

# OBSA FROM HOME

JUNE 2020

## FOR BLACK LIVES

**We stand with the global protests against police brutality and in support of Black lives.** We hope all who choose to participate in protests in person are able to preserve their safety and are connected to avenues for relief and legal information. For those sharing information and engaging in discussions, please be mindful of sources interchangeably linking protesting to violence and looting with intention to discredit the aims of the movement. Consider the ways in which Black people engaging in any form of protest are and historically have been over policed, surveilled and the target of violent reprisal from police and civilian forces.

If you're participating in discussions with others around the Black Lives Matter movement, read the publicly accessible information about the organizations' platform ([blacklivesmatter.org](https://blacklivesmatter.org)) as well as the numerous organizations mobilizing on behalf of Black lives through activism, litigation, monitoring hate groups and sharing resources (Southern Poverty Law center, [splcenter.org](https://splcenter.org)). Learn the ways media and other institutions consistently underline white supremacist rhetoric while supporting sensationalist misrepresentations of Black people in general, particularly those who engage in uprisings against oppressive regimes.

OBSA supports a nuanced and contextual understanding of global anti-blackness and the ways police and the military are deployed as part of a larger project of Black subjugation. We are committed to the safety and well-being of our community members and stand in solidarity with those involved in justice movements. We call for an end to state sanctioned genocide, unjust deaths and lack of legal recourse perpetuated against Black people.

**This issue of OBSA From Home** is designed to offer credible resources for those seeking information, allyship and community. With constant reminders of the tragedy of Black death, with images being replayed and revisited in media, our timelines and conversations, it is important to allow ourselves experiences of joy and make an effort to care for our mental, emotional and physical wellbeing. We hope the resources and information we've selected can be useful and comforting to you alongside our office announcements and special features. OBSA will continue to prioritize and support the needs of Black students at The Claremont Colleges.

In solidarity,

Lydia Middleton, Dean of Black Student Affairs, on behalf of OBSA

# FEATURES

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**FOR BLACK LIVES:**  
Suggested Reading  
Where to Donate  
26 Ways to Take Action

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**SELF CARE TIPS**  
from OBSA Staff

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**BLACK ENTREPRENEURS**  
**@CLAREMONT:**  
Student & Alumni Spotlight

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**OBSA MENTORSHIP:**  
Mentor and Mentee  
applications available

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**#BLACKGRADCHALLENGE**

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**Undergraduate & Graduate**  
**Virtual Summer**  
**Opportunities at KGI**

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**The Office of**  
**Black Student Affairs**  
The Claremont Colleges Services



@obsaclaremont



Obsa Claremont

[obsa@claremont.edu](mailto:obsa@claremont.edu)

