

We unequivocally support the Black Lives Matter movement. Our mission, above all, is to support the student body as a space to gather, create, and engage in critical discourse. In light of recent events, we feel it necessary to provide resources to promote discourse that supports and amplifies Black voices. We have begun to compile a variety of resources, both relevant to current events and essential to greater cultural education. **This is a living document and is by no means comprehensive: if you know of resources that have been excluded from the list below, please leave a suggestion in this document and our Board will approve them accordingly.**

Many have been circulating reading lists about race, policing, and other relevant subjects; shared knowledge and the continued work towards empathy by non-Black individuals is essential. This is a powerful opportunity to appreciate, celebrate, and *fund* Black artists. Below we have listed relevant books, poetry, and other critical texts to make them more accessible to the community. To help promote Black artists, Black-owned galleries and Black-run organizations, we have listed a variety of places to eat, shop, and support art here in Pittsburgh. We have also compiled some other research, guides, and advice to continue activist work. These are specific to Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, but please feel free to apply relevant tactics in your city and institutions. Lastly, if you have input on how to improve this list as a whole, please reach out either via The Frame's Instagram messages or by contacting a member of the 2020-2021 Board.

To those in our community protesting across the country: please go prepared, know your resources, and document what you see for evidence. To those unable to protest: there are abundant resources highlighting what you can do from within quarantine, with or without monetary donations, locally and nationally. Continue to stay informed and safe wherever you are.

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READING

(If you find other PDFs, send them our way and we will try to add them. Unfortunately, some of the newer books are much harder to find online.)

BOOKS:

Claudia Rankine, **Citizen: AN American Lyric**

This is probably her most famous piece of writing to date, but she has also written other volumes of poetry, plays, and essays.

<http://1.droppdf.com/files/zBFF0/citizen-an-american-lyric-claudia-rankine.pdf>

Patricia Hill Collins, **Black Feminist Thought**

<https://uniteyouthdublin.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/black-feminist-thought-by-patricia-hill-collins.pdf>

Angela Davis, **Freedom is a Constant Struggle**

<https://www.docdroid.net/rfDRFWv/freedom-is-a-constant-struggle-pdf#page=11>

Michelle Alexander, **The New Jim Crow**

<https://www.sciencetheearth.com/uploads/2/4/6/5/24658156/newjimcrow-ch-1.pdf>

Wesley Lowery, **They Can't Kill Us All: Ferguson, Baltimore, and A New Era in America's Racial Justice Movement**

(Couldn't find the PDF, but here is a longform interview about the book with the author.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Jnj8f7y67DA>

Ta-Nehisi Coates, **Between the World and Me**

https://www.mtsac.edu/elj/english/documents/engl1a/engl_1a_reading_n.pdf

Audre Lorde, **Sister Outsider**

(excerpts)

<https://sites.evergreen.edu/mediaculture/wp-content/uploads/sites/20/2015/03/AudreLordeSisterOutsiderExcerpts.pdf>

I am your sister

<https://mwasicollectif.files.wordpress.com/2015/06/audre-lorde-i-am-your-sister-collected-and-unpublished-writings.pdf>

James Baldwin, **The Cross of Redemption**

https://bibliotecadaluta.files.wordpress.com/2017/08/james_baldwin_randall_kenan-the_cross_of_redemptio.pdf

The Fire Next Time

(excerpts)

<https://blogs.baruch.cuny.edu/eng2100hmwe/files/2016/08/The-Fire-Next-Time.pdf>

Toni Morrison, **The Bluest Eye**

<https://memberfiles.freewebs.com/36/26/43092636/documents/Bluest%20Eye,%20The%20no20-%20Toni%20Morrison.pdf>

Zora Neale Hurston, **Their Eyes Were Watching God**

<https://uniteyouthdublin.files.wordpress.com/2015/01/88253919-their-eyes-were-watching-god-by-zora-neale-hurston.pdf>

Cherrie Moraga, **This Bridge Called My Back: Writings by Radical Women of Color**

https://monoskop.org/images/e/e2/Moraga_Cherrrie_Anzaldual_Gloria_ed_This_Bridge_Called_My_Back_Writings_by_Radical_Women_of_Color-Kitchen_Table_Women_of_Color_Press.pdf

Octavia Butler, **Kindred**

(audiobook)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EQxahl1j11A>

Angela Davis, **Abolition Democracy**

https://bibliotecadaluta.files.wordpress.com/2017/08/abolition_democracy.pdf

POETRY:

