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NBJC Celebrates a Week of Landmark Events for the 2011 *OUT on the Hill*

In September 2011, more than 150 Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) leaders and activists from across the country gathered in the nation's capital for the National Black Justice Coalition's (NBJC) 2nd Annual *OUT on the Hill* Black LGBT Leadership Summit. Each year, *OUT on the Hill* convenes the nation's preeminent Black LGBT activists, thought leaders, elected officials, faith leaders and youth to participate in social action that empowers Black communities while educating congressional leaders, the Obama Administration and federal agencies about Black LGBT public policy concerns. The gathering concurred with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's 41st Annual Legislative Conference (CBCF-ALC).

"This year's *OUT on the Hill* gathering was incredibly moving and profoundly transformative," stated NBJC's Executive Director

Sharon Lettman-Hicks. "We initiated *OUT on the Hill* with the agenda of empowering delegates to bring necessary opportunities for political education and engagement to their local communities, and exposing access points for national organizing at the local level. We emerged from our five-day session ignited to a whole new level of action." The contagious activism of our youth,



OUT on the Hill is an amazing opportunity to open eyes (our own and the those of our policymakers) to issues that affect Black LGBT people daily. It allows us to expand our reach and to push for and create REAL change of policies, laws, behaviors, attitudes and trajectories.

Charles Pugh
 Detroit City
 Council President

compelling testimony from mothers with children struggling with their identity, and the emphatic optimism of our keynote speaker Phill Wilson, Founder and Executive Director of the Black AIDS Institute, served as a clear starting point for a Black LGBT agenda.

NBJC Board Chair and Berkeley City Councilman Darryl Moore added, "We believe that what we accomplished as a collective will become a catalyst for renewed activism at the grassroots level for out Black lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people to assume the mantle of leadership in their families, churches, and communities. This alone will contribute to sparking revolutionary change, safety, and acceptance for our constituents."

For the 2nd Annual *OUT on the Hill* Black LGBT Leadership Summit, NBJC organized several groundbreaking events, including the first-ever LGBT-themed, CBCF Issue Forum titled "From Civil Rights to LGBT Equality: African Americans and the LGBT Community at the Intersection"; a special advance screening of the Sundance Film Festival favorite *Pariah* (Focus Features), which tells the coming-out

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story of a Black lesbian youth and was executive produced by Spike Lee. Other highlights included the Black LGBT Leaders Day at the White House, which included presentations from the Obama Administration; an Issue Advocacy Day, which served as an opportunity for Black LGBT leaders to discuss important policy issues with their Members of Congress and Congressional Leadership; and a two-part town hall meeting to discuss marriage equality and, separately, transgender issues, which was hosted



(L) AFL-CIO Exec. Vice Pres. Arlene Holt-Baker welcomes "OUT on the Hill" Delegates at the Opening Session. (R) NBJC Exec. Director Sharon Lettman-Hicks leads a panel discussion.

Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference (CBCF-ALC). The Annual Legislative Conference provides an outlet to highlight the mission of the CBCF—to develop leaders, to inform policy and to educate the public—by providing more than 80 high-level, thought-provoking forums to address the critical challenges facing the Black Diaspora. This year's conference theme was iLead|iServe.

All CBCF events were held at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, DC.

To view the full *OUT on the Hill* schedule, visit <http://goo.gl/98tYE> or scan this qr code.



in collaboration with the DC Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs.

In addition to *OUT on the Hill* activities, attendees had the opportunity to participate in the Congressional

Beltway Black LGBT Activists Lead Legislative Issue Briefing

NBJC held a Legislative Issue Briefing Session at the Center for American Progress to provide an overview of key policy issues affecting Black LGBT America – health disparities, safe schools, hate crimes, marriage equality, and employment protection.

The expert panel featured Aisha Moodie-Mills of the Center for American Progress (CAP), who discussed the implications of health disparities in the Black LGBT community; Shawn Gaylord from the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network (GLSEN), who discussed his work on creating safe schools through federal legislation; Maya Rupert from the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR), who discussed violence against LGBT people of color; David Stacy of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) on the importance of respect for LGBT marriages and the urgent need to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA); Twaun Samuel from the Office of Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA) who gave a thorough introduction to Capitol Hill; Josh Crosson from the Office of Representative Adam Smith (D-WA), who led a discussion on

lobbying members of Congress; Robert Kim, Esq., Senior Policy Analyst at the National Education Association; and Stacey Long of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, who moderated the session and presented on winning employment protections at the federal level.

Each panelist offered candid assessments of the challenges that lie ahead in each of these areas as well as insight about how to advance a Black LGBT political agenda through the halls of Congress.