<https://services.claremont.edu/obsa/>



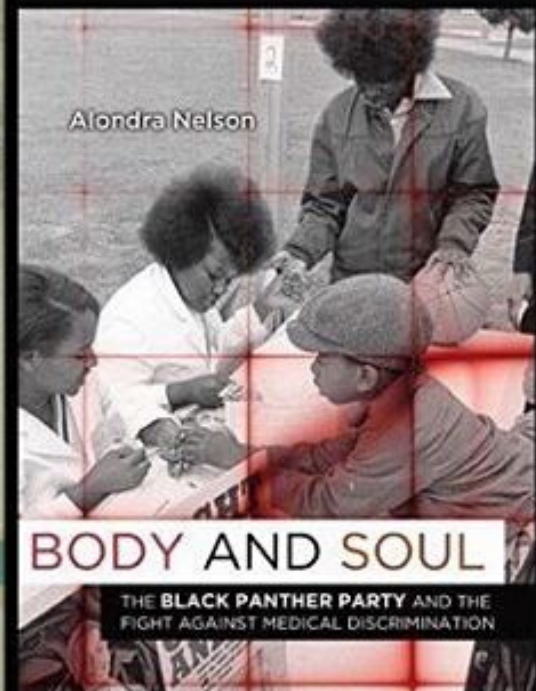
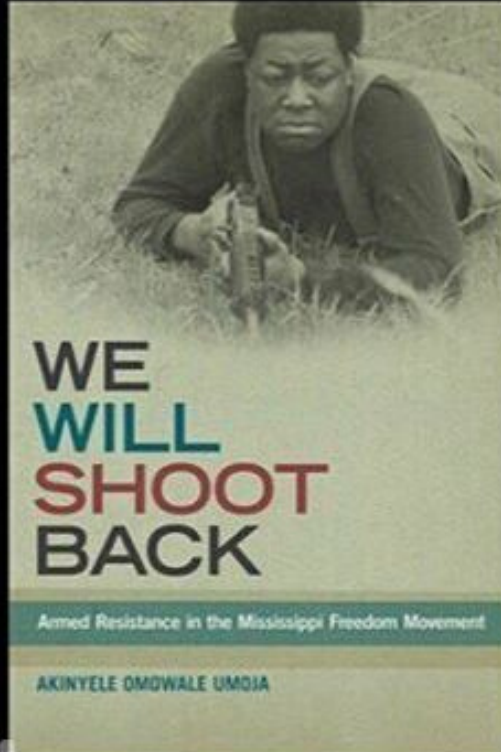
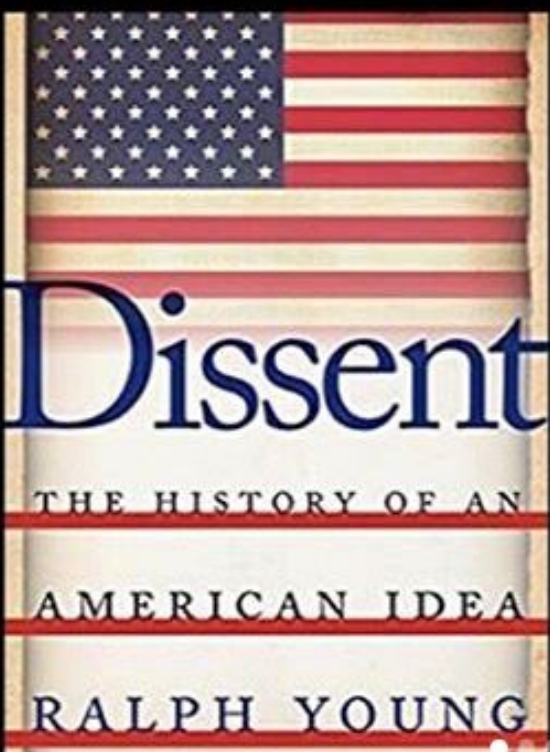
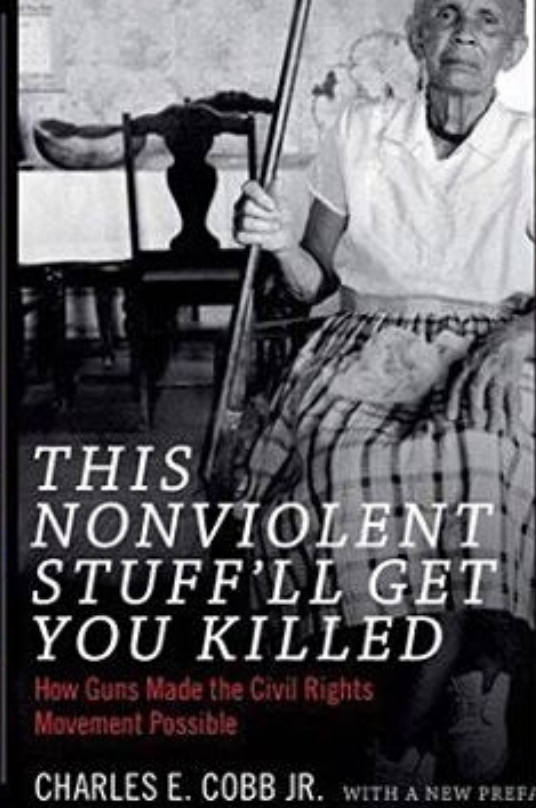
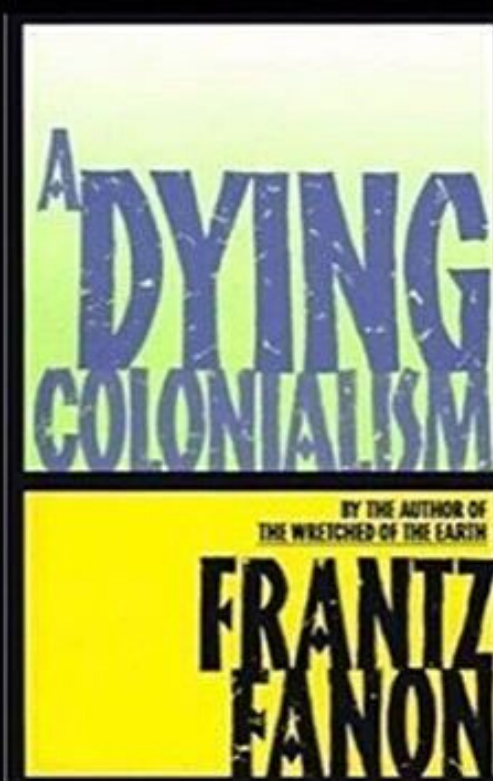
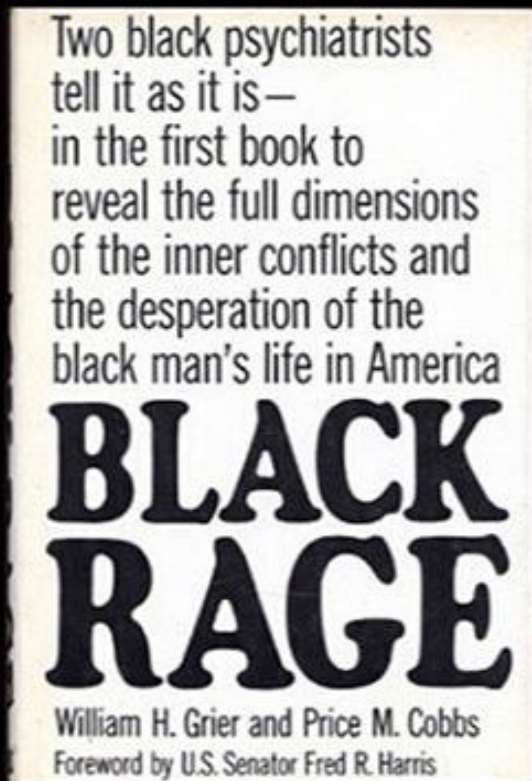
Image: NIC Kay performing  
pushit, an exercise in getting well soon!

# SUGGESTED READING

Selected works that examine Black uprisings and protest movements across history, with a critical lens on antiblackness and institutionalized racism.

*Source: Dr. Salamishah Tillet, activist, writer and critic.*

<https://movetoendviolence.org/blog/author/salamishah/>





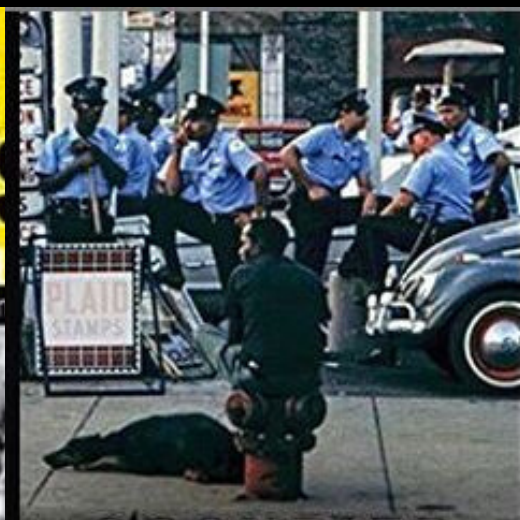
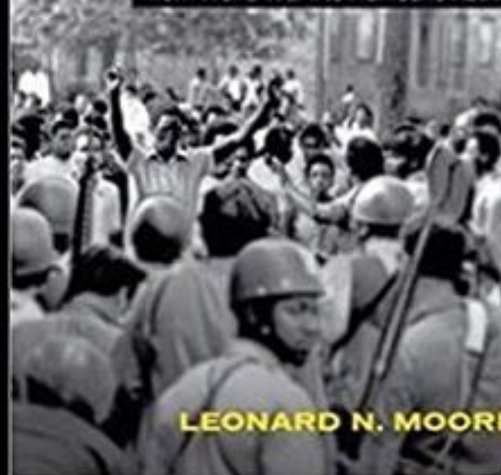


