



THE UNIVERSITY OF UTAH

# Staff Council

## OCTOBER 2023

# State of Utah 2023 Black Affairs Summit



## SYMPOSIUM

FEATURING **Nikki Giovanni**

29th Sept, 2023  
from 8:00 to 4:00 pm



## GALA

29th Sept, 2023  
from 7:00 to 11:00 pm

## Community Conversations

FEATURING **Candice Benbow**

30th Sept, 2023  
from 9:00am to 4:00 pm



Building on our past  
& Moving Forward

# BLACK AFFAIRS SUMMIT



UNIVERSITY OF UTAH | [WWW.BFSA.UTAH.EDU](http://WWW.BFSA.UTAH.EDU)

The *State of Utah 2023 Black Affairs Summit* will take place on Friday, September 29th and Saturday,

September 30th.

This year's theme is "Building on our past and moving forward: 15 years of BFSA."

In its 5th year, the summit is hosted by the Black Faculty and Staff Association ([BFSA](#)) and supported by the University of Utah. The goal of the Summit and the BFSA is to strengthen the relationship between the University and Black communities in Utah as we all work together to promote proactive strategies for holistic health and increase access to resources to improve the overall quality of life in Utah.

This year, the summit is being expanded to include two days of activities:

**Friday, September 29th:** the event starts with an academic symposium highlighting research by members of the BFSA and introduces programs and initiatives that support Black students, staff, and faculty at the university. The opening keynote address will be presented by legendary poet, writer, activist, and Sundance Grand Jury winner [Nikki Giovanni](#). *We will conclude the Friday evening activities with a formal gala that features a buffet dinner, open bar, and lots of dancing!*

**Saturday, September 30th:** Day 2 continues with Community Conversations and the closing keynote address will be presented by theologian, [Candice Benbow](#).

Topics discussed during the Community Conversations portion of the program include, connecting with Black non-profit organizations, making home ownership a reality, amplifying the voices of Black creatives in Utah, race and crime issues affecting the local Black community, K- 12 education issues, Black Physicians of Utah and public health, along with a panel discussion with candidates seeking election. The goal of the Summit and the BFSA is to strengthen community engagement and remind members of the Black community that we understand the complexity of navigating living in Utah and can relate to the experiences we all face.

We want to emphasize the importance of belonging and are asking members of the community to come out to foster a stronger sense of connection. We encourage members and supporters of Utah's Black community to join us!

REGISTER HERE

## Instagram Giveaway

Join Staff Council on Instagram for your chance to win a prize in honor of Employee Appreciation Day. The top 12 winners will get their choice of ONE of our cool prizes - tee shirts, hoodies, Stanley mugs & more!

Giveaway ends on Friday, September 29th at 11:59pm MT

ENTER THE GIVEAWAY

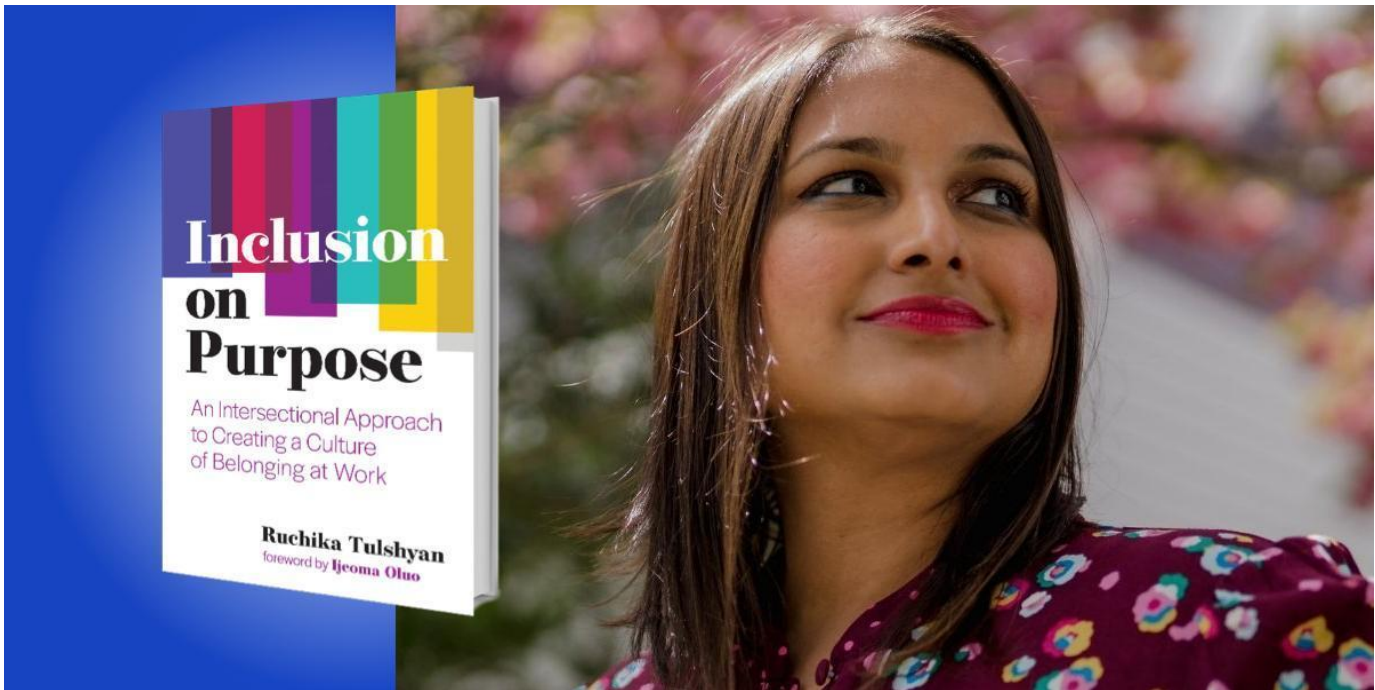
## Tom Loveridge Scholarship Recipient Announced

