



R
acial

Equity &
Justice
Forum

“Conversations that spark transformation”

EST. 2020

WHAT IS THE RACIAL EQUITY AND JUSTICE (REJ) FORUM?

THE REJ FORUM is a series of structured inclusive conversations about racial equity and justice intended to deepen the ongoing discourse, and spark and fortify impactful action that result in equity and justice for all residents; the priority is the Hyde Park community and the reach is all of Boston area.

THE CATALYST

What is the problem we are trying to solve?

- As a Community, we are siloed, divided and lacking a impactful voice to spark change and get positive results. **How do we connect, collaborate, "take up space" and ensure that we "matter"?**
- As a Community we have a large number of leaders – from political, media, business and industry and non profit, who live and work in Hyde Park, yet our narrative is one of impoverishment and void. **How do we collaborate and leverage our access and resources to have create a positive impactful narrative about, and voice in Hyde Park?**
- We need a **collective vision** of that we want our community- a racially equitable one- to look like. **How do we create a unified, thoughtful and collaborative vision for Hyde Park?**
- Hyde Park's rich Black history is not widely known or recognized. **How can we amplify and share the historical and contemporary "wealth" of Hyde Park?**

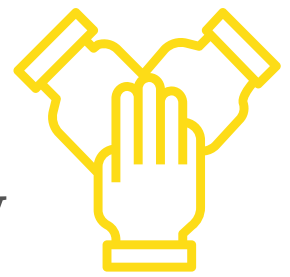
THE PREMISE

The Racial Equity and Justice (REJ) Forum Series is based on the premise that vibrant and equitable communities are comprised of representative voices coming together to democratically and persistently work for the equity in every area.

Therefore the goals of the Forum Series are to:

1. **Engage** all community voices from the Community to learn and collaborate together.
2. **Amplify** critical racial justice conversations and issues affecting the Community to spark renewed energy and create new activism for racial equity and justice
3. **Empower/Equip** the community through educational content, fostering relationship and capacity building
4. **Facilitate** partnerships between individuals, organizations, businesses, faith based groups and communities working towards racial justice (in every area) change to create positive and equitable outcomes for the Community

An Initiative of the West Fairmount Hill Community in Partnership with



Marcia Kimm-Jackson

Founder and Lead Moderator REJ Forum

Advisory Group Members include:

Ricardo Arroyo, Boston City Councilor

Julia Mejia, Boston City Councilor at Large

Kelly Bates, Attorney and Racial Equity Professional

Scott Batey, Financial Executive/Hyde Park Board of Trade

Emily Carrara, Legislative Aide (Rob Consalvo)

Rob Consalvo, State Representative, 14th Suffolk District

Segun Idowu, Hyde Park Resident and Business Policy Leader

Ruthzee Louijeune, Attorney and Boston City Councilor-at-Large

Ayeesha Lane, Resident and Racial Equity Practitioner

Lokita Jackson, Community Leader

Wyatt Jackson, Arts Educator, Emmy-Award Winning Performing Artist

John MacDonald, Medial Marketing Executive

Cecily Graham, Community Leader

Dr. Atiya Martin, Former Chief Resilience Officer, City of Boston

James O. Michel, Climate Justice Activist

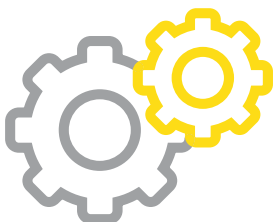
Joseph Okafor, Youth Activist and Advocacy Professional

