



ALLIANCE
for the Chesapeake Bay

HBCU/MSI CHESAPEAKE BAY SUMMIT

September 7 & 8, 2024

NorthBay Outdoor Education Center



Trinity



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1851



MORGAN
PATUXENT ENVIRONMENTAL AND
AQUATIC RESEARCH LABORATORY



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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We thank the Steering Committee members for their energy and coordination support over the past year to bring this Summit to fruition. Your efforts and collective energy are invaluable and have made the 2024 HBCU/MSI Chesapeake Bay Summit into an exceptional and impactful event.

Summit Steering Committee Members

Dr. Janelle Burke, Howard University

Dr. Elizabeth Gearin, University of the District of Columbia

Ms. Emma Gregory, Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay

Ms. Julie Lawson, DOEE (University of the District of Columbia)

Dr. Eric May, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Dr. Patrice Nielson, Trinity Washington University

Dr. Christopher Rivera, Coppin State University

Dr. Mercy Shenge, Coppin State University

Dr. Stephanie Stotts, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

Ms. Tameka Taylor, Morgan State University

Mr. Jabari Walker, Bowie State University

Dr. Anne Wiley, Bowie State University

The Summit also would not be possible without the generous support of our sponsors:



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WELCOME REMARKS

Welcome to our 2nd Annual HBCU/MSI Chesapeake Bay Summit!

The Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay is excited and honored to help host this event - we are so glad you're here. The idea for this Summit was inspired by the Alliance's annual Chesapeake Watershed Forum and co-created through conversations with our partners at Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) in Maryland and Washington, DC. Building on the momentum of our inaugural event last year, the Summit is intended to serve as a space to connect with one another, share knowledge, and exchange expertise.

Thanks to the collective vision of the Steering Committee members, and feedback from last year's attendees, the HBCU/MSI Bay Summit is also one strategy for chipping away at the 'green ceiling'. This term was identified in Green 2.0's report "The State of Diversity in Environmental Organizations: Mainstream NGOs, Foundations & Government Agencies". According to this report, People of Color comprise 36% of the US population, and 29% of the science and engineering workforce, but do *not exceed 16% of the staff in any of the environmental organizations* surveyed. One of the major goals of this Summit is to empower students through peer connection and experiential learning, to ultimately elevate your influence in the environmental sector. By focusing on our HBCU and MSI partners, we hope this weekend will contribute to a more inclusive and expansive conservation movement now and into the future.

While the Alliance's programming inherently focuses around restoration, stewardship, and environmental resilience, it is with social justice efforts that we see the sustained impacts of this work, and in turn communities that are better able to address environmental challenges. The Alliance is committed to creating a more diverse, inclusive, equitable, and just environmental movement because it is the only way to ensure all communities are resilient in the face of our changing climate. We know that an inclusive approach and diversity of mindsets lead to more creative and permanent solutions.

We hope that this Summit is just the beginning of deeper and more fruitful connections between HBCUs, MSIs, and the Bay restoration effort. I encourage you to be present this weekend, meet someone new, learn something you can utilize in your work, and ENJOY!




KATE FRITZ
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Saturday, September 7

