



NATIONAL
**BLACK FOOD
& JUSTICE**
ALLIANCE



ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT 2022

Table of Contents

Introduction.....3

About.....4

Meet the Staff.....5

Leadership Team.....6

Governance Councils.....7

Members.....8

Financials.....10

Strategic Plan.....11

Organizing to Build Power.....12

Building Visibility.....16

The Alliance in the News.....18

Institution Building.....20

Direct Action.....24

Togetherness Space and Emerging Collective Wisdom.....26

Appendix.....28

Contact.....29

Recipes From Our Network.....30



Introduction



Dear NBFJA Community,

As Co-Executive Directors of the National Black Food & Justice Alliance, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for your contributions and dedication to the collective work and goals of this coalition of Black-led food justice organizations, collectives and farms. We are proud to be part of such a dynamic community of people who are committed to promoting Black food sovereignty and building a more just food system.

In 2022, we accomplished so much together. We opened our first round of funding through the Resource Commons, a collectively governed initiative that makes investments in Black farm enterprises and collectives with the strategic aim of preserving, reclaiming, and defending Black farmers and their land. We launched The Agroecology Center's first site, the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology at Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, FL. This center provides an interdisciplinary space for Black farmers, students, and community members to share, learn, and amplify regenerative agriculture and ecological land use practices and policies. We provided capacity building support for a second year through our Mutual Aid Resource Council (MARC) grants to support the larger Black food and land community as well as facilitated succession planning for our members to ensure the sustainability of their organizations and the health of those who have dedicated their lives to this work.

Looking ahead, we are excited to embark upon our five-year strategic plan which outlines our goals for the future and sets a clear path forward for our organization. We are committed to continuing our work towards Black food sovereignty so that Black communities have control over our own food systems and are able to make decisions about what we eat and how it is produced.

We know that there is still much work to be done, but we are confident that together we can achieve our goals and build the self-determined food systems our communities need and deserve. We look forward to continuing to work with you all in the years to come.

Onward,

Cicely & Dr. Jas, Co-Executive Directors

About

The National Black Food & Justice Alliance (NBFJA) is a coalition of Black-led organizations aimed at developing Black leadership, supporting Black communities, organizing for Black self-determination, and building institutions for Black food sovereignty and liberation.

Since 2015, NBFJA has worked to convene partners around the country. With deep expertise in Black food security and land work in addition to legal, financial, organizing, and community-building expertise, we've collectively strategized interventions around the increasing urgency to protect and recover Black land and build a strong, sustainable food system.

At NBFJA we focus our work on Black food sovereignty, self-determining food economies, and land. We approach our work through the lens of organizing people, building institutions, and amplifying culture. Together, we are designing, building, and protecting the nourishing and liberatory spaces our communities need and absolutely deserve.



New Phase of Independence

In 2022, the National Black Food & Justice Alliance officially received our own 501 c 3 status, transitioning from our fiscal sponsorship with The Praxis Project. We are grateful for the support of [The Praxis Project](#) during our formative years, and look forward to continuing to hold and advance resources towards our collective Black food justice movement.

Meet the Staff

- Alexis McKenney, Field Coordinator
- Cicely Garrett, Co-Executive Director
- Dara Cooper, Co-founder & Senior Advisor
- Dr. Jasmine Jackson, Co-Executive Director
- justin king, Field Organizer
- Kenni Walker, Operations & Finance Director
- Kenya Crumel, Black Land & Power Director
- Kidra Coulter, Operations and Logistics Coordinator
- LeeAnn Morrisette, Communications and Culture Director
- randolph carr III, Field Director
- troya wright, Field Organizer

NBFJA added an additional Field Organizer, troya wright, as well as a Field Coordinator, Alexis McKenney. In the Summer of 2022, long-term contributor and strategist randolph carr III, transitioned from his role as Field Director to pursue his doctoral degree.



Members at our 2022 Annual Membership Meeting in Franklinton Center for Bricks in North Carolina

Leadership Team

Our organization is stewarded by an elected leadership body that is composed of active NBFJA members who oversee the governance, operations and strategies of the Alliance.



Baba Fred Carter
Black Oaks Center for Sustainable Renewable
Energy, Pembroke Township, IL (Chair)



Mama Savonala "Savi" Horne
Land Loss Prevention Project,
NC (Co-Chair)



Chanowk Yisrael
Yisrael Family Farm,
Sacramento, CA



Mama Dorathy Barker
Operation Spring Plant,
Oxford, NC



Iyafalola Omobola
Peoples Advocacy Institute,
Jackson, MS



Piper Carter
Detroit Black Community Food Security
Network, Detroit, MI



Tosha Phonix
ACRES,
St. Louis, MO



Carlton Turner
Mississippi Center for Cultural Production,
Utica, MS



Eric Jackson
Black Yield Institute,
Baltimore, MD

Governance Councils

Governance Councils are member-led formations for the purpose of advising the Leadership Team, redistributing resources, and fostering the well-being and sustainability of the Alliance.

Umoja Transformation Council

The Umoja Transformation Council holds and promotes collective healing, self-preservation, and wellness practices as well as responds to conflict and harm as it emerges.

- Iyafalola Omobola - Peoples Advocacy Institute, Jackson, MS (Chair)
- Ife Kilimanjaro - Soul Fire Farm, Petersburg, NY
- Emanuel Brown - Acorn Center for Restoration and Freedom, Covington, GA
- Mama Muhjah Shakur - Natures Garden for Victory & Peace, Tuskegee, AL

Resource Commons Council

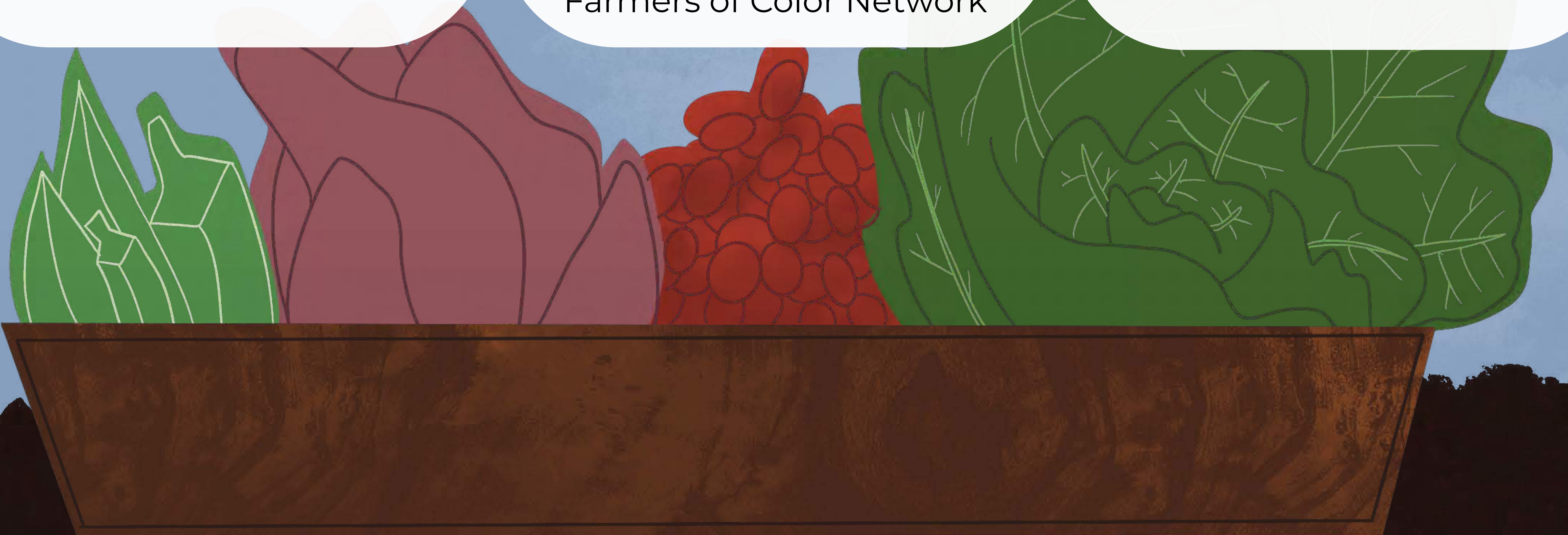
The Resource Commons Council works to make strategic investments in farm enterprises and to remove land from the speculative market for the benefit of Black farming collectives.

