

## **What is Black Diaspora?**

Conceived by curator Eva Yaa Asantewaa during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic and the Black Lives Matter uprising, Black Diaspora launched its first activities in September 2020 as a Zoom-based peer support program serving up-and-coming, Black-identified dance and performance artists from various cultural backgrounds and aesthetic traditions. With support from Gibney, Black Diaspora has offered numerous peer group discussions, workshops led by notable guest artists, and conversations between artists. We celebrate the resourcefulness, accomplishments, and generous wisdom of Black creatives, educators, and activists.

Among the many renowned guests Black Diaspora has welcomed in its first three years are **Ayodele Casel, Bebe Miller, Charmaine Warren, Cynthia Oliver, Gilbert T Small II, Ishmael Houston-Jones, J. Bouey, Jerron Herman, jumatatu poe, Kayla Hamilton, Sage Ni'Ja Whitson, Omari Wiles, Paloma McGregor, and Raja Feather Kelly.**

Aside from monthly workshops and guest artist conversations open to the Black-identifying and Afro-Latinx public, Black Diaspora has awarded its members grants for rehearsal space at Gibney with no expectation of finished product. These grants offer artists time to dream, play, and experiment; initiate, develop, or fine-tune work; invite guests for feedback; meet with collaborators; or record their developing or finished work.

In its third fiscal year (September 2022 through June 2023), Black Diaspora continued its growth towards a full-fledged residency program to include the following developments:

- an annual stipend for registered members
- continuation of the space grant program through Gibney
- informal studio showings
- a customizable mentorship program
- leadership development opportunities
- resource and skill exchanges
- networking opportunities

### **Members of Black Diaspora's Third Year cohort (September 2022-June 2023)**

**Alexandra Jean-Joseph  
Angelica Mondol Viaña  
Beau Banks  
Jenny Boissiere  
Kendra Ross**

**Makayla Peterson  
Maya Simone Z  
Trinity Dawn Bobo  
Wendell Gray II**

We are building and holding **BLACK** space. Please read our [Admissions Policy Statement](#).

For further information or to join our email list, contact:

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**BLACK DIASPORA SCHEDULE OF GROUP AND PUBLIC EVENTS**  
September 2022 to June 2023

Facilitated workshops, “Duet” conversations, and member-only discussions

Free and on Zoom

[Open to Black-identifying and Afro-Latinx attendance only](#)

RSVP required [here](#). Scroll down for events schedule. Click desired event to RSVP.

**BLACK DIASPORA MONDAYS**  
Second Mondays (2pm-4pm)

September 12 (workshop)

[Durell Cooper](#)

October 10

**NO SESSION**

November 14 (workshop)

[NIC Kay](#)

December 12 (duet)

[María Wethers and Jasmine Hearn](#)

January 9 (BD office hours)

[Eva Yaa Asantewaa & Monica Nyenkan](#)

February 13 (duet)

[J. Bouey and Melanie Greene](#)

March 13 (workshop)

[Tanisha Christie](#)

April 10

**NO SESSION**

May 8 (workshop)

[María Wethers](#)

June 12 (workshop)

[Suzen Baraka](#)

**BLACK DIASPORA SATURDAYS**  
Second Saturdays (10am-12pm)

September 10 (workshop)

[Durell Cooper](#)

October 8 (workshop)

[Ishmael Houston-Jones](#)

November 12 (workshop)

[jumatatu poe](#)

December 10 (workshop)

[Sekou McMiller](#)

January 14

**SESSION CANCELED**

February 11 (duet) start time: 12pm EST

[Black Curators in Dance & Performance](#)

March 11 (workshop)

[Monica L. Williams](#)

April 8 (workshop)

[Beatrice Capote](#)

May 13 (duet)

[dani tirrell and David Rue](#)

**June 10 (BD members-only)**

**[Monica Nyenkan](#)**