Issue Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill was an important opportunity for members of our community to directly engage with congressional offices in the halls of power. By empowering our delegates to vocalize their personal experiences with issues such as discrimination, access to healthcare, and employment we hope to continue to build public support for pro-LGBT equality legislation.



Stacey Long, Esq.
Director of Public Policy and Government Affairs
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force



L: Dr. Donique McIntosh poses a question to the panel. R: David Stacy, Human Rights Campaign



L to R: Twaun Samuel from the Office of Representative Maxine Waters (D-CA); NCLR's Maya Rupert, Detroit City Council President Charles Pugh, and CAP's Aisha Moodie-Mills; Josh Crosson from the Office of Rep. Adam Smith (D-WA).

NBJC & NEA Sponsor the First-Ever, LGBT-Themed CBCF Issue Forum

Sponsored by NBJC and the National Education Association, “From Civil Rights to LGBT Equality: African Americans and the LGBT Community at the Intersection” became the first-ever, LGBT themed Congressional Black Caucus Foundation (CBCF) Issue Forum. Moderators LZ Granderson, a columnist for ESPN and CNN, and Charles Pugh, Detroit City Council President, guided panelists and audience members through topics that were both heart-warming and challenging, including affirming Black families, bullying in schools, homophobia in Black churches, LGBT media depictions, transphobia, and HIV/AIDS.



(Top, L to R) Moderator LZ Granderson; Valerie Spencer; Moderator Charles Pugh; Phill Wilson; Author Cheryl Kilodavis; (Bottom, L to R) Dr. Cathy Cohen; Sirdeaner Walker; Maurice Jamal

Institute; Maurice Jamal, Director of the coming-out film *Dirty Laundry*, which features Loretta Devine; Cheryl Kilodavis, author of *My Princess Boy* and proud parent to a 6-year-old boy who wears pink dresses; Sirdeaner Walker, mother of Carl Joseph Walker-Hoover, who took his own life at the age of 11 on the day he was bullied at school; Dr. Cathy Cohen, former Director of the Center for the Study of Race, and current David and Mary Winton Green Professor in Political Science and the College at the University of Chicago; and Valerie Spencer, Executive Director for Transcend Empowerment Institute.

The panelists included Phill Wilson, Executive Director for the Black AIDS



My Princess Boy™ is a nonfiction picture book about acceptance. It tells the tale of a 4-year-old boy who happily expresses his authentic self by enjoying “traditional girl” things like jewelry, sparkles or anything pink. It is designed to start and continue a dialogue about unconditional friendship and teaches children -- and adults -- how to accept and support children for who they are and how they wish to look.



Order your copy today!

Visit:
www.myprincessboy.com
 or scan the qr code.



NBJC Board Members Darryl Moore and Kylar Broadus listen to Sirdeaner Walker's harrowing story.

“While on the panel, I gained valuable insight for more discussions with my kids. I shared with the audience that we, as parents, need help to start more public conversations about the many facets of unique individuality, specifically in the LGBTQ community. Differences are beautiful—the more you share, the more I share, and that knowledge empowers parents and our children to be better citizens of our communities, our country and our world.”

Cheryl Kilodavis
 Author, “My Princess Boy”

“Having been a journalist for more than 15 years, I have written more than my fair share of stories about the pain that comes when a parent has to bury their child. But not even I was prepared to experience the wave of emotions that rushed over me as I listened to Sirdeaner Walker tell her story. Anyone who sat in that hall, heard her voice and was not moved to tears or riddled with anger should probably check their pulse. And to know she’s using that pain to fuel something positive is another example of the kind of strength that has defined the Black community for many, many years.”



LZ Granderson
 Columnist for ESPN and CNN

NBJC Hosts Issue Advocacy Day on Capitol Hill

OUT on the Hill delegates took their policy concerns to Capitol Hill. This groundbreaking lobby day was the first national convening of Black LGBT leaders in the Halls of Power. A delegation of more than 30 Black LGBT activists met with the congressional offices of several members of the House and Senate, including Rep. Chaka Fattah (D-PA), Rep. John Conyers (D-MI), Rep. Barbara Lee (D-CA), Senator Al Franken (D-MN), Rep. Alcee Hastings (D-FL), Rep. Cedric Richmond (D-LA), Rep. Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX), Rep. Gwen Moore (D-WI), Rep. Danny Davis (D-IL), Rep. Hansen Clarke (D-MI), Senator Harry Reid (D-NV), Senator Kay Hagan (D-NC), Rep. Emanuel Cleaver (D-MO), Senator Scott Brown (R-MA), and Senator

Dianne Feinstein (D-CA).

Delegates discussed with each senator and representative our 2011-2012 legislative priorities, which include passing the Safe Schools Improvement Act, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the Respect for Marriage Act.

