

Massachusetts-Based Diversity Equity & Inclusion Organization Showcases Black History Month Amid Increased Anti-DEI Sentiment In The US

For Immediate Release

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Boston, Mass - The US UK Summit On Race kicks off its most recent signature event with its Feb 1st Virtual Program titled "**Black History: Peril or Promise?**" The two-hour program will discuss the historical significance of Black History Month and its importance to the United States and other countries around the world.

The virtual event takes place on Thursday, February 1, 2024, from 11 am to 1 pm EST on the Zoom platform. Nearly 200 attendees from multiple countries, including the United States and the United Kingdom, are expected to participate. The event is free and open to the general public worldwide.

The keynote speaker is business leader and activist **Hilina Ajakaiye**, Executive Vice President of Meet Boston. Panelists include **Dr. J Keith Motley**, Former Chancellor and current Professor at UMass Boston; **Tracey Williams-Dilliard**, Publisher and CEO of the Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder; **Catherine LeBlanc**, Legacy Leader of the National Black MBA Association and UK-based **Jacy Stewart**, a social impact and investment consultant.

Black History Month has been targeted by several conservative anti-DEI groups in their efforts to devalue its merit and, in some cases, pass legislation against it, similar to the moves to restrict and ban critical race theory.

In 1926, **Dr. Carter G. Woodson** initiated the celebration of Negro History Week, which corresponded with the birthdays of Frederick Douglass and Abraham Lincoln. In 1976, this celebration expanded to include the entire month of February, and today, Black History Month garners support throughout the country as people of all ethnic and social backgrounds discuss the Black experience. *The Association for the Study of African American Life and History (ASALH)*, the organization founded by Dr. Woodson, views the promotion of Black History Month as one of the most important components of advancing Dr. Woodson's legacy.

The US-UK SUMMIT on RACE is an initiative launched by the Boston-based Multicultural Symposium Series (MSS) and its Founder, Global Diversity Professional Carole Copeland Thomas. The Summit explores the impact of RACE in the United States and the United Kingdom as both countries struggle with racism, strife, and discriminatory practices that are associated with oppression across the world.

Founded in 2021, following the first anniversary of **George Floyd's** murder, the US UK Summit On Race has held nine virtual events that have attracted hundreds of attendees from ten+ countries worldwide. It is sponsored by several US-based corporations and continues to identify corporate sponsors who value the advancement of global diversity, equity, and inclusion.

US UK Organizers include William Wells, Jr. (Minneapolis, Minnesota), Garth Dallas (Liverpool, England), and Carole Copeland Thomas (Boston, Massachusetts).

Advance registration - which is free- is required to participate.

For additional information and to register, visit www.mssconnect.com

