

2022 AT BLACK FEMINIST FUTURE



BLACK
FEMINIST
FUTURE



A message from Our Founder and Chief Rabble Rouser

In 2022, as a global pandemic raged on amid continued social and political conflict, BFF ideated and organized to center, protect, and Squad Up with Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people.

The team developed the Abortion Is Freedom campaign to fight back—our way—against extreme laws restricting access to health care that have a disproportionate impact on Black people. In addition, we continue to empower folks with real, life-saving information through our AB+ Plug training.

When Brittney Griner was detained in Russia, BFF sprang into action to **#BringBrittneyHome**. On December 8, Brittney Griner was released and able to return home to her wife, family, and career. We remain in solidarity with incarcerated folks worldwide, especially those facing inordinate sentences because of misogynoir, homophobia, and transphobia.

We convened our Okra Collaborative partners in Senegal through true diasporic power, to continue determining where our Black feminist power lies across the globe and how we harness it for our collective good.

As *Jubilee: A Black Feminist Homecoming*, our virtual offering from 2021, continues to be screened at conferences and college campuses, we're making stops across the country to build power on the road to Get Free: A Black Feminist Reunion, happening June 8–11 in Baltimore, MD.

None of this is possible without you by our side. Words cannot express our gratitude that you are with us in the tradition of the Black feminists who paved our way! BFF thanks YOU. The struggle for Black liberation is collective—and when Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people are free, everyone will be free.

Paris Hatcher

Paris Hatcher
(she/her)



MISSION & VISION

Black Feminist Future (BFF) is a political hub focused on the dynamic possibilities in galvanizing the social and political power of Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people toward liberation.

We do this by building and nourishing the leadership of fierce Black feminists, fortifying aligned organizations and movements, & shifting cultural norms.

We envision a world where all Black women, girls, and gender-expansive folks are safe, joyful, cared for, powerful, self-determining, and thriving. We envision a world where freedom is our birthright and we are in abundant, nurturing, and interdependent relationships with our communities and the Earth.





VALUES

1. AUTHENTIC & UNAPOLOGETIC

2. INTERDEPENDENT & COMMUNITY-ORIENTED

5. DISRUPTIVE OF BS

3. ACCOUNTABLE

6. WILLING TO GROW & VALUE MULTIPLICITY

4. FOCUSED ON COLLECTIVE CARE

7. COURAGEOUS



MERIDIANS

We are grounded in Black feminisms through our values and meridians, which are:

Black women, girls, & gender-expansive people are inherently valuable.

We center community care & joy as we build power to defeat systems of oppression.

Black feminisms are for all Black people, and they are how we get free.

We make the invisible visible.

Our struggle for liberation is global & means we must defeat all systems of oppression.

Transformation is a process and a must, & we encourage people to come as they are.

We center the most vulnerable in our work & in our solutions.

We defend Black women, girls, & gender-expansive people.

STRATEGIC PRIORITIES

NOURISH & DEVELOP FIERCE BLACK FEMINIST LEADERS & ORGS.

DISRUPT THE CULTURE OF MISOGYNOIR AND ADVANCE BLACK FEMINISMS.

SHIFT THE MATERIAL CONDITIONS FOR BLACK WOMEN, GIRLS, & GENDER-EXPANSIVE PEOPLE IN THE U.S. & ACROSS THE AFRICAN DIASPORA.

ALIGN & STRENGTHEN ORGANIZATIONS & MOVEMENTS TOWARD BUILDING A 21ST-CENTURY FEMINIST MOVEMENT GUIDED BY BLACK FEMINIST POLITICS.



2022 Leadership & Staff



Raven Freeborn, President
Clarise McCants, Treasurer
Malachi Robinson, Secretary
M Adams
Monifa Bandele
Keri Gray
Mia Herndon
Ra/Malika Imhotep
Lutze Segu
Savannah Shange

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Kratina
Baker
Power Building Manager:
Hives



Samantha
Blakley
Power Building Organizer:
Member Governance



Yemisi
Combahee
Power Building Organizer:
Constellation



Apyphanie
Dawn
Communications Manager



Tiffany
Dezort
Director of Resource
Mobilization



Jorden
Favors
Operations + Power Building
Administrative Assistant



Tracy
Harris
Executive Assistant



Paris
Hatcher
Executive Director



Katherine
MacHolmes
Power Building Organizer:
Movement Building



Desiree
Martin
Director of Communications



Jannah
Miller
Power Building Organizer:
Political Campaigns



So
Smart
Power Building Manager:
Movement Building



Karly
Smith
Resource Mobilization
Manager



Dominique
Symone
Director of Power Building



Kia
Woods
Director of People +
Culture

#BringBrittneyHome

In March 2022, BFF launched the #BringBrittneyHome campaign in response to Brittney Griner's unjust detention in Russia.