**From the War on Poverty to the  
War on Crime The Making of  
Mass Incarceration in America**

ELIZABETH HINTON

**BLACK RAGE  
IN NEW ORLEANS**

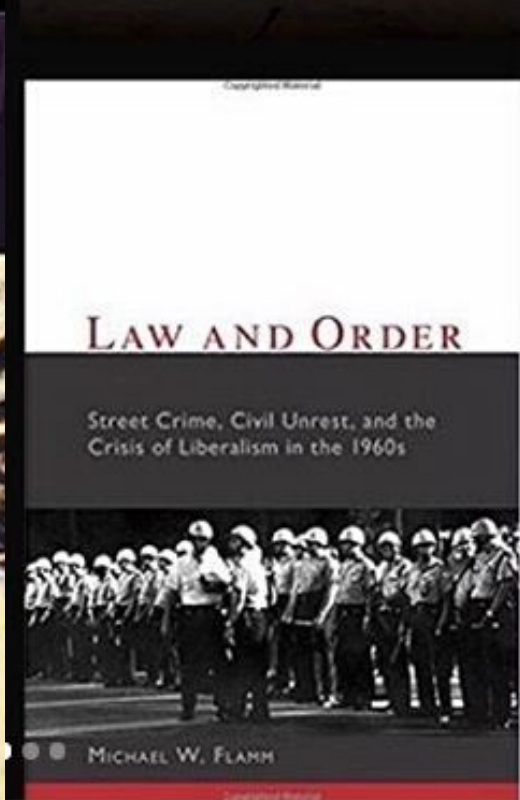
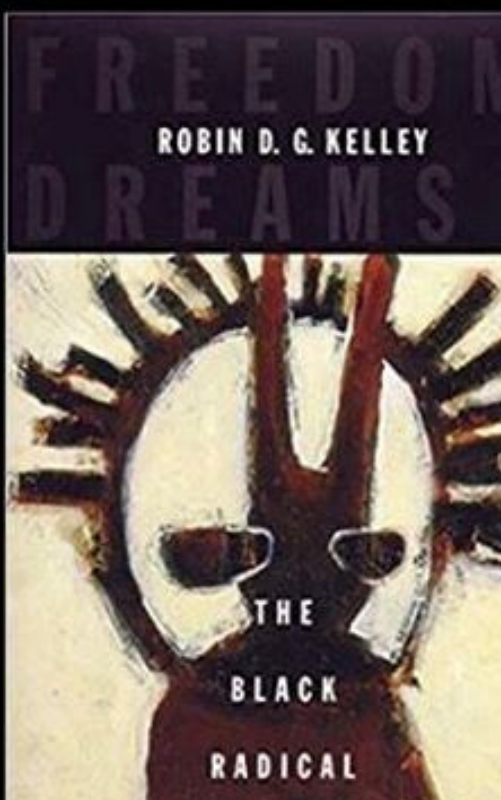
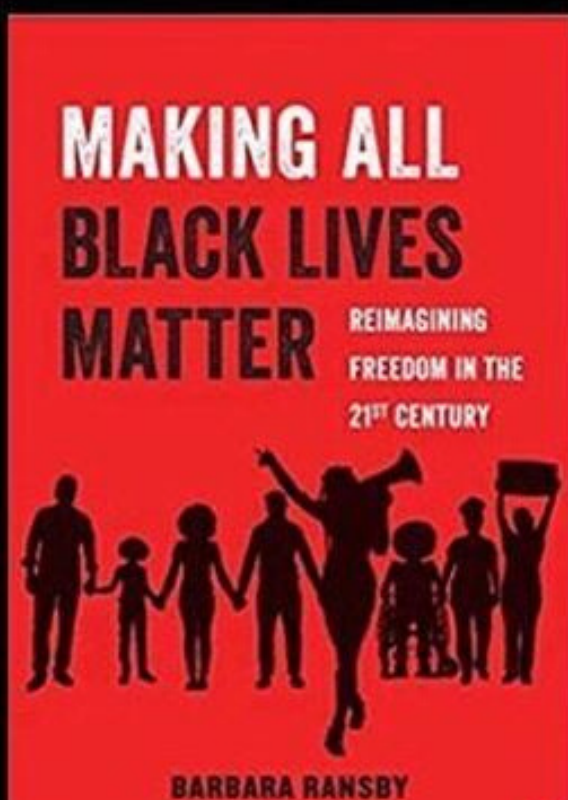
Police Brutality and African American Activism  
from World War II to Hurricane Katrina



**OCCUPIED  
TERRITORY**

**POLICING BLACK CHICAGO**  
from Red Summer to Black Power

**Simon Balto**







# BLACK SCHOLARS & THINKERS ON TWITTER

*Selected by Cleopatre Thelus*

Be A King **@BerniceKing**

Apryl Alexander, PsyD **@DrAprylA**

Dr. Tee Seenice **@thedoctormom\_**

Call Me Dr. Cokely **@BrilliantBlkGrl**

Yamiche Alcindor **@Yamiche**

Sean Kelly Wilson **@DrSeanKWilson**

Dr. Sampson Davis **@DrSampsonDavis**



# 26 WAYS TO BE IN THE STRUGGLE

## Beyond the Streets

*Source: Collectively written by Piper Anderson, Kay Ulanday Barrett, Ejeris Dixon, Ro Garrido, Emi Kane, Bhavana Nancherla, Deesha Narichania, Sabelo Narasimhan, Amir Rabiya, and Meejin Richart.*

**This list is designed to celebrate all the ways that our communities can engage in liberation.**

For a range of reasons, there are and always have been folks who cannot attend rallies and protests but who continue to contribute to ending police and state violence against black people.

**People seek justice and support liberation in an array of ways,** yet their bodies, their spirits, and their lives may not allow them to be in the streets. We believe that we will win. And we need the presence of everyone in the movement to do so. We affirm that all contributions are political, militant, and valued.

**By and for those in our communities who can't be in the streets,** we offer a list of concrete ways that we are in the movement, and that we are supporting liberation every day. We see you. We are you. See you in the struggle.

