

voice

IN OUR OWN

National Black Women's
Reproductive Justice
Agenda

October 2016 Newsletter

2016 Strategic Communications for Policy Change Summit





In Our Own Voice hosted its fabulous *Strategic Communication for Policy Change Summit* for its seven partner organizations last month in Washington, DC. More than 68 staff, board members and activists from our organizational partners came together for five days of strategic planning and collaboration.

The theme this year was "Race in America: Where We (Black Women) Enter" and acclaimed scholar on race, gender and the law, Dorothy Roberts delivered the opening keynote address. For forty-five minutes she gave us a mesmerizing presentation highlighting the roles, context and point of entry for Black women at the intersection of race, gender and reproductive justice in the United States.

Summit participants worked in planning groups around leadership development, advocacy and policy, movement building and joint campaigns to develop the next year's activities for *In Our Own Voice*. Below are photos from the event.

Check out our [Facebook page](#) for additional photos from the 2016 Summit. And don't forget to follow us on twitter @blackwomensrj.

The Politics of Our Body, the Power of Our Vote

On September 15, *In Our Own Voice* joined forces with Planned Parenthood Action Fund and Feminist Majority Foundation for an issue forum during the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference. Panelists discussed the important role of Black women's vote in advancing key issues related to Black women's health and well-being, as well as strategies for holding politicians accountable to Black women voters in issues of Reproductive Justice.

Please join Honorary Host, Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman and sponsors Planned Parenthood Action Fund, BET, In Our Own Voice, National Black Women's Reproductive Justice Agenda and Feminist Majority Foundation at the Congressional Black Caucus Foundation's Annual Legislative Conference as we discuss

THE POLITICS OF OUR BODY THE POWER OF OUR VOTE

 Honorary Host Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman Congressional Caucus on Black Women and Girls	 Moderator Angela Rye BET political commentator	 Linda Blount President & CEO, Black Women's Health Initiative
 Sonya Renee Taylor Social Justice Activist	 Chelsea Yarborough HRC's Campus Organizer, EMF	 Jacqueline Ayers Legislative Affairs, PPFA

Thursday, Sept. 15th at 11:00am
Room: 140 B
DC Convention Center

The Convention Center is located at 601 Mount Vernon Place, NW (between 7th and 8th Streets and M Street and M). Venue Maps is available on C's

#PPBlackComm
@FemMajority
@BlackWomensRJ
#PPatCBC

Planned Parenthood
BET
centric
voice
FEMINIST MAJORITY



September 10, *In Our Own Voice* was a proud co-sponsor of All Access 2016 in Cleveland, OH.

Simultaneous events taking place that day, across the country, brought together partners, allies and the majority of the U.S. population who support an individual's right to choose if, when and how to raise their children.

In Our Own Voice participated in several events on September 10th, including the Trust Black Women rally sponsored by New Voices for Reproductive Justice and SisterSong. The day culminated with a nearly sold out concert featuring Sia, Leslie Jones, and Teyana Taylor, with host Jessica Williams. To learn more about the All Access 2016 events click [here](#).



Organizational Partner Updates

SisterReach has unveiled a new initiative, [BoiTalk](#), that centers the often overlooked needs of masculine presenting women of color around their reproductive health and wellness; and offers an exclusive and safe space community centering their experiences when discussing relevant topics like reproductive health, dating violence, and building positive relationships within and without LGBTQ-centered spaces.

SisterReach is also hosting **Reproductive Justice: Summit & Community Forum 2016**, October 28-29.

To learn more about BoiTalk and the Reproductive Justice Summit, click [here](#).



SPARK OFF! is a new podcast that will be broadcast once every month. The podcast will center on current reproductive justice events and will feature local special guests.

To learn more click [here](#).

SisterLove, Inc. Hosts **2020 Leading Women's Society Annual Honors Gala** on October 14- celebrating, raising up and honoring HIV positive women who have been living positively for 20 years or more.

For more information on the Gala, click [here](#).





Black Women for Wellness will convene **Bold, Brave, Fearless & Fierce; Black Futurism for women & girls** October 20. The focus for this year's conference is on visions for the future of Black women—looking forward 50, 100, 1000 years, how do we define health and wellness for Black women & girls? Attendees will participate in discussions that center visions for the future, then determining the steps and tools to make it a reality.

To learn more about this even, click [here](#).

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