- Carlton Turner - Mississippi Center for Cultural Production, Utica, MS (Chair)
- Jenga Mwendo - Backyard Gardeners Network, New Orleans, LA
- Tahz Walker - Earthseed Land Collective, Durham, NC
- Mama Asantewaa Harris - Sister's Heath and Wellness Collective, New York
- Ed Whitfield - Delta Commons, Mississippi Delta Region
- Mike Strode, Kola Nut Collaborative
- Çaca Yvaire, Northeast Farmers of Color Network

Mutual Aid Resource Council

The Mutual Aid Resource Council (MARC) allocate resources to support mutual aid, capacity building, and emergency assistance for members and Black farmers in our network.

- Tosha Phonix - ACRES, St. Louis, MO (Chair)
- Iyafalola Omobola - People's Advocacy Institute, Jackson, MS
- Dr. Muhjah Shakur - Nature's Garden for Victory and Peace, Tuskegee, AL
- Nikolette Barnes - Detroit Black Community Food Security Network, Detroit, MI



Members

We welcomed 10 new Anchor Organizations, one Beloved Organization, and two Cultivators into the Alliance bringing our growing power to 56 organizations and collectives in 2022.




Check out our robust list of member organizations below.

* new members

Acorn Center for Restoration and Freedom -
Covington, GA
ACRES - St. Louis, MO
Backyard Gardeners Network - New Orleans,
LA
Black Church Food Security Network -
Baltimore, MD
Black Dirt Farm Collective - Mid-Atlantic
Black Farmer Fund - New York
Black Feminist Project - Bronx, NY
Black Oaks Center - Pembroke Township, IL
Black Women's Blueprint - New York
Black Yield Institute - Baltimore, MD
*Boggs Rural Life Center - Keysville, GA
Brooklyn Movement Center - Brooklyn, NY
BUGS Cooperative of Pittsburgh -
Pittsburgh, PA
Cooperation Jackson - Jackson, MS
Delta Commons - Mississippi & Arkansas
Detroit Black Community Food Security
Network - Detroit, MI
Dreaming Out Loud - Washington, DC
Earthbound Builders - DMV area
Earthseed Land Collective - Durham NC
Farms to Grow, Inc - Oakland, CA
*Farmacia - New Orleans, LA
Feedom Freedom - Detroit, MI
*Fountain Heights Farm - Birmingham, LA
Foxfire Ranch - Waterford, MS
Fresh Future Farm - North Charleston, SC
Gangstas 2 Growers - Atlanta, GA
*Gem City Market - Dayton, OH
Grow Greater Englewood - Chicago, IL
Highlander Center - Jefferson County,
Tennessee
Hilltop Urban Garden - Tacoma, WA

iLogic at Solomon's Garden - Eutaw, Alabama
Jubilee Justice & Potlikker Capital -
New Orleans, LA
*Little Africa Food Co-op - Cleveland, OH
Land Loss Prevention Project - North Carolina
Mississippi Center for Cultural Production -
Utica, MS
Natures Garden for Victory and Peace -
Tuskegee, AL
OnDaFarm - Atlanta, GA
Operation Spring Plant - Oxford, NC
Our Mothers' Kitchens - Philadelphia, PA
People's Advocacy Institute - Jackson, MS
*Queen Mothers Market Cooperative -
Cincinnati, OH
Rethink New Orleans - New Orleans, LA
Rid-All Green Partnership - Cleveland, OH
*Sankara Farms - Kansas City, MO
Sisters Health and Wellness - New York
*Siyanda Land Collective - Cuba, AL
Soul Fire Farm - Petersburg, NY
Southeastern African American Farmers
Organic Network - Southeastern US
Southeast Michigan Producers Association
(SEMPA) - Royal Oaks, MI
SouthEats Cooperative - Washington, DC
*Symbodied - Durham, NC
*Tallahassee Food Network - Tallahassee, FL
*Happily Natural Day - Richmond, VA
Truly Living Well - Atlanta, GA
Wildseed Community Farm and Healing
Village - Dutchess County, NY
Yisrael Family Urban Farm - Sacramento, CA



In the past eight years, the National Black Food & Justice Alliance has grown from 13 member organizations to 56 organizations and three Cultivator Collectives. As we continue expanding, we aim to clarify our membership process and structure to ensure we remain impactful within our collective goals. In order to gain more clarity around engagement and to assess strategic alignment within NBFJA's current and prospective members, we've paused NBFJA membership intake with the goal of reopening by late 2023.



Financials

Contributed to LIFE/Open Letter group's \$1.5 million and with \$175,000 in funds going directly to NBFJA Members.

Contributed to the governance of the Collective Courage Fund (CCF) for its second year. The CCF granted 3 Black-led food cooperatives \$30,000 each.

Distributed Mutual Aid Resource Council (MARC) grants to 87 recipients just over \$700,000 in total awards.

Cultivated nearly \$5 million in resources to support The Agroecology Center's HBCU initiative.



Farmers' Market

Strategic Plan

For the past two years, the leadership, staff and membership body at the Alliance have been working diligently to clarify and advance our strategic priorities. We are grateful to Sheelah Muhammad of S M pact Consulting who served as our strategic planning consultant throughout this process. The result - the development of a comprehensive 5 year strategic plan, Our pathways to accomplishing our 5 year goals are:

Membership

Develop Black leadership and strengthen member networks with a sharpened collective strategy to build greater power and greater alignment around collective goals; and grow membership base to 100 organizations.

Cultivator Collectives

Establish strategic priorities and chart next steps for Cultivator Collectives: Blackademics, Kazi Mob, and Culture Collective.

Black Land & Power

Diminish the negative impact of land loss and land exploitation in Black communities and recover land for community-controlled regenerative agriculture— regaining stewardship of 3,000 acres of land.

Self-Determining Food Economies

Increase the capacity of Black-led sustainable food systems infrastructure including the supply chain and cooperative retail work – with the goal of weakening the impacts of and dependency on the industrial/corporate agricultural system.

Policy

Develop policy priorities uplifting our collective demands and defending our communities at the national, regional, state, and local levels.

Climate Resilience

Increase resilience to the damaging climate-related impacts through advocacy and action on both climate mitigation and adaptation in Black communities.

Organizing to Build Power



BLACK LAND & POWER

The Black Land and Power (BLP) is a member-led working group that focuses on collective visioning and strategies towards Black land retention and recovery. Land, safe space, and the means for self-determination continue to be assaulted and undermined, thus the need to form an organized, multifaceted response is urgent. BLP's mission is to reclaim millions of acres of Black land and build a strong land-based movement. Given the wealth of brilliant local and regional organizations working on and concerned about Black land loss prevention and recovery, we have the assets we need to intervene in powerful ways.

Land Stewardship Training

We've set out to train 100 Black land stewards and farmers over the course of each year as a part of our commitment to building the capacity of Black people to sustain collective land space, increase community resilience, and ensure food sovereignty in the Black community. Since launching the program in September 2021, over 180 participants have attended trainings at nine sites arming them with tangible knowledge about creating and sustaining land and food-related operations. [Check out a visual recap from our first year.](#)





"I left the land stewardship training with many gifts, the most prominent being that of community. I feel infinitely blessed to be in community with my cohort, the SF family, and the land that held us. In truth, most of my spiritual earth-based practices have been done in private or very small circles, so it was so affirming and freeing and joyful to live in love with land, out loud and in chorus for other beautiful melanated people; to share fascination with mushrooms and soil, dance in the rain, revel in the mountain darkness, pray silently under a star-strewn sky, invite ancestors and plantkin to join us at the table. It was a gorgeous experience."

