



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Town Hall on White Nationalism in Southern Oregon

Urban League of Portland President & CEO, Community Leaders Plan To Discuss Life As A Person Of Color In Medford, Ashland and Surrounding Areas

The following is an announcement from Urban League of Portland **President & CEO Nkenge Harmon Johnson** about an upcoming Community Conversations event beginning live at 6 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, at Southern Oregon University. The event will also be streamed via social media and on public access television.

"We know that Ashland, Medford, and the Southern Oregon area has folks who wish and hope white nationalism has been a thing of the past," Harmon Johnson said recently. "It's going to be an interesting conversation to hear from people who had thought that this was behind us. Folks are now confronting an issue that we must address today. As we try to figure out what to do next, how do we engage? How do we get beyond barriers? How do we overcome?"

Invited guests include **Ashland City Councilor Gina DuQuenne** and **Nataki Garrett, Artistic Director for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival**. The event will also honor community champions, who are aligned with ULPDX values and mission and who were recommended by area residents.

At A Glance:

- Event (air) date: Tuesday, Aug. 23, 2022
- Event (air) time: 6 to 7 p.m.
- Location: Southern Oregon University
- Social Media Stream: @ULPDX [Facebook](#) & [YouTube](#) pages
- Press Contact: Tony Hernandez, comms@ulpdx.org or 503-997-4660 (text/call is quickest)

About the League's Chief Executive

Nkenge [pronunciation: na-KIN-gay] Harmon Johnson, Esq., one of the Urban League's longest-serving Presidents & Chief Executive Officers, began seven years ago and currently presides during the League's 77th year in service to Oregon and Southwest Washington. Under her leadership, the Urban League has been recognized with the highly coveted award of Number #1 nonprofit workplace by Oregon Business magazine.

"It's an honor to lead this wonderful team," said President Harmon Johnson. "For nearly eight decades, this organization has served all of Oregon and Southwest Washington with our programming and our robust advocacy on behalf of African Americans and others. The team continues that legacy with award-winning dedication."

About the Urban League of Portland

The Urban League of Portland's mission is to empower African Americans and others to achieve equality in education, employment, health, economic security and quality of life. The local affiliate was activated in 1945 and is one of the oldest civil rights and service organizations in the area. Founded in 1910, the National Urban League is a historic civil rights organization dedicated to economic empowerment to elevate the standard of living in historic Black communities.

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