**1 Host or attend a Know Your Rights Training** to educate yourself, your loved ones, and your community on their rights when interacting with the police. Here are a few organizations, mostly in New York City, that host these trainings and/or have resources available on their website you can download and use:

- ▶ Justice Committee, [justicecommittee.org](http://justicecommittee.org)
- ▶ Malcolm X Grassroots Movement, [mxgm.org](http://mxgm.org)
- ▶ Streetwise And Safe (NYC), [streetwiseandsafe.org](http://streetwiseandsafe.org)
- ▶ FIERCE (NYC), [fierceny.org](http://fierceny.org)
- ▶ CAAAV Organizing Asian Communities (NYC), [caav.org](http://caav.org)
- ▶ People's Justice (NYC), [peoplesjustice.org](http://peoplesjustice.org)
- ▶ Communities United for Police Reform (NYC), [changethenypd.org](http://changethenypd.org)
- ▶ Arab Resource and Organizing Center (Bay Area), [araborganizing.org](http://araborganizing.org)
- ▶ National Lawyers Guild (national), [nlg.org](http://nlg.org)

**2 Fundraise online,** donate business proceeds, or create events for organizations that work on police violence, police accountability, and against the criminalization of black communities. The groups listed above are a great place to start. In addition, national organizations need support, including:

- ▶ Black Lives Matter, [blacklivesmatter.com](http://blacklivesmatter.com)
- ▶ Ferguson Action, [fergusonaction.com](http://fergusonaction.com)
- ▶ Ferguson National Response Network, [fergusonresponse.tumblr.com](http://fergusonresponse.tumblr.com)
- ▶ Black Youth Project 100, [byp100.org](http://byp100.org)

### Contributors

Piper Anderson, Kay Ulanday Barrett, Ejeris Dixon, Ro Garrido, Emi Kane, Bhavana Nancherla, Deesha Narichania, Sabelo Narasimhan, Amir Rabiya, and Meejin Richart. Design by Alana Yu-lan Price.



**3 Spread the word** on rallies, actions, events, and demands through social media, text, email, phone, and in person. Here are a few orgs and ways to plug in and share info:

- ▶ Justice League NYC has a list of demands for police accountability at [gatheringforjustice.org](http://gatheringforjustice.org)
- ▶ Communities United for Police Reform is calling for 11 Days of Action for Eric Garner from Wednesday 12/10/14 until Sunday 12/20/14: [thisstopstoday.org](http://thisstopstoday.org)
- ▶ Use hashtags when sharing, and search these hashtags for more info:  
#BlackLivesMatter  
#ThisStopsToday  
#Ferguson  
#ICantBreathe  
#EricGarner

**4 Offer to be the emergency contact** for people attending marches and rallies. Get the person's full legal name and date of birth. Make sure to know the numbers for the National Lawyers Guild ([nlg.org](http://nlg.org)), Central Booking, local precincts, and local hospitals. Check in by text once an hour so that you're aware of their whereabouts and current protest conditions. If possible, also try and know whether folks require any medications that can't be skipped in a 24-48 hour time period.

**5 Attend planning meetings or strategy calls** for anti-police violence and anti-criminalization organizations. In addition to the organizations that we're listed, here are a few anti-criminalization organizations that are great resources:

- ▶ Critical Resistance (national), [criticalresistance.org](http://criticalresistance.org)
- ▶ INCITE (national), [incite-national.org](http://incite-national.org)

**6 Support or organize healing justice events.** Adrienne Maree Brown, Adaku Utah, and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha and Susan Raffo have created a list of healing practices to sustain care in protest here ([bit.ly/13dugxA](http://bit.ly/13dugxA)). Create space to facilitate these practices with others.

**7 Cook a pre- or post-march meal** or pack food for people attending protests, marches, and events.

**8 Coordinate or provide childcare** for people attending marches, rallies, and events. Be sure to make plans for extenuating circumstances, such as arrests. Keep in mind that it may not make sense to offer childcare support unless there's a strong relationship between the childcare providers and the children whose parents/caregivers are marching. This is important so childcare providers can continue to support if children are separated from their parents for a longer period than expected. Try to plan for childcare to take place in a home, not at the marches/rallies themselves. This will be important should childcare providers need to make arrangements for overnight support.

**9 Create and share art**, music, poetry, and stories that speak on issues relating to police violence, criminalization of black communities, social justice, stories and images of resistance, solidarity, and resiliency. Create new chants, make signs, reach out to organizers to see what materials they need designed. Share and support the work of black artists and people of color who are impacted by these struggles. Cultural work is resistance!

**10 Create a home base** for the evening, where folks who are protesting can take physical and emotional breaks indoors with others. A home base can also be a great space to gather people working as emergency contacts or doing other types of remote support for protesters.

**11 Continue to reflect on your privilege**, power, and identity if you're white or a non-black person of color. Look at the history of racism, race being used as a wedge issue (i.e. API communities), and of aspiring ally-ship or solidarity between your folks and black communities. Find like-identified folks to workshop with, and have conversations with family, friends, co-workers, and community members to help build awareness and solidarity in the service of ending anti-black racism. Utilize your online media presence to reflect black perspectives. Be a conduit on social media where black activists are speaking, engaging, agitating, and showing up. Showing up as a non-black POC or white person can mean supporting to multiply the message.





*Credit: Creative Commons/B.C. Lorio.*

**12 Be a grounding or self-care buddy.** breathe with someone before they leave for the march. Help them create a post-march grounding plan. Give them regular text check-ins from your home, and friendly reminders of support to drink water, eat, ground themselves, etc. Send sweet emojis or whatever else would help the person marching, and ask that person to text you when they're home safe from the march.

**13 Offer to help create a safety plan** for friends who have physical pain, varying mobilities, and/or mental health concerns and want to participate in the march. This might include:

- ▶ what they might need before and after the action(s)
- ▶ self-care boundaries such as pre-determining amount of time spent on the street
- ▶ being clear about what might help prevent or delay pain or anxiety

- ▶ what signs to be aware of re: onset of pain or mental health challenges
- ▶ making agreements ahead of time to give themselves permission to exit early upon first signs of onset
- ▶ what they will do/where they will go if triggered or hurt and what will be comforting post-march that could be arranged ahead of time

**14 Create intentional spiritual space.** If you have a spiritual practice or practice community this is a great opportunity to come together and set an intention for your work together toward supporting the movement. That could look like opening the space up for others join you in meditation, prayer, chanting, singing, centering, Jo Kata, etc. If you have physical space where you practice, this could also include opening the doors to invite in protesters who need rest, water, food, warmth.



**15 Volunteer.** When organizations on the frontlines are using most of their resources to get people out on the streets, they need volunteers to provide IT support, collect supplies for demonstrations, answer phones, do data entry, upload, organize, and archive documentation. Check with organizations about volunteer opportunities and needs.

**16 Work with teachers.** If you're an experienced educator, write curriculum and support other educators in talking about these issues. Host a conference call with teachers to strategize on how to talk with students about what's happening and how they can get involved. Especially consider organizing trainings and teach-ins on the real herstory of Black Lives Matter: [thefeministwire.com/2014/10/blacklivesmatter-2](http://thefeministwire.com/2014/10/blacklivesmatter-2).

**17 Share skills.** If you are experienced in organizing demonstrations, facilitating trainings on community security or marshaling, being a medic, providing jail support, or being a legal observer, then host trainings, create educational documents, and support people one-on-one in building their skills. For example, if you know how to create medic or care kits for people in the streets, organize a kit-making party or use your resources to put a few together to send out with trained folks during protests.

