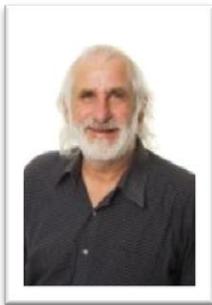


PANELISTS/CONVENERS

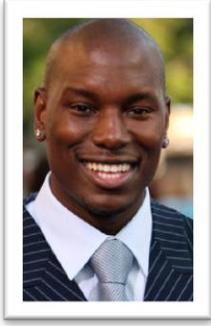


Robert L. Adams is the Chief Operating Officer of the newly formed Martin Luther King III Institute for Social Justice & Human Rights, Inc. (The King Institute). As the former Interim COO of The King Center, Robert Adams was an executive on loan from The Fetzer Institute, a private operating foundation in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Dr. Adams holds a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from The University of Texas at Austin and a M.A. in sociology from The University of Florida. He obtained additional training in management and leadership at The University of North Carolina and The Aspen Institute (Aspen, Colorado). During the fall of 2008, he was a Fulbright scholar at the Catholic University of Sao Paulo in Brazil. During his tenure at the Fetzer Institute, he served as a Program Officer, and managed a substantial portfolio of projects in the areas of business and conflict resolution that aligned with the mission of the organization.

Dr. Adams has taught and directed research projects at DePaul University, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He has published numerous research articles and reviews that have appeared in publications such as *African and Black Diaspora*, *Anthropology News*, *American Ethnologist*, *Identities* and *Safundi*. He serves on a number of boards including the Board of Directors of the National Education Association (NEA) Foundation (Washington) and Historically Black Colleges and Universities' for Racial Reconciliation at the University of Mississippi, the FACES of Manhood Initiative at Morehouse College, and the Social Sciences Department at the Federal University of Acre in Rio Branco (Acre), Brazil. As a founding principal of The King Institute, he oversees the management and logistics of the organization while aligning strategic resources for program implementation.



Larry Cohen, founder and Executive Director of Prevention Institute, has been an advocate for public health, social justice, and prevention since 1972. Larry established Prevention Institute in 1997 as a national non-profit center dedicated to improving community health and well-being by building momentum for effective primary prevention. The Institute's work is characterized by a systems approach to prevention, a strong emphasis on community participation, and promotion of equitable health outcomes among all social and economic groups. Prevention Institute has been recognized for its cross-cutting, innovative analysis and for its strategic skill in catalyzing and guiding cross-sectoral coalitions. Larry's founding vision has inspired a comprehensive, integrated approach that applies prevention principles to solving complex health and social issues across disciplines, promotes health in all policies, and views equity as a core component of all health decisions. These overarching principles unify Prevention Institute's endeavors in its primary focal areas—health equity, health reform, nutrition and physical activity, and preventing injury and violence. Larry helped to define violence as a preventable public health issue. His publication *Shifting the Focus* is a California roadmap for related inter-sectoral government collaboration. Larry currently heads *UNITY (Urban Networks to Increase Thriving Youth through Violence Prevention)*, a national initiative designed to strengthen and support the 45 largest cities in the United States to more effectively prevent violence. He received his MSW from SUNY Stony Brook.



