

Racial Justice Resources – December 2020

The Racial Justice Team has been charged with providing concrete examples and practices to show the way for the broader Judson community to “make the beloved community a reality.” Our intent is to provide a range of educational, reflective, and action-oriented practices monthly. Past suggestions can be found on the Judson Website under the ACT tab. **If you have a resource you’d like to share, please email Carley Watts and we will add them to our resource “library.”** carleybwatts@gmail.com.

Books:

***Just Us* by Claudia Rankine.** This book is a collection of vignettes, photos, excerpts, and Rankine’s own experiences as a Black woman. “Rankine challenges herself and her readers to ask questions about privilege, racism, and bias, and then to listen...” “Rankine annotates her own words and thoughts, as a way of reminding the reader of her commitment to understanding the evolutionary nature of thought, identifying bias, and then addressing it. In so doing, she encourages the reader to be ever vigilante and open to conversation.” *Al Woodworth, Amazon Book Review*

***Uncomfortable Conversations with a Black Man* by Emmanuel Acho.** Acho is a former NFL player and is now an analyst on Fox Sports. In this book “Acho tackles difficult topics with the depth of an engaged cultural thinker and the style of an experienced wordsmith. Throughout, Acho is a friendly guide, seeking to sow understanding even if it means risking just a little discord.” —*Kirkus Reviews*

Film:

***Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom* by August Wilson.** This film, based on the play of the same name, chronicles the tensions between the trailblazing blues singer Ma Rainey (Viola Davis), her ambitious horn player Levee (Chadwick Boseman), and the white management determined to control her music in 1920s Chicago. This was Chadwick Boseman’s last performance before his death in August 2020. The film is produced by Denzel Washington and streams on Netflix beginning December 18th. Check out the trailer <https://www.netflix.com/title/81100780> or watch **60 Minutes** interview with Viola Davis. <https://www.cbsnews.com/video/viola-davis-ma-rainey-black-bottom-60-minutes-2020-12-06/>

Action:

Support BIPOC owned Businesses this holiday season. Remember our first Black owned book store, Black Garnett Books <https://bookshop.org/shop/blackgarnetbooks>. The link below will take you to numerous Black owned businesses with descriptions of their products. <https://blackbusinessisbeautiful.org/shop>

Coming to the Table virtual event, sponsored by Minnesota Peace Builders. These gatherings are racial healing talking circles to address interpersonal, community, and structural racial violence and trauma. Descendants of those who were enslaved, descendants of slave owners, Indigenous community members, and all those interested in engaging in safe, constructive dialogue are invited to come together to envision Minneapolis as a just and truthful community - one that acknowledges and seeks to heal the racial wounds from the historical trauma of slavery, genocide of Native Americans, and the racism these collective traumas continue to spawn. Reserve your virtual seat at <http://www.mnpeace.org/events.html>