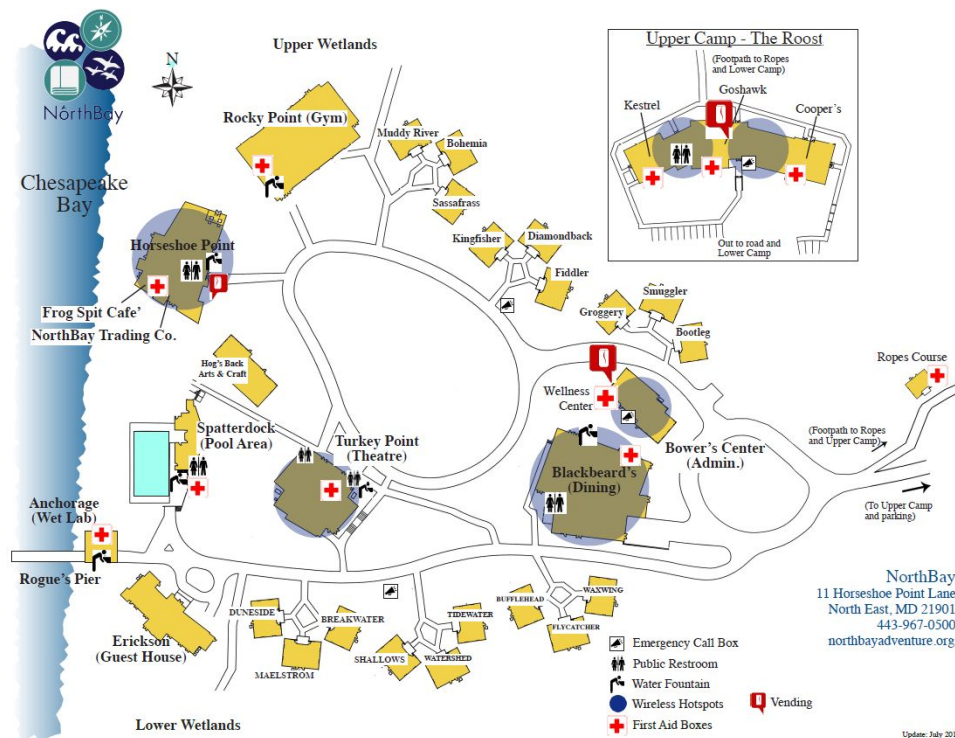
10:00 am to 11:00 am	Arrival & Check-In	Bower's Center (Admin. Building)
11:15 am to 12:00 pm	Welcome Remarks & Keynote Address	Turkey Point (Theater)
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Lunch	Blackbeard's (Dining)
1:00 pm to 2:00 pm	Ice Breaker & Team Building Activity	Turkey Point (Theater)
2:00 pm to 2:15 pm	10-Minute Break	
2:15 pm to 3:15 pm	<i>Justice-Centered Solutions to the Climate Crisis</i> Panel	Turkey Point (Theater)
3:15 pm to 3:30 pm	10-Minute Break	
3:30 pm to 4:30 pm	Student Lightning Talks	Various Meeting Rooms (See insert for details)
4:30 pm to 4:45 pm	10-Minute Break	
4:45 pm to 5:45 pm	Environmental Careers Breakout Sessions (choose 1) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academia & Research • Engagement & Policy • Engineering & Stormwater • Restoration • Finding Your Path: Chesapeake Conservation Corps 	Various Meeting Rooms (See specific session description for details)
5:45 pm to 6:00 pm	10-Minute Break	
6:00 pm to 7:00 pm	Dinner	Blackbeard's (Dining)
7:00 pm to 8:00 pm	Student Art Showcase	Horseshoe Point Cafe
8:00 pm to 10:00 pm	Optional Free Time Activities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bat Walk • Bonfire & S'mores • Games 	Various Locations (See specific descriptions for details)



SUMMIT SCHEDULE

Sunday, September 8

8:30 am to 9:30 am	Breakfast	Blackbeard's (Dining)
9:30 am to 10:30 am	Increasing Your Net Worth Through Networking Workshop	Turkey Point (Theater)
10:30 am to 10:45 am	10-Minute Break	
10:45 am to 11:30 am	Closing Remarks	Turkey Point (Theater)
12:00 pm to 1:00 pm	Lunch	Blackbeard's (Dining)
1:00 pm to 3:00 pm	Outdoor Adventures (Assigned at Registration) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided Kayak Trip • Birding Hike & Nature Photography Workshop • Charter Fishing Expedition • Sky High Adventures • Art & Nature Workshop 	Various Locations (See specific descriptions for locations)
3:00 pm to 3:30 pm	Packing Up & Check-out Process	Bower's Center (Admin. Building)
3:30 pm	Buses Depart	



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Saturday, September 8

Arrival & Check-In | 10:00 am to 11:00 am

Bower's Center (Admin. Building)

All students and faculty should check in at the tables in front of the Administrative Building to receive their name tags, welcome packet, and lodging assignments. There will also be coffee and tea available in the cafeteria during this time. Use this time to settle into accommodations.

Welcome Remarks & Keynote Address: *Honoring HBCU Roots & Resilience in Conservation* | 11:15 am to 12:00 pm

Turkey Point (Theater)

Join us in the Turkey Point Theater as Kate Fritz, CEO at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, and Emma Gregory, Capacity Building Projects Manager at the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay, open the 2024 HBCU/MSI Chesapeake Bay Summit. The Summit welcome will be followed by our keynote speaker, Dr. Mamie Parker, who will share insight she's gained so far during her impactful and award-winning career in remarks titled '*Honoring HBCU Roots & Resilience in Conservation*'.