— Khaliah D. Pitts, Our Mothers' Kitchens

2nd Cohort

In September 2022, members were invited to submit proposals for hosting trainings. Staff identified the second cohort of five land steward training sites with two tiers of training. These organizations who are continuing the work in 2023 are:

- Sankara Farms - Kansas City, MO
- Natures Garden for Victory and Peace - Tuskegee, AL
- Siyanda Land Collective - Cuba, AL
- iLOGIC - Eutaw, AL
- Dreaming Out Loud - Washington, DC

SELF DETERMINING FOOD ECONOMIES

The Self-Determining Food Economies (SDFE) member-led working group was built on the understanding and need to radically shift from a white dominant power paradigm dependent on the extraction of Black and Brown wealth and labor towards one of self-determination - owning all parts of our labor, businesses, and systems of monetization, including the utilization of alternative economies consisting of, but not limited to, cooperatives and shared economies. SDFE's mission is to reclaim our economies within the food system by centering the principles of self-determination in building our collective power.



Black-led Co-op Peer Calls

In partnership with Food Co-op Initiative, NBFJA hosted 10 Black-led co-op peer calls with experts who presented on a range of topics from participatory budgeting to co-op supply chain bargaining and more. These calls serve as skill-shares and support political education and capacity building for emerging and established Black-led food cooperatives.

Black Food Mapping

In creating self-determining food economies and centering the principles of self-determination in building our collective power, we are working to reclaim our economies within the food system.

We understand the need to radically shift from a white dominant power paradigm that is dependent on the extraction of Black wealth and labor for the purpose of resourcing a corporatized food system towards one of Black ownership over all parts of our labor, businesses and systems of monetization including the utilization of alternative economies including but not limited to cooperatives and shared economies.

We have made intentional efforts to combine and collaborate with existing Black food maps and directories to identify as many Black farmers and food producers to build a collective Black Food Map & Directory to advance resource mapping and supply chain development.

This year, 91 Black farmers, farms and organizations were added to the Black Food Map & Directory.



Building Visibility

We see raising visibility via mapping Black food and land work, resources, and strategies as a means to connect Black people interested in entering this work with resources to do so, in addition to investing in basic infrastructure to build out self-determining food systems and economies. Re-framing narratives around Black food and land via our historic struggles and our own family histories (documented and told through our own lens) deeply transforms the relationships our people have with food and land. Changing power dynamics that historically represent inaccurate and disempowering narratives around Black people in food and land is part of the current paradigm we seek to shift, and doing so is a critical step towards reclaiming our histories, building Black self-determination and ultimately Black Food Sovereignty.



Black-led Day at Up & Coming

In May 2022, NBFJA hosted our second Black-led Day at the annual Up & Coming Co-op Conference in Milwaukee, MS with over 50 participants from around the country. Black-led Day is designed for Black startup food co-op organizers, with all content designed by us for us. “We value this space as one for Black people and Black-led co-op workers. Attendance is limited to Black participants only,” shares Dr. Jasmine Jackson, Co-Executive Director of the NBFJA. “This is a crucial move towards honoring safety while our co-ops grow and resist systems of racism.”

Black-led co-op members participated in a pop-up story booth, sharing their stories of joy and resilience in cooperative development.

Photos by Menyeneabasi Akpan.



A Response to the Inflation Reduction Act

On August 16, 2022, President Biden signed into law the Inflation Reduction Act which left many Black farmers unsure if the debt relief they were promised would be reallocated or harder to access. The vagueness of the language used in the bill and its indeterminate implementation left Black farmers to trust that the USDA, the same organization that admitted to committing generational violence against them through racism and discriminatory lending practices, ensures that Black farmers actually receive the debt relief in which they are due. The following day, NBFJA released a statement detailing how the Inflation Reduction Act falls short.

“This is not defeat, but clarity as we continue to move towards our own systems of freedom. We will continue to hold our elected officials to the promises they have made while also continuing our collective work of building institutions that move us closer to Black food sovereignty.”

- National Black Food & Justice Alliance’s Public Statement

The Alliance in the News

“Companies intentionally avoid certain neighborhoods when deciding where to open their grocery stores despite the clear need for them, says Jasmine Ratliff, a Lower Ninth Ward resident and co-executive director of the National Black Food and Justice Alliance (NBFJA), a coalition of Black-led organizations working toward liberation and Black sovereignty.”

- Sruthi Gopalakrishnan for Prism

“What I see, building upon the work of historian Robin D.G. Kelley, is that the new worlds planted by Black food sovereignty activists like the Network and the NBFJA are promised lands of the radical imagination – a place/space in which Black life is restored to the land in ways that promote Black liberation and flourishing.”

- Joi Orr for Political Theology Network



“In short, there must be a radical shift in mindset and power, a new approach that centers the ecosystem—that is, supports a network of organizations working toward a common goal—and funds in alignment with recipient communities.”

- Savi Horne & Dr. Jasmine Jackson for NPQ

“In helping to establish the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology, the National Black Food and Justice Alliance said the mission is “to grow and expand practices, develop innovative solutions, and provide cross-institutional support for our land grant institutions and future generations of land stewards to carry forward the food system and climate resilience our communities need and deserve.”

- Kyla A. Stanford for [Tallahassee Democrat](#)

“The [Resource Commons](#), a member-led initiative of the National Black Food and Justice Alliance (NBFJA), is working to liberate land from the speculative market and secure it for sound ecological, social, and financial stewardship by Black farmers, foresters, and community gardeners.”

- LeeAnn C. Morrisette for [NPQ](#)



“The NBFJA is looking to use its collective heft to buy up spaces that are already being used informally. “A lot of Black people are farming on vacant lots, and often they don’t own those lots, but you can negotiate with cities or counties to get ownership,” Crumel said. “So we want to take advantage of that and use our power as a group to negotiate those terms, and through that, mitigate loss.”

- Carey L. Biron for [Yes! Magazine](#)

INSTITUTION BUILDING

The National Black Food & Justice Alliance continues the tradition of Black institution building by creating an organizing framework for collective visioning and action around food and land issues impacting Black people. We know that one of the most effective strategies for building power in our communities is creating and maintaining institutions dedicated to the work of building Black organizations and investing in Black leadership, strategies, and innovations around food and land. Doing so builds Black food security infrastructures that have the capacity to identify issues and develop/implement strategies that systematize solutions to Black food and land struggles.

The Resource Commons

The Resource Commons (RC) is an initiative of the National Black Food & Justice Alliance (NBFJA) that came out of the Black Land & Power project and focuses on strengthening the foundation for Black food sovereignty through two distinct but related strategies:

- Liberating land from the speculative market and securing it for sound ecological, social, and financial stewardship by rural and urban Black farmers, foresters, and community gardeners
- Defending land at risk of being taken from Black people via heirs property rules, discrimination in lending, or eminent domain or other threats.

Its governing body, the Resource Commons Council, invited current NBFJA members to submit letters of interest (LOI) in order to better inform NBFJA's level of investment in equipment and facilities, farmland (rural or urban), food system infrastructure, and land at risk. The pilot round of investments will be made in Spring 2023.

The Launch of the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology

In November, Blackademics, the research arm of NBFJA, and Florida A&M University (FAMU) announced the launch of the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology. This inaugural center at FAMU, the first projected in the next 20 years, is a critical intervention in research, training and steering the next generation of farmers and land stewardship practices away from extraction and harm and towards practices that will recover our systems, heal our communities and lend towards the remediation of climate catastrophes.

Community members, farmers, students, and friends descended onto the campus of FAMU for a two-day celebration with a private dinner and food and farm festival, FAMUly Roots.