**18 Make space to process.** If these are your communities, hold processing moments for black, queer, trans, and migrant community members who are unable to attend protests for any reason, but who are deeply affected and policed.

**19 Hold space and/or organize events** centering the experiences of black people on probation or parole to talk about their experiences of police violence and surviving state supervision, incarceration, and state violence.

**20 Skype, text, visit, and show love** for those who are in pain, injured in protest, and/or managing trauma from tear gas, police brutality, physical, and/or emotional violence. Follow up with the community member by affirming their needs and creating support mechanisms. Remember that state violence also impacts our spirit.

**21 Help amplify the protests** by circulating breaking news visuals of actions, protests, and events from those in the streets to reach a wider audience. If asked, serve as an off-site spokesperson or media contact for protests. Offer to help write advisories and media releases, if needed.

**22 Translate documents,** media, and support being circulated about protests to international press and other outlets if you are multilingual.

**23 Support people with disabilities** and multiple cognitive experience by writing captions for images to convey messages in photos and footage. This amplifies these messages and increases information sharing.

**24 Attend and/or circulate events/panels** that are central to black perspectives and challenging anti-black racism. Promote these events and support those around you to incorporate these issues and experiences into their own events.

**25 Start conversations.** Bring conversations about the importance of black lives and ending criminalization and state violence against black communities into your workplace, school, library, church, family.

**26 Take care of yourself!** Self-care is a revolutionary act. The criminalization of black communities, police violence against black people, and the devaluing of black lives is traumatizing. These instances and the constant deluge of information can not only cause trauma but also bring up vicarious trauma and sap our individual and collective energy to create change. Step away from the computer or the TV and take time to remember what we're fighting for—the people we love, and take time to call community. Allowing yourself to feel, express rage, cry, and experience joy in these times is not only critical but essential.



# WHERE TO DONATE

Selected bail funds and other organizations fighting against police injustice:

Source and additional resources: <https://www.rollingstone.com/culture/culture-news/>

**Minnesota George Floyd Memorial Fund:** The official GoFundMe to support the Floyd family.

Mission: "This fund is established to cover funeral and burial expenses, mental and grief counseling, lodging and travel for all court proceedings, and to assist our family in the days to come as we continue to seek justice for George. A portion of these funds will also go to the Estate of George Floyd for the benefit and care of his children and their educational fund.

**Minnesota Freedom Fund:** Community-based fund set up to pay criminal bail and immigration bonds for individuals who have been arrested while protesting police brutality. This has become one of the most prominent bail funds, providing relief to protesters in Minneapolis seeking justice for George Floyd. Mission: "We stand against cash bail as unjust and identify wealth-based discrimination as a vehicle for the criminal justice system to target populations for structural violence."

**Reclaim the Block:** Coalition that advocates for and invests in community-led safety initiatives in Minneapolis neighborhoods. Mission: "We believe health, safety, and resiliency exist without police of any kind. We organize around policies that strengthen community-led safety initiatives and reduce reliance on police departments."

**California Peoples City Council Freedom Fund:** Los Angeles-based fund helping to pay for legal support, bail, fines, and court fees for arrested protesters in the city, as well as medical bills and transportation for injured protesters, supplies for field medics, and direct support to L.A.'s Black Lives Matter chapter. Mission: "As the mayor and city council have sought to increase the LAPD's budget during a pandemic, and as police around the country continue to kill innocent people of color, we have taken to the street to protest the funding of state sanctioned murder."

**ADBlack Visions Collective:** Minnesota-based black, trans, and queer-led organization committed to dismantling systems of oppression and violence. Mission: "We aim to center our work in healing and transformative justice principles, intentionally develop our organizations core 'DNA' to ensure sustainability, and develop Minnesota's emerging black leadership to lead powerful campaigns. By building movements from the ground up with an integrated model, we are creating the conditions for long-term success and transformation."

**National LGBTQ Fund:** Bail fund providing relief to jailed LGBTQ people in 15 states and counting. Mission: "Each day, tens of thousands of LGBTQ people are held in jail or immigration detention because they cannot afford bail — for immigration status or charges like sleeping in public. With your help, the Freedom Fund posts bail to secure their release and safety."

**Campaign Zero:** Organization that utilizes research-based policy solutions to end police brutality in the U.S. Mission: "Over 1,000 people are killed by police every year in America. We are calling on local, state, and federal lawmakers to take immediate action to adopt data-driven policy solutions to end this violence and hold police accountable.



# SELF CARE TIPS FROM OBSA

Cleo and Latreace share their current wellness techniques



## CLEOPATRE THELUS, CGU DOCTORAL STUDENT & GRADUATE STUDENT MANAGER

Our responsibilities as graduate students unfortunately do not pause although **Black students have to navigate both the pandemic of racism and COVID-19 in a unique way than their peers do.** In order to hold myself accountable and meet

goals for my graduate program with these added stresses, I have teamed up with another Black graduate student in my department, to do **virtual work sessions**. We log into Zoom, and usually schedule about 2 work sessions a week for 3 hours at a time. In order to make the sessions feel more pleasant and doable, we work for 50 minutes, break for 10 minutes, and complete this for 3 rounds, which adds up to 3 hours of work. Depending on what we have on our to-do list, we sometimes use these sessions to plan or work on other things of priority that are not related to academic writing. Doing these sessions help me to feel in community, motivated, and keep me accountable to my goals, especially during a time that can pull my focus away, and reduce my energy.



## DR. LATREACE COX, ASSISTANT DEAN

I thought I was patient, organized, and calm, but quarantine and the unfolding events have given rise to signs of procrastination and disorganization. I am not too hard on myself though. Self-care is essential, and **it's ok to slow down and take time to process, re-focus and reflect on changes that need to be made** in my life. One of the most important changes I made is to take time for myself, doing something that makes me happy. Here are some activities that have brought me joy over the past few months:

**Online painting classes** that allow you to enjoy a paint session virtually

<https://www.purpleeasel.com/>

<https://www.pinotspalette.com/>

<https://thepaintbar.com/>

**Digital libraries** Many libraries will allow you to check out and download ebooks. See your local library website.

**Virtual vacation.** Some people are going online to take a virtual vacation. Research where you want to go and when quarantine is lifted, you would have learned all about where you want to go when it's time to actually take a trip. Example: <https://www.travelandleisure.com/travel-tips/fun-things-to-do-at-home-during-coronavirus-quarantine>

**Outside Activities-** good for any city, during COVID-19: <https://www.koaa.com/news/covering-colorado/15-things-to-do-outside-during-covid-19>

**Start journaling your thoughts.** Put your thoughts and feelings on paper and go back to read your entries.- Take an online class-painting/cooking.