Tyrese Gibson is an L.A. native whose self-titled debut album quickly propelled him to the top of the charts. Smooth-voiced R&B crooner “Tyrese” immediately stood out from the pack, thanks to the remarkable honesty of his songwriting, his alluring passion, and his self-assured style behind the microphone. It was at the age of 14 that a series of wins on the local talent circuit gave the up-and-coming singer his first enticing taste of success, with a Coca Cola commercial providing the breakthrough that would soon propel him to release his debut album in 1998. After making his acting debut with a small role in acclaimed filmmaker *Julie Dash's* made-for-television drama *Love Song*, the singer-turned-actor jumped headlong into features, as the protagonist of *John Singleton's* *Boyz 'N the Hood* follow-up, *Baby Boy*. Cast as an urban mama's boy whose staunch refusal to leave the nest eventually stifles his transition into adulthood, Tyrese offered just the right mixture of naïveté and street-tough bravado to draw audiences in, while showing notable promise for the future. With two films, a hit album, and a series of television appearances in such series as *Martin* and *Moesha* under his belt, Tyrese returned to the music scene for his sophomore effort, {^2000 Watts}, before jumping into the driver's seat for the 2003 film *2 Fast 2 Furious*. The following year Tyrese kept the action moving at a clip with a supporting role in *Flight of the Phoenix* before opting for more dramatic roles in director *Justin Lirt's* *Annapolis* and former collaborator *John Singleton's* family-themed revenge drama *Four Brothers*. A supporting role in *Better Luck Tomorrow* director *Justin Lirt's* Navy boxing misfire *Annapolis* was quickly followed by another headline performance as an ex-convict struggling to get his son back after his vehicle is carjacked with the boy still inside in the 2006 action thriller *Waist Deep*.



Martin Luther King III is the founding president of the Martin Luther King, III Institute for Social Justice and Human Rights, Inc. – a Georgia based non-profit corporation. His most recent accomplishments include the launching of the JP Morgan Chase fifteen million plus King Imaging Project in December of 2011 under its Technology for Social Good program. The JPMorgan Chase’s Technology for Social Good program has imaged and processed close to 200,000 pieces of content associated with The King Papers collection. This collection houses some of the most famous speeches and correspondence such as the *I Have a Dream Speech*, *Letter from Birmingham Jail* and the *Nobel Peace Prize Acceptance Speech*. The eldest son of civil rights icon Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., Martin Luther King III has taken the torch lit by his father and continued the quest for equality and justice for all people. Elected the fourth president of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, the organization that his father co-founded in 1957, King aggressively fought injustice on civil, local, state, and federal fronts. Martin Luther King III is the co-author of *The Words of Martin Luther King, Jr.* (Second Edition) which was created as a living memorial to the philosophies and ideas of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. This volume includes more than 120 quotations from the greatest civil rights leader’s speeches, sermons, and writings, along with 16 historical photographs. A powerful civil rights speaker, Martin Luther King III motivates audiences around the world with his poignant message of hope and responsibility. King's vision of a positive future built upon the principles taught by his father has touched thousands all over the world, and moved them to focus on a better and more equal tomorrow. Martin Luther King III is a graduate of Morehouse College.



Mariko Lockhart directs the Seattle Youth Violence Prevention Initiative, a comprehensive community-based strategy to reduce and prevent youth violence in the areas of the city most affected. Mariko is an experienced non-profit executive, consultant, facilitator and trainer with a strong track record leading public-private community collaborations to benefit disadvantaged populations. As a recent past president and state director of Communities In Schools of New Jersey (CISNJ), she was responsible for the management and operations of the state-wide dropout prevention organization. During her tenure at CISNJ, she established four independent affiliate organizations in high-need school districts. Mariko has significant experience in working with diverse communities and coordinated the broad-based citywide public planning effort to set education goals for the City of Newark's successful application for federal designation as an Enterprise Community. Mariko is a magna cum laude graduate of Yale University and holds a master's degree in Public Administration from New York University's Robert F. Wagner Graduate School of Public Service. Mariko also completed leadership seminars at Northwestern University's Kellogg School of Management and the Aspen Institute's Community Roundtable on Racial Equity and Youth Development. She is fluent in Spanish, having lived in Central America working in international development for seven years. She currently serves on the board of the Leadership Institute of Seattle.