Thien Simpson, Executive Director, Hyde Park Main Streets

Marlon Solomon, Engineering Professional and Founder of Afriamerica

Nathaniel Thomas, Regional Planner

Gretchen Van Ness, Attorney





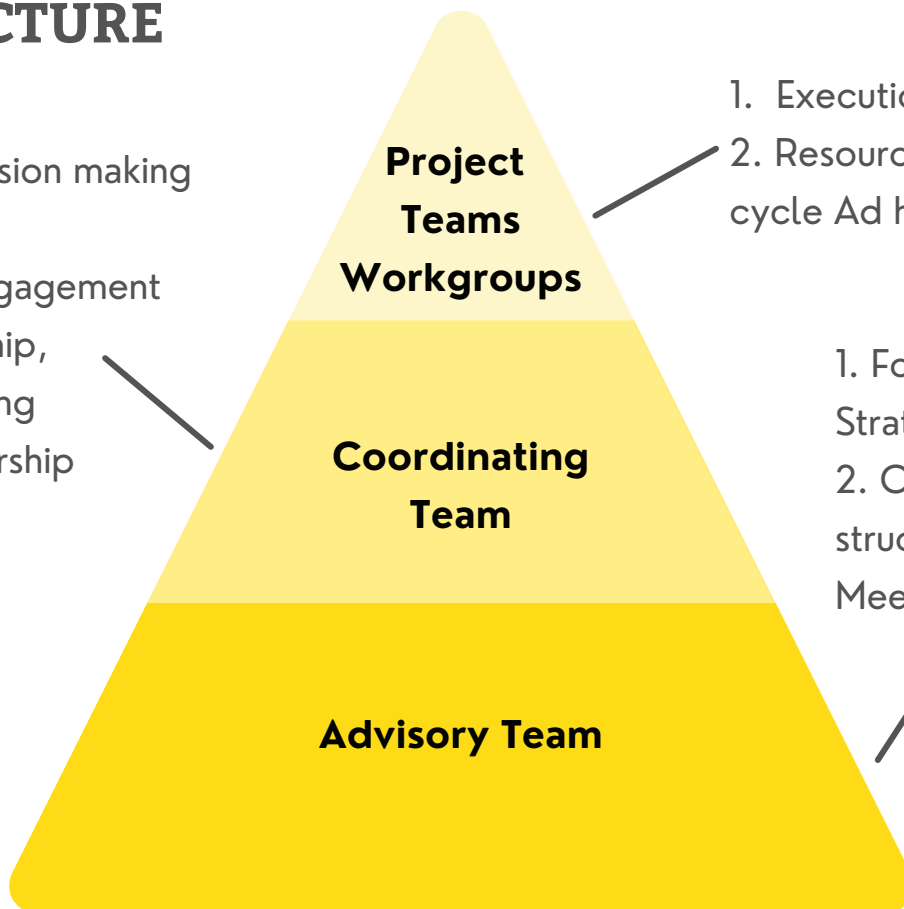
WHAT HAVE WE ACCOMPLISHED?

- **Convened transformational conversations** and engaged more than 468 voices in conversation and celebration
- **Formed and furthered** the vision of a new community health center in Hyde Park
- **Created and executed** Hyde Park’s first Juneteenth Celebration
- **Formed strategic partnerships** with:

- ✓ Hyde Park Main Streets
- ✓ Rockland Trust Bank
- ✓ The Boston Resilience Network
- ✓ The Mayors Office of Racial Equity and Resilience
- ✓ The Racial Equity Institute
- ✓ Boston While Black
- ✓ Various elected officials

OUR STRUCTURE

- 1. Planning & decision making
 - 2. Stakeholder management & engagement
 - 3. Project leadership, resourcing, coaching
 - 4. Sustained leadership
- Monthly/ 6-week interval meetings



- 1. Execution of goals
- 2. Resourcing short term – life cycle Ad hoc meetings

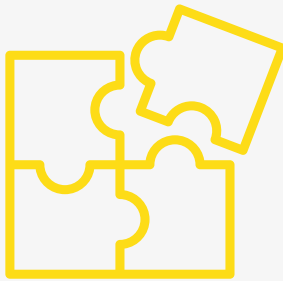
- 1. Forum Leadership - Strategy/Advice focused
 - 2. Oversight of structure and outcomes
- Meets Quarterly

WHAT IS NEXT?

Clarity for the Year: Linking Catalysts, Objectives and 2022 Outcomes

As a Community, we are siloed.

How do we connect and collaborate?



As a Community we have a large number of leaders, yet have an impoverished brand and narrative.

How do we leverage our community assets and frame a positive and powerful narrative?



What: Connect with new voices and linguistic communities

How:

- Outreach to churches/places of worship, various linguistic communities
- Forums
- Launch small group learning and Community Book read and Juneteenth Celebration
- Link with BWB community, CIB and other initiatives

What: Deepening partnerships with local leaders and influencers who are also Hyde Park residents at Forums and working to form a positive narrative about Hyde Park

How:

- Via Narrative Project with Northeastern Partnership (Fall of 2022)
- Unified engagement around the Hyde Park Health Center
- Creating the Tour of Hyde Park amplifying Black History as well as developing marketing materials
- Engagement with King Boston and the BVCB

WHAT IS NEXT?

Clarity for the Year: Linking Catalysts, Objectives and 2022 Outcomes

We need to profile Hyde Park's rich Black history.