Take a walk or a run to get some exercise and some fresh air. Enjoy nature!

Get a puzzle or choose a craft to do either with someone else or by yourself.

Read a book that you have been wanting to read, but didn't have time

# BEYONCE MASS

ONLINE

JUNE 5  
7PM EST/4PM PST  
MEIA-NOITE (GMT+1/WEST)

#BEYONCEMASS

OBSA had the privilege to host the groundbreaking Beyoncé Mass at Claremont for the 2020 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemoration.

**We would like to highlight the upcoming online worship service as a way to process feelings of grief, pain and loss, while receiving a message of hope, action and empowerment.**

The event is an inclusive womanist worship service open to all. To learn more about this event and its purpose, visit <https://www.beyoncemass.com/>

RSVP for the June 5th event on facebook:  
The Beyoncé Mass: Online  
<https://www.facebook.com/events/548741552469538/>

and tune in to the coming interview on June 7 with the curator and ensemble:



Beyoncé Mass

May 30 at 11:30 AM · 🌐

the time for silence is over. #justiceforgeorgefloyd #justiceforbreonnataylor #justiceforahmaud

JUSTICE FOR GEORGE FLOYD



JUSTICE FOR BREONNA TAYLOR

JUSTICE FOR AHMAUD ARBERY

#BLACKLIVESMATTER



AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH  
THE BLACK GIRL MAGIC ENSEMBLE & CURATOR OF

BEYONCÉ  
MASS

LIVE ON SUNDAY, JUNE 7 AT 2PM CDT

@SCARRITTBENNETTCENTER



# BLACK ENTREPRENEURS @ CLAREMONT

## *student and alumni-owned business spotlight*

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### AISHAT JIMOH: ETENLA

(SHE/HER/HERS)

Student, Claremont McKenna College  
Class of 2023

Customizable lip gloss for a customer with flavor

ETENLA is a beauty brand that wants to encourage people to love themselves. Our goal is to highlight the features of customers with our products.

Platform: Online only

Business link: IG @Ete.nla

Contact: Etenlacustoms@gmail.com



### JOHN WEST: DJ JOHN'S ENTERTAINMENT

(HE/HIM/HIS)

Student, Pomona College  
Class of 2023

DJ and Photography services

Platform: By consultation/communication

Business link: FB: @djjohn IG: @jj\_west2000

Contact: jjwa2018@mymail.pomona.edu,

jjwest1015@gmail.com

# years in business: 5





## BINIYAM ASNAKE: NEXTDORM

Alumni, Claremont McKenna College  
Class of 2020

NEXTDORM is a textbook rental management platform that we sell as a SaaS solution to US universities. Our partner schools use our platform to eliminate the pain of manually tracking books and free rentals to students. We believe all stakeholders win, when students get access to free textbooks.

Platform: Online only

Business link: [www.product.nextdorm.college](http://www.product.nextdorm.college) or [www.nextdorm.college](http://www.nextdorm.college)

Coverage: <https://www.cmc.edu/news/textbook-solution-biniyam-asnaque-%E2%80%999920-connects-students-to-free-books-with-website>

Contact: [biniyam@nextdorm.college](mailto:biniyam@nextdorm.college)

# years in business: 1



## CHANTÉ CRUSE: LOCS, TWISTS & BRAIDS (SHE/HER/HERS)

Alumni, Scripps College  
Class of 2012

LOCS, TWISTS & BRAIDS is a traveling Natural Hair Styling salon based in Anaheim, CA owned and operated by Chanté Michele. Services specialize in protective care styling for natural hair using only natural, organic, pH balanced products. Consultations are FREE. Please text, call or email for quicker responses. All messages answered in 24 hours or less.

Platform: Physical location/traveling consultant

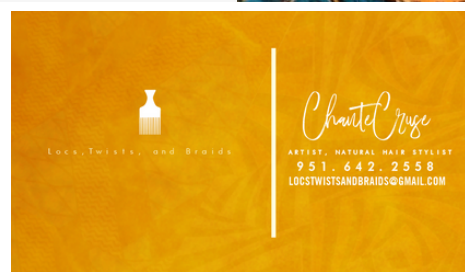
Business links: [www.styleseat.com/ChanteMichele](http://www.styleseat.com/ChanteMichele), FB: [locstwistsandbraids](https://www.facebook.com/locstwistsandbraids), IG: [@locstwistsandbraids](https://www.instagram.com/locstwistsandbraids)

Contact: (951) 642-2558, [locstwistsandbraids@gmail.com](mailto:locstwistsandbraids@gmail.com), 8932 Katella Avenue, Anaheim, CA 92804

Business hours: Saturday 10 AM - 7 PM. Tues - Fri, Sun APPT only.

Special offers: FREE Consultations, 20% Student Discount

# years in business: 10







## TIERRA STARKS: CREATIONS BY T (SHE/HER/HERS)

Student, Pomona College Class of 2021

CREATIONS BY T is a business centered around handmade jewelry and homemade apothecary items such as salt scrubs, body oils and essential oil roll-on perfumes.

Platform: Online only

Business links: @Itscreationsbyt and

<https://www.etsy.com/shop/ItsCreationsbyT>

Contact: 210-643-3152 and [Tierrastarks17@gmail.com](mailto:Tierrastarks17@gmail.com)

I can also be contacted on my etsy website.

## ANAA JIBICHO: DIDÓMI (HE/HIM/HIS)

Student, Pomona College Class of 2023

DIDÓMI is on a mission to combat the water crisis in developing countries by selling quality reusable water bottles, and 50% of the profit goes towards funding this mission. Every bottle purchased can provide 10 years of clean, safe water access.

13 years ago, the world water crisis was my reality. Today, I seek to combat the world water crisis through a reusable water bottle. Two of my older siblings passed away due to water-borne diseases in Ethiopia. When you look closely at the challenges facing people in developing countries, one thing sticks out like a sore thumb. Water is at the root of many of the challenges. When the water insecurities are met, communities transform, equality progresses, and productivity is out of the roof.

