



Accelerating Ideas into Action

Centering Economic Equity: The Power of Intentionality

April 16-18, 2024 ~ New Orleans, Louisiana

Conference Co-Chairs:

Lynette Bell, Truist Foundation

Rev. Cory Anderson, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation

AGENDA

Tuesday, April 16

Pre-Conference & Registration Day

10:00 AM

Registration Opens
First Floor Main Hall

11:30 AM

Networking Lunch - Gravier Ballroom

12:00 - 4:00 PM

Asset Funders Network Pre-Conference
Gravier Ballroom

*Speakers: Abby Hughes Holsclaw, Asset Funders Network
Erika Wright, JPMorgan Chase & Co.*

12:00 - 1:45 PM

Louisiana AFN – 5 Years Strong and Forward
Gravier Ballroom

The conference kick-off will include marking a milestone – the fifth anniversary of the Louisiana Asset Funders Network (LA AFN)- and spotlighting efforts to propel economic mobility across the Deep South and the Gulf Coast. *Speakers: Erika Wright, JPMorgan Chase; Jamie Schmill, Foundation for Louisiana; and Jannease Seastrunk; Red River Bank*

MainStage: A Dialogue on Redressing Racial Segregation
Gravier Ballroom

Step into the heart of the pre-conference event with speakers delving into the roots of racial segregation and unveiling actionable strategies for social equity and justice. Speakers will enlighten and challenge us to have a powerful dialogue on addressing racial segregation, followed by two immersive site tours exploring equitable transportation and housing. *Speakers: Cashauna Hill, Fair Housing Action Center & The Redress Movement, Ashleigh Gardere, Policy Link*

1:45 - 2:00 PM

Break & Board Buses for Mobile Sessions
First Floor Main Hall

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Pre-Conference Mobile Sessions

Option 1: The Future of Equitable Transportation

Explore New Orleans on New Orleans Transit with the Ride New Orleans Team in a simulation focusing on transportation and economic justice.

Speaker: Courtney Jackson, Executive Director, Ride New Orleans

Tuesday, April 16

Pre-Conference & Registration Day

2:00 - 4:00 PM

Pre-Conference Mobile Sessions (continued)

Option 2: Community-Centered Approaches to Housing Affordability

Join us for a tour of People's Housing+, a one-stop hub for affordable housing led by dynamic figures shaping the affordable housing environment in Louisiana.

Speakers: Kathy Laborde, Gulf Coast Housing Partnership, Mike Grote, New Orleans Office/Alembic Community Development, Colin Felsman, People's Housing+, Terri Gage, Habitat for Humanity/St. Tammany Parish

4:30 - 8:00 PM

AFN Board Meeting & Dinner New Levee - 2nd Floor

6:00 - 8:00 PM

New Orleans District Inspired Dine-Arounds

AFN has thoughtfully curated a range of dining options across New Orleans's diverse districts. Invite a colleague or a newfound companion, and immerse yourself in a self-guided culinary journey through the various neighborhoods.

Wednesday, April 17

General Session Day One

7:30 AM

Registration First Floor Main Hall

7:30 - 8:45 AM

Breakfast & Networking Gravier A/B

7:30 - 8:45 AM

Advancing the Financial Well-Being of Youth and Young Adults Networking Breakfast (Pre-Registration Required) Fulton - 2nd Floor

7:30 - 8:45 AM

The Health-Wealth Connection Breakfast Roundtable Discussion (Pre-Registration Required) Tchoupitoulas - 2nd Floor

9:00 - 9:30 AM

Welcome to New Orleans Gravier Ballroom *Speakers: Lynette Bell, President, Truist Foundation Joe Antolin, President and CEO, Asset Funders Network Brandon Rapp, Louisiana Program Officer, Asset Funders Network*

9:30 - 10:30 AM

MainStage Session: Exploring the Roots and Horizons of Our Shared Asset- Building Journey Gravier Ballroom Join AFN as we celebrate 20 years, drawing inspiration from lessons learned in the asset-building movement. Together, let's honor our strengths, tackle challenges, pay tribute to our origins, and chart a course for a future. *Speakers: Joe Antolin, Asset Funders Network, Brandee McHale, Citi, Qiana Thomason, Health Forward Foundation*

10:30 - 10:45 AM

Break

10:45 - 12:00 PM

MainStage Session: Centering Community Voice and Power Gravier Ballroom Learn from practitioners and grantmakers how to move from understanding to intentional action to center community voices, redefine power dynamics, and enhance accountability towards communities systematically excluded from wealth building. *Speakers: Tracey Greene-Washington, Indigo Innovation Group & Founder, CoThinkk (Moderator), Regan Gruber Moffitt, St. David's Foundation, Claudia Arroyo, Prospera, Stephanie Gutierrez, Seven Fires*

