



UNDERGRADUATE ENGLISH LIT. ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2020 • ISSUE 2



UELA ANNOUNCEMENTS:

UELA PLEDGES SUPPORT TO BLM

- UELA has pledged to stand with the Black community & all those fighting for justice & racial equity across the country.

- Follow out IG (@bu.uela) for more resources on how you can support the movement

BLACK LIVES MATTER

HAPPY PRIDE MONTH!

- UELA wishes everyone a **Happy Pride Month** and stands with the members of the LGBTQ+ community in their continued fight for equality

**BLACK
LIVES
MATTER**



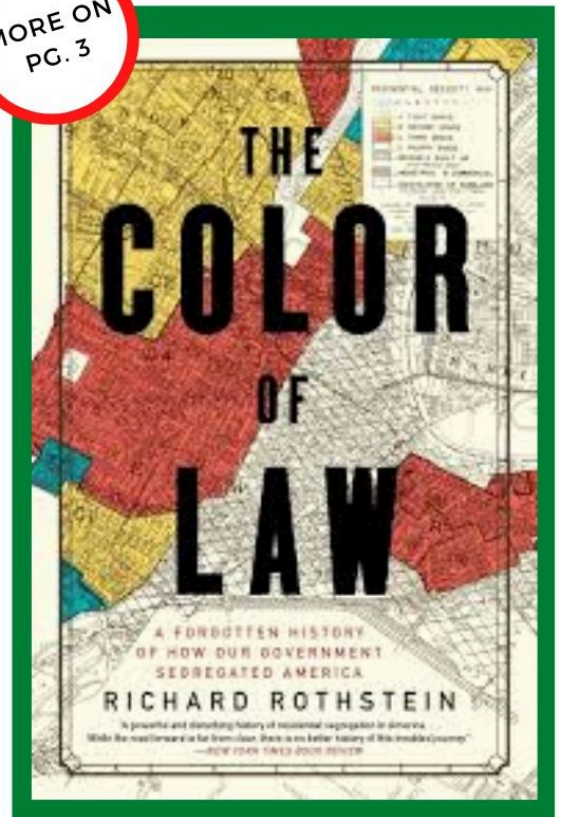
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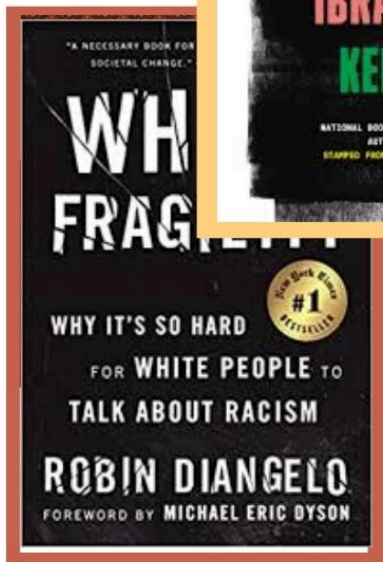
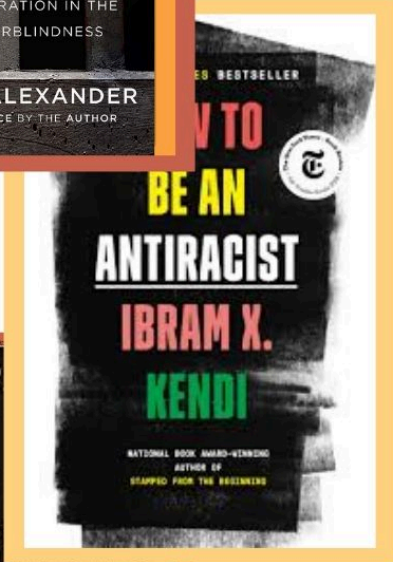
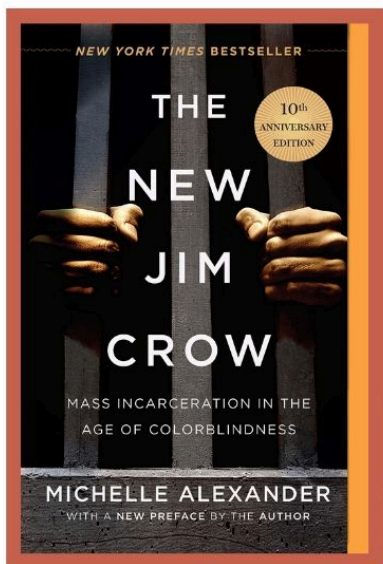
MORE ON
PG. 3



U E L A R E C O M M E N D E D R E A D I N G

In our world, it is unfortunately not enough to be “not racist,” we must take the steps to actively adopt **anti-racism**. If you are someone who isn't Black, it is impossible to know exactly how they feel; however, educating yourself on the oppression they have faced and the privilege you live with will help you better recognize and fight the blatant and subtle forms of racism.

