

THE 4TH NATIONAL

**SUMMIT FOR
CIVIL RIGHTS**



Reclaiming Populism

“We are the Ones We’ve Been Waiting for”

September 28-29, 2023

*Cleveland State University
Cleveland, Ohio*

summitforcivilrights.org
info@summitforcivilrights.org

SUMMIT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS 2023 HONOREES



Fredrick D. Redmond

Secretary-Treasurer of the AFL-CIO
and National Civil Rights Leader

2023 James E. Clyburn "Vaults of Opportunity" award

Brenda L. Lawrence

Member of the United States Congress, 2015 – 2023

2023 Shirley Chisholm Breakthrough Leader Award



Brian K. Fitzpatrick

United State House of Representatives

Donald W. Norcross

United State House of Representatives

2023 Steven C. LaTourette Unified America Award for
Outstanding Bipartisan Leadership



Summit for Civil Rights Leadership

Building One America Leadership, Advisors & 2023 Summit Team

Rev. Willie Francois

Mt. Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville Coalition
Against Racial Exclusion NJ-CARE, Chair of BOA

Pierrette "Petee" Talley

Director, The Ohio Unity Coalition

Regina Anderson

Executive Director, Food Recovery Network, DC

John C. Brittain

Professor of Law, University of D.C. David A.
Clarke School of Law, DC

Michelle Burris

Senior Policy Associate, Century Foundation, DC

Tom Bullock

Councilmember, Lakewood, OH

James Gee

Principal, Stono Consulting, NJ

Debbie Goettel

Hennepin County Commissioner, MN

Myron Orfield

Professor of Civil Rights Law & Director of the
Institute on Metropolitan Opportunity, University
of Minnesota Law School

Rev. Raimon Prince

New Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, OH

Davida Russell

Councilwoman & Pres., OAPSE/AFSCME Local 4 &
Exec. Dir., Ohio Alliance For Community Education

Theodore M. Shaw

Professor of Law & Dir., Center for Civil Rights,
Univ. of North Carolina School of Law at Chapel

Richard Tolson

Dir. (Ret.), NJ Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers

Leslie Wilson

Associate Dean, College of Humanities & Social
Sciences, Montclair State University, NJ

Annette Blackwell

Mayor of Maple Heights, OH

Elizabeth (Liz) Powell

Secretary-Treasurer, American Postal Workers
Union, AFL-CIO

John A. Powell

Professor of Law, Professor of African American
Studies & Director of Othering & Belonging
Institute, Berkeley, CA

David Rusk

Building One America Founding President

Mike Kruglik

President Emeritus, Building One America, AZ

Robert Kleidman

Coordinator of Building One Ohio & Associate
Professor Sociology, CSU

Rev. Michelle Simmons

Founder, Why Not Prosper, Inc.

Lloyd D. Henderson, Esq.

President, Camden County East NAACP, NJ

Paul Jargowsky

Director, Center for Urban Research & Urban
Education at Rutgers University, NJ

Special thanks to all the Summit for Civil Rights Host Committee members who made the event possible.

ABOUT THE SUMMIT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS

Since its founding in November 2017, the Summit for Civil Rights Coalition (and its forerunner, the Summit for Sustainable Communities) has gathered some of America's most powerful and experienced civil rights leaders from labor, faith, academia, community organizing, law, and elected office to advance a unified approach that responds to the dangerous reactionary turn in our politics and simultaneously to leverage today's populist anger for a more robust, multi-racial working-class movement for racial justice *and* economic opportunity for *all* Americans.

In 1903, W.E.B. Du Bois famously said, "The problem of the twentieth century will be the problem of the color line." Sixty years after his death, the *color line is still running through every one of our most pressing issues* from wealth and income inequality to political polarization, mass incarceration, education disparities, and climate change.

The past decade has witnessed tumultuous political upheavals from both the right and left, including near-revolutionary outpourings of anger and activism—from the emergence of *Occupy Wall Street* and *Black Lives Matter* to the *Tea Party* and *Make America Great Again*.

But these new movements, while inspiring or frightening, have lacked institutional cohesion, leadership structure, and clear political analysis required for sustained power and strategic long-term action.

The Black church, the American Labor Movement, and the American Civil Rights Movement, however diminished in size or reputation, are still with us, still organized, and still self-governed. The institutional and relational linkages within and between them are still extensive and deep, and manifestly American.

The phrase originally penned by June Jordan and sung by the folk group *Sweet Honey and the Rock*, "***we are the ones we've been waiting for***," is the *call to action* today for America's own historic *tripartite alliance of labor, civil rights, and the Black faith community*. It is *this* alliance that is needed today to provide the institutional backing, strategic direction, moral leadership, and multi-racial unity to meet the next and inevitable wave of anti-establishment populism in America.

Building One America

The Summit for Civil Rights is organized by Building One America (BOA) and the Institute for Metropolitan Opportunity (IMO) at the University of Minnesota Law School. Building One America is a community organizing and leadership training organization. With IMO and its partners in Labor, Civil Rights and the Faith Community, BOA advances metropolitan city / suburban organizing, leadership identification, development and training, and policies to advance and build multi-racial power and to promote sustainable, prosperous, and inclusive communities.

