

KWANZAA

The Kwanzaa Calendar & Resource Guide



A Global Community in a Virtual World
December 26th 2020 - January 1st 2021

KWANZAADC.ORG

KWANZAADC@GMAIL.COM

IN HONOR OF Nana Kwame Agyei Akoto

Nationbuilder, Spiritual Leader, Educator, Author, Musician, Father, and Revolutionary

Nana Kwame Agyei Akoto, a pioneer of Afrikan centered education and reafrikanization joined the realm of the ancestors on December 4th, 2019. His unmatched creativity, drive, and energy reflect his unwavering commitment to Afrikan people. We are grateful for his extensive contributions and know he is working for Afrikan people from the spirit world as passionately as he did in this physical reality.

Nana Agyei's vision for Afrikan centered education and ideology developed on the campus of Howard University where he received his degree in Music and Early Childhood Education in 1970. During his time at Howard he joined the movement to create a new identity and mission for Afrikan people. Nana Agyei became president of the student council and played a pivotal role in the historical seizure of the Administration building that demanded the development of an African Studies Department.

Among his many talents, Nana Agyei was also best known for his soulful and melodic riffs love for music and his commitment to the "Nation Afrikan Liberation Art Ensemble", Eichelberger. This band produced two gained international acclaim.

In 1974, Nana Agyei founded NationHouse Kehembe Eichelberger and Akili R. continues to serve the needs of African families schools in the United States.

Running a school and summer camps, music, and writing books was only the developed the vision and framework for Society, with the mission of creating and Afrikan cultural ideologies and this noble and monumental act, Nana grandchildren, and current generation

Nana Agyei also was instrumental in Passage program established in the fall of female adolescents in 1990. For the past developed hundreds of youth in cultural awareness, character development, and nationbuilding, to name a few.

During Nana Agyei's journey on this planet, he wrote two seminal books and countless articles. The first book, NationBuilding: Theory & Practice in Afrikan Centered Education in 1992, republished in 2018 by Talking Stick Publishing. Nationbuilding is considered the foundational thought of Afrikan centered education, Nationhood and family. His second book is co-authored by his wife, Akua Nson Akoto, The Sankofa Movement: ReAfrikanization and the Reality of War published in 1999, is slated for republication in 2020.

Nana Agyei was a force, clearing the path for Afrikan children and families for generations to come. His greatest and proudest achievement remains his ten children. He was a loving father, a devoted grandfather and a proud great-grandfather. We are immeasurably indebted to Baba Agyei and vow to honor, protect, and continue his legacy.



musically gifted playing multiple instruments. He was on the alto and soprano saxophone. He combined his liberation of Black people by forming the jazz band with Akili Ron Anderson, Clay Goss and Kehembe V. revered albums Rise, Vision Comin' and Medasi that

Positive Action Center with his wife, Nana Akua Akoto, Anderson. Today, 45 years later, NationHouse as one of the oldest independent Afrikan centered

mentoring youth, creating art and beginning for Nana Agyei. He what is now the Ankobea Abusua preserving strong families dedicated to intergenerational leadership. Through Agyei watched his children, succeed the progenitors of this work.

institutionalizing the Ankobea Rites of 1989 for male adolescents followed by 30 years, these programs have

A GLOBAL COMMUNITY IN A VIRTUAL WORLD

The year 2020 has been a challenging one for many, and we have had to adapt to a new way of being a community. This year's Kwanzaa celebrations will necessarily reflect this new way of being. However, it is up to us to be deliberate in these days to nurture the principals we value in each other. We must not lament the limitations at this brief period of time; we must not mourn what could have been, forsaking what is. Rather, we must choose to seize, for the time being, this reality that we face, and find ways to make it advantageous for building community as much as possible.

While we may not be able to gather in large in-person group settings as we normally would during Kwanzaa, these 2020 Kwanzaa celebrations will allow us to gather more with an even broader breath of the global African community. Unlike when we were limited to those who are physically present, now we celebrate together, globally. We must embrace this opportunity to connect with our brothers and sisters outside of our local communities, and states; the Kwanzaa 2020 celebrations are an opportunity for us to connect with our brothers and sisters from all over the world. This is an opportunity for us to truly manifest a global community.

To celebrate Kwanzaa is to celebrate African culture and to display it for each other to see; this year we truly have an opportunity to do so on a global scale. We stand together as a global community in celebrating Kwanzaa and the seven principles of the Nguzo Saba. We must choose to make the most of this moment as an opportunity not to be squandered.

