

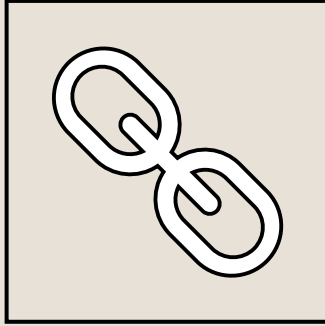


WEST FEST '26

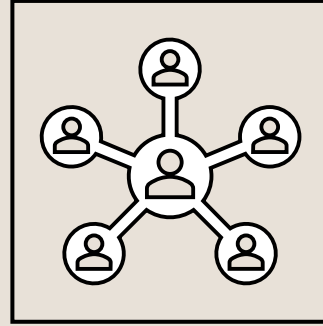


WHY

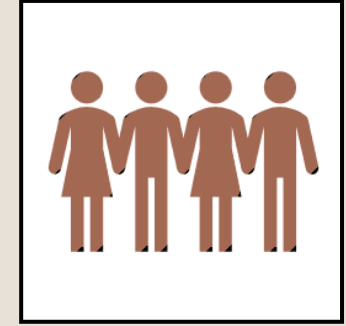
VISION: Creative Community



Creative collaboration can link heritage and innovation.



Community collaboration can link resilience and revitalization.



Together they leverage cultural preservation as a context and inspiration for West Oakland renewal.

In a bird's-eye view of renewal, individuals and organizations can see where their influence can turn collaboration into opportunity.

GOAL: Creative Investment

Artists, businesses, neighborhood organizations, civic leaders, culture bearers, and neighborhood residents are both providers and caretakers of West Oakland's history, values, resources, and change.