We Demanded:

- ✓ That the U.S. government prioritize the swift and safe release & return of Brittney Griner back to the United States
- ✓ Ongoing visible proof of Brittney Griner's safety and well-being, as well as consistent communication and wellness checks while she was in custody
- ✓ That Brittney Griner have access to the same benefits and protections as any other U.S. citizen. including but not limited to U.S. consular access

#BRINGBRITTNEYHOME

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Brittney Griner's case was a critical Black feminist issue, ripe with glaring examples of misogynoir:

- The WNBA's pay inequities that led to her playing in Russia
- The increased risk of discrimination for a Black queer person in hostile territory
- The systemic and disproportionate criminalization of Black people for minor drug-related offenses
- The anti-Blackness that exists in the over-policing and deprioritization to which all Black people are subject

In response, BFF implemented a long-term social-media strategy and activated its Political Campaign Hive to raise awareness at WNBA games, hold meetings with officials in D.C., and engage in the Week of Action in October 2022 to remind the world that Brittney's return home never stopped being a priority.

Brittney Griner Pleads Guilty In Russia
— We're Fighting To Bring Her Home

DOMINIQUE SYMONE

LAST UPDATED JULY 7, 2022, 11:25 AM



NATION

#BringBrittneyHome Campaign Is Relentless In Its Advocacy For The Basketball Star's Release

Black Feminist Future remains firm in a public campaign focused on the WNBA player to ensure her safe return sooner than later.

THE HILL

Group plans demonstration outside WNBA game calling for Griner's release

BY OLAFIMIHAN OSHIN - 05/23/22 6:20 PM ET



Associated Press / Eric Gay

An advocacy group has announced plans to demonstrate outside a WNBA game next weekend to call for league star Brittney Griner's release from prison in Russia.

Black Bodies for Black Power



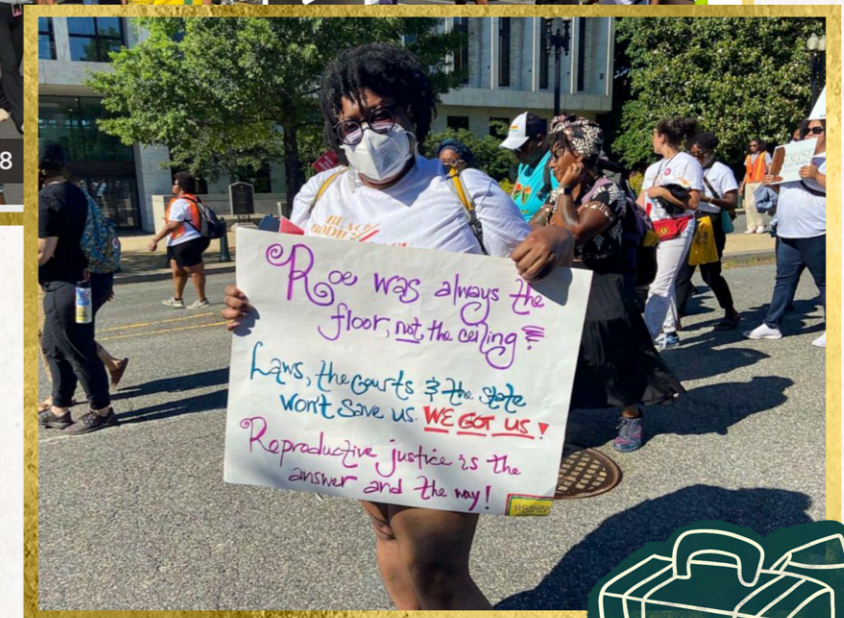
For these Black activists, abortion isn't just a woman's issue. It's about race, too

If Roe is overturned, the biggest impact will be on Black women in the South.

By [Anne Flaherty](#)
June 20, 2022, 9:57 AM



In June 2022, BFF members from all over the country mobilized in D.C. for the largest Black mobilization for abortion access in history: **Black Bodies for Black Power: 2 Days of Action for Abortion Access**. Reproductive justice and Black liberation movement makers marched to the Supreme Court to declare that Abortion Is Freedom.



Abortion is Freedom

BFF created the Abortion Is Freedom campaign response to outrageous attacks on reproductive freedom in Georgia and the United States.

