

2022 Raleigh Mentors



Courtney Napier (Mentor for Lauren Dotson)

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Founder of Black Oak Society

Courtney Napier is a writer, journalist, gatherer, and antiracism coach from Raleigh, North Carolina. She has written for national outlets like NewsOne and The Appeal, as well as regional and local publications such as Scalawag Magazine, WALTER Magazine, The Carolinian, and INDY Week. She is also the founder of Black Oak Society, a collective of Black creatives in the greater Raleigh area. Their flagship publication, BOS

Magazine, is a literary magazine focused on giving Black Raleigh her flowers now. Finally, Courtney coaches individuals and organizations as they seek to lead and live in a way that undermines white supremacy and honors the humanity of all people. She loves to love her spouse, David, of ten years, and her two little humans who are endless hilarious meme reels.



Moses T. Alexander Greene (Mentor for Sabrina Tian)

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Director of Film & Performing Arts at NC Museum of Art

Moses T. Alexander Greene curates and provides artistic direction for all performative art and film programming in the galleries and throughout the museum's 164-acre park. A native of Long Island, New

York, Greene's educational background includes a Master's in New Media Management and a dual degree in African American Studies and Writing for Television, Radio, and Film--both from Syracuse University. His research interests include (re)making theatre as a place for African American stories, cultivating belonging in the performing arts, media literacy and the politics of identity, and the psychosocial effects of African American portrayals in theater, media, and film.

Greene has experience in cultural and performance arts management in academia, non-profit and government, as well as in media relations and special event coordination. In 2021, he received Broadway World (Raleigh) Award for "Original Script of the Decade" for his play, "Pooled: A Gospel Musical Drama". In 2013, he was 1 of 20 educators nationwide to be named a Fellow of the Academy of Arts & Television Sciences (EMMY) Foundation, honored for a career serving in artistic and multimedia capacities for the 50th Anniversary of Freedom Summer Commemorative Conference, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial Dedication, ABC's All My Children and The View, GRAMMY Salute to Gospel, Radio ONE's coverage of the 2008 Election, and the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation Annual Legislative Weekend.



Dr. Tamara Brothers (Mentor for Jahleesa Phelps)
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Deputy Director of the North Carolina Arts Council
Dr. Brothers is a native of Fayetteville, N.C., and has a bachelor's degree in art and a Ph.D. from Hampton University. Her dissertation at Hampton focused on the potential of arts integration to help students learn more effectively. Dr. Brothers also has a master's degree in sport management from West Virginia University, a certificate in historic preservation from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro, a certificate in art as an alternate investment from

Sotheby's Art Institute, and a certificate in nonprofit management from Duke University.

As a volunteer, Dr. Brothers has served as a member of the boards of the North Carolina African American Heritage Commission, the North Carolina Arts Foundation, Arts North Carolina, and the North Carolina National Register Advisory Committee and on the national advisory board of Museum Hue, an arts platform for professionals of color. She was the second African American female president of the West Fayetteville Rotary Club and is a former member of the boards of the Second Harvest Food Bank and the Partnership for Children of Cumberland County, a former member of the City of Fayetteville's Historic Resources Commission, and a founding steering committee member of the Friends of African & African American Art at the Fayetteville/Cumberland County Arts Council. She was president of the board of the Hampton University Museum Foundation.

Previously, Dr. Brothers was the Director of Development & Major Gifts at the Nasher Museum of Art at Duke University, where she led development efforts and played a central role in achieving the university's capital campaign goals. Currently, Dr. Brothers is Deputy Director of the NC Arts Council.



Clarence "CJ" Morgan (Mentor for Devon Thompson)

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Co-Founder of The Gifted Arts

Cj's passion for the arts and youth development was birthed in clarence's hometown of Raleigh, North Carolina. It was here that he found his purpose to inspire and motivate youth, working as a youth counselor at a local YMCA outreach program. He went on to graduate with a bachelor's of arts in psychology and a school counseling master's degree. Cj recently resigned as a tenured school counselor with wake county public schools, where his practices included group counseling and classroom guidance to build personal confidence, leadership skills, and successful habits for middle schoolers, while also serving as a basketball & track coach for 12 years. Cj is also a sports enthusiast, dj, musician, writer, and visual artist.



Jose "Joe" Lopez (Mentor for Alhanna Cancel-Roman)

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Principal Architect at Habanero Architecture

Principal and founder of Habanero Architecture, Jose Lopez, was born and raised in Merida, Mexico where he earned his bachelor's degree from the State University of Yucatan (UADY) in 2008. During his architectural studies he was able to study abroad in Panama City at the Ithsmus University in Panama, and in Rennes in the Ecole D'Architecture de la Bretagne, France [EAB - School of Architecture of Brittany, France].

Before moving to the United States, Jose ran a design-build studio where he worked as an architect and general contractor. As principal in charge, he was able to design several small residential and commercial projects. In 2009 he moved to North Carolina and was honored to work for great firms where he was exposed to a diverse collection of projects of different scales and complexities.

He has ample knowledge of construction materials and methods as well as a deep passion for quality, sustainability and thoughtful design. While working for Szotak Design and ThoughCraft Architects (previously known as CUBE design + research) he built an extensive portfolio of highly crafted projects. He honed his proficiency with clients and project management, allowing him to skillfully represent clients' visions and goals.