Coming out of this Kwanzaa, and into the New Year, let us take this global spirit, embracing our membership in a global community with our brothers and sisters, where ever they might physically find themselves in the world. In particular, let us use this opportunity to build even greater connections between our brothers and sisters on the African continent and those in the diaspora. Let these connections become bridges across the oceans to fortify all of us. So, next year when we are able to be in person, we will have an even greater celebration with an even greater community to celebrate with us. For a people who have nothing to celebrate together, will find it more difficult to work together when the time comes.

Let us all pull together!

Harambee! Harambee! Harambee! Harambee! Harambee! Harambee! Harambee!

WHAT IS KWANZAA?

Kwanzaa, a holiday (or Holy Day) based upon the African tradition of celebrating the harvesting of the first fruits, was created and introduced for Black People in the United States by Dr. Maulana Karenga in 1966.

Kwanzaa is the ingathering of the people, a special reverence for the Creator and creation, a commemoration of the past, a recommitment to our highest ideals, and a celebration of all that is good. It is a time of reflecting, reassessing, recommitting, rewarding, and rejoicing in an atmosphere of peace, love and unity. Kwanzaa is a cultural and political expression to reaffirm our African Heritage and organize our people for the struggle of total Black Liberation. Kwanzaa is celebrated for seven days: December 26th through January 1st. The seven days are based upon the Nguzo Saba (The Seven Principles), with each day being symbolic of one of the principles.

- December 26th - Umoja (Unity)
- December 27th - Kujichagulia (Self-Determination)
- December 28th - Ujima (Collective Work & Responsibility)
- December 29th - Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics)
- December 31st - Kuumba (Creativity)
- January 1st - Imani (Faith)



THERE ARE SEVEN SYMBOLS OF KWANZAA

- Mkeka (Straw Mat) - tradition and history; the foundation on which all else rests
- Kinara (Candle Holder) - original stalk from which we come; our African ancestors
- Mishumaa Saba (7 Candles) - Nguzo Saba; The Seven Principles firmly rooted in the traditions of our ancestors
- Muhindi (Ears of Corn) - represents children and all the hopes and challenges attached to them
- Kikombe cha Umoja (Unity Cup)
- Mazao (Crops) - the collective fruits of our labor; seeds sown by the children
- Zawadi (Gifts) - rewards for our achievements

NGUZO SABA (The Seven Principles)



UMOJA (Unity)

To strive for and maintain unity in the family, community, nation and race.



KUJICHAGULIA (Self-Determination)

To define ourselves, name ourselves, create for ourselves and speak for ourselves instead of being defined and spoken for by others.



UJIMA (Collective Work and Responsibility)

To build and maintain our community together and make our brothers' and sisters' problems our problems and solve them together.



UJAMAA (Cooperative Economics)

To build and maintain our own stores, shops and other businesses and profit from them together.



NIA (Purpose)

To make our collective vocation the building and developing of our community in order to restore our people to their traditional greatness.



KUUMBA (Creativity)

To do always as much as we can, in the way that we can, in order to leave our community more beautiful and beneficial than we inherited it.



IMANI (Faith)

To believe with all our heart in our people, our parents, our teachers, our leaders and the righteousness and victory of our struggle.

WHAT TO DO AND WHEN TO DO IT

December 19th

Gather and arrange Kwanzaa symbols. Any other decorations (African carvings, straw baskets) should be in a red, black and green color scheme, symbolizing the bendera ya taifa (Flag of the Black Nation):

Red - the blood of our people

Black - the collective color of all Black people

Green - land, Mother Africa, life and our future (we build together)

Arrange the symbols on a low table as follows:

1. Spread the Mkeka
2. Place the Kinara in the center of the Mkeka
3. Place the Muhindi on either side of the Kinara, one ear of corn for each child, or one as a symbol of prosperity
4. Creatively place the Zawadi, Kikombe, and a basket of Mazao on the Mkeka
5. Place 1 Black Mishumaa in the center of the Kinara, with 3 Green on the right, and 3 Red on the left.

December 26th – January 1st

Greeting – greet each other in Kiswahili asking “Habari Gani?” (What’s the news or what’s happening?) Answer with the principle for that day. For example, on December 26th, respond with “Umoja.”