Dr. Mamie Parker is a professional fish and wildlife biologist, success coach and former head of U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Featured on the NPR's Morning Edition radio show as a pioneer role model and mentor, Dr. Mamie A. Parker is a senior executive coach, leader in Nominating and Governance in various nonprofit organizations and serves on the Board of Directors of Duke University NSOE, Brown Advisory Sustainable Investment, The Nature Conservancy (Virginia Chapter), the National Wildlife Federation, Center for Large Landscape Conservation Board, Ducks Unlimited, and the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. As an Aspen Institute Fellow, she was awarded the Council of World Women Leaders' exchange fellowship to work in the Kingdom of Lesotho and in Cape Town and Johannesburg, South Africa. She received great accolades in China while speaking at the World Fisheries Congress on the impacts of climate change and development in coastal cities and communities of color.



Lunch | 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Blackbeard's (Dining)

Break bread with us and continue getting to know your fellow Summit participants. We challenge you to introduce yourself to someone you haven't met yet!

Ice Breaker & Team Building Activity | 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Turkey Point (Theater)

Get to know other attendees and the NorthBay campus with an entertaining and thought-provoking team building exercise designed to foster connections and bolster energy levels.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Justice-Centered Solutions to the Climate Crisis Panel | 2:15 pm to 3:15 pm

Turkey Point (Theater)

In the United States, as across the globe, climate change poses an existential threat to human health, safety, and wellbeing, and systemic injustices mean that some communities will bear disproportionate impacts. However, mitigating and adapting to climate change can also offer immense opportunities for creating a more just and equitable society. This panel will discuss what it looks like to pursue justice-centered solutions to the climate crisis in the Chesapeake Bay watershed, nationally, and across the globe.



Ziyen Sears currently serve as the Legislative Assistant for Energy and Environment for Congressman Scott Peters (D-CA-50), where he is responsible for the Congressman's energy, environment, and climate portfolio, among other issues. Prior to joining Rep. Peters' office, Ziyen worked at Berkshire Hathaway Energy, Dominion Energy, the American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE) and the House Select Committee on the Climate Crisis. Ziyen is also a proud Howard University graduate, holding a B.A. in environmental studies and political science.



Lydia Lawrence is an environmental health professional and outdoor enthusiast, who has lived and worked in the Potomac watershed her entire life. She founded and led Fairfax NAACP's Environmental and Climate Justice Committee as well as Potomac Riverkeeper Network's JEDI Committee. Concurrently, Lydia founded the Fairfax Parks Coalition, a coalition of organizations and independent advocates dedicated to increasing park equity in Fairfax county. In addition to this work, she currently serves as a Gubernatorial Appointee for Virginia's Council of Environmental Justice and sits on several county boards on climate and health. Lydia is an avid speaker and educator on environmental issues that affect vulnerable communities and how to partner with those communities to advocate for themselves. Ms Lawrence currently serves as Director of Conservation at Nature Forward, overseeing community outreach and intersectional environmental advocacy in DC, MD & VA.



Kesha Braunskill works for the USDA Forest Service in the Urban and Community Forestry Program. In her role, she works closely with grant recipients in the mid-Atlantic states with community forestry related projects. Kesha holds a BS in Animal Science from University of Maryland and a MS in Natural Resources from Delaware State University and attended University of Illinois at Chicago in the Ecology and Evolution program. In her career Kesha has worked in forestry, wildlife, and academia. Outside of work Kesha is a beadwork artist and protector of history, culture, and environment.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Student Lightning Talks | 3:30 pm to 4:15 pm

Various Locations, See Insert

Join these sessions to hear a series of short (5-7 minute) presentations about some of the incredible and important environmental work being done by students at HBCUs and MSIs across Maryland and DC. These talks will cover a broad array of topics from research to internships. Review the list of lightning talks on the insert and decide which session to attend.

Environmental Careers Breakout Sessions | 4:45 pm to 5:45 pm

Various Locations, See Specific Sessions Below

How do you translate your passion for environmental and environmental justice issues into a career that makes a difference? Join professionals from 5 different career paths within the environmental sector as they discuss their work, the journey that led them to where they are now, and what careers in the field might look like in the future. Be sure to bring your questions because this will be an interactive session with lots of time for discussion.