Essex Hemphill, (selected poems from **Ceremonies**)

<https://zocalopoets.com/2013/06/29/essex-hemphill-we-keep-treasure-any-king-would-count-as-dear-poems-of-lust-poems-of-tenderness/>

(anthology) **Brother to Brother: New Writing by Gay Black Men**

<https://www.spdbooks.org/Content/Site106/FilesSamples/9780978625115.pdf>

Gwendolyn Brooks, (selected poems)

https://www.poemhunter.com/i/ebooks/pdf/gwendolyn_brooks_2012_4.pdf

Langston Hughs (list of poems)

<https://poets.org/poems/langston-hughes>

Sonia Sanchez (list of poems)

<https://poets.org/poems/sonia-sanchez>

Nikki Giovanni (reading her poems)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FMFP9ZNYCPs>

Maya Angelou, **The Complete Collected Poems of Maya Angelou**

http://dl.booktolearn.com/ebooks2/art/poetry/9780679428954_the_complete_collected_poems_of_maya_angelou_9ec6.pdf

Robert Hayden, (list of poems)

<https://poets.org/poems/robert-hayden>

Dawn Lundy Martin, Professor at the University of Pittsburgh and a co-founder of Center for African American Poetry and Poetics (selected poems)

<https://poets.org/poems/dawn-lundy-martin>

Terrance Hayes, a co-founder of Center for African American Poetry and Poetics (poems and prose links below the bio)

<https://www.poetryfoundation.org/poets/terrance-hayes>

STUDENT WRITING:

Shori Sims, **An OpenLetter to Participants in the Black Death Spectacle**

Deep Web Manifesto

<https://shori.cargo.site/Untitled-Page-1>

An Open Letter to the non-blacks who think that we have all of the answers

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1oCv7waO6iR29rYydzbsWuZpE4ApMZmsp1Hqk_q1cmoA/edit

Steven Montinar, **A collection of Writings/ Poems/ Statements**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ahcgwXkE-5ZOSKc4sD1mey8USx-TEas8gkiYvICKIA0/edit?usp=sharing>

BLACK-OWNED GALLERIES & ARTS ORGANIZATIONS

Boom! Concepts

@boom_concepts, <https://www.boomuniverse.co/>

1Hood

@1hoodmedia, <https://www.1hood.org/>

Braddock Carnegie Library Association

@braddocklibrary, <http://braddockcarnegielibrary.org/>

The Legacy Arts Project

@legacyartsproject, <http://legacyartsproject.org/>

PearlArts Studios

@pearlartsstudios, <http://www.pearlartsstudios.com/>

Dreams of Hope

@dreamsofhope_queeryoutharts, <https://www.dreamsofhope.org/>

Kelly Strayhorn Theater

@kstheater, <https://kelly-strayhorn.org/>

August Wilson African American Cultural Center

@augustwilsonculturalcenter, <https://aacc-awc.org/>

Center for African American Poetry and Poetics

<https://www.caapp.pitt.edu/>

Sibyls Shrine

(artist residency program for Black Womxn who are mothers and identify as artists, founded by CMU Professor Alisha Wormsley)

@sibylsshine, <https://alishabwormsley.com/sibyls-shrine>

BLACK-OWNED RESTAURANTS (PITTSBURGH)

Please consider supporting these Black-owned restaurants in Pittsburgh; research what take-out/delivery/pickup options they have available due to COVID-related changes.

BBQ

The Dream BBQ- Homewood
Ribs N Bread- Oakland
Showcase BBQ- Homewood
Z- Best Barbecue, Chicken & Ribs - Uptown

Cultural Cuisine

Casa Brasil- Highland Park
Fireside Jamaican Restaurant- Wilkinsburg
Island Spice Restaurant- Carnegie
Leon's Caribbean Restaurant- Allentown
Pauline's Caribbean Soul Cuisine- North Side
Royal Caribbean Takeout- Wilkinsburg

Desserts

Cakery Square- Waterfront
CobblerWorld- Downtown and East Liberty
Dana's Bakery- Homewood

Bar/ Lounge

Preeti's Pit- Strip District
Rocks Landing Bar and Grille- McKees Rocks
The genuine Pub- Penn Hills
Savoy- Strip District
Young Brothers Bar- Marshall- Shadeland

DO YOUR RESEARCH (CMU & PGH)

CMU

If you are a current student at CMU or an alumni, email your heads of school, deans, or other college representatives.