How can we amplify and share the historical and contemporary "wealth" of Hyde Park



What: Raise the positive profile of the community by focusing on the positive traits of Hyde Park – the Black History Tour and creating Forums to highlight Black leadership in Hyde Park

How:

- A Tour, Forums and Narrative Projects
- Podcast

As a Community we have a large number of leaders, yet have an impoverished brand and narrative.

How do we leverage our community assets and frame a positive and powerful narrative?



What: Engage all to learn about and diverse perspectives, wishes and goals for Hyde Park

How:

- Use of small group learning
- Forums
- Capturing perspectives with the Hyde Park Dreamin' project and a partnership with the Unconference (CIB)

RACIAL JUSTICE IN HYDE PARK

WHAT DOES IT LOOK LIKE AND HOW CAN WE ACHIEVE IT?

MODERATOR:



JULIA MEJIA
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AT-LARGE

FEATURED PANELISTS:



RICARDO ARROYO
DISTRICT 8 BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR



TANISHA SULLIVAN
PRESIDENT, HARSP BOSTON BRANCH



JOHNNY CHARLES
MANAGING DIRECTOR, URBAN FUND



SEGUN IDOWU
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, WEMA

This Forum is VIRTUAL and open to all residents and stakeholders

For more information text or call: 857-728-4898

1. DEFINE RACIAL JUSTICE IN A CHANGING COMMUNITY SUCH AS HYDE PARK
2. IDENTIFY THE CURRENT STATE OF RACIAL JUSTICE IN DIFFERENT SECTORS
3. ENVISION THE FUTURE OF A RACIALLY JUST COMMUNITY
4. WORK ON RACIAL JUSTICE THROUGH CURRENTLY ESTABLISHED VEHICLES

Join the conversation here:
[BIT.LY/HPFORUM](https://bit.ly/HPFORUM)

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2020
6:30-8:00 PM VIA ZOOM

SPONSORED BY: WEST FAIRMOUNT HILL COMMUNITY GROUP,
THE OFFICE OF BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR RICARDO ARROYO

RACIAL JUSTICE IN HYDE PARK #2

POST-ELECTION CHECK-IN: CONVERSATIONS ON REFLECTING AND HEALING

MODERATOR:



JULIA MEJIA
BOSTON CITY COUNCIL AT-LARGE

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For more information text or call: 857-728-4898

FEATURED PANELISTS:



RICARDO ARROYO
DISTRICT 8 BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR



DR. ATYIA MARTIN
CEO AND FOUNDER OF ALL-ACRES, INC



GRETCHEN VAN NESS
CIVIL RIGHTS ATTORNEY

1. THE IMPACT OF THE ELECTION ON YOU AND THE COMMUNITY
2. WHAT COMMUNITY HEALING LOOKS LIKE, POST- ELECTION
3. THOUGHTS ON POSSIBLE PRESIDENTIAL & COMMUNITY PRIORITIES FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS

Join the conversation here:
bit.ly/HPForum2

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020
5:30-7:00 PM VIA ZOOM

SPONSORED BY: WEST FAIRMOUNT HILL COMMUNITY GROUP,
THE OFFICE OF BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR RICARDO ARROYO

RACIAL JUSTICE IN HYDE PARK: A FORUM SERIES

Getting to the Root: Examining Structural Racism and its Impact in Hyde Park February 15
5:30 - 7:30 PM via Zoom

Keynote Speaker:



Ayanna Pressley
U.S. House Representative

Calling all Hyde Park residents, leaders, businesses, supporters and friends to join us in:

- building awareness of structural racism and its manifestations
- learning about the Groundwater Approach
- Sharing ideas about how each resident work on equity - in big and small ways.

Moderators:



Julia Mejia
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AT-LARGE



Rob Consalvo
MA STATE REPRESENTATIVE

REGISTER NOW!
bit.ly/3oP5ddz

A Black History Month Event Co-Sponsored by the Office of City Councilor At-Large Julia Mejia



Email westfairmounthillcg@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

RACIAL JUSTICE IN HYDE PARK: A FORUM SERIES

Youth Activism and Structural Racism: Who's Got the Power? April 27
5:30 - 7:30 PM via Zoom

Panelists:



Yusuf Yild
Director, Immigrant Advancement, Mayor's Office for Immigrant Advancement



Crystal Anker
Co-founder, Voices of Boston



Darcy Graham
Ward 18 Democratic Committee Chair



Conner Harris
Former Deputy Director for the Mayor's Office of Public Safety Initiatives



Audree Seraphin
SPARK Boston Director

Calling all Hyde Park youth, residents, leaders, businesses, supporters, and friends to join us in:

- Building awareness of structural racism in Hyde Park and its impact on Youth
- Expanding the lens of Activism with historical and contemporary examples
- Sharing tools and strategies to support and strengthen youth activism, starting with a racially just narrative of Hyde Park

Moderators:



Rob Consalvo
MA STATE REPRESENTATIVE



Julia Mejia
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AT-LARGE

REGISTER NOW!
<https://tinyurl.com/HPRJF>



Email westfairmounthillcg@gmail.com with any questions or concerns.