Choose the session that most interests you:

Academia & Research

Turkey Point (Theater)



Darryl Acker Carter is a supportive and optimistic ecologist, passionate about facilitating collaboration and community-engaged research. Previously he used his interdisciplinary background to work at the nexus of science and policy at the National Academy of Science as a Research Associate with the Ocean Studies Board. Currently he is a Policy Analyst with NOAA's Office of Science and Technology. He holds a Master of Science in Marine, Estuarine, and Environmental Science from the University of Maryland Baltimore County and a Bachelor of Arts in Conservation and Sustainability from George Mason University.

Policy, Advocacy, & Community Engagement

Lighthouse Meeting Room (Basement of Turkey Point)



Taylor Lilley currently serves as the Environmental Justice Staff Attorney for the Chesapeake Bay Foundation. In her role she builds relationships with communities throughout the Chesapeake Bay Watershed in order to develop legal advocacy and litigation strategies designed to address disproportionate and cumulative impacts. In addition to her work as an attorney, Taylor also engages in broader environmental justice advocacy efforts and enjoys mentoring and supporting students and professionals interested in environmental justice and environmental law.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Environmental Careers Breakout Sessions (continued) | 4:45 pm to 5:45 pm

Restoration

Woody's Meeting Room (Located in Blackbeard's Dining Hall)



Born and raised in Baltimore City, Maryland, **Carmen Tucker** is a Special Projects Coordinator for GreenVest, LLC (GV). Prior to working for GV, Ms. Tucker attended Coastal Carolina University where she earned her Bachelor's degree in Marine Science and attended Johns Hopkins University where she earned her Master's degree in Environmental Science and Policy. Her experience during her educational career prepared her for her work at GreenVest, which is as a principal developer of nature-based solutions that deliver ecosystem and community resilience across the Mid-Atlantic. As a Special Projects Coordinator, Carmen has the opportunity to work with communities in Baltimore City and Prince George's County and educate those communities through her passion for environmental science. Carmen has always had a strong love for the environment and its preservation which has guided her through her educational and professional life. Carmen believes that regardless of background, as long as you have a passion for the environment, you have a home in the environmental field.

Engineering & Stormwater

Hog's Back Meeting Room



Currently pursuing a Doctorate degree in Civil Engineering at Morgan State University, **Bello Mahmud** holds a Master's degree in Project Management, and a Bachelor's degree in Building. He has an unwavering commitment towards professional growth, evident through his numerous leadership and development certifications. Bello is passionate about making a positive impact in the world, which extends to participating in volunteer and advocacy projects aimed at building sustainable communities.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Environmental Careers Breakout Sessions (continued) | 4:45 pm to 5:45 pm

Finding Your Career Path with the Chesapeake Conservation Corps**

*** This breakout session is targeted for attendees who are 18-25 years old*

Hog's Back Art Room

The **Chesapeake Conservation and Climate Corps** supports and trains the next generation of stewards in professions that restore and protect our environment and natural resources ensuring a healthy place for all of us to live. In the Corps, new professionals (ages 18-25) are provided with hands-on environmental and leadership experience, training, and support network of other young environmentalists.



Jaren Baluyot is a Program Coordinator at the Chesapeake Bay Trust, serving on the Outreach and Education Program team. In his role within the workforce development and environmental literacy sub-division, Jaren is dedicated to advancing initiatives that support and empower those working to protect and connect with the Chesapeake Bay watershed. Jaren was born and raised in Maryland and is passionate about fostering meaningful connections and promoting environmental stewardship throughout the region.

Doing the Work at Your Institution**

*** This breakout session is only for faculty and staff members*

Kestrel Common Space (Located by faculty/staff lodging in The Roost)

Faculty and staff members are invited to join this interactive discussion of what it takes to do environmental work within the context of HBCUs and MSIs. You will be invited to share your own experience and expertise as we explore the process of grant writing, project development, and building support within your university.

Dinner | 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm

Blackbeard's (Dining)

Share a meal with Summit attendees and speakers. We challenge you to introduce yourself to someone you haven't met yet!



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Student Art Showcase & Networking Session | 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Horseshoe Point Cafe Seating Area

Art is a powerful way to tell environmental stories and raise public interest in important environmental topics. Connect with Day 1 speakers and fellow attendees during an exhibition of environmental artwork from students and faculty members at HBCUs and MSIs across the watershed.