PRESERVATION
Legacy

HERITAGE

RESILIENCE

CREATIVITY

COLLABORATION

COMMUNITY

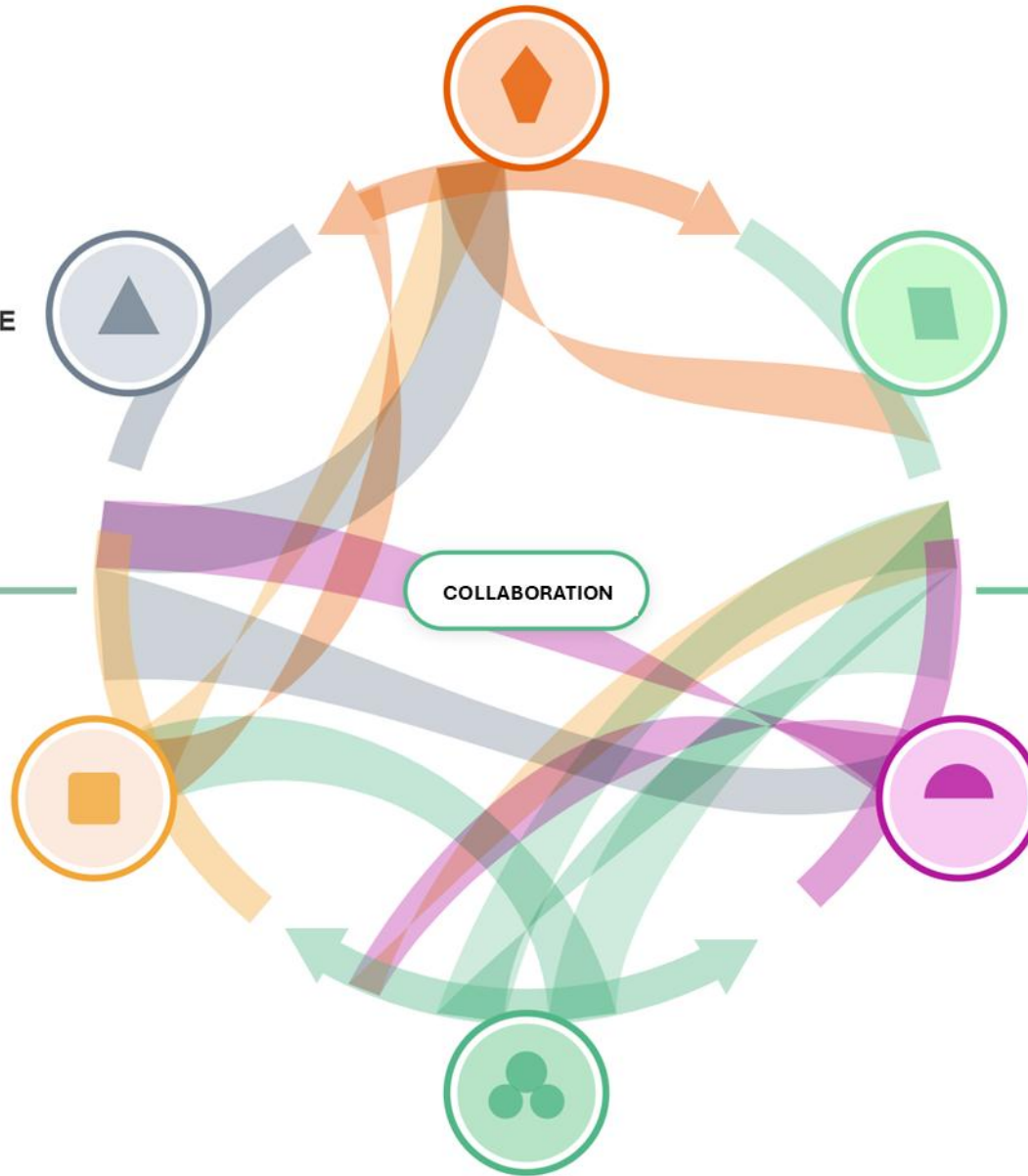
INNOVATION

DEVELOPMENT
Advocacy

REVITALIZATION

Different influencers find each other and cooperate to share energy and supporters, making more opportunity available sooner, or longer.

Artists, businesses,
community organizations, civic
leaders, culture bearers, and
neighborhood residents





WEST FEST '26

SPEAKERS . ARTISTS

RECOGNITION . CULTURE ZONE

HISTORY . COMMUNITY

COME TOGETHER LEGACY AND VISION



1255 7th STREET OAKLAND, CA 94607

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

3PM — 8PM — 7TH WEST

WEST FEST!
ART FOR POWER
WEST OAKLAND MATTERS



Add note: "West Fest"

All Donations Welcomed! Suggested: \$5



Zelle

EVENT PROGRAM 7/26

3PM OPEN STAGE & ART

3:30 EXHIBITS & VIDEOS

4PM WELCOME

4:30 STAGE: HULA Show

**5PM JANICE EDWARDS TV:
BAY AREA VISTA**

5:00 NONI SESSION: COMMUNITY

5:30 MS. MARGARET GORDON: LEGACY

6:00 RANDOLPH BELLE: VISION

6:30 STAGE -DJ JAEFLOWZ

7:15 STAGE - DJ LIAM



SPEAKERS community city

5pm Dr. Noni Session
East Bay Permanent Real Estate Coop.

5:30 Margaret Gordon
Just Cities Institute

6pm Randolph Belle
RBA Creative; 980 Project





Mistress of Ceremonies



Janice Edwards is an award-winning talk show host and Emmy nominated producer, media coach, published author and an acclaimed contributor to community empowerment through her media work. She is the host and executive producer of “Janice Edwards’ Bay Area Vista”, which airs on CreaTV Sundays at 6:00 pm. “Bay Area Vista” is produced through her production company Edwards Unlimited. The show features community leaders, celebrities, non-profit organizations and issues of interest. Janice is also host and executive producer of the award-winning CreaTV show that she named, “Signature Silicon Valley”. Janice is a co-author of the international best seller *Step Into Your Brilliance* and a co-author of *Quality Angles*. She is featured in the book, *African Americans of San Jose and Santa Clara County*. Janice is co-Producer of West Oakland Matters.

WEST FEST SPEAKERS for 2026

Noni Session is a cultural anthropologist, grassroots organizer, and third-generation West Oaklander dedicated to building independent, cooperative economies as a pathway to economic justice and anti-displacement. She is the co-founder and Executive Director of the East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative (EB PREC), an innovative model that empowers BIPOC and allied communities to collectively finance, purchase, and steward land and housing. Her unique approach to systemic economic development is shaped by her doctoral research as a Fulbright-Hays fellow analyzing international humanitarian strategies, her grassroots community work, and a formidable 2016 run for Oakland City Council, where she secured over 43% of the vote. Through EB PREC and her broader collaborative networks, Session focuses on eliminating resource disparities by establishing self-sustaining civic action structures owned by the community.