Denver City Councilman **Paul D. López** is a home-grown champion for working families. A while earning a degree at the University of Colorado, he fought to improve recruitment, retention and graduation of low income students. As a community organizer, he went to work in Denver's poorest neighborhoods to protect affordable housing and quality public health care. As a union organizer, López took on employers who violated worker's rights by bringing thousands of Denver-area janitors and their families to the bargaining table. On May 1, 2006, López convened human rights leaders to organize the largest political march in Colorado history bringing over 100,000 marchers to the steps of the Colorado State Capitol in support of humane comprehensive immigration reform. Elected in 2007 to West Denver's District 3, at 28-years old López became the youngest Denver City Council Member to ever take the oath of office. The underdog in a field of seven candidates, his bold vision, energetic persona, and relentless grassroots organizing challenged the political establishment with a 46% general election majority and 62% runoff victory. Utilizing a practical legislative approach, Councilman López is regarded as a champion of civil rights and a fighter for those who face the injustice of poverty. A rising star in the Colorado and national political scene, López's bullhorn-wielding conviction and energy has transformed him into a passionate and dynamic leader who defined the phrase "community organizer" and is steadfastly redefining the role of "Councilman".



John A. Rich, MD, MPH, is Professor and Chair of Health Management and Policy at the Drexel University School of Public Health. He has been a leader in the field of public health, and his work has focused on serving one of the nation's most ignored and underserved populations—African-American men in urban settings. In 2006, Dr. Rich was granted a *MacArthur Foundation Fellowship*. In awarding this distinction, the Foundation cited his work to design "new models of health care that stretch across the boundaries of public health, education, social service, and justice systems to engage young men in caring for themselves and their peers." Prior to Drexel University, Rich served as the medical director of the Boston Public Health Commission. As a primary care doctor at Boston Medical Center, Rich created the Young Men's Health Clinic and initiated the Boston HealthCREW, a program to train inner city young men to become peer health educators who focus on the health of men and boys in their communities. He earned his Dartmouth A.B. degree in English, his M.D. from Duke University Medical School, and his Master's from the Harvard School of Public Health. In 2009, Dr. Rich was inducted into the Institute of Medicine of the National Academy of Sciences. His recently published book about urban violence *Wrong Place, Wrong Time. Trauma and Violence in the Lives of Young Black Men* has drawn critical acclaim.



Don Samuels immigrated to the US from Jamaica in 1970 to study Industrial Design. He resigned his position as Senior Director of Research & Development at Playskool to head his own small business, inventing and designing toys for major toy manufacturers. Don also graduated with a Masters of Divinity in 2001 from the Luther Seminary. After emerging as a strong voice for peace in his North Minneapolis neighborhood, Don was urged by his neighbors to run for public office. With their support, Don was first elected to the Minneapolis City Council in February 2003. Don Co-chairs the Executive Committee of the Empowerment Zone Board, is the Chair of the Public Safety and Regulatory Services Committee, and serves as the only Northside representative on the City's Community Development Committee. As a public servant, Don has kept his focus on the Northside's three most pressing issues: safety, housing and jobs. Don has brought over \$2 million additional resources for public safety in personnel and technology, he has attracted over \$100 Million in economic development to West Broadway, \$100 million development to Penn and Plymouth and helped bring over 1,000 jobs to youth and the hard to employ. Don consistently works to recruit quality employers to North Minneapolis. In his role as a Council Member, he has helped direct Empowerment Zone and Community Development funds to North Minneapolis-based employment services. He also co-sponsored a resolution to restrict when the City of Minneapolis can ask applicants if they have been convicted of a crime, thus allowing qualified and rehabilitated ex-felon job seekers a greater chance of attaining employment with the city. Don is the Founder of the PEACE Foundation - Public Engagement and Community Empowerment connecting regional partners and local resident in collaborations to end violence. He also founded the African American Economic Development Committee, to support the development of African American businesses in the city. With his wife Sondra, Don also founded the Institute for Authentic Dialogue on race, which guides executives and leaders in conversations and relationships across race with unprecedented clarity and mutuality.