12:00 - 12:15 PM

Break

Wednesday, April 17

General Session Day One

12:15 - 1:15 PM

Lunch & Regional/National Table Networking

Gravier Ballroom

Speaker: Monique Carswell, Walmart

1:15 - 1:30 PM

Break

1:30 - 2:45 PM

Breakout Sessions

Creative Models and Supportive Policies For Equitable Homeownership

Fulton - 2nd Floor

Explore creative pathways, such as shared ownership programs, to effectively reduce racial and gender disparities in homeownership while also preserving our communities. *Speakers: Abe Hudson, Walton Family Foundation (Moderator), Sara Albright, Excellerate Foundation, Kiyadh Burt, HOPE Enterprise Corporation*

CDFIs: Essential Partners for Racial Equity in Small Business

Julia - 2nd Floor

This panel will highlight successful CDFI models, identify support gaps, and propose actions to increase CDFI effectiveness to provide capital and technical support to small business owners, especially women and people of color in low-and moderate- income communities. *Speakers: Gina Nisbeth, 9th & Clinton Advisory (Moderator), Willow Lung Aman, National Center for Smart Growth & Small Business Anti-Displacement Network, Darrin Williams, Southern BanCorp, Bulbul Gupta, Pacific Community Ventures*

Collaborations for Quality Jobs and Equitable Workforce Systems

New Levee - 2nd Floor

This session will explore examples of funder collaboration to ensure high-quality jobs, enhance employment wraparound services, fortify worker protections, promote power-building, and advance equitable workforce systems. *Speakers: Paula D'Ambrosa, Prudential Financial, (Moderator), Nordia Savage, The Connecticut Project, Greg Mangum, United Way of Metropolitan Dallas*

Fines and Fees: Innovative Strategies to Advance Financial Justice

Tchoupitoulas - 2nd Floor

Examine progress made through multi-state initiatives and the potential for future investments. Whether new or experienced in this field, you will gain actionable insights into philanthropy's role in disrupting harmful fines and fees practices.

Speakers: Anand Subramanian (Moderator), San Francisco Foundation, Priya Sarathy Jones, Fines and Fees Justice Center, Stephanie Campos-Bui, University of California Policy Advocacy Clinic, Francesca Jean-Baptiste, The Annie E. Casey Foundation

2:45 - 3:00 PM

Break

3:00 - 4:15 PM

MainStage Session: Unlocking Philanthropy's Disruptive Potential

Gravier Ballroom

Embrace the discomfort of addressing the contradictions and responsibilities inherent in funding environmental and economic justice work. Reflect on your evolving role while committing to a reparative framework that includes strategies like supporting community-led and grassroots movements. *Speakers: Aria Florant, Liberation Ventures, Raquel Hatter (Introduction) & Wendy Jackson (Moderator), Kresge Foundation, Andre Perry, Brookings Metro, Ryan P. Haygood, Esq., New Jersey Institute for Social Justice*

4:15 - 4:30 PM

Day One Recap & Taking us Toward a Toast to Twenty!

Gravier Ballroom

Join us as we parade toward a toast to twenty experiencing the lively rhythms of New Orleans' second-line band tradition, rooted in the ancient circle and ring dances of West Africa. Enslaved Africans brought this cherished tradition to New Orleans, where it blossomed into a powerful ritual for African Americans, particularly in festive processions. *Speaker: Lynette Bell, President, Truist Foundation*

Wednesday, April 17

General Session Day One

5:30 - 7:30 PM

**Reception at Ogden Museum of Southern Art
925 Camp Street, New Orleans, LA 70130**

Join AFN at the Ogden Museum of Southern Art, as we raise a toast to the last 20 years and look ahead to our collective future. Located in the vibrant Warehouse Arts District of downtown New Orleans, the Ogden Museum of Southern Art holds the largest and most comprehensive collection of Southern art. *Speaker: Elizabeth Brister, Entergy*
***Buses board from First Floor Main Hall at 5:15 PM**

Thursday, April 18

General Session Day Two

7:00 - 8:30 AM

**New Orleans Historical Slave Trade Breakfast Conversation (Pre-Registration Required)
Gravier A**

Join Mr. Leon Waters, a local historian and publisher, for a conversation on the 'Port of New Orleans and its Legacy of Chattel Slavery.' Descendant of the largest slave revolt in the city's history, Mr. Waters will illuminate the harrowing journey of enslaved people in New Orleans and their profound impact on American society. This trauma-informed and culturally somatic discussion encourages us to collectively explore our responsibility and potential to transform into equitable funders for the future. *Sponsored by Arkansas Black Philanthropy Collaborative*

7:00 - 8:30 AM

**Breakfast & Networking
Gravier B**

8:30 - 9:45 AM

**MainStage Session: Philanthropy Mobilizing Together for Policy & Systems Change
Gravier Ballroom**

Philanthropy has the potential to challenge established norms and propel systemic change by mobilizing voices and actions. During this MainStage session, funders, regardless of their size, focus, or sphere of interest, will depart with fresh, inspiring ideas and actionable strategies, empowering each participant to contribute to the long-lasting transformation toward a more equitable society. *Speakers: Yvette Ruiz, Exec. Director of Corporate Responsibility, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Elizabeth Brister, Entergy, Mendi Blue-Paca, Fairfield County's Community Foundation, Jessamyn Sabbag, San Francisco Foundation, John-Michael Cortez, Google Fiber (Moderator)*