The narrative campaign—led by an all-Black team and a diverse range of genders—focuses on supporting Black feminist reproductive justice leaders and empowering Black women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals. BFF produced an array of visuals rooted in making sure our folks are represented in the fight for bodily autonomy. The message is clear: *Black feminisms are how we get free.*

 1.9M Impressions

6.8K Clicks

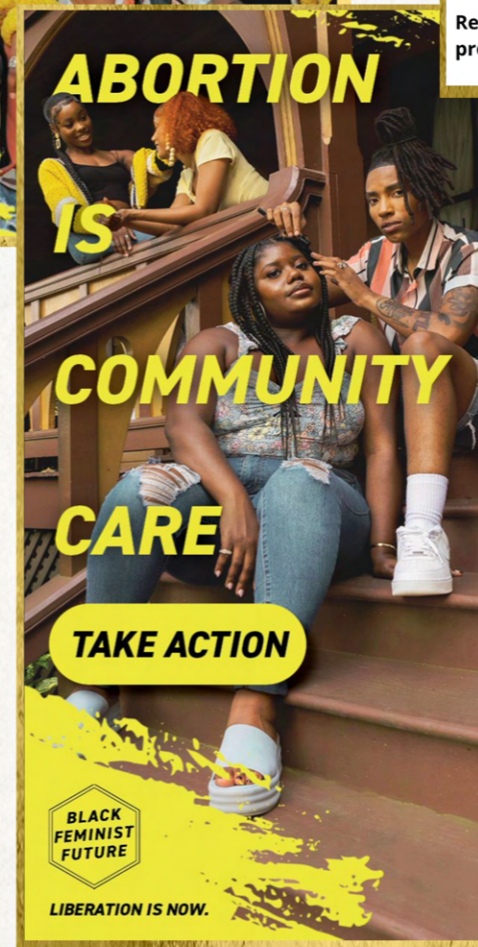
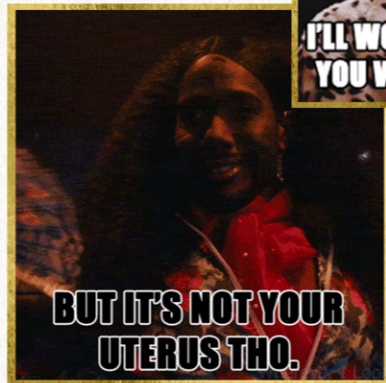
32K Organic Views

927.8K Impressions (Facebook ads)



A multi-media campaign from Black Feminist Future responds to attacks on reproductive rights in the US

Using short films, posters and Gifs, Abortion is Freedom looks to centre the experiences of Black and gender-expansive women, and counter narratives that have been “weaponised” against them.




OPINION

OP-ED: Supreme Court Ruling Overturning Abortion Reaffirms The Role Of Reproductive Justice In Black Liberation

There is hardly any more fundamental human right than the ability to control what happens to our bodies.

Written by Paris Hatcher Published on June 24, 2022



Reproductive justice is under siege as the Supreme Court sits protected behind a gate Source: Anna Money maker / Getty

“This moment is an opportunity for us as a people to create bold feminist realities for reproductive justice. We have the blueprint – an archive of Black feminist leadership and actions – so that we can build upon a rich legacy of Black feminist and liberation work.”
– Paris Hatcher in Essence Magazine