Mutual Aid Resource Council Grants

Black farmers across the country are inside of incredible work and to ensure members have what they need in resource and infrastructure, the Mutual Aid Resource Council (MARC) Grant was created. National Black Food and Justice Alliance wanted to make sure we had the infrastructure to share resources that we have allocated for member needs and beyond. In 2022, NBFJA awarded 87 MARC recipients a total of a little over \$700,000 in total awards.

An Update from a MARC Grant Recipient

As of November 12th we completed Phase 2 of the Farm House project, which was to replace broken and rotten floor boards and replace it with new flooring. With the flooring removed, we were able to rearrange the floor plan and increase the usable square footage. We decided to exchange the floor covering and add a wall frame to indicate the kitchen and storage area. While there is still additional work to be completed, this pushes us a step closer to reaching our goals.

In addition to traditional fruits and vegetables, the farm's focus is on growing specialty crop such as blueberries, turmeric, hibiscus, moringa, passion flower as well as forging for wild edibles. Our desire is to expose every age group in our community to nutrient dense foods, learn about how to prepare them, and most importantly learn that food can heal while tasting delicious.

When the building is completed, we will be able to broaden and deepen their learning experience on and off the farm.



Succession Planning

This program allows members to receive support to prepare for healthy succession or transition planning within their organizations.

Members/partners receive support for their needs to include: legal, accounting, HR, and leadership coaching (executive director and leadership/board), and are provided search firm support to identify qualified candidates positioned to potentially take on leadership roles in their organization.

Collective Courage Fund

The Partnership Fund, The National Black Food and Justice Alliance, Piece by Piece Strategies have partnered with local Black led cooperatives across the country to develop the Collective Courage Fund. This Fund is committed to building a robust cooperative movement of urban and rural black cooperatives. This fund is named after *Collective Courage: The History of Black Cooperative Thought and Practice* by Jessica Gordan Nemhard. This stellar book has inspired Black Cooperators across the United States by sharing the stories, victories, and challenges of the Black Cooperative Movement in the US. The Collective Courage Fund leads the funding community with funding for 10 Black-led co-ops over 2 years

- The Alliance received a grant for \$30K for continued support to develop the Collective Courage Fund & Cooperative Ecosystem Infrastructure
- Contributed to the governance of the Collective Courage Fund that granted three co-ops \$30K each
 - Central Brooklyn Food Co-op
 - East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative
 - Queen Mother's Market Cooperative

Direct Action

We affirm that transformative organizing that utilizes direct action strategies becomes more effective at confronting purveyors of oppression. Additionally, direct action forces a shift in power from those who abuse it to those impacted by oppression. Building the capacity for community to engage in tactics that demand clear mechanisms for accountability and restorative/transformative justice allows for deep healing and change. We believe direct action tactics to be rooted in our collective healing as Black people who experience institutional and interpersonal violence on a daily basis in order to provide tools of resistance.

Regional Land Defense

In 2021, NBFJA joined the Pembroke Environmental Justice Coalition (PEJC)—created by Black Oaks Center and Blacks in Green — as a national partner, providing support and fostering partnerships to halt the Nicor pipeline planned for what once was the largest Black farming community north of the Mason-Dixon. Continuing into 2022, PEJC worked to build awareness and a local base of advocates and volunteers to fight the development and to build a #RenewablePembroke through fighting for policy changes, hosting webinars and press conferences to support amplification, as well as phone banking, biweekly community meetings, and on the ground canvassing.

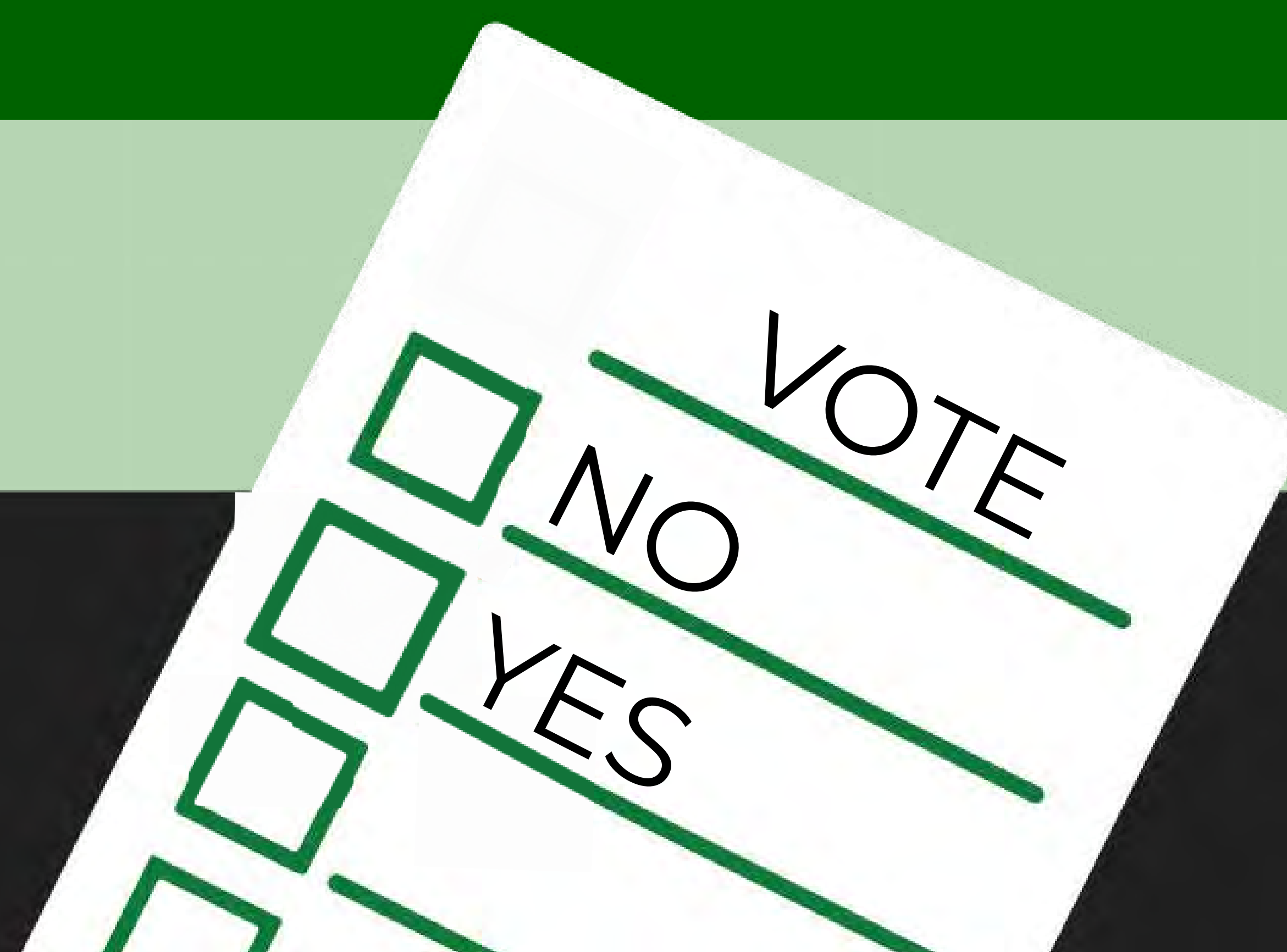


In the Summer of 2022, the Pembroke Environmental Justice Coalition worked in concert with local stakeholders and leaders to pass a referendum on the June Primary ballot. The referendum allowed community members to respond to the question, "Should Pembroke township use clean, safe and renewable sources to meet its energy needs?" With the on the ground support of NBFJA organizers, Justin King and Troya Wright, along with community partners, this groundbreaking referendum was passed with a resounding 91% "YES" vote (June 28, 2022).