Regional Representatives: *Arkansas- Rev. Shantell Hinton Hill, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Bay Area- Rosa Cabrera, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Central Texas- Yvette Ruiz, JPMorgan Chase & Co., Louisiana- Jannease Seastrunk, Red River Bank, New Mexico- Sara Keller, Nusenda Foundation, New York- Marco Villegas, JPMorgan Chase & Co., North Texas- Ashley McIver, Communities Foundation of Texas, Oregon- Annette Case, Asset Funders Network, San Antonio- Sandra Martinez, Methodist Healthcare Ministries, and Washington- Regina Malveaux, United Way of King County*

9:45 - 10:00 AM

Break

10:00 - 11:30 AM

Breakout Sessions

**Investing in Care: Lessons from the Field
Fulton - 2nd Floor**

The pandemic emphasized the universal importance of the care economy, spanning childcare, paid leave, and support for older adults and people with disabilities. Explore the care economy's scope, learn about innovative models for justice, and gain strategies for enhanced philanthropic collaborations. *Speakers: Camille Emeagwali, New York Women's Foundation (Moderator), Brooke Couch Freeland, Couch Family Foundation, Anna Wadia, The CARE Fund, Kippi Waters, Cooperative Home Care Associates*

Thursday, April 18

10:00 - 11:30 AM

General Session Day Two

Breakout Sessions (continued)

Degrees Without Debt

Tchoupitoulas - 2nd Floor

Join us for an interactive discussion on how philanthropy can lead in addressing the pressing issue of student loan debt and forgiveness. We'll explore a continuum of strategies for funders, including scholarships, cutting-edge research and policy initiatives, and pioneering programs that diminish the reliance on loans. *Speakers: Ray Boshara, Washington University Social Policy Institute & U.S. Senator Bob Casey (Moderator), Tanya I. Garcia, The Institute for College Access & Success, Kesa Jessup, The Winston-Salem Foundation, Kevin Almasy, Dell Foundation*

Guiding the Way in Guaranteed Income Grantmaking

Julia - 2nd Floor

Guaranteed Income (GI) programs continue to grow, providing evidence of key design features and the critical importance of moving them to scale through systems change. Discover how funders can influence the future of GI programs and leave with a practical playbook aligned with your unique mission and positioning. *Speakers: Ciara Coleman, Manager, Economic Practice, Economic Equity Initiative, Rockefeller Foundation (Moderator), Lori Pflingst, Washington Department of Social and Health Services, Hope Wollensack, Georgia Resilience and Opportunity Fund, Lawrence Bowdish, Wells Fargo*

Philanthropy's Opportunity to Impact the Broadband Gap

New Levee - 2nd Floor

The federal Broadband Equity, Access, and Deployment (BEAD) program presents a unique opportunity for philanthropy to join forces with public and private capital to enhance broadband access and boost the financial health of marginalized communities. Join us to discuss innovative approaches to expand broadband accessibility, affordability, and adoption. *Speakers: Marycruz De Leon, Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas (Moderator), Thomas Tyler, ConnectLA, JoAnn Melchor, New Mexico Foundation, Catherine Krantz, Communities Unlimited*

11:30 - 11:45 AM

Break

11:45 AM - 12:30 PM

Lunch & Regional/National Table Networking - Gravier Ballroom

12:30 - 1:30 PM

MainStage Session: The Imperative of Influencing Change

Gravier Ballroom

Our final MainStage session synthesizes insights from the past three days, delving into the 'why' and 'how' of collective action and change. Inspirational leaders in the fields of belonging and collective action will shed light on how our influence transcends traditional grantmaking. By strategically leveraging all the facets of our influence, we can reach our shared objective of closing the racial wealth gap and attaining economic equity. *Speakers: Robert Burns, Walton Family Foundation, Rev. Cory Anderson, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation, Anna Giffy Opoku-Agyeman, Research Scholar in Economics, Public Policy Doctoral Candidate at Harvard University*

1:30 - 1:45 PM

Closing Remarks & Call to Action

Gravier Ballroom

Speakers: Jeffrey Kim, The California Wellness Foundation, Rev. Cory Anderson, Winthrop Rockefeller Foundation

Wednesday, May 8

3:00 - 4:30 PM ET

Conference Virtual Encore

AFN conferences are designed to be rich with learnings, insights and connections that yield actionable solutions. We also know that ideas need to marinate, and collaborative solutions require facilitation and nurturing. To that end, we invite you all to join us for a Virtual Encore focused on the next first steps each of us can take on our journey to intentionally center equity. This 90-minute session will also be instrumental in shaping AFN's future programming to ensure members have the research and resources necessary for the road ahead.