Congratulations to [Sarah Kocherhans](#) on winning the Tom Loveridge Scholarship. The award of \$1,250 is given to a full-time staff member who exemplifies the service and dedication that Tom personified during his time at the University of Utah.

"Thank you to the Tom Loveridge Staff Scholarship and the UU Staff Council for giving me the opportunity to continue my professional development through higher education! As a Reading Intervention Specialist for the University of Utah Reading Clinic (UURC), it is important to me to..."

[READ MORE FROM SARAH](#)

## EDI Book Club



Tuesday, November 14th  
4:15 - 5:15pm  
Virtual Event

[REGISTER FOR ZOOM LINK](#)

Join the UU Staff Council Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Committee Book Club as we discuss the ideas from this book. No need to read the book before attending.

\*Full book available for [download](#) from Marriott Library.

## Join the Disability Collective

We are excited to announce the recent creation of a disability affinity group at the U! The Disability Collective welcomes disabled people and allies who are faculty, instructors, staff, and/or graduate students. Members envisage the group as a space for social interaction and mutual support, as well as an avenue for disability and accessibility advocacy on campus.

The Disability Collective has a Teams channel and email listserv. We are currently planning discussion groups for the coming year on topics of interest to members. We are also planning some social gatherings!

If you are interested in joining, or if you have questions, please email Angela Smith ([ang.smith@utah.edu](mailto:ang.smith@utah.edu)) and/or Erin Meyer ([erin.meyer@utah.edu](mailto:erin.meyer@utah.edu)).

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## Do you have the best Staff on Campus?



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You know that your staff IS actually the BEST STAFF EVER, so why not share your opinion by gifting your staff with this charming and versatile porcelain mug? Tell the world how much you appreciate your staff. Each mug purchased includes a **\$5 donation to the Staff Council Professional Development Awards** fund (which in turn, reminds Staff how much they are appreciated)! It's a win-win-win!

Mugs can be purchased in any quantity and are **\$10 each**.

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*You're Invited*

**U**  
**CAREER SUCCESS**  
**GRAND**  
**RE-OPENING**

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25**  
9:00 AM – 6:00 PM  
GARFF Building | Suite 1300



Tour our new  
office suite



Meet  
our team



Food and  
giveaways

We are thrilled to announce the grand re-opening of the U Career Success Center, and we invite you to join us in celebrating this exciting milestone. We are proud to unveil our newly renovated space, which includes a large career closet, fully outfitted video interview studios, and more room for our growing team and expanded services.

[LEARN MORE ABOUT U CAREER](#)



## Share your Healthcare Story

The Resiliency Center has released a call for stories for [Healthcare Stories 2024 via Accelerate!](#)

As a part of Utah Presents 2023-2024 season, this event will be live and on stage at Kingsbury Hall the evening of Thursday, February 1st, 2024.

The theme for this year is "**Promise.**" Stories might address imagined futures, potential pathways, new opportunities, vows, commitments, and moments of growth, as well as journeys that took unexpected detours and relationships that changed.

Storytellers will consist of healthcare professionals, patients, trainees, students, family members and patients. If you or someone you know has a good story and would be willing to tell it in front of an audience, please submit your story pitch! Storytellers from within and outside of U of U Health are encouraged to submit their healthcare related stories.

[SUBMIT YOUR STORY HERE - DEADLINE OCTOBER 23RD](#)

## Upcoming Events

- September 28 - [Employee Appreciation Day](#)
- October 1 - [OCIH Wellness Seed Grant](#) Deadline
- October 7 - [Pioneer Theater Company Staff Night](#). Use code UTESTAFF for discount.
- October 9 - [Commuter Services Survey](#) due

## Resources

- Visit [Red Butte Garden FREE](#) with your UID card
  - [Special Discounts Available to Health Plan Members](#)
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## Contact Us

Have an event or announcement you'd like us to share in an upcoming newsletter?

[GIVE US THE DETAILS](#)



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