

A WORD FROM OUR DIRECTOR

March 2020 will always be a milestone in my life, both professionally and personally. After just returning from a higher education conference and having to shut down African Student Programs just a few days later will forever be etched in my mind. I did not know that the Black Out game that our community had at the end of February 2020 would be the last time that I'd see so many scholars that we built a relationship with in ASP. Although our team had to pivot in ways we never thought we could before over the last 18-months, we rose to the occasion and ensured that our Black scholars on this campus felt the support and love from our village. From securing scholarship funds for our scholars, providing funding for conference attendance, delivering COVID kits to folx homes, to planning the first ever. Drive-In Black Grad celebration for the class of 2021, the ASP team has yet to waiver and I'm proud. As we look ahead, know that ASP is here for support and would love to continue to hold space/community for all of our Black scholars.

Onward & Upward, Dr. Jamal J. Myrick Director



WORDS FROM THE COMMUNITY:

- "This information did a lot for me. It validated a lot of the things that I had seen but did not know how to articulate. It also further cemented the fact that even if I did not grow up in a certain area or around certain people that my blackness is not invalidated. I can have different hobbies or interests and still be the same black as them."- ABC Conference Attendee
- "My biggest learning moment during the conference was when Dr. J. Luke Wood introduced the term racelighting. I was familiar with the term gaslighting, but had never thought about classifying the realities of People of Color as a mixture of the words race and gaslighting..."- Black Doctoral Network Attendee
- "Love has different meanings to everyone, love is something that allows you to grow, how we can apply love in a social justice context."-Self-Care vs Self-Reverence Attendee
- "The value of seeing social justice work through the lens of doing love-work -doing, or even thinking about doing this type of work can feel like such an uphill battle, such a fight."- Self-Care vs Self-Reverence Attendee
- "Throughout Covid, African Student Programs provided numerous resources and made sure that I never truly felt isolated and alone. This resource center truly looked out for many scholars, myself included. Programs such as discussions and game nights brought back the memories, I missed being in the center. Basic needs were made aware and provided for. Without this place and the consistent mentorship of the professional staff there, I would not have come out of the online learning experience the way that I did."- Scholar
- "Over the last year, ASP X BAC joined forces on several projects to directly benefit, mentor, inspire, and sponsor Black scholars. ASP x BAC partnered to produce the BOLD Leadership series, raise money on Giving Tuesday, award new scholarships, provide virtual mentorship and reimagine Black Graduation in the middle of a global pandemic."- Keona Henderson, Black Alumni Chapter President





PROGRAMMING HIGHLIGHTS

- First ever Drive-Thru Black Grad Celebration for the Class of 2021 (70+ scholars in attendance)
- Open House with 26 scholars in attendance
- IG Live Battle with more than 250 views TD
- The Shop: Black Male Orientation
 - Opportunity for Black male scholars to engage with one another to find community and connect with faculty and staff
- ASP in the Center Podcast
 - A podcast to highlight the varied experiences of the Black community here at UCR
 - Reached over 250 listeners
- Prop Drop Virtual Experience reached over 100 people
 - Virtual campaign to educate California voters on the various propositions on the election ballots
- Democracy Debrief on Discord
- Try Jesus, Not Me: w/ Robert Webb:
 - Conversations about spirituality & Black Identity during modern times
- Hip Hop Dance Fit: The Series w/ Shakeema Prescott:
 - Series focused on the physical domain of health by performing high-intensity workouts
- Self-Care to Self-Reverence w/ Dr. Durryle Brooks:
 - A series of conversations about Black self-care, love in the struggle, and new visions for masculinity
- Black & Campaign: Reached more than 550 views on Instagram
 - Opportunity to highlight and celebrate the diverse Blackness in our community and to challenge the idea that Blackness is a monolith