Economic Empowerment — only shop at Black-owned businesses during the seven days of Kwanzaa. In the spirit of Kwanzaa and Ujamaa (Cooperative Economics) we as African people should support these same Black businesses, such as trade in the African marketplace in the calendar, all year round.

Fasting — fast from sunrise to sunset to help cleanse the body, discipline the mind, and uplift the spirit.

Libation (Ancestral Communion) — an elder or leader should pour libation, using water or juice, from the Kikombe into a bowl or potted plant, to honor our ancestors.

Candle Lighting Ceremony — light one Mishumaa each day for the principle of that day, beginning with the black candle, which represents the first principle Umoja. Each day thereafter, alternately light the red and then the green candles. After each lighting, discuss the principle of the day. The ceremony should be held at a time when all family members, especially children, can participate.

Karamu (The Feast) — the Karamu is held on the night of December 31st, and should be a festive occasion. When possible, observe traditional African practices, e.g., African music, dance and storytelling, sitting on the floor or on pillows, and eating with the hands (no utensils). Libation, Candlelighting and Harambee are conducted at the Karamu.

Zawadi (Gift) — (They should not be mandatory, expensive or excessive). It is suggested that Zawadi be given to the children in one or two ways:

1. One gift each day, reinforcing the principle of that day.
2. One or more gifts on January 1st, the last day of Kwanzaa.

Personally made gifts are strongly encouraged over commercial purchases. Regardless of what else is given, there are two strongly suggested items: a book and heritage symbol. These two items reinforce our commitment to education and the richness of our cultural heritage.

The essence of Kwanzaa is a true appreciation of ourselves as Black People, collectively coming together to reflect on and enjoy the infinite beauty of being in the same family, organization, and community, sharing the same values, interests and aspirations, engaging in and committing to the same struggle.

Kwanzaa Events Calendar 2020/2021

PRE- KWANZAA EVENTS

- **Saturday, December 19, 2020** - The Parent body of the UNIA invites the African community to a Pre Kwanzaa virtual gathering .The program includes Garveyism and the 7 principles of Blackness, Honoring the Centennial of founding of the Declaration of Rights of the Negro Peoples of the world with Master Drummer Baba Tyehimba Mtu, Mama Kathy, Ras Lidj. For info 202.256.2518 or senghorb@hotmail.com Facebook.com/uniadivision330(Live Streaming) 5pm—8pm.

KWANZAA EVENTS

UMOJA (UNITY) SATURDAY, DEC. 26th

- **51st Annual Kwanzaa Children's Party.** Children ages 3-12. Sponsored by the Kwanzaa Children's Party Committee/H Street CDC/African Freedom Fund & DC Kwanzaa Planning Committee/Black Seeds. Featuring FaraFina Kan, Kuumba Kids and Taritibu. Activities will include Libation, Candlelighting, Storytelling, Youth Entrepreneurs, Spoken Word by the Youth, and Words of Wisdom from Elders. Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441 Password: VDH1WA. For more information please call 202.390.3164 or 240.832.7203. 12 - 2pm.
- **The Annual Umoja Candle-lighting Ceremony and Umoja Celebration by LCPAN.** Join LCPAN and the Kwanzaa Planning Committee in celebration of Umoja Night - Global Unity during Virtual Times. Now more than ever we must continue to live by the guiding principles of the Nguzo Saba. Join us on December 26, 2020 via Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441 Password: VDH1WA as we celebrate the first night of Kwanzaa. Call 202.529.3635 for info. Starts at 7pm.

KUJICHAGULIA (SELF-DETERMINATION) SUNDAY, DEC 27th

- **Kwanzaa Candle-lighting Celebration & Program by the Ausar Auset Society.** Kujichagulia Night theme: Justice for All. This event will feature a panel discussion on Social Justice, performances by Holly Girlz. Intergenerational guitar playing, tradition Kwanzaa songs, and virtual children parade. Children's activities will be available. Arts and crafts supply kits will be available at Senbeb Coop 6224 3 rd St,NW starting December 19th /26th. Join us on December 27, 2020 via Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441 Password: VDH1WA. Contact AAS.Kwanzaa2020@gmail.com for more information. The program runs 7pm to 10pm.

UJIMA (COLLECTIVE WORK AND RESPONSIBILITY) MONDAY, DEC 28th

- **The Ujima Joint Virtual Kwanzaa Event & Candle-lighting Service by House of Ra, Obi, AfiSoul and Amenika.** Enjoy Hip-Hop, R&B, Go Go, Neo-Soul, Spoken Word and Dance! Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441 Password: VDH1WA Contact: 424-533-2868 or ujimajoint@ gmail.com for more info. Time: 7pm until!

(CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE)

Kwanzaa Events Calendar 2020/2021(continued)

UJAMAA (COOPERATIVE ECONOMICS) TUESDAY, DEC. 29th

- **The APPEAL Ujamaa Night Kwanzaa Candle-lighting Celebration & Program** – Featuring Jessica Gordon Nembhard, Author of *Collective Courage: A History of African American Cooperative Economic Thought and Practice*, with performances by Kuumba Kids and Farafina Kan. Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441. Passcode: VDH1WA. For more info. call 1-800-711-7851 or visitor APPEAlinc.org/events 7pm to 9:30pm.

NIA (PURPOSE) WEDNESDAY, DEC. 30th

- **The Woodson Banneker Jackson-Bey Division 330 UNIA-ACL Annual Kwanzaa Nia Celebration** in partnership with Heritage Gallery International, We Act Radio and Busboys and Poets will feature the candle-lighting ceremony, vocal performances, African drumming and dancing, and presentation of the Marcus Mosiah Garvey Outstanding Community Service Awards. Join us for our annual Kwanzaa event as we celebrate 100 years of Convention, 100 years of the Red, Black and Green flag and 40 years as a Washington, DC Division in 2020!!! Admission is Free. Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441. Passcode: VDH1WA. For more info. call 202.529.3935 or 202.780.8443 and visit our website at www.unia-acl330.org. Starts at 6pm.

KUUMBA (CREATIVITY) THURSDAY, DEC 31th

- **Collective Sharing for Collective Healing.** Join AWWA for a virtual presentation of community healing. The keynote speaker is Dr. Alim Muhammad, topic Creatively Bringing Healing to the community. Performers: Ayana Gregory, Ka'ba Soul Singer, MuMu Fresh, Bilal Sunni Ali. Invited speakers: Dr. Gerald Douglas, ND, Dr. Yew, Shekhem Tepraim Sa, Mama Ayo Handy-Kendi, Chaka Zula, Dr. Kokayi Patterson, and others. Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441. Passcode: VDH1WA. For program info or update, go to www.cehaw.com & click on Events or call 202.517.4262. 5pm until 8:45pm.

IMANI (FAITH) FRIDAY, JAN. 1st

- **Annual Free the Land Kwanzaa 3.1 - 5 Mile Fun Run/Walk/Bike at Lake Artemisia Park**, Berwyn Rd. and 55th Ave., Greenbelt, MD. Make a healthy new start for the New Year! Bring the whole family! For more info. Contact: Baba Prince Kolani 202.520.4669 or prince.kolani@yahoo.com. Starts at 12 noon.
- **Community Kwanzaa Imani Celebration and Afrikan Consciousness Award Presentation** co-sponsored by the DC PanAfrikan Council of Elders who will be honoring outstanding members of the next generation of leaders, carrying the torch of freedom in this century. Ancestral Altar by ADACI. Performances by the Malcolm X Drummers & Dancers, Benjamin Sands, Ka'Ba Soulsinger and presentation of this year's Afrikan Consciousness Award to our distinguished Afrikan Elder and Master Drummer Joseph Ngwa. Let's close out this year's Kwanzaa celebration together on a positive upbeat note. Zoom Meeting ID: 825 5737 2441. Passcode: VDH1WA. For more information please call 240.832.7203 or 202.529.3635. Starts at 6pm.

All events listed are FREE and Family Friendly

THE NGUZO SABA - AFRICAN PROVERBS -WISE SAYINGS

Umoja - Unity - Sisterhood - Familyhood - Community - Pan Afrikanism - Love - Respect - Brotherhood

"Help me during the rainy season and I'll help you during the dry season" (Nigeria)

"Two birds disputed about a kernel when a third swooped down and carted it off" (Congo)

Kujichagulia - Self determination - Study - Teach - Agitate - Educate - Organize - Strategize - Persistence.

