

# THE BLACK MALE SUMMIT 2021

# BLACK MALES: RISING TO THE OCCASION

## AGENDA



**TUESDAY, MARCH 30, 2021**  
**VIRTUAL EVENT**



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| <b>10:30–10:40 a.m.</b>                             | <b>WELCOME</b><br>Gary L. Miller, Ph.D., President, The University of Akron<br>Sheldon B. Wrice, Ed.D., Interim VP Inclusion & Equity/Chief Diversity Officer<br>The University of Akron   |
| <b>10:40–11:25 a.m.</b><br><i>Breakout Sessions</i> | <b>ADMISSIONS PRESENTATION TO STUDENTS</b><br>Courtney A. Johnson-Benson, M.A.Ed<br>Senior Assistant Director, Admissions<br>The University of Akron<br><b>CORONA VIRUS ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSION</b><br>William F. Demas, M.D., FACR, FASTRO<br>Professor and Chair of Radiology<br>Northeast Ohio Medical University<br>Jason Render Jr.<br>UA Williams Honors College Scholar |
| <b>11:25–11:40 a.m.</b>                             | <b>AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE LEARNING COMMUNITY (AAMLC) OVERVIEW &amp; INTRODUCTION OF PANEL</b><br>William M. Casterlow, M.Ed., Associate Director, AAMLC<br>Office of Multicultural Development, The University of Akron   |
| <b>11:40 a.m–12:45 p.m.</b>                         | <b>AFRICAN AMERICAN MALE LEARNING COMMUNITY PANEL</b><br><b>Moderator:</b> Gary L. Miller, PH.D., President, The University of Akron<br><b>Panelists:</b> Darnell D. Davis Jr., M.P.A.; Terance T. Eaton;<br>Nathaniel A. Huff, M.S.Ed.; and Jarrell Lemons, M.Ed.   |
| <b>12:45–12:55 p.m.</b>                             | <b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/BREAK /ANNOUNCEMENTS</b><br>William M. Casterlow, M.Ed., Associate Director, AAMLC<br>Office of Multicultural Development, The University of Akron   |

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| <p><b>12:55–1 p.m.</b></p>   | <p align="center"><b>JOHN S. AND JAMES L. KNIGHT FOUNDATION WELCOME</b></p> <p align="center">Kyle Kutuchief, M.P.A., Akron Program Director<br/>John S. and James L. Knight Foundation</p> <p align="center"><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER INTRODUCTION</b></p> <p align="center">Tyrone A. Johnson<br/>President, Collegiate 100 Interest Group, OARS Scholar<br/>The University of Akron</p>   |  |   |
| <p><b>1–1:40 p.m.</b></p>  | <p align="center"><b>KEYNOTE SPEAKER - CORNEL WEST, PH.D.</b></p> <p align="center">Professor of Practice of Public Philosophy, Harvard University<br/>Professor Emeritus, Princeton University</p>  |  |   |
| <p><b>1:40–2 p.m.</b></p>  | <p align="center"><b>Q &amp; A KEYNOTE SPEAKER - CORNEL WEST, PH.D.</b></p> <p align="center">John M. Williams, Moderator<br/>Deputy Executive Director/COO, Alpha Phi Alpha Homes, Inc.</p>   |  |   |
| <p><b>2–2:10 p.m.</b></p>  | <p align="center"><b>ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/BREAK /ANNOUNCEMENTS</b></p> <p align="center">William M. Casterlow, M.Ed., Associate Director, AAMLC<br/>Office of Multicultural Development, The University of Akron</p>   |  |   |
|  | <p><b>BREAKOUT SESSIONS</b></p> <p>Six (6) career exploration panel discussions comprised of current professionals and experts in their fields, along with UA alumni and students who are successful in their respective career/major discipline areas. Breakout participants will interact with panelists to learn about what it takes to prepare for a specific career and tips on how to succeed as a college student. Please select your career area of interest and attend the session to receive wise advice from career professionals and UA graduates on the challenges and rewards of pursuing your collegiate and career aspirations.</p>  |  |   |
| <p><b>2:15–3:30 p.m.</b><br/><i>Breakout Sessions</i></p>  | <table border="0"> <tr> <td data-bbox="444 1484 974 2001"> <p align="center"><b>LAW</b><br/><i>Launching Your Law Career</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Moderator</b><br/>Brant T. Lee, J.D.<br/>Professor of Law<br/>Assistant Dean of Diversity<br/>&amp; Social Justice Initiatives</p> <p align="center"><b>Panelists</b><br/>Brandyn A. Costa, J.D., M.B.A.<br/>Randall “Rich” Freeman, J.D., M.P.A.<br/>Imokhai Okolo, J.D.<br/>Darrin R. Toney, J.D.</p> </td> <td data-bbox="974 1484 1528 2001"> <p align="center"><b>PRE-HEALTH</b><br/><i>Rising Up to Help Through Health Fields</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Moderator</b><br/>Andre Burton, J.D.<br/>Vice President for Human Resources and Diversity<br/>Northeast Ohio Medical University</p> <p align="center"><b>Panelists</b><br/>Victor Akinditan<br/>Jared Cheatham<br/>Timilehin “Tim” Ogunjan<br/>John “Ikenna” Ogwuegbu, M.S.</p> </td> </tr> </table> | <p align="center"><b>LAW</b><br/><i>Launching Your Law Career</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Moderator</b><br/>Brant T. Lee, J.D.<br/>Professor of Law<br/>Assistant Dean of Diversity<br/>&amp; Social Justice Initiatives</p> <p align="center"><b>Panelists</b><br/>Brandyn A. Costa, J.D., M.B.A.<br/>Randall “Rich” Freeman, J.D., M.P.A.<br/>Imokhai Okolo, J.D.<br/>Darrin R. Toney, J.D.</p> | <p align="center"><b>PRE-HEALTH</b><br/><i>Rising Up to Help Through Health Fields</i></p> <p align="center"><b>Moderator</b><br/>Andre Burton, J.D.<br/>Vice President for Human Resources and Diversity<br/>Northeast Ohio Medical University</p> <p align="center"><b>Panelists</b><br/>Victor Akinditan<br/>Jared Cheatham<br/>Timilehin “Tim” Ogunjan<br/>John “Ikenna” Ogwuegbu, M.S.</p> |
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**EDUCATION**  
*Supporting Successful Educators*