NBFJA also provided resources to bring in a local organizer, Olisaemeka Okakpu, to advance the work of relationship building with key leaders in the Pembroke community and to grow the Pembroke Environmental Justice Coalition (PEJC) locally.

Despite PEJC's best efforts, installation of the Nicor Pipeline commenced in late 2022. Community members are still pushing back against the development through continued advocacy, education on the environmental impact, and through creating self-sufficient means of power - i.e. solar power, wind, etc. The PEJC has discontinued formal meetings with local partners. NBFJA continues to hold relationships with Pembroke community members and supporters throughout the region. In fact, the development of the PEJC has led to more concentrated regional land defense support which is continuing to be developed through the collaboration of our Black Land & Power working group and organizers.



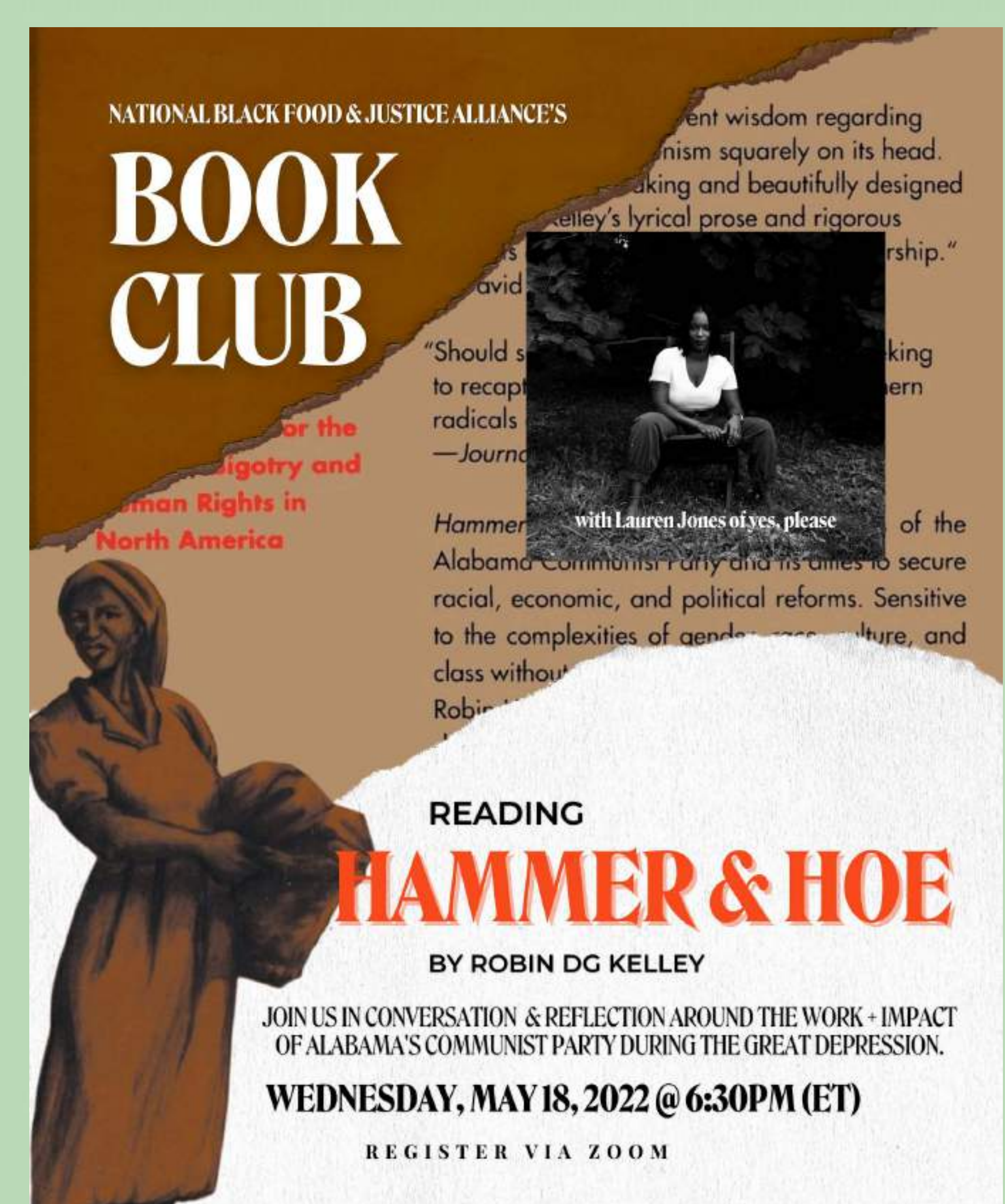
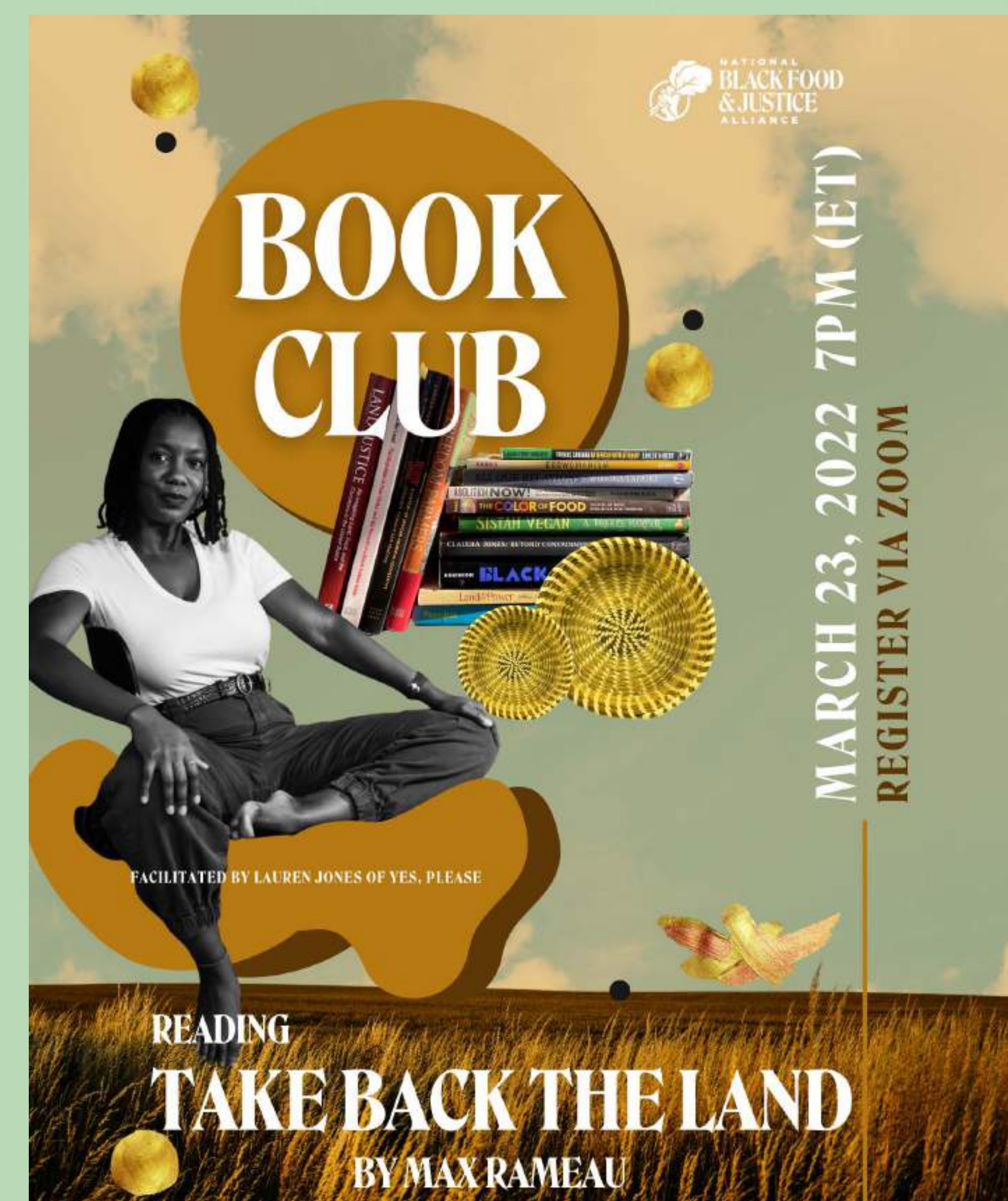
Pembroke Township Proposition for Pembroke Township to Use Renewable Sources
"Should Pembroke Township use clean, safe, and renewable sources to meet its energy needs?"