Be a strong ally to Black people and read these books recommended by Black professors and scholars.



So You Want to Talk About Race - Ijeoma Oluo

The New Jim Crow: Mass Incarceration In The Age of Colorblindness - Michelle Alexander

The Fire This Time: A New Generation Speaks about Race - Jesmyn Ward

White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide - Carol Anderson

White Fragility: Why It's So Hard for White People to Talk About Racism - Robin DiAngelo

Racism without Racists: Colorblind Racism and the Persistence of Racial Inequality in the United States - Eduardo Bonilla-Silva

When They Call You a Terrorist - Patrisse Khan-Collors and Asha Bandele

How to Be an Antiracist - Ibram X Kendi

Two Faced Racism: Whites in the Backstage and Frontstage - Leslie Picca and Joe Feagin

Me and White Supremacy: Combat Racism, Change the World, and Become a Good Ancestor - Layla Saad

LIST COMPILED BY DANIELLA AUERBACH



**Donate
to these
pro black
orgs!**

LIST COMPILED BY JACK BECK

There are countless charities doing outstanding work to help communities impacted by police violence. Any amount you can donate towards their cause makes a difference! The organizations listed here are all groups making a difference through community outreach, improved opportunities, and legal action.

CAMPAIGN ZERO

- joincampaignzero.org

NAACP LEGAL DEFENSE FUND

- naacp.org/donate

BLACK ART FUTURES FUND

- blackartfutures.org/donate

BLACK VISIONS COLLECTIVE

- blackvisionsmn.org

ANTIRACIST RESEARCH & POLICY CENTER

- antiracismcenter.com

THE MASSACHUSETTS BAIL FUND *

- massbailfund.org

***Don't live in Boston? Many other options for bail funds exist nationwide. Search here (communityjusticeexchange.org/nbfm-directory) for one local for you!**

ADD THIS TO YOUR READING LIST: THE COLOR OF LAW

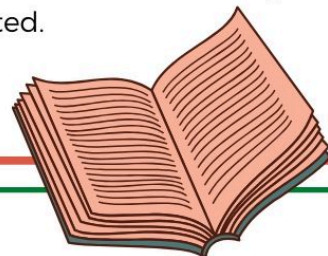
BY MEGAN MURRAY

Richard Rothstein's *The Color of Law: A Forgotten History of How Our Government Segregated America* (2017) sets out on a mission to hold the federal government accountable for the past and present segregation in America.

A common excuse used by the federal government for the definitive separation between communities of color and white communities is to blame de facto segregation, segregation created based off of personal preferences on a local level.

However, Rothstein is able to trace the government's involvement in segregating America from the end of the civil war up to systems that are currently in place. Rothstein challenges the government's claim of de facto segregation and shows that it was de jure: segregation by law and public policy.

Rothstein walks the reader through the interconnecting spiderweb that is oppression, showing how mortgages affect taxes affecting schools and overall affecting Black communities for generations. *The Color of Law* shines a light on all of the levels that the federal government was not only allowing but promoting segregation and calls on the current government to remedy the wounds they inflicted.



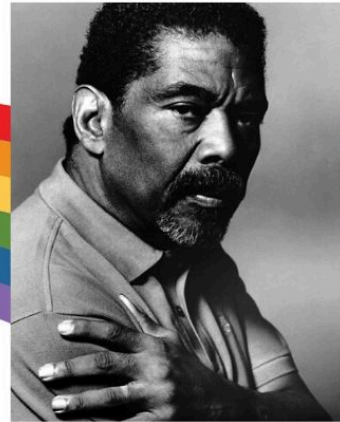
10 BLACK ICONS IN THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

1. Alvin Ailey: (pictured right)

Ailey is a dancer, director, choreographer, and activist. Ailey is best known for establishing the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater (AAADT). The AAADT's mission is to offer programs for underserved black communities.

2. Audre Lorde:

Lorde is an American writer, feminist, and civil rights activist that has described herself as, "black, lesbian, mother, warrior, poet." She dedicated her life to fight against injustice. A few notable poems are "Coal," "Power," and "Who Said It Was Simple."



3. Bayard Rustin: (pictured left)

Rustin worked alongside Martin Luther King Jr. and organized much of the civil rights movement. He assisted in organizing the March on Washington, the New York City school boycott, and many other protests that were against political injustice. In 1986, he gave a speech "The New N***** Are Gays" to insight social change. He also testified on behalf of New York for the Gay Rights Bill.