Platform: Online only

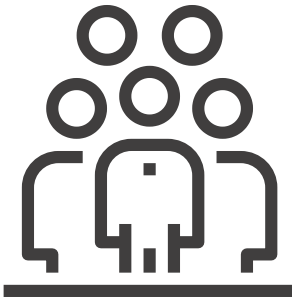
Business link: IG @didomigives

Contact: [anaa@didomigives.com](mailto:anaa@didomigives.com)

# years in business: 1



## KRYSTAL RAWLS: LEKINDRACY GROUP LLC



\*image provided by OBSA

### Alumni, Claremont Graduate University Class of 2020

We provide individual, group, and organization level programming design support for social and education related needs.

We assist with workforce integration development and inclusive program advising.

Platform: by consultation/communication

Contact: rawls@lekindracy.com

## OMAR SHAH: THE VIRTUAL HOUSEKEEPER (HE/HIM/HIS)

### Alumni, Pitzer College Class of 2019

Automation, Optimization and Stress Reduction.

THE VIRTUAL HOUSEKEEPER is a software solutions, and management consulting firm that aims to help small business owners fall BACK in love with their work. We build custom software, tailored to your specific business needs and existing processes. We specialize in GSuite Automation (handling customer emails, HR processes, invoice organization, supplier communication & inventory management), and use data analytics to develop strategy for expansion and cost reduction. Plainly, we help make the day-to-day of running a small business a little easier, and a little more fun. It's a "No bs, just good software" business model. With clients in Seattle, Madison and Amsterdam, The Virtual Housekeeper is ready to help you wherever your business is.

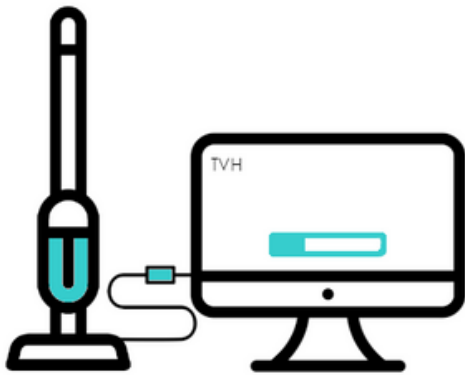
I am in the process of finding investors to help fund new, full time undergraduate interns (studying computer science, or economics). These interns would be paid, and be trained in software development, project management and/or financial analytics with the goal of recruiting them to be Virtual Housekeepers upon graduation. Special offers: Free consultation by Zoom or phone call.

Platform: Online only

Business links: <https://www.linkedin.com/in/omarshah-nl/>, Social Media platforms still under construction.

# years in business: 1

Contact: [omar@thevirtualhousekeeper.com](mailto:omar@thevirtualhousekeeper.com), +1(206) 412-8058  
(WhatsApp Only)



the virtual housekeeper





## **CHERISE HIGGINS: CHERISE MICHELLE MUSIC** (SHE/HER/HERS)

**Student, Pomona College Class of 2021**

Cherise Michelle is a vocalist, instrumentalist, composer, producer, and current music major at Pomona. With over fifteen years of experience as a performer, Cherise has gained experience in many different musical styles including Gospel, R&B, Rock, Classical, and more. During her time at Pomona, she has gained experience composing short-films scores, writing, recording, and producing her own music. Cherise is offering her vocal and compositional services to the community. Whether you are in need of some entertainment for your next event, looking for a singer for your virtual zoom party, or want her to write a song for you, she's got you!

Please reach out through email for bookings. You can find my most recent projects on streaming platforms such as Spotify and Apple Music under the name @Cherise Michelle

Special offers: IG Live and Zoom Performances available

Platform: Online & in person

Business links: <https://tinyurl.com/Cherise-Michelle>

LinkedIn - Cherise Higgins

Contact: [cherisemichellecherry@gmail.com](mailto:cherisemichellecherry@gmail.com)



# INCOMING STUDENTS: APPLY NOW TO JOIN OBSA MENTORSHIP!

## APPLICATION PROCESS

Applications are accepted through August 31, however we plan to accept applications case-by-case and on a rolling basis through October, depending on the availability of mentors. Early application is encouraged.

## A VIRTUAL START

We are anticipating the program will begin virtually and become in person once the campuses reopen. We will match 1 student per mentor and encourage online hangouts, while our office develops opportunities to connect throughout the academic year.

## PARTICIPATION HIGHLIGHTS

Application is required for enrollment and we try our best to ensure student preferences for mentors are met! This is a 5 college program with students representing each of The undergraduate Claremont Colleges. Depending on mentor availability and expressed preferences, students can expect a mentor that shares a combination of their home college, field of study, extracurricular interests, personal identities and cultural background. The program is designed to work WITH your academic responsibilities, extracurricular activities, employment and other obligations. The program is flexible and individual support is built into the structure to ensure the experience is tailored and smooth for each student.

If you're reading this as a rising sophomore, junior or senior, please consider applying to be a mentor, and share this announcement with incoming students of African descent.

## GET A PEER MENTOR FOR THE 2020-2021 ACADEMIC YEAR

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
Rolling through August 2020.

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
Incoming student at any  
Claremont Colleges  
undergraduate institution.

**COMMITMENT:**  
Online connections 2-3 times a  
month until in person meetings  
are possible. Mentees receive  
resources, are invited to social  
activities, academic support  
discussions and virtual events.

**WHERE TO APPLY:**  
<https://bit.ly/OBSA2020Mentee>

**MORE INFORMATION:**  
<https://services.claremont.edu/obsa/obsa-peer-mentorship/>





## OBSA'S MENTORING OPPORTUNITIES FOR CURRENT STUDENTS & ALUMNI

**OBSA PEER MENTORSHIP** began recruiting Mentors in February 2020, and will consider all applicants who have submitted so far (thanks for your patience as we navigate the campus closure). We will accept applications through August 2020 and be flexible with the deadline while we plan a virtual launch of the program. We expect to transition to in-person mentoring when campuses reopen. If you've already applied, expect to hear from us in late summer as we are initiating mentee recruitment and need time to select mentors and assign to a mentor. Mentorship will be 1-1 for fall 2020. We are looking for 5C students who are rising sophomores, juniors and seniors to participate (see right panel for application details). First year students are invited to apply starting mid May.

**OBSA ALUMNI-STUDENT MENTORSHIP** has been virtual since its founding in 2017 and will continue in this capacity via our growing database of 7C alumni and students. We match TCC alums with students on a rolling basis and applicants inform us of their personal and professional interests in order to be matched. This community has over 100 total participants representing all 7 Claremont Colleges. **If you're a current alumni** and have not already done so, please join our 7C Black Alumni Association today: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/NLJV9HJ>. Both alumni and students use the same link to apply for this program (see right panel for application details).