The Safe Schools Improvement Act of 2011 is a bill that amends the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 to address and take action to prevent bullying and harassment of students. Co-sponsored by 31 senators and 109 representatives, this bill is in the first stage of the legislative process and has been referred to the House Committee on Education and the Workforce, and the Subcommittee on Early Childhood, Elementary, and Secondary Education.

The Employment Non-Discrimi-

nation Act of 2011 is a bill to prevent discrimination in the workplace based upon sexual orientation or gender identity. Co-sponsored by 41 senators and 153 representatives, this bill is in the first stage of the legislative process and has been assigned to the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.

Co-sponsored by 29 senators and 218 representatives, the Respect for Marriage Act of 2011 (S. 598) is a bill to repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, which defines marriage as being solely between a man and a woman, and ensures respect for state regulation of marriage equality. This bill is in the first stage of the legislative process and has been assigned to the Senate Judiciary Committee.

NBJC's Senior Fellow Rodney Nickens, Jr. leads delegates to Capitol Hill



The legislative process in brief:

- 1) The bill is introduced.
- 2) The bill is referred to a committee.
- 3) If the bill is deemed worthy, it is reported by the committee to Congress either "favorably" or "unfavorably."
- 4) The Senate votes; if the bill passes the Senate it goes to the House.
- 5) The House votes; if the bill passes the House it goes to the President of the United States.
- 6) The President signs the bill into law.

Delegates pose outside of Rep. Barbara Lee's Office



Download your copy of NBJC's 2011 Legislative Priorities Book to get info about passing the Employee Non-Discrimination, Respect for Marriage and the Safe Schools Improvement Acts, and what we must do to ensure safety for gay, lesbian, and bisexual service members now that "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" has been repealed.

goo.gl/wEPrK



White House Hosts Extensive Briefing for Black LGBT Activists



The White House Briefing began with opening remarks from Raul Alviljar, LGBT Liaison for the White House, who confirmed that this is the highest number of LGBT people working for any Presidential Administration in history. Administration representatives from the Offices of Minority Health, Public Service, National AIDS Policy, Public Engagement, and Policy provided key information about crucial issues affecting the LGBT and African American communities. Every office acknowledged a need to improve data collection to ensure accurate reporting for both African American and LGBT communities.

Presenters included: Sonsiere Cobb-Souza, Acting Deputy Director, Office of Minority Health; Ronnie Cho, Associate Director of Public Engagement, Youth Outreach, White House; Jeffrey Crowley, Director, White House Office of National AIDS Policy; John Trasviña, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing & Equal Opportunity, Housing & Urban Development; Dr. William Spriggs, Assistant Secretary for Policy, Department of Labor; Gautam Raghavan, Deputy White House Liaison, U.S. Department of Defense; Tony Martinez, Associate

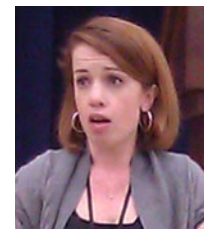
Director, Office of Intergovernmental Affairs & Public Liaison, White House Office of National Drug Control Policy; and Paul Kesner, Acting Director of Drug Violence Prevention, Character, and Civic Education, U.S. Department of Education.

Sonsiere Cobb-Souza, Acting Deputy Director for the Office of Minority Health, stated that the Obama Administration is dedicated to improving the health of LGBT Americans by implementing the Affordable Care Act and obtaining the data critical to implement changes. Cobb-Souza acknowledged, “We need health programs that provide service in a culturally competent manner. We need to do a better job at collecting data to better understand LGBT people’s needs. We need to know first the conditions they’re dealing with both along the lines of orientation and gender identity.” The Office of Minority Health has started an 18-month “phased in” data collection plan that targets sexual orientation and gender identity.

Ronnie Cho, Associate Director of Public Engagement, Youth Outreach for the White House, informed delegates that his office is committed to making government more inclusive and transparent, starting with youth. He stated that youth populations are often surprised that their input is being solicited, but it is essential in determining the direction of this country and its policies. His office is focused on meeting young people where they are — on MTV, popular blogs, webinars, and college campuses. Cho requested the help of NBJC and other organizations with accessing people who aren’t in those spaces.



Rebecca Cokley, Director of Priority Placement, Office of Presidential Personnel for the White House, shared that her office is working tirelessly to ensure LGBT individuals and organizations are a part of the 500 organizations and 5,000 jobs that need to be filled in various government agencies in order to make sure that, per the President’s requirement, the Administration reflects the diversity of the country. Cokley acknowledged that transgender job concerns are a priority, but progress and the hiring process at the federal level can be quite slow. For those seeking employment, she shared that the energy and finance sectors are always hiring.