@FANTASTICNEGRO

Ms. Margaret Gordon is a pioneering environmental justice advocate, community scientist, and widely respected Elder of the grassroots environmental movement in Oakland. Compelled by the disproportionately high rates of childhood asthma in her neighborhood due to industrial and freight emissions, she co-founded the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project (WOEIP) to empower local residents through community-based participatory research. Her decades of advocacy have profoundly shaped local policy, earning her a seat on the Port of Oakland Board of Commissioners (2007–2012) and an induction into the Alameda County Women's Hall of Fame. Recognized nationally by the Obama White House as a Champion of Change for her contributions to public science literacy, Ms. Margaret continues to bridge gaps between neighborhood organizations, researchers, and public officials to secure clean air, safer neighborhoods, and fair economic opportunities for West Oakland families.



@KEVCHOICE

Randolph Belle is an accomplished artist, creative consultant, and communications professional who has spent over three decades building networks at the intersection of arts, business, and community advocacy in the Bay Area. He founded RBA Creative in 2007 (originally established as a graphic design firm in 1990), evolving it into a multi-faceted hub that combines marketing, public affairs consulting, and community real estate strategy through Creative Development Partners. Based in Oakland's Laurel District, Belle and his team operate a vibrant co-working facility, photo studio, and art gallery designed specifically to anchor local creatives. A passionate advocate for the local economy, he also established the non-profit organization Support Oakland Artists (SOA), dedicating his practice to expanding public access to the arts and leveraging trusted regional relationships to drive equitable community development.



@THELOOVEMOORESHOW

Janice Edwards is an award-winning broadcast journalist, Emmy-nominated producer, and media coach dedicated to community empowerment. As the host and executive producer of *Bay Area Vista*, a show she originally launched at NBC Bay Area, Edwards highlights the voices of community leaders, non-profits, and celebrities. Produced through her company, Edwards Unlimited, the program has earned the American Women in Radio and Television's Kudo Award. A graduate of Harvard University and the UC Berkeley School of Journalism, Edwards has conducted over 1,200 high-profile interviews with figures like Barack Obama and Oprah Winfrey. Beyond her broadcast career with networks like KRON-TV and KPIX-TV, she is a best-selling co-author of *Step Into Your Brilliance*. Edwards also serves the community as an active board member and frequent emcee, earning recognition as a Silicon Valley trailblazer.



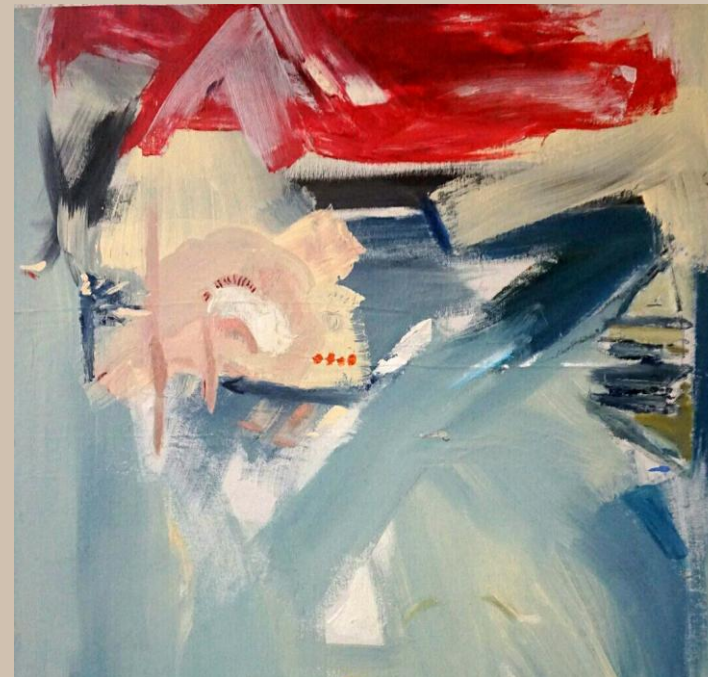
@janicedwards (IG) | thejanicedwards.com

ARTISTS



GALLERY

paint
photo



STROKES

Inner and
Outer
Realities



CAMS

1960s -
present



STAGE

dance
music



4:30PM
KMOA
Hula



6:30-8PM
Live DJs
*
Jae Flowz
*
Liam
O'Donohue



SCREEN

archives
stories



WEST
FEST
TV



3PM
To
7PM



Painting

Asual Aswad:

@kwahuumba

Jorge Bejarano:

@abstractoakland

Jimi Evins:

@mindsplash

Karen Janes:

@kjanesartistry

Reginald Jones:

Cairo McCockran:

@pullman_studios

Simone Nia Rae:

@simoneniarae

Nuz

@natidoesthingsss

James Shields:

@creativeshields



Photography and Media

Ray Cooper

<http://bit.ly/3RL6FSy>

Ellias Fullmore

@ellias_k_fullmore

Howard Harawitz

<https://bit.ly/4yvlHwn>

Chamia LaRae

@chamialarae

Ken Light

www.kenlight.com

Malcolm Ryder

www.malcolmryder.com

Xan Blood Walker

www.xanbloodwalkerart.com



PERFORMANCE / Recorded

The Dynamic Miss Faye Carol
Jonathan Rice
Papi Grande

Jazz
Spoken Word
Spoken Word

@thedynamicmiss
@imjrice
@pap1grand3

INTERVIEWS / Recorded

Julian Glover
Antoinette Brown
Kakoli Mitra

W. Oakland Blues @julianglovertv
Oral History @thequeenspictures
W. Oaklanders www.ecosymbiont.org/earth



JOURNALISM / Media

Ingrid Becker / Jilchristina Vest
Refa1/King Makers
W. Oakland Branch Public Library
W. Oakland Archivers (various)
Malcolm Ryder
Malcolm Ryder

Block Party
Kingmakers Mural
Library Archives
Black/Latino Life
16th St. Train Station
W. Oakland Portrait

WEST FEST PLAYLIST

Artists added for 2026



LADIES OF HIP-HOP WEST OAKLAND SESSIONS
JAZZ MAFIA
BREATHLESS
DAKINI STAR

EP
Ladies of Hip-Hop: West Oakland Sessions (Live)
Jazz Mafia • 2020 • 3 songs, 18 min 52 sec

Title

1	No More Drama / Hypnotize / Juicy / Crusl	Jazz Mafia, Breathless, Dakini Star
---	---	-------------------------------------

JAZZ MAFIA
WEST OAKLAND SESSIONS VOL 2

EP
West Oakland Sessions, Vol. 2
Jazz Mafia • 2020 • 5 songs, 29 min 27 sec

Title

1	Slings and Arrows - Live	Jazz Mafia, Trance Thompson
2	Glory - Live	Jazz Mafia, Trance Thompson, Choral Syndicate
3	Superstition - Live	Jazz Mafia, Trance Thompson
4	Wings	Jazz Mafia, Adam Thak, Trance Thompson, Tym Brown, Solas B. Latgee, Nataly Michelle Wright, Vleeca Hawkins, Olivia Ruff, Katy Stephan, Matt Wong, Kyle Athayde
5	Wings - Instrumental	Jazz Mafia, Trance Thompson

HELLA LOOVE
The Bay

Album
i Hella Loove The Bay
Loove Moore • 2025 • 17 songs, 41 min 3 sec

Title

1	Keep Oakland Hella Original Intro	Loove Moore	0:11
2	Celebrate A Real One	Loove Moore	1:55
3	A Couple You Feel Mes That Feel Me	Loove Moore	2:27
4	Go Crazy On Citas	Loove Moore	2:27

THIS IS
Fantastic Negrito

Public Playlist
This Is Fantastic Negrito
This is Fantastic Negrito. The essential tracks, all in one playlist.
Spotify • 6,797 saves • 47 songs, about 3 hr

On Tour
San Francisco
Fantastic Negrito
See all events

Album

Date added
How Long? (Live)
An Honest Man
When Everything Went Wron...
Please Don't Be Dead
Son of a Broken Man

Goapele
Verified by Spotify
671,237 monthly listeners

Popular

1	Closer	65,909,284	3:49
2	Hello Darlin' pt. 2	170,389	2:32
3	Romantic (feat. Soulive)	3,722,011	5:38
4	Too Much the Same	1,356,023	3:57
5	Got It	970,391	3:16
6	Back to You	1,678,067	4:16
7	Ease Your Mind (feat. Pep Love)	835,850	3:36
8	Butterflykisses	784,633	3:21
9	Play	4,016,941	3:43

This Is Kev Choice
This is Kev Choice. The essential tracks, all in one playlist.
Spotify • 7 saves • 48 songs, about 2 hr 45 min

Concerts

#	Title	Album	Date added
1	Call	Lindsey Webster, Kev Choice	Music In Me
2	Stay With Me	Lindsey Webster, Randy Brecker, Kev Choice	Reasons
3	Lifestyles of Class	D.J. Fresh, Kev Choice	The Lush & Luxurious Vibes
4	Save Oakland (feat. Too Short, Numskull, Ke...	The Mekansis, Too Short, Numskull, Keak Da Sne...	Save Oakland (Remix) [feat. T...
5	Carpool Lane (feat. Kev Choice)	D.J. Fresh, Kev Choice	Late Night Freeway Vibez, Vo...

