after-school services for K - 12. There were no after-school programs for her when she was in school.

Check out our upcoming events and workshops!



ACCESS TO PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE FOR WOMEN

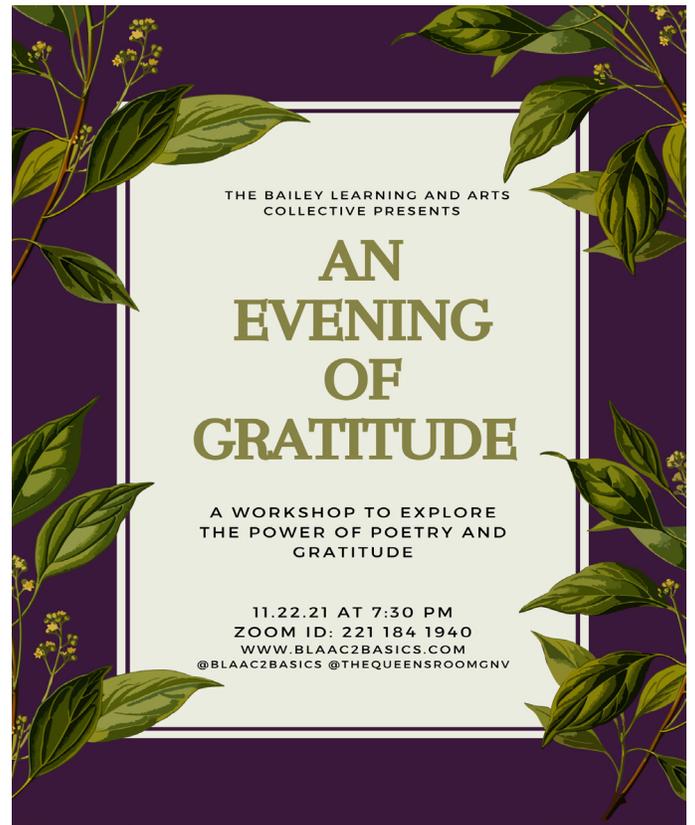
Please join us for an informative and thought-provoking discussion about preventative care for women.

Guest Speaker: Planned Parenthood

When: November 17, 2021 at 6:30-8:00 pm

Where: On Zoom

Registration Link:



THE BAILEY LEARNING AND ARTS COLLECTIVE PRESENTS

AN EVENING OF GRATITUDE

A WORKSHOP TO EXPLORE THE POWER OF POETRY AND GRATITUDE

11.22.21 AT 7:30 PM
ZOOM ID: 221 184 1940
WWW.BLAAC2BASICS.COM
@BLAAC2BASICS @THEQUEENSROOMGNV

Total Eclipse Women's Social

Join us for a morning of tranquility and gratitude with stretching and meditation at Cora P. Roberson Park!

Snacks and refreshments will be provided!

Date: December 4th
Time: 10 AM - 1 PM

Inquiries?
DM us or email
info@queensroom.org



WARRIOR WOMEN'S WELLNESS:
A DAYLONG WORKSHOP ON SELF-CARE FOR THE FEMININE DIVINE

FEBRUARY 5, 2022 10A.M. - 4P.M.
200 USTLER HALL
GAINESVILLE FL 32611

SAVE THE DATE!

SPEAKERS & TOPICS:

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

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

More speakers to be announced!

If you would like to be included in our March 22 newsletter, please submit events, paid ad requests or a few short paragraphs about your organization, community work or art to blaac2basics1@gmail.com by Feb 15, 2022.