- Tell them CMU needs to do more. Provide examples of racism at CMU and offer up possible solutions.
- Tell them to push the university to cut ties with organizations like Palantir, McKinsey, DARPA, and other military contractors.
- Find out where the school is getting funding. Large corporations and military affiliates provide sizable donations and funding to Carnegie Mellon research department. These corporations recruit at CMU, and many graduates go on to work for these companies.

SIGN THIS PETITION against racist policing in Pittsburgh/CMU:

<https://actionnetwork.org/petitions/cmu-confront-racist-policing-in-our-community/>

Other resources:

<https://www.nbcnews.com/tech/tech-news/campus-activists-find-target-intersection-immigration-technology-palantir-n1093136>

https://www.cmu.edu/cmnews/extra/030718_darpa.html

<https://www.post-gazette.com/news/education/2018/12/03/Carnegie-Mellon-University-CMU-army-artificial-intelligence-DARPA-defense-department-college-contractor/stories/201812030109>

<https://www.cmu.edu/tepper/news/stories/2018/october/mckinsey-student-spotlight-mba.html>

<https://www.cmu.edu/annual-report-2019/assets/report.pdf>

Pittsburgh

If you live in Pittsburgh, email representatives about the amount of money allotted to the police each year in the budget. (This is also great research to do regardless of the city you live in.)

[https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/8055_Operating_Budget_as_approved_by_Council_12-17-19\(3\).pdf](https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/8055_Operating_Budget_as_approved_by_Council_12-17-19(3).pdf)

The 2020 operating budget allotted \$114,787,000 to the police, a \$10,000,000 increase from 2019.

- If you compare this amount to the budgets for other bureaus within public safety, it is the largest expenditure by far.
- If you compare this to the rest of the budget, the only department that receives more funding is Finance (\$178,736,252).
- To compare, the Bureau of Emergency Medical Services was allotted \$24,095,375 for the 2020 fiscal year.
- And the department that receives the least funding, ironically, is the Ethics Hearing Board (\$173,486).

MONETARY DONATIONS

If you are able to contribute money, here are few Black-run organizations that need your support. (This is by no means a comprehensive list, if you don't see an organization on here that should be, let us know. Also keep in mind that some organizations have received an overflow of contributions and have requested that additional donations be redirected to other organizations, so research before donating. Consider the fluctuation of need depending on the time you are donating.) Make Venmo transactions private so they're less likely to be traced to you.

Black Visions Collective

<https://secure.everyaction.com/4omQDAR0oUiUagTu0EG-Ig2>

National Bail Out

<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/freeblackmamas2020>

Amistad Law

<https://amistadlaw.org/donate>

Black Women Organized for Political Action (BWOPA)

<https://bwopatile.nationbuilder.com/donate>

PGH Freedom Fund

Venmo: PGH-Freedomfund

George Floyd Memorial Fund

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/georgefloyd>

Reclaim the Block

<https://secure.everyaction.com/zae4prEeKESHBBy0MKXTIcQ2>

FREE (If you aren't able to donate)

This video project by Zoe Amira is a compilation of work by Black creators and is full of ads. Make sure to let all of the ads play (by watching on your computer or on the Youtube mobile app), and by doing so 100% of the ad revenue will go to BLM organizations and bail-out funds (listed in the beginning of the video). The description of the video links many petitions to sign as you watch/listen. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bCgLa25fDHM>

How you can aid a protest if you aren't able to attend:

- Disseminate information regarding police movement via social media, text, etc. to ensure that protestors are informed and prepared
- Spread resources listing what to bring and what to know before attending a protest
- Check in on your friends and family who may be protesting periodically to ensure that they are safe and accounted for
- Prepare and share COVID-related protective measures (face masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, etc.)
- Contribute to bail funds across the country

POST-PROTEST IMAGE PROCESSING

If you go to a protest, please make sure to scrub the photos you take of data that could put others in danger. In the very least, blur or draw over distinguishable features of protestors using the iPhone photo app, PicsArt, or other free apps.

Here is a great tool made by CMU MFA alumni and adjunct professor, Everest Pipkin.

<https://everestpipkin.github.io/image-scrubber/>

Rat Lab PGH (@ratlabpgh, <https://ratlabpgh.com/q27ei4xmy388ef83ss90m5bzmspiwy>) is scanning and processing images taken at protests free of charge. Your images will return with identifiable features of protestors blurred out. They have experienced a high demand and are prioritizing free processing for Black individuals. Due to the community's response, they are also now open for donations to support their work (there is a button to donate at the bottom of their homepage, linked above).