Togetherness Space and Emerging Collective Wisdom

Our work is rooted in connecting our hearts and whole selves in creating political space together. Too often work is dominated by white normative ways of being that privilege only fragments of ourselves. We come to this work rooted in love, leading with our hearts, guided by our intellect, and standing on the shoulders of our ancestors' wisdom. We create intentional space to allow for healing and the means to bring our full, whole, healthy selves into space working together.

NBFJA Book Club

NBFJA launched a {virtual} book club, a Black-led and Black-centered space facilitated by lauren m. jones of yes, please: a bookhouse and carespace. Based in Atlanta, Georgia, yes, please intentionally curates a collection of books by radical Black women and gender expansive writers for purchase and lending. Over the course of 2022, NBFJA cultivated a book club list of 102 individuals with 5-8 returning participants per gathering and proudly hosting renowned scholars and authors from our curated reading list including Tricia Hersey, author of New York Times Best Seller *Rest is Resistance: A Manifesto*, and William C. Anderson, co-author of *As Black as Resistance: Finding the Conditions for Liberation*. NBFJA also resourced member organizations with selected books from the reading list to advance members' individual and organizational political education.



NATIONAL BLACK FOOD & JUSTICE ALLIANCE

READING

Rest is Resistance

BY TRICIA HERSEY

BOOK CLUB

JOIN US FOR A DIALOGUE & COMMUNAL REFLECTION ON REST IS RESISTANCE BY TRICIA HERSEY. FACILITATED BY YES, PLEASE

11.16.22

NATIONAL BLACK FOOD & JUSTICE ALLIANCE

BOOK CLUB

READING

IMPRISONED INTELLECTUALS:
AMERICA'S POLITICAL PRISONERS WRITE ON LIFE, LIBERATION, AND REBELLION

EDITED BY JOY JAMES

8.17.2022

6:30 PM (ET)

NBFJA'S GLOSSARY OF BLACK FOOD MOVEMENT TERMS	
TERM	DEFINITION
Black Land and Power	The Black Land and Power coalition, coordinated by the National Black Food and Justice Alliance, is a strategic alignment of Black land institutions and organizations around the U.S. working to deepen collective strategy towards regional and national Black land retention, protection, and recovery.
Campaign	A campaign is a concerted and focused effort to organize a community around a specific target or goal. Collectively, community members and organizers build power to create strategic, time-bound initiatives. In the context of the Alliance, campaigns shift the paradigm around the value and importance of land, collectivism, and sovereignty in communities, in order to combat any threats (likely from corporate superpowers) to them.
Collective Governance	Collective governance challenges the capitalist, hierarchical leadership system by centering group leadership over individualism. When governing collectively, members of a given body or organization make decisions together, share power, and move for the good of the collective as a whole. While individual ideas are still valued here, this model of leadership ensures the ideas and needs of every member are met in a way that mutually benefits the collective.
Cooperative Model	The cooperative model is an ancestral strategy by the Black community to galvanize collective economic power in the face of structural economic barriers. In food justice, co-op building and cooperative economics allow for broad ownership of businesses and broad collective advancement, whereby community members and organizations build infrastructure, gain control of retail markets and food supply chains, and holistically benefit directly from their efforts. The model is rooted in values of democratic participation, solidarity, and mutual aid.
Food Apartheid	Food apartheid entails the systematic destruction of Black self-determination to control our food (including land, resource theft, and discrimination), a hyper-saturation of destructive foods and predatory marketing, and a blatantly discriminatory corporate controlled food system that results in our communities suffering from some of the highest rates of heart disease and diabetes of all times. Many tend to use the term "food desert," however food apartheid is a much more accurate representation of the structural racialized inequities perpetuated through our current system.

Black Food Glossary

The importance of shared language cannot be overstated, and we intend to make the terms we commonly use widely accessible. In 2022, we set out to create a [Black Food Glossary](#) and an [accompanying guide](#). Featured are the interpretations of National Black Food & Justice Alliance (NBFJA) staff members, membership, and the trusted leading voices in Black food movement work in the United States.

The Black Food Glossary and accompanying guide was designed by Summer intern, Isis Amusa.

Appendix

Image Credits/Details

- **Page 5** - Members gathered at Franklinton Center at Bricks in North Carolina during the 2022 Annual Member Meeting
- **Page 8** - From left to right (a) Land stewardship trainees at Nature's Garden Victory & Peace in Tuskegee, AL; (b) Baba Malik Yakini of DBCFSN & co-founder of NBFJA, Ife Kilimanjaro of Soul Fire Farm, Dr. Heber Brown III of BCFSN, Dara Cooper co-founder of NBFJA, and Leah Penniman of Soul Fire Farm at Black Urban Growers Conference (BUGs) in Atlanta, GA 2022; (c) Gem City Market members at the Up & Coming Conference in Madison, WI 2022; (d) NBFJA staff and members at the launch of the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology at FAMU in November 2022; (e) Members of DBCFSN gather at Truly Living Well with founder, K Rashid Nuri in Atlanta, GA 2022
- **Page 12** - From left to right (a) Dr. Jifunza Wright-Carter of Black Oaks Center speaks at a press conference in Chicago, IL standing with community members for a #RenewablePembroke; (b) Ras Kofi of OnDaFarm leads a volunteer day at Shamba-Cultivating Ground in Atlanta, GA; (c) Black farmers and land stewards gather in regional groups at BUGs in Atlanta, GA to connect and build; (d) BLP Director, Kenya Crumel walking reclaimed land in South Georgia, August 2022; (e) NBFJA members at annual meeting at Franklinton Center at Bricks in North Carolina 2022
- **Page 14** - From top to bottom of page (a) Khaliah Pitts of Our Mothers' Kitchens captured by Bre'Ann White in Detroit, MI; (b) NBFJA cooperators gather at George Floyd Square in Minneapolis, MN
- **Page 15** - Rows of vegetables growing at Truly Living Well in Atlanta, GA
- **Page 16** - From left to right (a) Dr. Jasmine R. Jackson speaks to a group at Up & Coming Conference's Black-led Day; (b) Camille Lewis speaks during a workshop at the launch of the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology in November 2022
- **Page 17** - Black cooperators gather during Black-led Day at the 2022 Up and Coming Conference in Madison, WI
- **Page 18** - NBFJA current and former leadership captured at Truly Living Well in Atlanta, GA during BUGs 2022
- **Page 19** - Land in South Georgia where NBFJA helped to transfer title to Black stewards
- **Page 21** - NBFJA Blackademics captured at the launch of the Lola Hampton-Frank Pinder Center for Agroecology at FAMU in November 2022
- **Page 23** - Land stewardship trainees build an A-frame at Nature's Garden for Victory & Peace in Tuskegee, AL

Contact

For more information, please visit our website,
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Inspiration: The lifespan of a seed, from soil to soil.
- Margarette McBride