Free Time | 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Unwind after a busy first day at the Summit by connecting with other students on-site at NorthBay. There is no formal programming; each of these activities are optional. You're welcome to participate in any or none of them. To respect the sleep schedules of all Summit attendees, though, quiet hours will begin at 10:00 pm, and all students are expected to be in their accommodations with the lights out by that time.

Bat Walk | 8:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Horseshoe Point

Bats are nocturnal mammals that provide a great ecological benefit to our environment. Join us while we learn about bats and take time to listen and see bats as they navigate the night sky. This walk will be hosted by Delaware Bat Rehabilitation and Conservation (DBRC). DBRC is a non profit organization dedicated to the recovery of injured and orphaned bats. Additionally DBRC promotes the conservation of natural areas and does so through outreach and education. Meet in the lounge at Horseshoe Point at 8 pm to join this walk.

Bonfire & S'mores | 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

NorthBay Beach

End the day on a sweet note by joining us for s'mores at a beachside bonfire. We'll provide all the materials and manage the bonfire - all you need to do is enjoy it!

Game Night | 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm

Horseshoe Point Game Room

Challenge your new (and old) friends to some games in the Horseshoe Game Room. There's something for everyone - pool, ping pong, and foosball!



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Sunday, September 10

Breakfast | 8:30 am to 9:30 am

Blackbeard's (Dining)

Fuel up for the day ahead by sharing a meal with other Summit attendees. Breakfast will only be served during this period so be sure to arrive on time.

Increasing Your Net Worth Through Networking Workshop | 9:30 am to 10:30 am

Turkey Point (Theater)

What is Networking, why does it matter, and how do you do it? Building and maintaining professional networks is integral to building a successful career, but many of us struggle with doing it authentically. This workshop, led by BlackOak Collective, will cover the fundamentals of networking and how to leverage your network to pursue your professional goals.



A PMP-certified project manager, **Ife Shoola** loves to create experiences that foster learning, drive connection, and build community. She serves as BlackOak's Events Director. In this role, she manages the Green Gateways Program and plans and executes events that embody the organization's mission and values. As a trainer and facilitator, she has facilitated leadership training and coaching sessions for hundreds of emerging leaders, including over 600 leaders in the federal government. Outside of her professional life, Ife Shoola enjoys exploring new places, reading books, and sharing her thoughts through writing on her blog and newsletter.

Closing Remarks | 10:45 am to 11:30 am

Turkey Point (Theater)

During this year's closing presentation, Mariah Davis will share how her passion for protecting the environment and the Black and Brown communities who have been disproportionately impacted by environmental injustices has influenced her path, leading her to pursue a career in policy. She will also provide a brief history of environmental justice, insight into potential careers in the field, and resources to leverage as you move into your career.



Mariah Davis is the Environmental Justice Officer for the Maryland Department of Natural Resources. In her role, she serves as an advisor to the Secretary of Natural Resources and works to ensure programs, policies, funding and projects have positive impacts in communities that have been disproportionately impacted. She has centered her career providing DEIJ technical assistance and policy guidance to a broad base of stakeholders across the Chesapeake Bay watershed to include nonprofits, local governments, grant makers, and members of Congress. Mariah previously served as the Deputy Director of the Choose Clean Water Coalition, a program of the National Wildlife Federation. She holds a Master of Public Management from the University of Maryland.

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Lunch | 12:00 pm to 1:00 pm

Blackbeard's (Dining)

Share one more meal with Summit attendees before heading off on the Outdoor Adventures this afternoon. You should also use this time to prepare for your Outdoor Adventure and pack for departure.

Outdoor Adventures | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Various Locations

Participate in a half-day outdoor adventure. Due to space constraints, attendees must participate in the adventure they were assigned at acceptance. These assignments can be found on your name tag.

Guided Kayak Trip

Rogue's Pier

Join us on the water to engage with the Chesapeake Bay and the North East River during this short kayak trip. A kayak, paddle, and personal floatation device will be provided for each participant. No prior kayaking experience is necessary, but you should be comfortable with getting wet.

Sky High Adventure Experience

Horseshoe Point Lounge

Turn off gravity for the afternoon and try your hand at climbing on NorthBay's indoor wall, gliding along the 500' long zipline, balancing along the high ropes course, and swinging on the giant 3-person swing. NorthBay staff will provide participants with all safety gear and supervision to ensure a safe experience. No prior climbing experience is necessary but participants should be comfortable with heights.