**Moderator**  
David W. James, Ed.D.  
Superintendent Akron Public Schools

**Panelists**  
Charles Bowman, Ph.D.  
Nathaniel A. Huff, M.S.Ed.  
Jarrell Lemons, M.Ed.  
Jonathan Pope

**PSYCHOLOGY**  
*Soaring to New Heights  
Through Psychology*

**Moderator**  
John E. Queener, Jr., Ph.D.  
Professor, Department of Psychology  
The University of Akron

**Panelists**  
Aaron Bethea, M.A.  
William "Will" Osei, Ph.D.  
Jusiah L. Prowell, M.S.  
Baron Rogers, M.A.  
Thomas A. Vance, Ph.D.

**ENGINEERING**  
*Leading the Way in Engineering*

**Moderator**  
Heidi Lehnert-Cressman, MBA  
Director, Diversity & Inclusion, College of  
Engineering and Polymer Sciences  
The University of Akron

**Panelists**  
DeGraft Palmore  
Drake Smalley  
Nuwoo Smith, M.B.O.E.

**ADULT FOCUS**  
*On the Rise with Adult Learners*

**Moderator**  
Laura Conley  
Director, Adult Focus  
The University of Akron

**Panelists**  
Darcus L. Linton, Sr.  
Jason Miller  
Christy Motley, M.P.A.

**3:30–3:35 p.m.**

**CONFERENCE EVALUATION**

Autumn Frampton, M.B.A., Associate Director, Academic Support Services  
Office of Multicultural Development, The University of Akron

**3:35–3:40 p.m.**

**BREAK /ANNOUNCEMENTS**

William M. Casterlow, M.Ed., Associate Director, AAMLC  
Office of Multicultural Development, The University of Akron

**3:40–3:45 p.m.**

**BLACK MALE SCHOLARSHIP AWARD RECIPIENTS**

**Marcus Alan Wagner** - (\$1500) Sponsored by Cleveland Clinic Akron General  
**Darnell Pearson** - (\$1000) Sponsored by Akron Children's Hospital  
**Devontae Glover** - (\$1000) Sponsored by Summa Health Systems  
**Demetrius (Dennis) Williams** - (\$1000) Sponsored by The Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company  
**Darius Harris** - (\$500) Dr. Joe White Book Scholarship sponsored by Dominion Energy  
**Justin Lee** - (\$500) Dr. Joe White Book Scholarship sponsored by Dominion Energy  
**Andre Starks** - (\$500) Dr. Joe White Book Scholarship Sponsored by Akron Children's Hospital

**3:45–4:30 p.m.**

**CLOSING CEREMONY**  
**BLACK MALE OATH OF EXCELLENCE**

Sheldon B. Wrice, Ed.D., Interim VP Inclusion & Equity/Chief Diversity Officer, The University of Akron  
William M. Casterlow, M.Ed., Associate Director, AAMLC, Office of Multicultural Development  
The University of Akron