Jeffrey Crowley, Director of the White House Office of National AIDS Policy, reported that new HIV/AIDS diagnoses have been reduced by almost 50% over the last 20 years. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), about 56,000 people are infected each year compared to 130,000 – 140,000 in the 1980s. Nationwide, HIV/AIDS infection rates are declining, except among gay Black men and gay youth. According to a startling new study by the CDC, young Black gay and bisexual men account for 44% of new HIV cases in the U.S. The key areas of the National HIV Strategy include increasing community awareness, decreasing the stigma of the disease in all minority communities and focusing on reducing infection rates among African American women. The Obama Administration is dedicated to making funds available to the geographic and demographic areas that have the

White House Hosts Extensive Briefing for Black LGBT Activists

greatest need. The CDC is launching a new social marketing campaign geared towards Black gay men. However, statistics on how HIV/AIDS is affecting the transgender community, specifically, transgender women, aren't available and the Administration is determining how to effectively collect data that will help them improve the way they service this under-represented demographic.

John Trasviña, Assistant Secretary for Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity with Housing and Urban Development, came out as a strong advocate on behalf of LGBT seniors in need of safe public housing options. He said that major grants have been issued for people living with HIV, with a focus on facilities and organizations that target the LGBT community. Trasviña encouraged *OUT on the Hill* delegates to help his office recruit regional representatives to report and document discriminatory practices in housing organizations that affect Black LGBT people.



Dr. William Spriggs, Assistant Secretary for Policy with the Department of Labor, emphasized the importance of passing the American Jobs Act to help resolve the 16% unemployment rate among African Americans. Spriggs stated: "Under the Jobs Act, we get people employed directly. We make sure our students are in competitive schools. We modernize and invest in schools. We invest in neighborhoods hit hardest by the foreclosure crisis. We extend unemployment benefits because when money runs out people stop spending.



We give everyone a payroll tax holiday. We stop laying off teachers. Kids are not going to succeed in more crowded classrooms." Currently, the number of unemployed African Americans roughly approximates the population of Texas and the Department of Labor is determining data collection methods to assess LGBT employment realities.

Gautam Raghavan, Deputy White House Liaison for the U.S. Department of Defense, is ecstatic about the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" (DADT) and affirmed his commitment to creating a transgender-inclusive military. He acknowledged that there are regulatory policies, separate from DADT, which need to be reevaluated. Raghavan asks that the LGBT community continue to be vigilant about the treatment of active women, people of color and transgender individuals in the armed services.



Tony Martinez of the Office of Intergovernmental & Public Liaison with the White House Office of National Drug Control Policy stated that illegal drug use has declined by approximately 33% since 1979, however, among African American teen girls, it has increased by 42%. Martinez' office is working with national LGBT health organizations to expand data collection methods targeting LGBT people and to increase their cultural competency. His office is also working to "decriminalize" drug addiction through policy changes.

Paul Kesner, Acting Director of Drug Violence Prevention, Character, and Civic Education for the U.S. Department of Education, shared that bullied students are more likely to use drugs and not go to school. One-third

of all students reported having been bullied. LGBT students are highly susceptible to suicide ideation. Kesner acknowledged that the initiatives to stop bullying have to be more than just stand-alone programs and campaigns. Anti-bullying messaging must be interwoven into school climates and curriculums. As motivation for compliance, federal funding can be withheld for states and institutions that are not upholding with anti-bullying laws, which is why it is imperative that the Safe Schools Improvement Act be passed.



Visit stopbullying.gov for resources on how to organize students.



NBJC is a partner in be a STAR, an alliance of organizations mobilized to combat bullying.

beastaralliance.org

Phill Wilson Keynotes Black LGBT Networking & Information Exchange Day Luncheon

Phill Wilson, Executive Director for the Black AIDS Institute, served as the keynote speaker for the Black LGBT Leaders Networking/Information Exchange Day. The longtime HIV/AIDS activist delivered a fiery sermon, imploring Black organizations to return to the HIV/AIDS fight by stating that the HIV/AIDS epidemic has fallen off the radar of this country at a time when the Centers for Disease Control has advised us that it is a much larger epidemic than we once thought. Through his personal testimony as someone who has been living with HIV for more than 30 years, Wilson reminded attendees that in spite of recent statistical data indicating that transmissions in Black gay men are at an all-time high, we can extinguish HIV through prevention, education, testing and treatment.

Featured on the post-panel discussion were Valerie Spencer, Founder and Executive Director for the Transcend Empowerment Institute; Cary Alan Johnson, Executive Director for the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission; Darryl Moore, Berkeley City Councilmember and Board Chair for NBJC; Dr. Sylvia Rhue, veteran LGBT civil rights activist and former NBJC Director of Religious Affairs, and Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Executive Director for NBJC.