"Advise and counsel him, if he does not listen, let adversity teach him" (Ethiopia)

"It is the duty of children to wait on Elders, and not the Elders on children" (Kenya)

"What you do today that is worthwhile inspires others to act at some future time" (The Honorable Marcus Garvey)



Ujima - Collective Work and Responsibility - cooperate - mobilize - improvement - immerse - Implement - self-reliance - group solidarity - 10-10-50.org

"I will do it later on is a brother to I didn't do it" (Ghana)

"The man on his feet carries off the share of the man sitting down" (Guinea)

"A man's bread and butter is only insured when he works for it" (Marcus Garvey)

Ujamaa - Cooperative Economics - group economics - economics for self-reliance - Buy Black - Leverage - Donate - self-sufficiency - APPEAL - Povernomics

"A little rain each day will fill the rivers to overflowing" (Liberia)

"Knowledge is like a garden, if it is not cultivated it cannot be harvested" (Guinea)



Nia - Purpose - Purposeful - ingenuity - elevate - venerate - accountable - punctual - Optimal health

"A big fish is caught with big bait"

"Wise men learn more from fools than fools learn from wise men"

"He who upsets a thing should know how to rearrange it" (Sierra Leone)

Kuumba - Creativity - critical thinking - affluence - authenticity - knowledge - wisdom - African centered code of conducts - Leadership - healing - prudence -vigilance

"Expect only from others what you are willing to give"

"No one tests the depth of a river with both feet" (Ghana)

Imani - Faith - Devotion - Good Character - Spiritual(Spirit-u-all) - Sacredness - Endurance - Trust - cohesion - Fellowship - Humility - Perseverance

"We must launch a cultural revolution to un-brainwash an entire people" (Malcolm X)

"One head does not constitute a Council"

"To go back to tradition is the first step forward" (Dr. Maulana Karenga)

"A good deed is something one returns" (Guinea)



2021 UBC's Call to Action Forums

Feb 19 - "Medical Torture, Terror and Tynanny: Black Bodies Under the System of White Supremacy": Is there a pathway for Black people to trust medical science under the system of white supremacy? This forum will discuss the Black experience with science, healthcare, and medical technologies from capture and colonization to the COVID-19 vaccine and beyond. How can we develop survival strategies that ensure a healthy future for Black communities? 7pm

March 19 - Back to Africa: Where we showcase noteworthy projects/activities taking place on the continent of Africa that individuals or organizations from the DC Area have started or work with, that make important and meaningful contributions to the advancement of Black people. This year we have: Return and Fetch it - connecting with our African Future. Meet with Nana Ama Akyemfoa Nkosuo Hemma (AKA, Mama Thea) of Saltpond Ghana. As she discusses the importance of developing Africa and building bridges within the diaspora. 7pm

April 16 - An Afrikan-Centered Psychological Maximizing Black Mental Health: Coping with the pandemic: Dr. Mawiyah Kambon will use her more than 40 years' experience as an Afrikan-Centered psychologist and Traditional Afrikan Spiritual practitioner to illustrate some powerful and practical ways for Black people to address and better the collective mental health of the Community, during the current and historical pandemics that Afrikan People have faced. 7pm

May 22 - Kuzaliwa 2021: Developing a Black Political Agenda - The Politics of Malcolm X as a way forward for African People. Join us for United Black Communities Annual day-long conference, a tribute to our martyred hero Brother Omowale El Hajj Malik El Shabazz, AKA Malcolm X, where we examine the political, social, cultural and historical significance of our "Shining Black Prince", in the context of the conditions and challenges facing African people globally. 1pm until

June 18 - African Spirituality: Healing from the pandemic: This forum will examine the role of African Spiritual formations and communities in our quest to be a free and self-determining people. We will examine the role that African religion has played in the liberation struggles of the past, present and future. 7pm

July 16 - Re-Awakening the Afrikan Genius Mind – Baba T'Shango Mbilishaka has over 15 years of experience teaching, socializing and empowering Afrikan children in public, private and independent Afrikan-Centered schools. He has studied under several renowned Afrikan scholars and teachers and will use the wisdom that he has obtained by sharing tools for Afrikan parents to build stronger bonds with Afrikan children, which is covered extensively in his phenomenal book, There Has To Be Another Way. 7pm

August 20 - Movie Night and Discussion of the Documentary: 1804 - The Hidden History of Haiti, about the untold history of the Haitian Revolution. Produced by the creator of the best-selling Hidden Colors film series, 1804 goes in-depth about the four principal players who were instrumental in Haiti's independence: Makandal, Dutty Bookman, Toussaint Louverture, and Jean-Jacques Dessalines. This documentary give a competing look into the strategies, the motivation and the mindset that led to Haiti being the only slave population who successfully overthrew their oppressors. 7pm

