


Please join us and hear from our distinguished guests and community members at our Speaker Series. Each will share their experiences and discuss what it means to be advocates for their communities. This event will be hosted live on YouTube.

## Black History Month



Date: Monday, February 28  
Time: 7:00 p.m.  
Place: YouTube Live at  
 PCSD Diversity and Equity

### About the Panellist



**Yvonne Nsabimana, MPA**

Yvonne Nsabimana moved to Belgium as a refugee in 1994 after losing her father and half of her extended family in the Rwandan massacres. After earning her BA, she relocated to New Orleans before coming to Utah as a refugee in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. She holds an MPA from BYU, and a Masters in Education from WGU.

She now works at PCSD as a French Dual Immersion teacher, and dedicates her time to working with Ngoma y' Africa Cultural Center (a nonprofit organization she founded), serving as the advisory board for the Dean of the BYU Marriott School, and raising her 4 children.



**Amber Mitchell, MPA**

Amber Mitchel is a native Utahn. She has a BA from BYU Hawaii, an MPA from the University of Utah, and 10 years of non-profit experience. She has worked at the National MS Society, the American Red Cross, and currently works for the University of Utah.

She is an active member of the Black Advisory Committee at PCSD. As a mother of 3 biracial daughters, she understands the importance of representation and community.



**Meligha Garfield, MPA**

Meligha Garfield is the inaugural director of the Black Cultural Center at the University of Utah – a center that works to holistically enrich, educate and advocate for students, faculty, staff and the broader community through Black centered programming, culturally affirming education initiatives, and retention strategies.

Hailing from Rochester, New York, Garfield holds a BA. in Government, with a minor in colonial Latin American history and Africana studies and a MPA from New Mexico State University where he was previously the Programs Coordinator for the Black Programs Department.



**Kathleen Spencer-Christy, Ph.D.**

Katheleen Spencer-Christy has worked in education for over 42 years. She has taught, worked as an Educational Specialist, a Principal, and an Assistant Superintendent. In that time she has diligently engaged educators in courageous conversations about race, cultural competency, and educational inequities. Recently retired, Kathleen is committed to continuing this important work throughout the community.

Originally from Compton California, Kathleen has resided in Utah for over 40 years and has been actively involved in the community. Kathleen has 3 adult children, six grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.



**J. Tekulvė Jackson-Vann**

J. Tekulvė Jackson-Vann is a native of Georgia. He attended BYU where he served as President of the Black Student Union, as well as many other academic posts on his way to earning a BS in Marriage, Family, and Human Development. He earned an MS in Marriage and Family Therapy from Valdosta State University.

He is a co-founder of the Black Clinicians, Secretary of the Board of Directors of My Children's Hope, and President of the Board of the Directors of Two Brothas International, Inc. He considers his greatest accomplishment to be the life and bond he shares with his partner, five children, daughter-in-law, and family pets Teemo, BeeBee, and Dsita.