During the luncheon, NBJC honored Founding Board Member and



Darryl Moore, Berkeley City Councilmember & Board Chair, NBJC; Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Exec. Dir., NBJC; Phill Wilson, Black AIDS Institute; honoree Dr. Sylvia Rhue, former Dir. of Religious Affairs, NBJC; Valerie Spencer, Founder & Exec. Dir., Transcend Empowerment Institute; Cary Alan Johnson, Exec. Dir., Int'l Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission

former Director of Religious Affairs Dr. Sylvia Rhue for more than five years of service and for her longstanding commitment to creating equality for LGBT people. Earlier this year, Dr. Rhue retired from NBJC to focus on her creative ventures, including writing a book and developing her one-woman show. Previously, she produced *All God's Children*, a revered documentary that presents a political, social, and religious analysis of sexual orientation within the context of the traditional African American values of freedom, inclusion, and the Christian ethic. To view *All God's Children*, visit: <http://www.womanvision.org/all-gods-children.html>.



Phill Wilson, Executive Director Black AIDS Institute

KNOWLEDGE > IGNORANCE

When it comes to HIV/AIDS what we don't know can hurt us...
Be Greater Than AIDS, know the facts.

Watch the video at

WE > AIDS
greaterthan.org





Valerie Jarrett and Charles Pugh at the White House Briefing



Guests at the town hall reception



Corey Yarbrough and Kim Hunt at the town hall reception



Josh Crosson and Jewel Thais-Williams attend the Issue Briefing

Robert Kim and Shawn Gaylord at the Issue Briefing



Angelisa Young & Sinjoyla Townsend, the first lesbian couple to marry in DC



Valerie Spencer presides on the town hall panel



Darryl Moore, Donna Payne and Rodney Nickens enjoy a moment during *OUT on the Hill*

NBJC Executive Asst. MarQuis Fair; Senior Fellow Rodney Nickens, Jr.; Super Volunteer KM King



Phill Wilson, Sharon Lettman-Hicks and Keith Boykin at the Black LGBT Luncheon



The parents of author Cheryl Kilodavis supported their daughter and her pioneering efforts in gender expression



NBJC Hosts Two-Part Black LGBT Town Hall Meeting on Marriage Equality and Transgender Issues

NBJC hosted a Black LGBT National Town Hall Meeting in partnership with the Washington, DC Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs. The two-part panel discussed marriage equality and transgender issues. Both segments were moderated by Reverend Darlene Nipper, Deputy Executive Director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The marriage equality panel began with an exclusive screening of NBJC's documentary short film **BLACK LOVE**, which celebrates the uplifting stories of Black gay and lesbian couples who have courageously stood on the front lines of the fight for marriage equality in order to seal their commitment to one another and to create the opportunity for other loving couples to do the same.

Participants for the marriage equality panel included Aisha Moodie-Mills, Advisor for LGBT Policy & Racial Justice with the Center for American Progress; Donna Payne, Associate Director of Diversity for the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and NBJC Board Member; Sultan Shakir, Regional Field Director for HRC; Nick McCoy, Field Organizer



(Top, L to R) Jeffrey Richardson, Sinjoyla Townsend & Angelisa Young, Rev. Cedric Harmon; (Bottom, L to R) Nick McCoy, Donna Payne, Sultan Shakir, Aisha Moodie-Mills, Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Wiley

for HRC; Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Wiley, Pastor of Covenant Baptist Church; and Jeffrey Richardson, Director of the DC Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs.

Inspired by NBJC's recent collaborative release of the report "Injustice at Every Turn: A Look at Black Respondents in the National Transgender Discrimination Survey," the second panel focused on quality of life disparities for Black transgender people.

Panelists included Monica Roberts, a blogger at transgriot.blogspot.com and transgender community activist; Earl Fowlkes, President/CEO of the

International Federation of Black Prides; Danielle King, Executive Director of The National Aurora Campaign, a nonprofit organization dedicated to helping transgender people of color live longer and healthier lives; Kylar Broadus, Esq., a business law professor at Lincoln University and NBJC Board Member; Jayden Sampson, transgender community activist; and Brian Watson, Director of Programs at Transgender Health Empowerment.



“Thank you, NBJC! **OUT on the Hill** is a genius gathering. In this country, having a seat at the legislative table of influence is critical to finding solid policy solutions to the myriad issues facing Black LGBT people. **OUT on the Hill** will continue to be a must-attend event on my calendar for years to come.”