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THE 4TH NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS



DAY ONE | Thursday, September 28, 2023

Co-Chairs

Ms. Pierrette “Petee” Talley and Rev. Dr. Willie D. Francois III

1:00 PM - Opening Session

Opening Prayer, Opening Remarks and Overview

Welcome to Cleveland State University (CSU) - Roland Anglin, Dean of The Levin College of Public Affairs and Education

1:20 PM - Part I - The Enduring Color Line

Opening Keynotes - The State of Metropolitan America and the Enduring Role of the Color Line in the 21st Century

Myron Orfield, Professor of Civil Rights Law & Director of the Institute on Metropolitan Opportunity, University of Minnesota Law School

Rev. Dr. Keith Byrd, Sr., 1st Vice-President, Progressive National Baptist Convention to Introduce Dr. Moss

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss Jr., Senior Pastor Emeritus, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church in Cleveland

The Color Line Continued – historical, personal, and moral perspective - a dialogue

First Panel - Race, Place and Power

John C. Brittain, Professor of Law, UDC School of Law, Washington DC; Deepa Vedavyas, Program Manager, Neighborhoods and Environment, Cleveland Foundation; Lloyd D. Henderson, Esq., President, Camden County East NAACP, Lawnside, NJ; Regina Anderson, Executive Director, Food Recovery Network, Washington, DC (Moderator).

2:30 PM - Break

Second Panel - Crime, Police, Mass Incarceration, and the “Ghetto”

Rev. Evan Regis Bunch, Organizer, Faith Community United, Ohio; Judge Michael John Ryan, Ohio Eighth District Court of Appeals; Josiah Quarles, Director of Organizing and Advocacy, Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless; Dr. Michelle Anne Simmons, founder and CEO of Why Not Prosper, Philadelphia, PA; Regina Anderson continues to moderate.

Part II - “We are the ones we’ve been waiting for”

Closing Keynote - Dr. Frederick D. Haynes, President and CEO of the Rainbow PUSH Coalition - *We are the ones we’ve been waiting for*

Closing Prayer

Adjourn

Refreshments, Networking

5:00 PM - Shuttles to the Maltz Performing Arts Center for the 2023 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards Ceremony

6:00 PM - 2023 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards Ceremony

THE 4TH NATIONAL SUMMIT FOR CIVIL RIGHTS



DAY TWO | Friday, September 29, 2023

Co-Chairs

Ms. Pierrette “Petee” Talley and Rev. Dr. Willie D. Francois III

9:00 AM - Opening Session

Opening Prayer, Review and Overview

Part III - The Color Line Continued - Schools, Jobs, Environment and Opportunity

Morning Keynote - David Rusk, Former Mayor, Author, and National Consultant on Metropolitan Opportunity

How the color line and the class line destroys the environment, widens the wealth gap and segregates jobs, housing, education, and opportunity.

Third Panel - Schools and Opportunity

Michelle Burris, the Century Foundation; Scott DiMauro, Ohio Education Association; Reggie Oh, Cleveland State University School of Law; Tiffany Miller, Learning Policy Institute (Moderator).

10:15 AM - Break

Fourth Panel - The environment, race, and jobs

Michelle Burris (Moderator); Tom Bullock, Lakewood City Council; KaRon Waites Jr., UAW Local 1050, Davida Russell Councilwoman and President of the Northeast Ohio District of the Ohio Association of Public-School Employees Local 4

Lunch Keynote – Congresswoman Brenda Lawrence - *Building Multi Racial Coalitions*

11:30 PM - Prayer, Break and Work Lunch

Prayer by Pastor Aaron Phillips, Sure House Baptist Church, Cleveland, OH

Ana Garcia-Ashley, Executive Director, Gamaliel Foundation

1:00 PM - Part IV - Building the New Civil Rights Coalition - The tripartite alliance

Presentation, Myron Orfield – Building Multi Racial Coalitions by Closing the Black Voter Gap

A strategy for multi-racial power for progress.

Fifth Panel - Reaction to Presentation on Closing the Black Voter Gap and Multi Racial Power

Debbie Goettel, Hennepin County Commissioner, MN; Petee Talley, Ohio Unity Coalition; Rev. Raimon Prince, New Cornerstone Missionary Baptist Church, Abigail Moncrieff, Professor of Constitutional Law at the CSU College of Law.

2:30 PM - Awards Ceremony - John Brittain, Emcee

3:00 PM – Anointing of the Leadership / Leadership Training – Rev. Raimon Prince

Closing Keynote - Fred Redmond - *Restoring the American Tripartite Alliance and reclaiming populism*

Closing Prayer

4:00 PM Adjourn

Arrival and Wayfinding for the Summit for Civil Rights

Cleveland State University Campus



Summit dates/times:

- Thurs., Sept. 28: Registration, 12:30 pm; Summit begins, 1:00 pm; concludes, 4:30 pm
 - Shuttles at 5:00 pm to the Maltz Performing Arts Center for the 2023 Anisfield-Wolf Book Awards (beginning at 6:00 pm)
- Fri., Sept. 29: Breakfast, 8:15 am; Summit begins, 9:00 am, concludes, 4:00 pm

Summit location:

- Building: Cleveland State University Student Center, [2121 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115](#)
- Room: Student Center Ballroom, Third Floor (Room SC 311)

Summit parking and wayfinding:

Parking:

First Choice – Central Garage ([CG on map](#), 1919 E. 21st Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44115). From Chester Ave, go south on E. 21st and enter the garage on the right.

Second Choice – South Garage ([SG on map](#), 2101 E. 21st Street, Cleveland, Ohio 44115). Entrance is on the left side of E 21 St between Prospect and CarneFees:

Fees: At either garage, get a ticket on the way in, pay on the way out. Cost will be \$7 to \$10 per day depending on amount of time parked.

DISPLAY YOUR TICKET/RECEIPT ON DASHBOARD & park so your license plate is visible to [avoid a parking citation by campus police](#).

Wayfinding to CSU Student Center:

From Central Garage: Student Center ([SC on map](#)) is across a plaza from the top level of the garage (you may need to walk up steps).

From South Garage: Walk north two blocks on E. 21st or E. 22nd, cross Euclid Avenue and use main entrance(s).

Once at the Student Center, take elevators to the third floor and follow posted signs.