Sep 17 - An Analysis of the Development of Black Classical/Cultural Music (jazz) by way of a tribute to John Coltrane. This annual event features a look at Black Music and its impact on the Black Liberation Movement through a music and poetic journey of one of its most influential practitioner, Brother John "Ohnedaruth" Coltrane. There will be live performances by local and regional Black musicians. 7pm

Unless otherwise stated, all programs will be held on Zoom. (Meeting ID: 828 5725 5435 Passcode: 9YFTMc)

For more information, call 202-529-3635 240-832-7203 or email is at ubcindc@yahoo.com or follow us @unitedblackcommunity

LCPAN Community Calendar of Major Events for 2021

February - Join Ile Imole for a special tribute to Black History Month. Details forthcoming, go to ileimole.com to learn more. Event will be posted in 2021.

February 6, 13, 20 and 27 - UNIA-ACL Div. 330, 4th Annual "Know Thyself" Black History Month Book Fair and Authors' Forum. 2-4 PM. For more information, contact (202) 317-1616 and visit our website at www.unia-acl330.org.

February - Ausar Auset Society in DC 5th Annual African Traditional Spiritual Relationship Conference www.AusarAusetDc.org

April - Ankobea presents The 2021 Sankofa Conference. For more information, TBA. visit Ankobea.org.

June - ADACI 29th Annual Ancestral Commemoration and Riverwalk. Location and time - TBA. Visit www.ADACI.net. For more information, contact – 301.292.6822.

July - The 3rd Annual D.C. Pan-African Festival - Time and location - TBA. Visit dcpanafricanfestival.org. For more information, email lcpanindc@gmail.com or call 202. 529.3635.

August 17 - UNIA-ACL Div. 330, Marcus Garvey Day Celebration. In remembrance, observance and celebration of the Honorable Marcus Mosiah Garvey and the UNIA-ACL. Time 6-8PM. For more information, contact (202) 529-3635 or (202) 780-8443 and visit our website at www.unia-acl330.org.

August 17 - Marcus Garvey Day Celebration. Virtual event celebrating the 134th anniversary of the birth of Marcus Garvey. Possible outdoor event depending on Covid-19 pandemic protocols. Details TBA

September 26 - APPEAL Incorporated's Annual Founder's Day Celebration/Fundraiser, Location/Time – TBA . Please visit APPEALinc.org for more info, or contact us at info@appealinc.org or 800.711.7851.



Please support LCPAN and the Kwanzaa Planning Committee:

Kwanzaadc@gmail.com or call 202.529.3635

PayPal to LCPANinDC@gmail.com or CashApp \$AfricanFreedomFund

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2021 CALENDAR

January 2021							February 2021							March 2021							April 2021						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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30	31																										

September 2021							October 2021							November 2021							December 2021						
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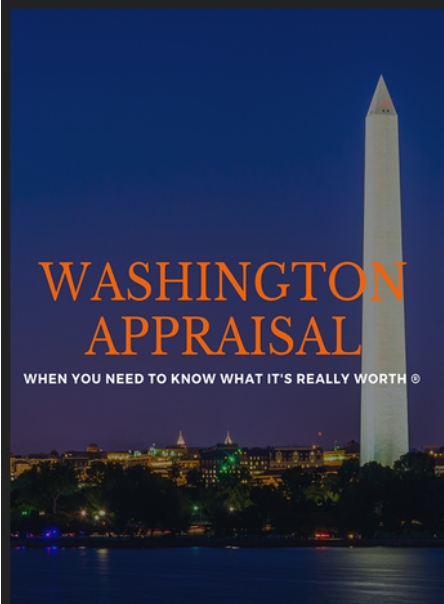
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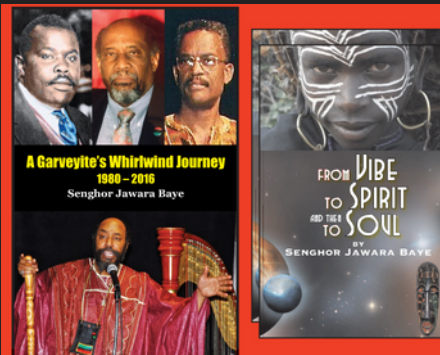
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- Frances Cress Welsing, M.D.