4. Countee Cullen:

Cullen is a poet that is best known for his contribution to the Harlem Renaissance. Some of his most famous poems were about reclaiming African arts. A few notable poems are, "Heritage," "Copper Sun," and "The Ballad of the Brown Girl."



5. Elle Hearn:

Hearn is a Black, transgender woman that is co-founder of the Black Lives Matter network in the wake of the murder of Trayvon Martin. She is currently the Executive Director of the Marsha P. Johnson Institute that advocates for Black transgender women and fights to end violence against all trans people.

6. Marsha P. Johnson: (pictured right)

Johnson is known as an outspoken advocate for LGBTQ+ rights and was one of the first to throw a brick in the Stonewall uprising of 1969. Johnson is a founding member of the Gay Liberation Front and co-founded Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR) that was a groundbreaking organization.



7. James Baldwin: (pictured right)

Baldwin is a legendary author, poet, philosopher, playwright, and activist. He dedicated his life to fight against racism and homophobia. Some of his most notable work is *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, *Giovanni's Room*, and *Notes of a Native Man*.

8. Janet Mock:

Mock is a television host, writer, podcaster, director, producer, and a transgender rights activist. She is best known for her New York Times bestseller, *Redefining Realness*. In addition to this memoir, Mock hosts a podcast called *Never Before with Janet Mock* where she has intimate conversations with various celebrities.



9. Josephine Baker: (pictured left)

Baker is a French entertainer that made headlines as the first mixed race woman in a film. Baker coined the names "Black Venus," the "Black Pearl," and the "Creole Goddess." Baker aided in the French Resistance during WWII and was awarded the Croix de guerre by the French military. She participated in the Civil Rights Movement in the US and refused to perform for segregated audiences. Baker identified as a bisexual woman, and famously had an affair with Frida Kahlo.

10. Tarell Alvin McCraney:

McCraney is an American playwright and is the chair of playwriting at the Yale School of Drama. His most recognized play is *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue*, which was adapted in a film that won Best Picture in 2017. The play dealt with Black masculinity and homosexuality; the play was also autobiographical.

LIST COMPILED BY
MARIE CANTOR

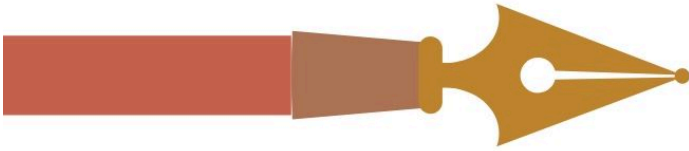
SUPPORT BLACK OWNED BUSINESSES:

In/Near Boston:

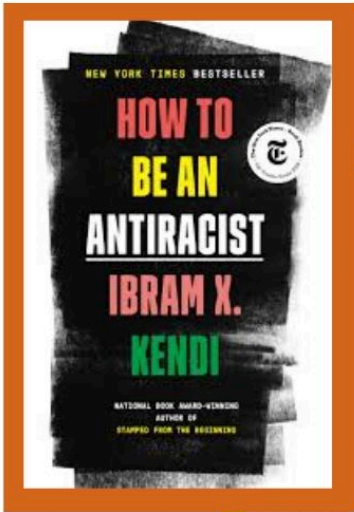
- Frugal Bookstore - Rock City Pizza - Exodus Bagels - Asmara
- Rhythm n' Wraps - Little Crepe Cafe - Jamaica Mi Hungry
- La Fabrica Central - Susie's Stories (Rockport) - Clarke's Cakes & Cookies

Online:

- African Bookstore - DTR 360 Books - Sistah Scifi
- Mahogany Books - Phenomenal Women - Bloom & Plume Coffee
- The Lit Bar - Oh Happy Danny - Yowie - Rayo & Honey



NEW RESEARCH CENTER:



Ibram X. Kendi, prominent scholar and historian of racism and author of *How to be Antiracist*, will launch the BU Center for Antiracist Research when he joins the university on July 1.

We look forward to welcoming Kendi to the University & becoming the new home of his important research in the field of antiracism.

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS!

- Want to be in the next newsletter? Send us an email (englishA@bu.edu) to be featured!

We're looking for:

- Poetry, recipes, creative projects, club advertisements, book reviews, book recommendations, events, etc.

B U N E W S :

STUDENT ACTION:

In a fundraiser led by UMOJA: The Black Student Union and BU Student Government, BU students and organizations raised over \$100,000 in support of the Black Visions Collective, Campaign Zero, and NAACP Legal Defense fund.

PETITIONS:

The Boston University Coalition for Decarceration is circulating a petition for BU to open its vacant dorms as temporary housing for people released from prisons and jails in order to flatten the curve among incarcerated populations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

COVID UPDATE:

BU students will be returning to campus in the fall! We look forward to seeing you all again in the new mixed online/in-person format.