

The University of Alabama Department of Theatre and Dance join in solidarity with our vibrant and courageous community of faculty, staff, students, alumni, fellow artists and audiences to call an end to systemic racism and state sanctioned violence and trauma enacted upon Black Americans. We seek justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade and countless other victims whose lives have been lost as a result of racist, systemic violence. Only when the racist systems that perpetuate injustice are eradicated, will we experience the world as we aspire it to be. Black. Lives. Matter.

The arts help bring communities together in efforts to effect social change by inspiring its communities to value diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility, consequently reaffirming our shared humanity. As such, we must do the work required to transform our world.

We pledge to do better and become proactive in making change.

In honoring our commitment, we will take the following steps:

- Holding ourselves accountable for our missteps and remaining steadfast in our commitment to take action to address injustices committed upon the Black community.
- Celebrate diverse voices by creating work that seeks to build bridges between communities to facilitate education, understanding and empathy.
- Questioning our histories and practices, thereby disrupting patterns that reinforce institutionalized oppressions and inequities.

To everyone already actively engaging in this work, we thank you for inspiring us to continue to do the ongoing work of self-examination and working towards social change. We send our comfort to the loved ones of those slain and those within our community who are experiencing trauma. We will not remain silent.

Sarah M. Barry, Chair of Theatre and Dance
Dominic Yeager, Associate Chair, Theatre
Lawrence M. Jackson, Associate Chair, Dance

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED:

Text FLOYD to 55156 to sign the Justice for George Floyd petition

Add your name to the Justice for George Floyd petition at www.change.org

Donate to the Official George Floyd Memorial Fund set up by his family and to organizations like Black Lives Matter

WAYS TO ENGAGE:

@ColorofChange designs campaigns to end practices that unfairly hold Black people back, and champions solutions that move us forward.

@NAACP is the nation's first and largest grassroots-based civil rights organization.

Visit colorofchange.org and naacp.org to take action, sign a #justiceforgeorgefloyd petition, or to donate.

SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER: [@splcenter.org](http://splcenter.org), Donate.splcenter.org

BLACK LIVES MATTER: @blklivesmatter, Blacklivesmatter.com

Sign the demands petition, join the global movement and donate to the organization.

CHANGE.ORG

Petitions in support of justice for George Floyd, Breonna Taylor and Ahmad Aubrey

WAYS TO EDUCATE:

White Fragility by Robin DiAngelo

How to be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi

Why Are All The Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria? By Beverly Daniel Tatum, PhD

Stamped from the Beginning by Ibram X. Kendi

I'm Still Here: Black Dignity in a World Made for Whiteness by Austin Channing Brown

White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide by Carol Anderson, PhD

The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander

Tears We Cannot Stop: A Sermon to White America by Michael Eric Dyson

We Were Eight Years in Power by Ta-Nehisi Coates

Nobody: Casualties on America's War on the Vulnerable, from Ferguson to Flint and Beyond by Marc Lamont Hill, PhD.