Skill Camp / AB + Plug Training

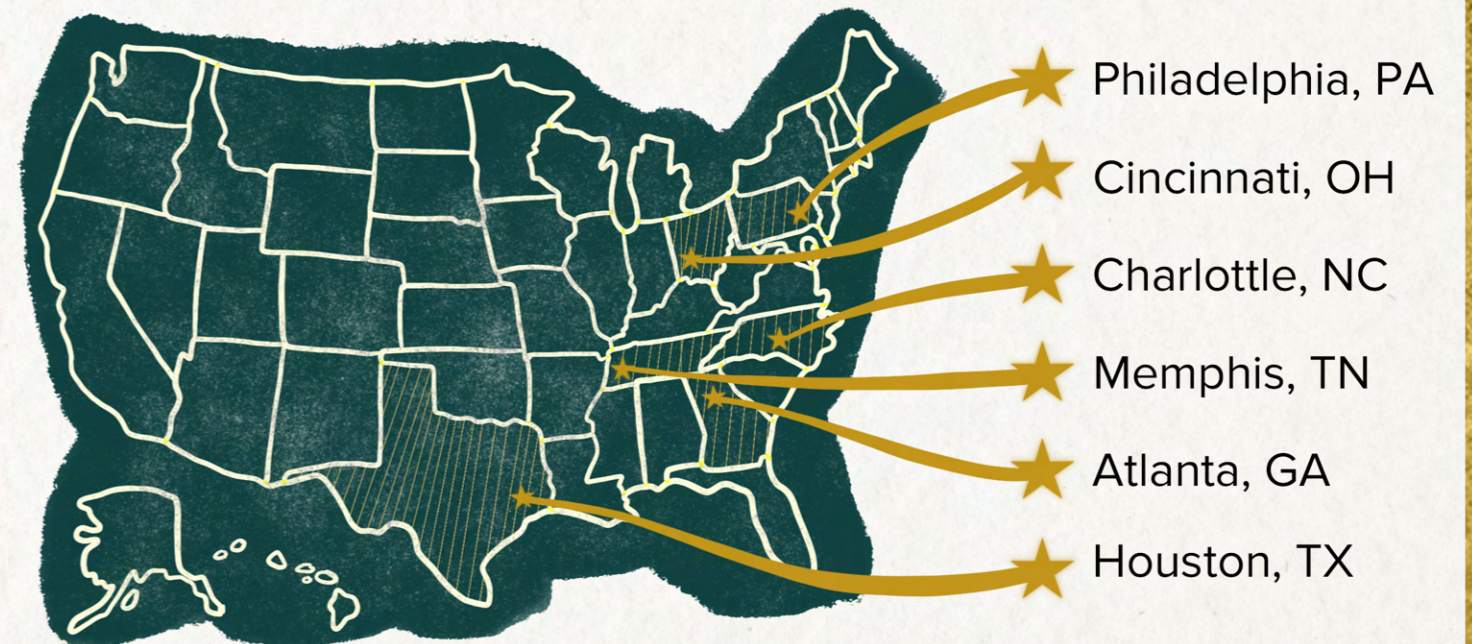
In July 2022, BFF organized its first Abortion Is Freedom Skill Camp in response to the Dobbs v. Jackson decision that overturned Roe v. Wade. With a deep understanding of the importance of community support, more than 50 Black women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals convened in Atlanta, Georgia, to participate in the two-day training on how to:

- Effectively communicate their pro-abortion work
- Build a comprehensive abortion resource list
- Mitigate legal risk
- Support someone through a self-managed abortion
- Employ de-escalation and safety tactics during direct actions



The skill camp also introduced the AB+ Plug training, which equips Black individuals with practical skills to bring abortion access to their communities, regardless of their location.

Most skill camp attendees hailed from:



Together, we are continuing to grow a national network of AB+ Plugs dedicated to ensuring abortion access for all! Join us at blackfeministfuture.org/squad-up.



Black Feminist Future Membership

BFF's membership program is a space for Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people committed to our collective liberation, defeating misogynoir, and advancing Black feminisms.



MEMBER DEMOGRAPHICS

In 2022, we increased our membership by over 50%, to nearly 800! Most BFFs were recruited in New York last year, with Georgia, California, and D.C. not far behind. This fierce community of Black feminists comprises organizers, service workers, students, strategists, parents, sex workers, lawyers, healthcare providers, artists, healers, and much more.



ABOUT HIVES

Black Feminist Future members are nurtured through four Hives.



MEMBER GOVERNANCE

explores and integrates Black feminist governance power and democratic processes for the benefit of our membership-based structure and function.



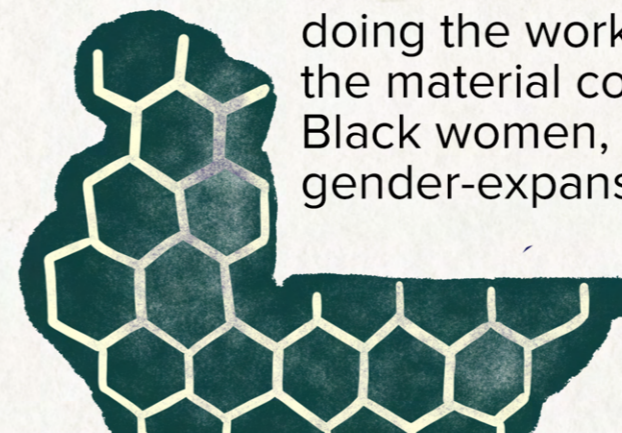
CONSTELLATION

focuses on connecting reproductive justice thinkers and leadership power to innovative spaces for the sake of reproductive freedom.



POLITICAL CAMPAIGNS

build an energized, intergenerational, diverse base of Black feminist leaders doing the work of shifting the material conditions of Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people.



COLLECTIVE CARE

centers and promotes the power of collective rest, consideration, and healing modalities for Black women, girls, and gender-expansive folks.

