

GREATER TULSA AFRICAN AMERICAN AFFAIRS COMMISSION NEWSLETTER

HISTORY CORNER



The [Black Panther Party](#) was founded in October 1966 in Oakland, California, by Huey Newton and Bobby Seale. It emerged as a revolutionary socialist organization aimed at combating police brutality and systemic racism in African American communities. Inspired by Malcolm X and the civil rights movement, the party quickly grew, advocating for self-defense, community empowerment, and social programs like free breakfast for children and health clinics.

Learn more about the Black Panther Party [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3:** First Friday Art Crawl – Downtown Tulsa, 6 p.m.
- 3:** Lupe Fiasco Show – Tulsa State Fair, 7:30 p.m.
- 3:** Katt Williams Stand Up – BOK Center, 8 p.m.
- 4:** Harvest Feast Festival – Black Wall Street Market, 1 p.m.
- 11:** Black Moth Art Market – Black Moth, 9 a.m.
- 11:** OU/TX Day Party – Retro Grill & Bar, 1:30 p.m.
- 11-12:** Tulsa Pride – Dennis R Neill Equality Center
- 11:** Rapper's Delight Battle – Living Arts, 8 p.m.
- 14:** Brown Bag Book Discussion – Rudisill Library, 11 a.m.
- 18:** BooHaHa – Brookside Neighborhood, 9 a.m.
- 18, 19, 25, 26:** Theatre North Presents *Othello* – TPAC, Various Times
- 25:** Bowls Beats & Bingo Chilli Cookoff – Deep Greenwood, 2 p.m.
- 28:** North Tulsa Job Fair – 36th St. N Event Center, 11 a.m.
- 28:** GTAAAC Educator Awards – City Hall, 6 p.m.

CHAIR REPORT

Chair Dickens highlighted the Educator Awards, which will be held later this month.

He shared that the United Nigerian Association of Tulsa wants to contribute to GTAAAC and share Nigerian culture; he invited them to join the Culture and Engagement Committee.

He also allowed DJ Mercer, the Community Outreach and Engagement Manager with Justice for Greenwood, to share about an upcoming three-part genealogy workshop hosted at Rudisill Library. Dates are 9/25, 10/23, and 11/20 at 6 p.m.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Education Committee

The education committee received 10 nominations for the Educator Awards. The committee has already selected the Elementary and High School awardees. Middle School teacher nominations were still needed so the committee opened up the nominations for another two weeks. The Educator Awards will be hosted October 28 at 6 p.m. at City Hall.

Culture & Engagement Committee

The culture and engagement committee has created an email account. This email can be used for inquiries to the club, for a shared calendar featuring upcoming events with other commissioners, and to send out the newsletter to a larger audience.

The email is gtaaacculturecommittee@gmail.com.

Policy Committee

The policy committee shared their findings on the concerns raised by Councilor Hall-Harper about the Greenwood Legacy CDC. They interviewed individuals who would have knowledge of this issue to inform whether GTAAAC would sign the Councilor's letter.



Commissioner J. P. Ray was recently awarded the Outstanding Young Lawyer Award from the Oklahoma Bar Association.

Chairman Dickens wrote a letter and clarified that his proposed letter differs from Councilor Hall-Harper's and aims to support collaboration between the CDC and a trust.

A motion to approve Chairman Dickens's letter was made and seconded. The vote passed with 7 in favor, though some commissioners expressed reservations and a desire for further discussion.

(The committee's findings and Chair Dickens' letter can be found on the City of Tulsa website under "Commission Meeting Minutes".)

Human Rights Commission

The HRC welcomed new commissioner, Whitney Cipolla.

Chair Walker posed the question of whether adding a third goal – focused on educating councilors and Tulsans about human rights ordinances – would be beneficial. Many commissioners thought it could be added to existing goals. Chair Walker will come back with an action plan for the commission to review.

The question of how to truly support Tulsa's unhoused is still prevalent, especially with Governor Stitt's plans to move people from their encampments in what some feel is an overly-aggressive plan. The commission is actively having conversations about it.