JUNETEENTH JOY! FOCUS ON FREEDOM: A JUNETEENTH COMMEMORATION

SATURDAY, JUNE 19TH AT 12 NOON

MARTINI SHELL, TRUMAN HIGHWAY HYDE PARK

THIS EVENT IS IN PERSON & MASKS ARE STRONGLY RECOMMENDED!
COVID-19 PROTOCOLS WILL BE FOLLOWED - RAIN PLANS: ZOOM



Ayanna Pressley
United States
Representative



Kim Janey
Mayor
City of Boston



Brandy Fluker
State Rep.
12th Suffolk District



Ashley Rose
Poet

FEATURING:

- SPEAKERS - ARTS PERFORMANCES - RACIAL EQUITY DIALOGUE
- PERFORMANCE BY ROOSEVELT SCHOOL STUDENTS - 54TH REGIMENT COLOR GUARD

SIGN UP HERE: [HTTPS://JUNETEENTHJOYHYDEPARK.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://juneteenthjoyhydepark.eventbrite.com)

Space is LIMITED because of COVID-19 restrictions

For more information email us at:
WESTFAIRMOUTHILLCG@GMAIL.COM

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CONSALVO
State Representative

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RICARDO
ARROYO
Boston City Council District 3

JULIA MEJIA
BOSTON CITY COUNCILOR AT LARGE

WESTFAIRMOUTHILLCOMMUNITY

WESTFAIRMOUTHILLGROUP



OUR FIFTH FORUM: AN INAUGURAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION



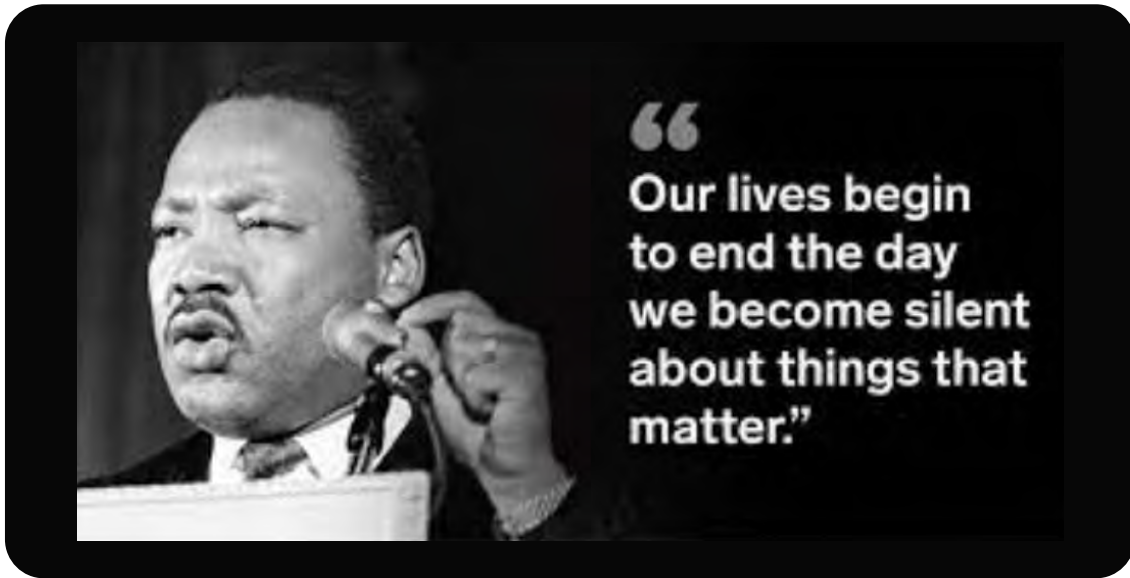


OUR FIFTH FORUM: AN INAUGURAL JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION



THE BEST IS YET TO COME...

Join us on this journey!



Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.



www.westfhcommunity.org



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