HIGHLANDERLINK

6:00PM

UC RIVERSIDE | African Student Programs

COLLABORATIONS & PARTNERSHIPS

- MLK Nooner with Chris Page and Alexis Jackson: Reached more than 3500 views
- . B.O.L.D. series with BAC
 - Bringing in leaders in the local community to discuss leadership using the Social Change Model and affect change in our organizations
- Step Forward: Social Justice Symposium: More than 300 scholars attended the 2-day event (collaboration with ASPB and the Hub)
 - Partnership to discuss ways to affect change in society related to racial injustice. A number of workshops that featured Dr. Angela Davis and Dominique Jackson (POSE)
- UECC, Leadership & Services Programs: MLK Day of Service Event more than 25 people in attendance
 - Partnership to discuss the impact of service and MLK with Americorps and community members, respectively. Also, an opportunity for Americorps members to learn how to engage their local communities for change
- Dr. Rebecca Lee Crumpler: Black Health Expo-Preserving Black Futures
 - A community event where we discussed the holistic health of the Black community and practices that could be adopted to ensure a healthier future for our community
- CARE: Still I Rise Visual Art
- IMPACT Internship
 - Provided a paid internship with a local CBO to establish a partnership with our community members
- IG Guided Healing Conversation with Jess Be U: more than 80 views
- Collaboration with Disney: more than 50 people in attendance
 - Informational with the Vice President of Diversity and Inclusion at Disney
- ASP x ARC: Transfer Student Check-In:
 - o Opportunity to check in with our current and new transfer students
- The Return of the Mecca with MESC:
 - o Conversation with Dr. Daulatzai about how Islam impacted hip-hop
- Decoloniality & Antiracism Series: Deconstructing Racist and Colonial Oppression (CARE, Grad Division, CSP, USP, PODER, MESC, and DIAL
 - Series focused on the foundations of decolonization and how to incorporate this practice into your everyday life.
- Untold Histories: Honoring the Legacy of BIPOC Anti-Sexual Violence Activists with Wanda Swan
 - Highlighting the history of BIPOC anti-violence activists and abolitionists who shaped today's anti-sexual violence movement
- Black Faculty & Staff X Black Alumni Chapter X ASP Juneteenth Week of Celebration







HIGHLIGHTS

- Featured as Outstanding Staff of the Month for February by Staff Assembly
- Featured in Precinct Reporter: https://www.precinctreporter.com/2021/02/11/ucr-hosts-black-history-month-events/
- Featured in UC news: https://news.ucr.edu/articles/2021/01/13/career-forged-life-experiences
- Panelist on UC-UK Trust: Creating Racial Justice in our Communities
- Secured a \$13,000 Basic Needs Grant
- Conducted over 20 community outreach/college info events about that reached approx.
 200 people
- Established a relationship with the Gimbel Foundation which resulted in a number of Black scholars earning recurring scholarship monies that will fund their education until graduation
- In collaboration with the Black Alumni Chapter, awarded \$2,000 in scholarships to Black scholars (4 scholars total awarded)
- Student staff featured on Division-wide social media
- Numerous social media campaigns focused on uplifting and raising awareness on Black history for Throwback Thursday
- More than 60 merch packs shipped out to our scholars
- Contacted more than 1,000 incoming Black transfer and first-year scholars to invite to Unity Day experience and congratulate them on their acceptance
- Provided\$5,000 in Target giftcards to Black scholars to meet Basic Needs
- Nominated for Adweek Experiential Award for 2020 Statewide Black Grad celebration with Hambra Group in the categories of:
 - Best Virtual Event Pivot
 - Best Use of Influencers in an Experiential Activation
 - Best Use of Partnership in an Experiential Activation
- Provided insight and co-created four pieces of legislation to support Black scholars:
 - 2 Racial Equity and Anti-Black Trainings, Support for Implementing a Black Studies
 Department, and the Protocol to Report Discrimination on Campus
- Collaborating with faculty, staff, and community members to implement Department of Black Study

COMMITTEES

- Black Student Experience Workgroup
- Public Health Antiracism Subcommittee Meeting
- Transfer Student Success Workgroup
- Grier Concerned Citizens
- UMOJA Professional Development Committee
- Curricular Approach Working Group-Residential Life