Guided Fishing Expedition

Rogue's Pier

Join Captain Tyrone Meredith, a USCG Licensed Captain and 5th Generation Fisherman with over 40 years experience, for a guided fishing trip on the 55-foot Island Queen II. Captain Tyrone will teach attendees how to fish as they glide along the Chesapeake Bay in the longest headboat in the Kent Narrows fishing fleet. He will also share stories about the history of the Eastern Shore and what it means to him to be a Black captain on the Chesapeake Bay. No fishing experience is necessary and all necessary equipment will be provided.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Outdoor Adventures (continued) | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Art & Nature Workshop

Hog's Back Art Room

Experience the synergy of art and nature in this dynamic 2-hour workshop. Through mindfulness practices and creative activities, participants will explore the connections between artistic expression and the natural world. The session includes a calming sound healing, a nature walk to gather materials, and the creation of personalized nature journals. This workshop aims to enhance creativity, foster a deeper connection to nature, and promote well-being through artistic exploration. Join us for an immersive experience that bridges art, nature, and mindfulness.



Gabrielle Roffe is a DEI and sustainability consultant with a passion for integrating environmental and social justice through creative approaches. She specializes in developing innovative strategies for community engagement and organizational transformation, focusing on amplifying diverse voices and fostering inclusive practices. Gabrielle is dedicated to connecting individuals with nature and each other, enhancing both personal well-being and collective impact.



Ralinda Wimbush is the creator of **WOCO Hike and Sound Healing Experience**, which is an organization that hosts hiking trips for Woman of Color Outdoors (WOCO). At the the core of our existence and service we find it of the utmost significance to create space for Black and Indigenous Women of Color to connect, bond and heal together given that many of our societal issues, ancestral traumas, injustices and life path are very similar and requires communal healing, reintegration into nature, and a joyful experience. Thus we have made it our mission is to create space in nature as we explore the beauty and healing properties of being outdoors through hiking, camping, environmental education excursion + ecotourism. We seek to cultivate a spiritual experience thought group sound meditation (sound therapy) to experience an internal consciousness awakening that realigns the mind, body and spirit with universal consciousness to bring about subtle healing that beings on the cellular level.



SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

Outdoor Adventures (continued) | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

Guided Bird Walk & Nature Photography Workshop

Turkey Point (Theater)

Take a short, guided hike to engage more closely with nature and learn about the abundant bird species that live along the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries. Two expert birders and nature photographers will teach attendees the basics of birding, including how to identify species commonly found in the region and how to get involved with more birding activities regardless of where you live, as well as a crash course in nature photography. Participants should be comfortable walking across uneven terrain.



Troy Bynum, owner of TB Wildlife Photography LLC, is not only an enthusiastic birder but also a passionate wildlife photographer from Philadelphia, PA. Troy's work focuses on capturing and showcasing the remarkable colors, intricate patterns, and rich textures that are abundant throughout the natural world. In his work, Troy draws attention to the oftentimes overlooked naturally occurring beauty found in the wild. Troy is on a mission to accentuate and celebrate the inherent magnificence of nature.



David Greaves is a biologist at the EPA Region 3, a wildlife photographer, and founder of the Nature Under Your Nose (NUYN) brand. His love for nature and the outdoors was discovered while growing up in the Washington, D.C. area. Through the brand of NUYN he uses his photos, photography classes, nature walks, kayak trips, and keynotes to encourage Black people and other people of color of all ages and backgrounds to explore and enjoy the nature they can find all around them.

To find out more about David and view his work you can follow him on instagram @natureunderyournose and view his website at <https://dgreaves.picfair.com>.

Packing Up & Checking Out | 3:00 pm to 3:30 pm

Bower's Center (Admin. Building)

Pack up your belongings and check out at the tables in front of the Administrative Building. Be sure to turn in your name tag and feedback form to receive a raffle ticket for the last prize drawing. The last raffle ticket will be pulled at 3:20 pm, right before buses depart at 3:30 pm, so be sure to be there at that time for your chance to win!

Departure | 3:30 pm

Bower's Center (Admin. Building)

Thank you so much for coming! We hope you enjoyed the Summit & will join us again next year!



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2024 HBCU/MSI CHESAPEAKE BAY SUMMIT

Scan the QR code to complete the Summit feedback survey