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Recipes From

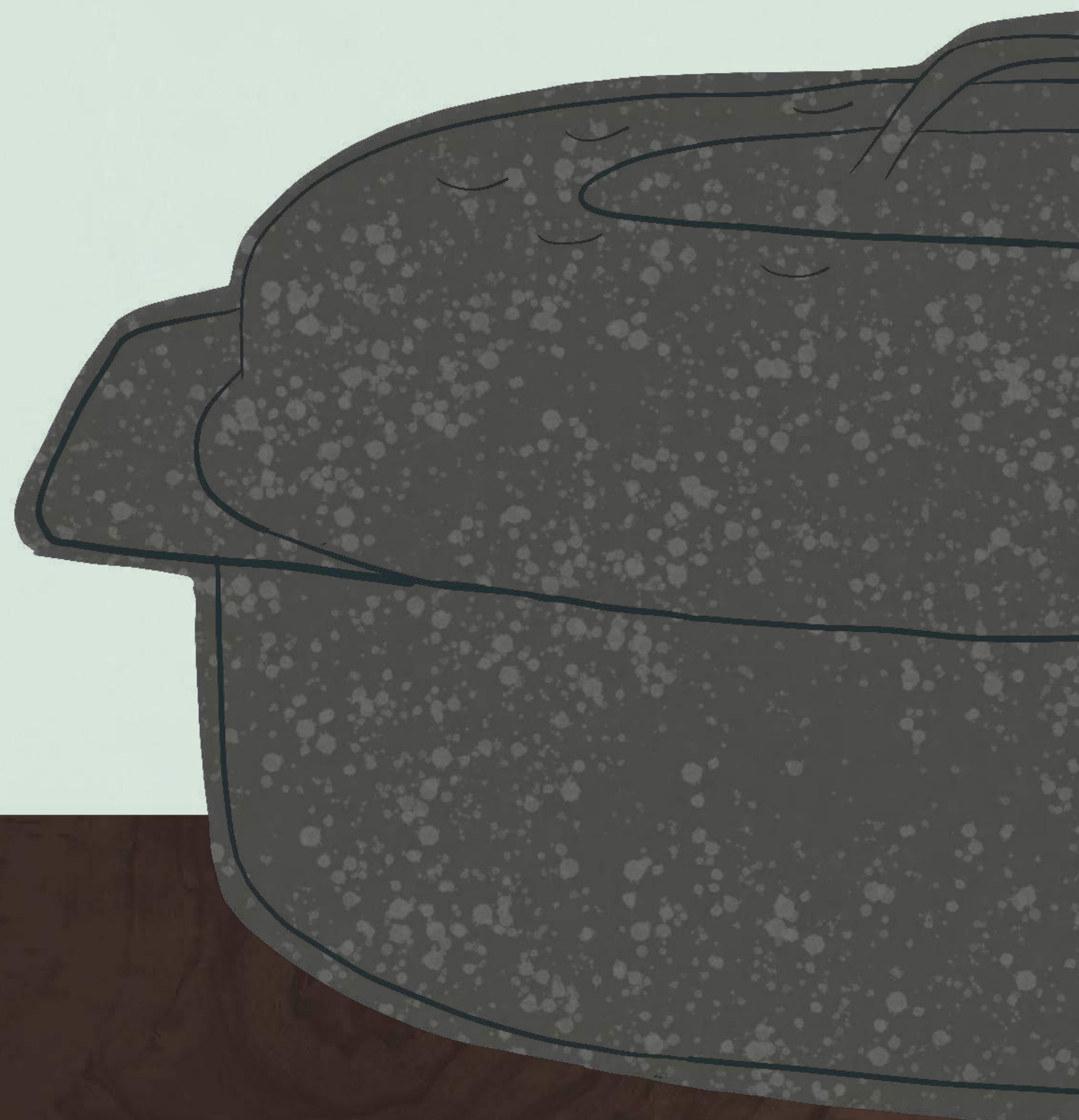
Garlic Aioli + Tomato Topping

Garlic Aioli

- Combine 1/4 cup vegan mayonnaise + 3 tsp(ish) fresh dill + 3-4 cloves of crushed or minced garlic + a squeeze lemon juice + a pinch of pink salt + a splash of water
- Blend, process or hand mix (hand mixing is fine for finely minced garlic)

Tomato Topping

- Quartered grape tomatoes + rough chopped parsley + red onions (or shallots) + EVOO + lime + salt/pepper tossed



