Event Overview
The Black Male Summit (BMS) has a strong twelve-year legacy, and we are now in the planning stages of the thirteenth conference, which will be held virtually this year. The BMS is a national platform for best practices and innovative strategies focusing on cradle-to-career success for African-American males with a robust focus on improving access, educational opportunities, improving retention, and leveraging networks in education, business and beyond. The primary demographic target is college bound and college age Black Males, other men of color, women of color, LGBTQ+ individuals, and friends and allies of any underserved populations.

Say It Loud - The University of Akron: Black Men Rising for Justice and Peace
Say It Loud Akron, a multi-disciplinary, multi-platform vehicle that shares community voices around the issue of systemic racism will collaborate with The University of Akron to present a Pre-Summit Town Hall Meeting on March 29th at 7:00pm. The forum will discuss the current plight of the Black Male in light of COVID-19 and social unrest associated with the deaths of African Americans at the hands of law-enforcement.

For more information please visit Say It Loud Akron on Facebook

Black Male Summit Highlights

Concurrent Opening Sessions

Admission and Financial Aid: UA’s Office of Admissions will discuss and share tips and answer questions on the process of applying to The University of Akron.

Healthcare and COVID-19: A session to address concerns about healthcare and COVID-19 within the African-American community.

African American Male Learning Community Panel

A panel discussion moderated by President Gary Miller that will feature UA graduates who were members of the African American Male Learning Community. They will be discussing their experiences and how UA has helped them navigate their collegiate and professional experiences.

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Cornel West
Presented by: Knight Foundation

Dr. West is an American philosopher, political activist, social critic, author, and public intellectual. The grandson of a Baptist minister, West focuses on the role of race, gender, and class in American society and the means by which people act and react to their "radical conditionedness."

Breakout Sessions

Attendees will have an opportunity to participate in a breakout session with students and professionals discussing career areas of highest need for underrepresented groups.

Sessions include:
- Law
- Engineering
- Pre-med
- Psychology
- Education
- Adult Focus
2021 Sponsorship Opportunities

FREDERICK DOUGLAS, STATESMAN: $20,000

- Priority registration for 50 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Opportunity for representative to serve as co-chair for the 2022 Black Male Summit
- Co-branding of corporate name on all programmatic and marketing materials (webpage, invitation, correspondence, publications, hyperlink to corporate webpage on UA website)
- Priority placement of logo/advertisement during virtual event
- Opportunity for video advertisement to run during advertisement breaks
- Relationship-building luncheon with UA students (to be held at a later date and in accordance with state and local health guidelines)

BOOKER T. WASHINGTON, EDUCATION: $10,000

- Priority registration for 40 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Name or corporate logo prominently featured on all programmatic and marketing materials
- Priority placement of logo/advertisement during virtual event
- Opportunity for video advertisement to run during advertisement breaks
- Relationship-building luncheon with UA students (to be held at a later date and in accordance with state and local health guidelines)

BENJAMIN BANNEKER, SCIENCE & INNOVATION: $5,000

- Priority registration for 40 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Name or corporate logo prominently featured on select programmatic and marketing materials
- Opportunity for video advertisement to run during advertisement breaks

W.E.B. DUBoIS, JOURNALISM & SOCIAL JUSTICE: $3,500

- Priority registration for 35 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Name or logo prominently featured on select programmatic and marketing materials
- Name logo recognition during advertisement breaks

THURGOOD MARSHALL, LAW & JUSTICE: $2,000

- Priority registration for 25 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Name or logo featured on select programmatic materials and marketing materials
- Name logo recognition during advertisement breaks

LANGSTON HUGHES, LIBERAL ARTS: $1,000

- Priority registration for 10 participants to attend The Virtual Black Male Summit
- Name or logo featured on select programmatic materials and marketing materials
- Name recognition during advertisement breaks

Thank you for your consideration and please contact Eric Ryan at 330-972-7967 or eer7@uakron.edu with any questions or concerns.