Sheila Savannah, MA is the senior staff member at the Human Services for the City of Houston Department of Health and Human Services where she manages the Community Health Development and Program Improvement (CHDPI) unit in the Office of Health Planning, Evaluation and Program Development. This unit is responsible for advancing HDHHS as a thought leader in community public health through the sustainable development of its programming especially in the areas of Adolescent Health and Safety; Food Security and Community Nutrition; and Health Promotion and Education.

She formerly served as bureau chief for human services at HDHHS, as senior-staff for City Council Member Ada Edwards and as executive director of a community-based organization that designed and operated programs to address behavioral health, youth development and family self-sufficiency. Sheila has over 28 years experience in policy and programming; holds a bachelor's degree in journalism from the University of Texas and a master's degree in psychology from the University of Houston–Clear Lake with training as an art therapist. She has written children's books and national advisor in the areas of cultural competency, youth development and community capacity building.



Lauren A. Smith, MD, MPH, is the Medical Director of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health where she works closely with the Commissioner to establish and implement departmental priorities. She is an Associate Professor at the Boston University School of Medicine. She serves as a pediatric hospitalist at Boston Medical Center where she was the Medical Director of the Pediatric Inpatient Unit for 4 years. Dr. Smith's research career has focused on the implication of public policies for child health and childhood health disparities. She has authored two recent reports on the impact of affordable housing and energy costs on child health and well-being as examples of the effects of public policy on health. She recently served as a W.T. Grant Health Policy Fellow in the office of House Speaker Salvatore DiMasi and as a member of the Massachusetts Commission to End Racial Disparities in Health.



Dr. Howard Spivak, Director of the Division of Violence Prevention at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has extensive experience in the field of youth violence prevention as well as management and leadership in the public sector at the state and local level and in academia. He has served as Director of Adolescent Services for the City of Boston, during which he cofounded the first community-based public health youth violence prevention program in the nation. As Deputy Commissioner of the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, he was in charge of all prevention and community oriented programs in the department, and among other activities developed the first office for violence prevention at the state level, advanced the funding of the first school-based health centers in MA, and was the PI of one of the first emergency room weapon-related injury surveillance projects developed with funding from the CDC. Dr. Spivak has held a number of senior academic appointments including Professor of Pediatrics and Community Health at Tufts University, directed pediatric and adolescent primary care programs at several academic medical centers, published numerous academic and general public articles on youth violence, spoken around the country and internationally on violence related issues, and worked with many community programs both in Boston and nationally addressing youth violence prevention as well as other violence-related concerns.



Andrew Young, Jr was born on March 12, 1932, in New Orleans, La. A pastor at several black churches in the South, Young was active in the civil-rights movement and came in contact with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with who he led Southern Christian Leadership Conference. Young won a seat in Congress 1972 and was twice reelected. In 1981 Young was elected mayor of Atlanta, served through 1989. Young was reared in a middle-class black family, attended segregated Southern schools, and later entered Howard University (Washington, D.C.) as a premed student. But he turned to the ministry and graduated in 1955 from the Hartford Theological Seminary (Hartford,

Conn.) with a divinity degree. A pastor at several black churches in the South, Young became active in the civil-rights movement—especially in voter registration drives. His work brought him in contact with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Young joined with King in leading the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC). Following King's assassination in 1968, Young worked with Ralph Abernathy until he resigned from the SCLC in 1970. Defeated that year in his first bid for a seat in Congress, Young ran again in 1972 and won. He was reelected in 1974 and 1976. In the House he opposed cuts in funds for social programs while trying to block additional funding for the war in Vietnam. He was an early supporter of Jimmy Carter, and, after Carter's victory in the 1976 presidential elections, Andrew Young was made the United States' ambassador to the United Nations. In 1981 Young was elected mayor of Atlanta, and he was reelected to that post in 1985, serving through 1989.