Darlene Nipper
Deputy Executive Director
National Gay & Lesbian Task Force

Coming Soon to a
City Near You



Featuring interviews from:

- Angelisa Young & Sinjoyla Townsend
- Rev. Darlene Garner & Rev. Candy Holmes
- Reginald Stanley & Rocky Galloway
- Ivan Walker & Wymond Satterwhite
- Rev. Dr. Dennis W. Wiley
- Sharon J. Lettman-Hicks

Directed by: Yoruba Richen
Produced by:
The National Black Justice Coalition

Critically-Acclaimed Film *Pariah* Screens in Conjunction with “OUT on the Hill”

The National Black Justice Coalition in partnership with the DC Mayor’s Office of GLBT Affairs, hosted a special advance screening of the critically-acclaimed, coming-out film *Pariah*.

Over 200 eager attendees packed the Regal Gallery Place Theater in Northwest Washington, DC to preview the film and to participate in the subsequent Q&A with the

film’s writer/director Dee Rees and producer Nekisa Cooper. Moderated by filmmaker Maurice Jamal, the discussion centered around Rees’ and Cooper’s multi-year quest to produce *Pariah*, first as a short film, and then as a feature-length project with the support of their mentor Spike Lee, who is listed as an Executive Producer. A charismatic cheerleader who knows the importance of box office success for independent filmmakers, Jamal encouraged attendees to buy tickets on opening night in January 2012 when *Pariah* debuts in select cities, including Washington, DC.

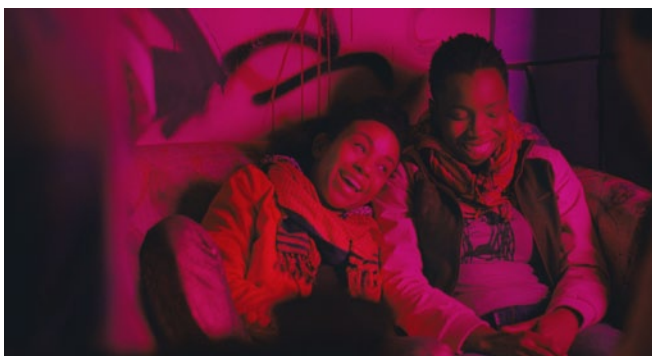
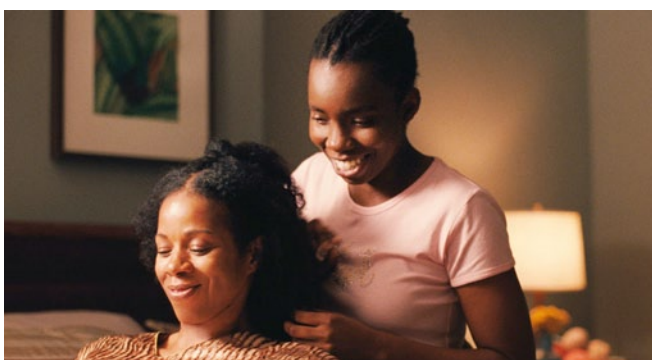
Pariah made its world premiere at the 2011 Sundance Film Festival, where it won an award for best cinematography. This deeply-felt drama is the feature debut of writer/director Dee Rees. Adepero Oduye portrays Alike (pronounced “ah-lee-kay”), a 17-year-old African American woman who lives with her parents (Kim Wayans and Charles Parnell) and younger sister (Sahra Mellese) in Brooklyn’s Fort Greene neighborhood. A gifted student, Alike is quietly but firmly embracing her identity as a lesbian. With the support of her best

friend Laura (Pernell Walker), she is especially eager to find a girlfriend. Wondering how much she can confide in her family, Alike strives to get through adolescence with grace, humor, and tenacity. Spike Lee is among the feature’s executive producers.

View the trailer at focusfeatures.com/Pariah



At the screening: NBJC’s Exec. Dir. Sharon Lettman-Hicks and *Pariah* Director Dee Rees with Producer Nekisa Cooper in the background.



“*Pariah* is a beautifully crafted story of love and identity, told through a lens that is uncommonly universal. I think *Pariah* is one of the most important films to come out in this decade. It is truly a first. A film that changes not only this industry but this community and society as a whole.”