**We encourage 5C students especially to join BOTH mentoring communities** and take advantage of opportunities to create positive and useful connections while learning and living from a distance.

**MORE DETAILS:** <https://services.claremont.edu/obsa/>

## BE AN OBSA PEER MENTOR:

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
Rolling through August 2020.

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
Rising 5C sophomore, junior or senior

**COMMITMENT:** online connections 2-3 times a month until in person meetings are possible. Sharing resources, social activities and academic support; attending virtual events.

**APPLICATION LINK:**  
<http://bit.ly/2020OBSAMentorship>

## GET AN ALUMNI MENTOR. BE AN ALUMNI MENTOR:

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:**  
Flexible. Alumni-student pairs are made and updated continuously.

**REQUIREMENTS:**  
Alumni mentors are graduates of any 7C institution. Those matched with an alumni mentor are students at any 7C institution.

**COMMITMENT:** virtual connections are established and arranged between groups. OBSA responds to inquiries regularly and surveys participants on their experience 2x yearly.

**APPLICATION LINK:**  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5MWPFLO>

# 2020 GRADUATES: JOIN THE **#BLACKGRADCHALLENGE**

*celebrate with us online!*

## **TAKE A PHOTO IN YOUR KENTE STOLE**

Pair your stole with something uniquely you, like a personalized cap, gown or robes, college gear, a favorite outfit--express yourself!

## **GIVE YOUR 30 SECOND SPEECH**

In the tradition of Black Graduation, we also invite you to add your 30-second appreciation speech to your IG story for the challenge.



## **TAG @OBSACLAREMONT & USE #BLACKGRADCHALLENGE**

Follow @obsaclaremont on IG and tag us in all media using #BlackGradChallenge

Get featured in OBSA's story, albums and more as we acknowledge Black Graduates across The Claremont Colleges.

Images courtesy of Elise Green and Lydia Tetteh, CGU class of 2020



# SUMMER PROGRAMS: APPLY NOW!

## for all Claremont Colleges students by Keck Graduate Institute

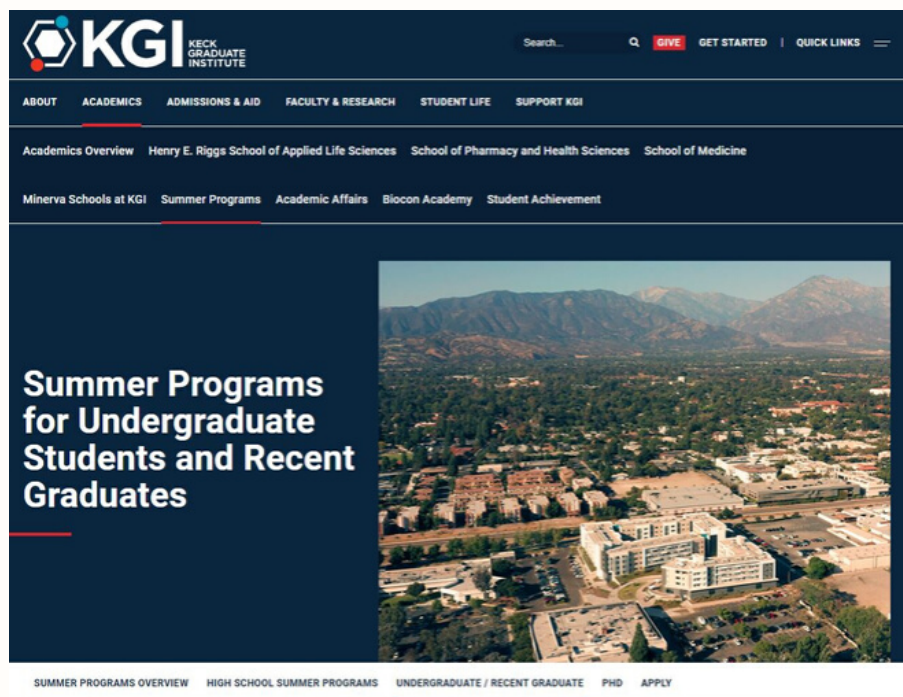
KGI offers summer programs open to all Claremont Colleges students, and may be of particular interest to those drawn to health and life science. These immersive opportunities are being offered by KGI, many at no charge. Those who complete summer with KGI have the added benefit of waiving the GRE/Standardized test and Letter of Recommendation for their graduate application.

**Visit** <https://www.kgi.edu/academics/summer-programs/undergraduate/>

**KGI's career pathways ebook:**

<https://1ydsiy3u0quvgdsk03zlwqi3-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/media/Documents/KGI-ebook.pdf>

**Contact** Kamika Phillips, [Kamika\\_Phillips@kgi.edu](mailto:Kamika_Phillips@kgi.edu)



The screenshot shows the KGI website header with navigation links: ABOUT, ACADEMICS, ADMISSIONS & AID, FACULTY & RESEARCH, STUDENT LIFE, and SUPPORT KGI. Below the header, there are links to Academics Overview, Henry E. Riggs School of Applied Life Sciences, School of Pharmacy and Health Sciences, and School of Medicine. A secondary navigation bar includes Minerva Schools at KGI, Summer Programs (highlighted), Academic Affairs, Biocon Academy, and Student Achievement. The main content area features a large image of a campus with mountains in the background and the text "Summer Programs for Undergraduate Students and Recent Graduates". At the bottom, there is a navigation bar with links: SUMMER PROGRAMS OVERVIEW, HIGH SCHOOL SUMMER PROGRAMS, UNDERGRADUATE / RECENT GRADUATE (highlighted), PHD, and APPLY.

Keck Graduate Institute (KGI), a member of [The Claremont Colleges](#), offers summer programs that will boost your academic career as you prepare for graduate-level studies or a career in healthcare or biotech.

These programs will not only help you decide your career pathway—they are also a great way to gain exposure to the biotechnology, medicine, life sciences, and pharmaceutical industries, while improving the skills and qualifications to boost your resume.

### 2020 Summer Programs

Application Boot Camp	+
Botswana Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (BSURE)	+
Careers Beyond the Bench: Biotech Industry Online Summer Program	+
Clinical Genetics and Bioinformatics Online Summer Program	+
Medical Device Development Online Bootcamp	+
Online Bioprocessing Summer Undergraduate Internship Training and Education (BSUITE)	+
Online Pre-Pharmacy Enrichment Program (PrEP)	+
Online Summer Explore Health Professions	+
Online Summer Undergraduate Research Experience (SURE)	+
Pre-Occupational Therapy Online Program (PrOT)	+
Undergraduate Online Science Courses	+