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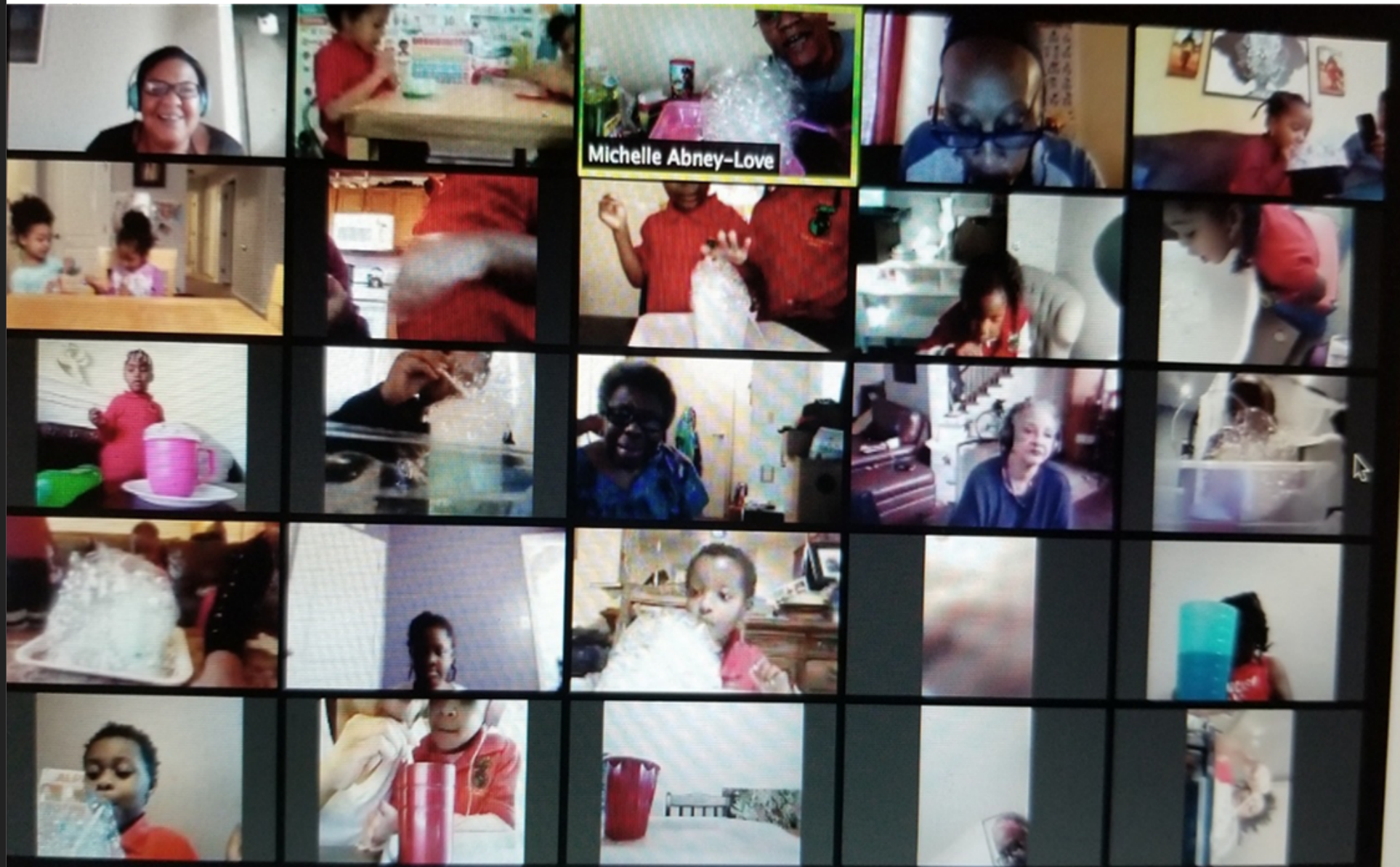
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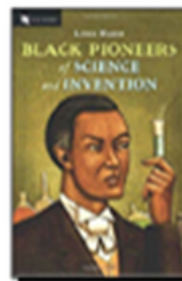
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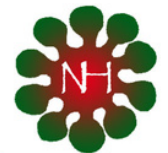
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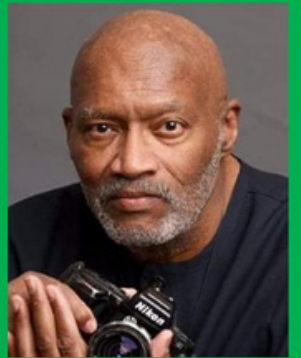
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