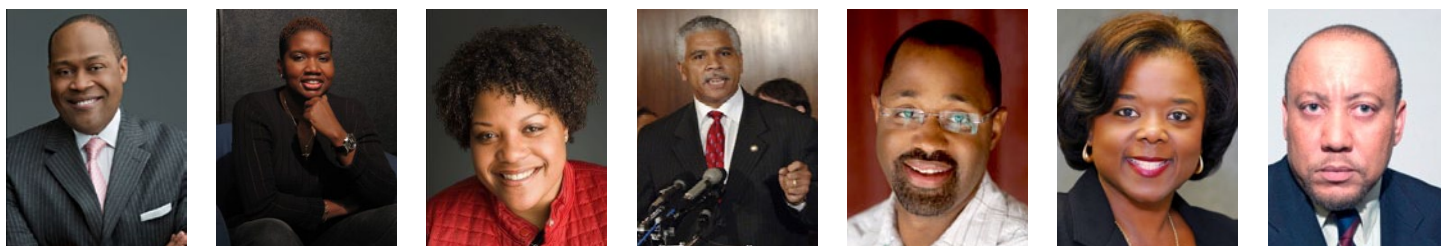
Maurice Jamal
Founder and CEO
GLO TV

NBJC Featured on Panel - "Brother Outsider: Linking Racial Justice and the LGBT Equality Movement"

Hosted by the LGBT Congressional Staff Association, the panel discussion entitled "Brother Outsider: Linking Racial Justice and the LGBT Equality Movement" covered homophobia and transphobia in Black America, cultural barriers to coming out, and LGBT legislation in Congress.

Moderated by Robert Traynham, Washington, DC Bureau Chief of Roll Call TV, which airs on the Comcast Network, the selected panelists included Carolyn M. Brown, Editor-at-Large, *Black Enterprise*; LZ Granderson, Columnist for ESPN, CNN; Hilary Shelton, Director, NAACP Washington, DC Bureau;

Sharon J. Lettman-Hicks, Executive Director, National Black Justice Coalition (NBJC); George Walker, VP of Leadership Initiatives Victory Fund, Gay and Lesbian Leadership Institute; Kylar Broadus, Associate Professor, Lincoln University; and Courtney Snowden, The Raben Group.



(L to R) Robert Traynham, Washington, DC Bureau Chief, Roll Call TV, The Comcast Network; Carolyn M. Brown, Editor-at-Large, Black Enterprise; Courtney Snowden, The Raben Group; Hilary Shelton, Dir., NAACP Washington, DC Bureau; George Walker, VP of Leadership Initiatives Victory Fund, Gay and Lesbian Leadership Institute; Sharon Lettman-Hicks, Exec. Dir., NBJC; Kylar Broadus, Associate Prof., Lincoln University & NBJC Board Member



“ Attending *OUT on the Hill* has been both an honor and a blessing. Being surrounded by like-minded, educated, distinguished, successful, whole-hearted, fabulous, driven, passionate, and service-dedicated Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people was an experience that I will cherish for the rest of my life! I took with me power, strength, and knowledge, knowing that as an LGBT person I can still do anything I want in this world. I left knowing who I was and who I wanted to be; I fell in love all over again with my Black LGBT family. ”

Antonio Williams
President, LEGASI, Leading the Education of Gay & Straight Individuals of Norfolk State University



“ I was excited to be at *OUT on the Hill* for the second year. At Affinity Community Services we know that 2012 is a critical year for the Black LGBT community to redouble its efforts and amplify its voice in the broader Black community and the broader LGBT community. Our partnership with NBJC will help strengthen our work in Chicago and allow our constituency to impact the national agenda for Black LGBT people. We look forward to the challenges ahead. ”

Kim Hunt
Executive Director, Affinity Community Services



Our Sincerest Gratitude

NBJC would like to thank the following people with whom this event was made possible:

- **Dr. Randall Miller** - Haas, Jr. Fund
- **Leslie Herod** - Gill Foundation
- **Dr. Cynthia Swann** - National Education Association
- **Stacey Long** - National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
- **Jeffrey Richardson** - DC Mayor's Office of GLBT Affairs
 - **Donna Payne** - Human Rights Campaign
- **Darlene Nipper** – National Gay & Lesbian Task Force
- **Aisha Moodie-Mills** - Center for American Progress
 - **Earnest Winborne** - NoMoreDownLow.tv
 - **Maurice Jamal** - GLO TV
- **Kimberley McLeod** - GLAAD
- **Gloria Jones** -Focus Features



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 - **Rodney K. Nickens, Jr.**, Senior Fellow
- **Tom & Kathy Cunningham**, BaileyCunningham and Company

This year's *OUT on the Hill* Black LGBT Leadership Summit would not have been possible without the generous support of our sponsors:



evelyn & walter
HAAS JR. fund



Great Public Schools for Every Child



Ally Sponsors



“The Gill Foundation is proud to support *OUT on the Hill*. NBJC's partnership with the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation is both vital to our fight for LGBT equality and illustrates how far our movement has come.”

Leslie Herod
Program Officer
Gill Foundation



“The main reason I attended *OUT on the Hill* is because I admire and furthermore appreciate the work that Sharon Lettman-Hicks does for our LGBTQ community and the passion she has for creating spaces for our people to be their authentic selves without fear of rejection. Through my participation in the youth panel, I regained the power and voice I once had to continue to empower the youth to fight for their place in this world.”