Youth Ensemble of Atlanta (YEA) is an Atlanta-based organization that fosters the personal growth of hundreds of young people from childhood to adulthood. Along the way, these talented and dedicated performers develop crucial communication and life skills that result in heightened cultural awareness, a commitment to excellence and community service, an appreciation for diversity, and self confidence and self-esteem. The professional arena in which the members of YEA work truly provides an atmosphere for tremendous personal growth and

development. YEA members not only gain valuable performance training and experience, but also attain a strong sense of confidence, self-discipline, and heightened self-esteem. These accomplishments can be treasured and utilized to obtain rewards that might otherwise seem unobtainable. YEA's 21 Years of transformational work has included international cultural exchange performances on four different continents. Working with companies around the globe, since 2000, YEA has taken more than 60 youth to perform in South Africa, Holland and Belgium. YEA has also brought artists and organizations from these countries to Atlanta to work with members of the ensemble. YEA is continuing to collaborate with our artistic partners across the ocean. In the Winter of 2009, YEA took 45 youth and performed in China at the invitation of the Chinese government. YEA has been recognized for its work by the President's Committee on the Arts (2008 Coming Up Taller Awards Winner), Georgia Black Business Awards (2010 Nonprofit of the Year), City of Atlanta Mayor's Office, and winner of the VITA Award for Best Overall Production at the 2000 Windybrow Arts Festival in Johannesburg, South Africa. YEA has performed for the Trumpet Awards and the Atlanta Hawks' Tribute to Maynard Jackson while sharing the stage with Bobby McFerrin, Shirley Caesar and Smokie Norful. Our performers have received Emmys and Grammys and perform on Broadway, television, in major films and on numerous professional stages in the U.S. and Europe.

MODERATORS



Derrick Boazman, a native Atlantan, was born and reared on Atlanta's southside. In 1997, he was elected to the Atlanta City Council and was re-elected for his second term in 2001. Councilmember Boazman resigned his seat on the city council in April 2004. He received his bachelor's degree in Political Science from Morris Brown College, where he began his political career as President of the Student Government Association. He serves as a certified trainer teaching community leadership and organizational development skills for Midwest Academy, an instruction entity that travels throughout the country, and at the Fanning Leadership Institute of the University of Georgia in Athens. He has also served as an instructor at the Community Development Institute at Clark Atlanta University. As a *German Marshall Fund Fellow*, he traveled abroad throughout Europe studying state, local and national government issues. His travels took him to Bratislava, Slovakia, Berlin, Germany, Marseille, France, Copenhagen, Denmark, and Brussels, Belgium. Mr. Boazman was also selected by the American Council of Young Political Leaders. This organization is a bipartisan leadership development program that identifies promising younger leaders under the age of 40 and provides them with opportunity to travel abroad to examine the impact of U.S. foreign policy. He has also traveled to Egypt and Israel. Councilmember Boazman is an outspoken advocate for the rights of minorities and has appeared on CNN's Talkback Live, Nightline, Court TV, dozens of nationally syndicated radio programs, as well as being interviewed by the Wall Street Journal, the New York Times and the New Yorker Magazine.



At nine-years-old, **Mary-Pat Hector** learned of the frightening statistics affecting the youth in this country and made a commitment to becoming an activist to shed light on youth - issues. She became the youngest playwright and director to ever put on an all youth sold out production for her play entitled "East Street Ain't Easy" that returns to production this summer and is also the title of her first book. When Mary Pat was ten-years-old she founded *Youth in Action* and began to mobilize young people across the country to take a stand on issues like bullying, gun-violence and drugs. In addition to her duties as founder & spokesperson for Youth in Action, she is National Youth Director of National Action Network Youth Move, the organization founded by civil rights leader Reverend Al Sharpton. Mary-Pat speaks throughout the country educating youth on violence and other issues crippling her generation. In a recent speech in Washington, DC Mary Pat spoke of jobs for young people and providing programs across the country for them as alternatives to gang involvement and violence. Not content to rest on her accomplishments, Mary-Pat travels an average of 4,000 miles a month speaking at high schools, colleges, conferences, woman's events, and crisis shelters across the U.S. Mary Pat has many accolades including awards from President Barack Obama for Community service, the 100 Black Men of DeKalb for Outstanding Youth Activism, and she received the 2011 Woman of Power Award during NAN's 20th Anniversary national convention which was presented by President Obama's Senior Advisor Valerie Jarrett. Mary-Pat was a National winner for Kohl's Kids Who Care and has received numerous awards and national recognition for her philanthropy throughout the country. She has been featured on C-SPAN, CNN, Rolling Out Magazine and regularly does local radio and television stations across the country.



