

# NAACP

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE, MARCH 25TH, 2019

**PORTLAND NAACP, HOSTS A CONVERSATION  
FOR BLACK MEN, TO BLACK MEN, ABOUT BLACK MEN,  
W/ Rev. Osagyefo Uhuru Sekou  
in response to Double Tree's racial profiling incident.**

As part of a broad effort to raise awareness of the damage done by racial profiling, the Portland NAACP is co-sponsoring a series of events starting with a "Conversation For Black Men, To Black Men, About Black Men" on March 30.

That event will feature Rev. Osagyefo Uhuru Sekou, an activist, theologian, author, documentary filmmaker, and musician, Portland State University, African American Studies professor, Ed Washington, along with Civil Rights attorney Erious Johnson Jr, or Harmon Johnson LL, and one of Portland's finest poets, Emmett Wheatfall. The event will take place at Polaris Hall (*635 N Killingsworth Court, Portland, Oregon 97217*), from 12pm-4pm.

The NAACP chapter also is co-sponsoring a four-day symposium at Portland State University, "Rethinking Democracy," April 18-21 at the university's Native American Student and Community Center. Scheduled speakers include Nakisha Nathan of Bark, Alex Magaisa of Kent University, Glen Mpani of SPACS and Sandra Amolo of Voz, as well as Zimbabwean recording artist Wellington Kwenda.

Following a profiling incident at the Doubletree by Hilton last December, NAACP officials reached an agreement with the company to sponsor events examining the issue of racial profiling, that is the singling out of people of color. In the December incident, Jermaine Massey, a 34-year-old African-American man visiting Portland from Kent, WA, stopped in a quiet seating area at the DoubleTree by Hilton Portland in Lloyd Center to speak by phone with his mother before returning to his room at the hotel, where he was a paying guest. Although he was sitting quietly, Mr. Massey was approached and questioned by a white security officer who contacted the Portland Police Bureau to have him removed from the premises. A considerable portion of the incident was recorded by Mr. Massey and posted to his Instagram account. The incident generated considerable local and national media coverage.

Immediately afterwards, Portland NAACP officials began working on solutions that not only would challenge DoubleTree's policies, but also lay the groundwork for longer term awareness and solutions.

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