Lauren Waters
Diversity Student Assistant,
Human Rights Campaign

Volunteer Thank You's

OUT on the Hill was made possible through the generously donated time of our volunteers:

- TYIE ANDINO
- TOMMY BENNETT
- BRANDYNICOLE BROOKS
- KM KING
- MARQUES OWENS
- JE-SHAWNA WHOLLEY
- LAUREN WATERS

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- KATHY PLATE
- VALERIE PHILLIPS
- KATINA PARKER
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NoMoreDownLow.tv Covers OUT On the Hill



National Coming Out Day (October 11th) marked the one-year anniversary of NoMoreDownLow.tv, the brainchild of veteran television producer Earnest Winborne, a dedicated pioneer for Black LGBT visibility who has labored tirelessly to create positive media images of people in our community. Previously, Winborne has worked with The Oprah Winfrey Show, Access Hollywood, and The View. Every month, he produces an online show about contemporary Black LGBT issues, our history and important events. *OUT on the Hill* is profiled on his website. Check it out!

www.nomoredownlow.tv



DOWNLOAD

Injustice at Every Turn: A Look at Black Respondents in the National Transgender Discrimination Survey
A fact sheet about Black transgender discrimination



INJUSTICE AT EVERY TURN:
A LOOK AT BLACK RESPONDENTS
IN THE NATIONAL TRANSGENDER DISCRIMINATION SURVEY

The National Transgender Discrimination Survey (NTDS) measured transgender experiences of Black respondents. The survey results showed that transgender people faced bias that affects all areas of life. However, one of the most important findings was that the combination of anti-transgender bias with structural and individual racism meant that transgender people of color experience particularly devastating levels of discrimination. Among them, Black transgender people often reported the highest levels of discrimination.

That is why the National Black Justice Coalition is proud to partner with the National Center for Transgender Equality and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, who collected the data through the NTDS, to offer this report on discrimination against Black transgender people. As America's leading national Black LGBT and rights organization, the National Black Justice Coalition invites leading national Black LGBT and rights organizations, the National Black Justice Coalition members, faith and community, regardless of gender identity and sexual orientation, to participate, openly and honestly in a world where all people are fully empowered to participate safely, openly and honestly in family, faith and community, regardless of gender identity and sexual orientation.

The information in this report is based on the experiences of the 381 respondents who were Black or Black multiracial. When this report uses the phrase, "due to bias," it refers to the questions on the survey that asked about respondent's experiences of anti-transgender bias, but the results also show the complex interactions of that bias with race and socio-economic status.

KEY FINDINGS

- Discrimination was pervasive for all respondents who took the National Transgender Discrimination Survey, and the combination of anti-transgender bias and persistent, structural and individual racism was especially devastating for Black transgender people and other people of color.
- Black transgender people live in extreme poverty with 34% reporting a household income of less than \$10,000/year. This is more than twice the rate for transgender people of all races (15%), four times the general Black population rate (9%), and over eight times the general US population rate (4%).
- Black transgender people are affected by HIV in devastating numbers. Over one-fifth of Black respondents were HIV positive (20.2%) and an additional 19% reported that they did not know their status. This compares to rates of 2.64% for transgender respondents of all races, 2.4% for the general Black population, and 0.82% of the general US population.
- Nearly half (49%) of Black respondents reported having attempted suicide.
- Black transgender people who were out to their families found acceptance at a higher rate than the overall sample of transgender respondents.

Created by the National Black Justice Coalition, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force & the National Center for Transgender Equality

To view the video visit:
goo.gl/eyRtm





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JUSTICE SOCIETY

Justice Society members are a driving force behind NBJC's education, organizing and advocacy programs working toward creating a broadly diverse alliance of LGBT people and allies to achieve both equality and justice for LGBT African Americans.

As a member of the Justice Society, you will receive:

- Invitations to special events for Justice Society members
- Recognition in specific NBJC materials
- Telebriefs on pending issues for action

<http://www.nbjc.org/donate>

NBJC Mission

NBJC is a national civil rights organization dedicated to empowering Black lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Since 2003, NBJC has provided leadership at the intersection of mainstream civil rights groups and mainstream LGBT organizations, advocating for the unique challenges and needs of the African American LGBT community that are often relegated to the sidelines. NBJC envisions a world where all people are fully empowered to participate safely, openly and honestly in family, faith and community, regardless of race, gender identity or sexual orientation.

Connect with the National Black Justice Coalition



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Save the Date!
3rd Annual
OUT on the Hill
September 19-22, 2012



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