Howard Pinderhughes, Ph.D. is Chair and Associate Professor, at the Dept. of Social and Behavioral Sciences. He is also a Research Associate at the Institute for the Study of Social Change at U.C. Berkeley and Affiliated Faculty at the U.C.S.F. Institute for Health and Aging. He is the author of *Race in the Hood: Conflict and Violence Among Urban Youth*, a study of racial attitudes and racial violence among youth in New York City. Dr. Pinderhughes has worked for the last fifteen years with community-based organizations and schools in San Francisco's Mission District and Bay View Hunter's Point neighborhoods, conducting community based research on youth violence, gang violence and adolescent relationship violence, as well as providing training, workshops and assistance in program development in the areas of adolescent violence prevention and intervention, and race relations among youth. Dr. Pinderhughes' research combines aspects of grounded theory, qualitative methods, survey research and participatory action research to examine problems related to the impacts of structural inequality, racial, class and gender dynamics on adolescent health and relations. He is currently developing a conceptual framework to address the production of racial, class and gender health inequality. Howard Pinderhughes received a B.A. in Political Science, an M.A. in Sociology, and a Ph.D. in Sociology, all from the University of California, Berkeley.



Goldie Taylor is managing director of Goldie Taylor Brand Communications, a New York based media consultancy. A veteran journalist, political strategist and author, Taylor is known for her quick wit and deft articulation of positions regarding the most pressing issues facing Americans. Staunchly independent, Taylor started her career over 24 years ago as an active duty Marine. In this capacity, she was a trained military affairs spokesperson and broadcast journalist. After her enlistment, she became a staff writer at the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*. Taylor is also a former producer and general assignment reporter at WAGA CBS (Now Fox5) Atlanta and a political analyst at WXIA 11 Alive/ NBC News. She is a former executive consultant for NBC News and theGrio.com. Most recently, she was an executive editorial and marketing consultant for TimeWarner/ CNN Worldwide where she co-lead the development and marketing of marquee productions, including: League of First Time Voters, Black in America (I & II), Daughters of Legacy, Latino in America, The Atlanta Child Murders, and The Joy Behar Show. She developed the network's daily tune-in strategy for both HLN and CNN prime time, and participated in the design of CNN's 2008 Election Coverage. She is also a contributor to *TheGrio.com* and frequent guest on MSNBC, CNN and HLN. Taylor studied political science and international affairs at Emory University and is well versed in key issues surrounding national public policy and politics, including cultural and racial issues. An issues management, grassroots organizing and voter outreach expert, she has been a statewide political director and chief communications campaign aide to elected officials and candidates for public office at the local, state and national level—on both sides of the aisle. Perhaps, she is best known for her 2008 op-ed column regarding then republican vice presidential nominee and Alaska Governor Sarah Palin, "*A Woman's Worth*", which was published by *EbonyJet.com* and remains the most visited webpage in the site's history. She is also the author of "Show Me Your Papers!", a special contributor opinion that aired on MSNBC's Rachel Maddow Show. Taylor penned *In My Father's House* (Wheatmark Press, 2005) and *The January Girl* (Warner Books, 2007/ Hachette 2008). She is currently working on her third novel, *The Lives of Others*, and *The Devil and Missouri Daniel*, a family memoir. Taylor lives with her family in New York and Atlanta.