PROGRAMMING

Fractals: A Black Feminist Organizing and Movement-Building Timeline is an ever-growing interactive resource documenting the pulse of Black feminist leaders, action points, cultural moments, key terms, and social movements in the U.S.

BFF Blueprint Series consists of Black feminisms training for us, by us. BFF Blueprint 1.0 is an entry point to the basics of Black feminisms and how they get us free. BFF Blueprint 2.0 is module based on the application of the Meridians, our Black feminist principles. BFF Blueprint 3.0: Escaping Patriarchy uses the tools and concepts learned in its prerequisites to immerse our audience in BFF's Escape Room, exploring the dynamics and barriers that trap us all.

By popular demand, **Channel Black 3.0: Building Narrative Power for Reproductive Freedom** was relaunched with the help of Shanelle Matthews. Black reproductive justice leaders across the country gathered to strengthen collective media storytelling skills.

In May 2022, BFF hosted the inaugural hybrid **Miss Me with Misogynoir Summit**. As misogynoir continues to run rampant, BFF members and Atlanta community members convened to learn from Black feminist leaders about their encounters, experiences, and research to disrupt the BS.

MOVEMENT BUILDING

BFF's Movement Building work aligns and strengthens organizations and movements toward building a 21st-century feminist movement rooted in Black feminisms.

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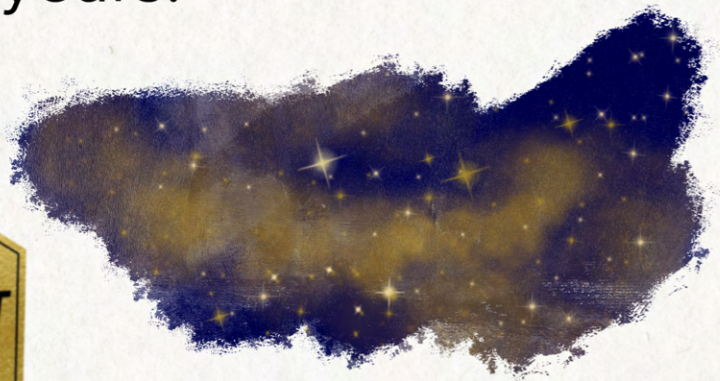


The Okra Collaborative began in 2021 with the commitment of Black and Afro-feminists from across the diaspora to build a transformative transnational Black and Afro-feminist network. In November 2022, the collective convened in Dakar, Senegal, for the inaugural retreat to set the foundation for how the Okra Collaborative will build in the coming years.



Okra Collective Retreat 2022

Throughout the year, the collaborative laid plans to create an external offering: a map tool to help inform and increase resources that are going toward Black feminist movement work worldwide.



APV TABLE

The Abolishing Patriarchal Violence Table continued collaboration to decide how to educate, train, and experiment with Black folks to disrupt the patriarchy's bold aggression. BFF supported APV Table fellow project presentations at the American Studies Association Conference in New Orleans under the direction of board member Savannah Shange and mapped out Black Feminist Safety Pods, the 2023 table-wide project.

In addition, BFF helped create a survivor-led grant program to support survivors of patriarchal violence with Movement for Black Lives, Girls for Gender Equity, and the In Our Names Network.

Resource Mobilization

The Resource Mobilization team uses philanthropy rooted in Black feminist values to change the material conditions of Black women, girls, and gender-expansive individuals.



501(c)3 UPDATE

OUR ADVANCEMENT VALUES

- We value philanthropic relationships; we build mutually beneficial partnerships with funders seeking to be transformed through giving.

- We understand philanthropy is rooted in racialized, gendered, capitalist exploitation, and that the bodies of Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people have been used to generate profit. We see philanthropy as a reparative project, providing resources to our communities that are deserved and long overdue. Therefore, we will always maximize the resources we ask for, knowing that there will never be enough money to repair past harm.

- We look to cultivate and deepen the analysis of movement funders—that is, funders who are interested in building the power of people and movements, and in decolonizing philanthropy.

- We understand that high net-worth individuals and foundations generate their resources in a variety of industries. Though we are not able to trace where all the money comes from, we will do our due diligence in researching how our funders move and will not receive resources that are knowingly coming from industries that are detrimental to our communities' well-being. This includes but is not limited to gun manufacturing, profit-centered pharmaceutical and carceral companies, etc.

BFF is officially an independent 501(c)3 organization operating autonomously to generate radical generosity and collective care in all areas of this liberation work centering Black women, girls, and gender-expansive people.