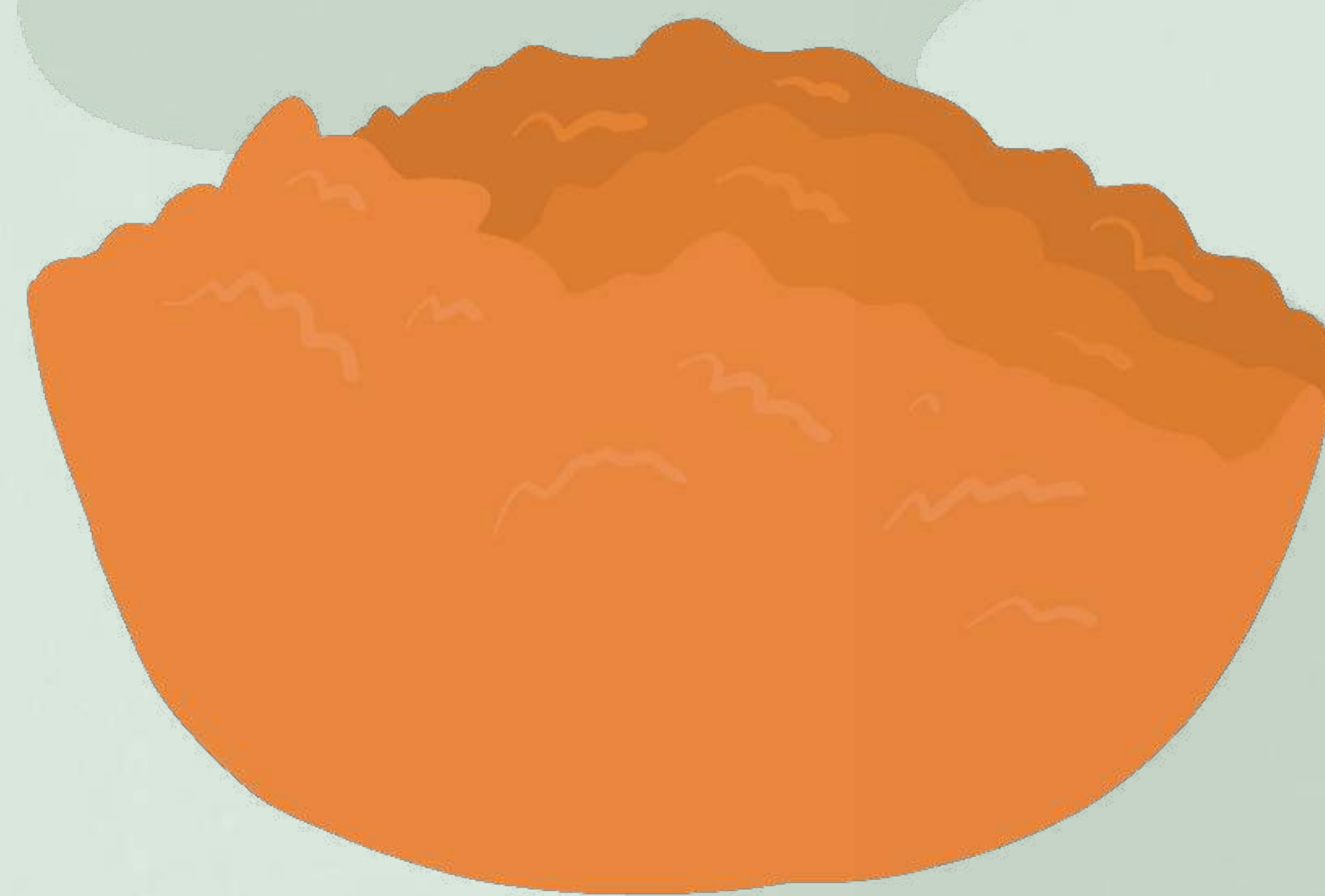
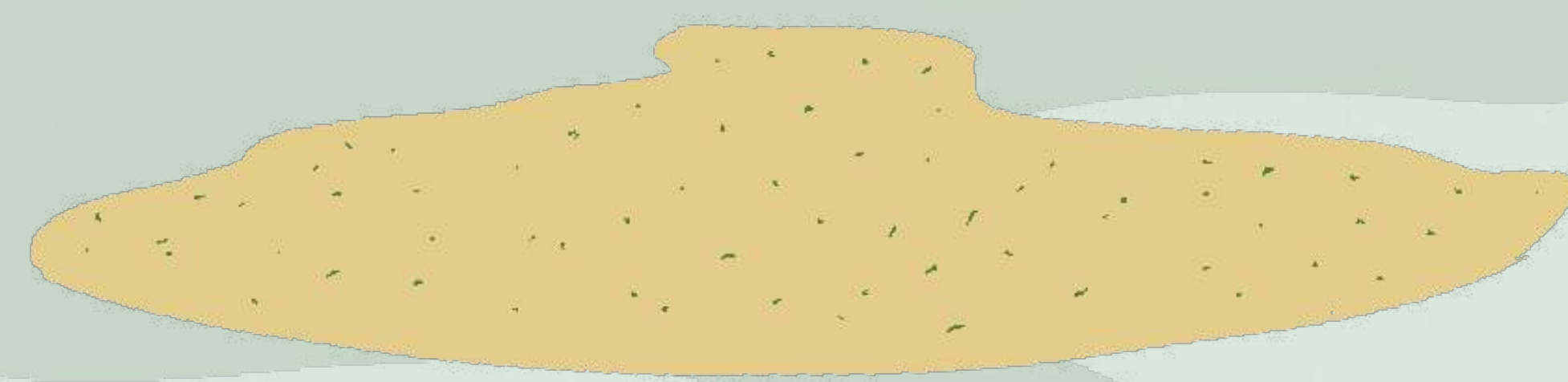
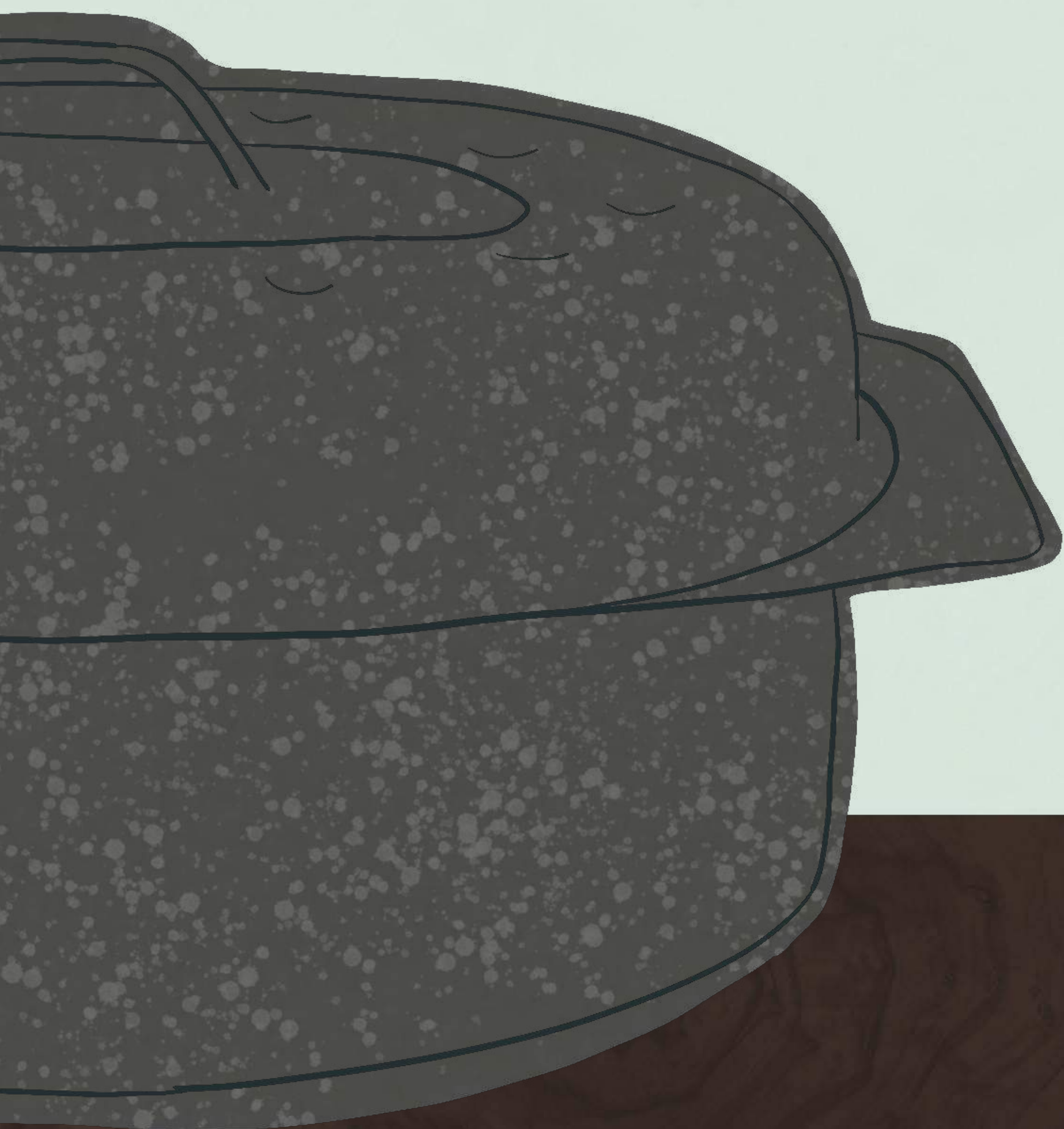
OUR MOTHERS' KITCHENS
- KHALIAH D. PITTS

Our Network

Chilled Sweet Potato w/ Garlic Aioli

Chilled Sweet Potato w/ Garlic Aioli

- Preheat oven at 400°
- Cut in half; lightly oil w/ EVOO; place flesh down on lined baking sheet
- Bake for 20 - 25 mins (depending on size)
- Mash the flesh, cover + chill
- Bring to room temperature and top with Garlic Aioli + Tomato Topping
- Arrange beautifully on a platter w/ optional toppings in spice bowls



OUR MOTHERS' KITCHENS - KHALIAH D. PITTS

Stuffed Okra + Rice

Stuffed Okra + Rice

- Lovingly wash your okra; cut a small slit in each, lengthwise
- Prepare your stuffing: minced garlic, yellow onions + herbs (thyme, oregano, parsley, etc.), seasoned w/ salt, pepper, paprika + turmeric, sautéed in the pan until soft + fragrant
- Stuff your okra w/ your warm aromatics
- Sear the okra in the same pan; a nice brown on both sides
- Serve over white rice or hominy grits (deglaze the pan w/ water or wine for a nice sauce)



FRESH FUTURE FARM - ADRIAN MACK JR.

Chunky Chilli Recipe

Chunky Chilli Recipe

- 1-pound Italian sausage 1-pound ground beef 2 zucchinis, chopped 2 yellow squash, chopped ½ sweet onion, chopped 1 15 oz can of corn 15 oz salsa (mild) 48 oz pasta sauce 2 tsp sugar 2 bell peppers, chopped ¼ pound okra, chopped 2 - 15 oz cans black beans 2 Tbsp veg oil
- To taste: Seasoned salt, Onion powder, Garlic powder, Black pepper, Italian seasoning, Chili Powder, Cumin
- Add vegetable oil to a large pot. Saute zucchini, yellow squash, onion, bell peppers and okra. Add Italian sausage and ground beef. Add seasonings, stir. Add pasta sauce and salsa. Add corn and black beans.