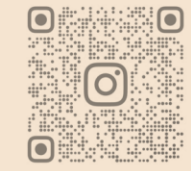


WEST FEST PLAYLIST

Fantastic Negrito (Xavier Dphrepaulezz)

A three-time Grammy Award winner (winning Best Contemporary Blues Album in 2017, 2019, and 2021), Fantastic Negrito is deeply woven into the modern fabric of West Oakland. After surviving a near-fatal car crash that left him in a coma for weeks, he re-emerged on the global stage by winning NPR's inaugural Tiny Desk Contest in 2015.

The West Oakland Footprint: Rather than moving his operations to a traditional industry hub, he founded his independent label, **Storefront Records**, right at **3431 San Pablo Avenue** in West Oakland. He uses this physical space to host the *Storefront Market*, a completely free open-air marketplace and open-mic stage for local vendors and emerging creators. Additionally, he operates an urban farm called *Revolution Plantation* on his West Oakland property, focused on teaching local agricultural sustainability.

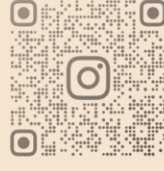


@FANTASTICNEGrito

Kev Choice

Kev Choice is a virtuosic, classically trained jazz pianist, composer, and MC who serves as a primary pillar of the modern Oakland music scene. Known for moving effortlessly between acoustic jazz trios, large-scale orchestral arrangements, and hip-hop grooves, he has toured internationally as a music director and collaborator with stars like Lauryn Hill, Ledisi, and Goapele.

The West Oakland Footprint: Professionally, Choice treats West Oakland as a primary staging ground for his cultural work. He is deeply involved with the **West Oakland Sound Series** and local independent performance spaces. To combat gentrification and reclaim the neighborhood's historic musical identity, he formed the prominent musical collective **Black London**—a direct nod to the neighborhood bordering West Oakland and the historic 7th Street jazz corridor. Choice serves as a central bridge keeping West Oakland's classic acoustic jazz lineage alive and relevant for modern audiences.



@KEVCHOICE

Loove Moore

He is an independent rapper and recording artist who frequently samples classic Bay Area tracks and incorporates his music directly into his cultural media platforms. He became a fixture in Oakland culture during the pandemic by launching *Loove At The Lake*, a self-produced open-mic and pop-up interview series around Lake Merritt.

The West Oakland Footprint: Raised in West Oakland, his family has long-standing ties to the area; his grandmother was part of one of the first families to move into West Oakland's historic Acorn housing community. He acts as a one-man media crew—filming, editing, and hosting man-on-the-street interviews aimed at sharing diverse perspectives and introducing community members to one another. Beyond digital content, he organizes local community events, including regional "Unity Hikes," and runs the clothing brand *Think Love Life*, using his platforms to highlight local talent and push a message of cultural integration and positivity.



@THELOOVEMOORESHOW

Artists added for 2026

Goapele (Goapele Mohlabane)

Since her classic 2001 debut anthem "Closer," Goapele has been a leading voice in modern independent R&B and soul. Born to a South African anti-apartheid activist father and a New York German-Jewish mother, her music seamlessly blends classic soul and jazz ballads with social activism.

The West Oakland Footprint: Goapele's creative development and recording history are deeply anchored in West Oakland. For years, her primary recording studio was located directly in West Oakland. She wrote her poignant anthem "Stand" (reflecting on the tragic shooting of Oscar Grant at the nearby Fruitvale BART station) inside that West Oakland studio space while community actions were unfolding just blocks away. Furthermore, her early songwriting explicitly chronicles the neighborhood, such as her track "*It Takes More*," which directly addresses the structural realities and resilience of young men growing up on the streets of West Oakland.



@GOAPELE

RECOGNITION



SPONSORS



CULTURE ZONE



Creative Diversity

Collaborative Spirit

A vibrant group of diverse people sharing ideas and working together creatively.

Innovative Projects

Showcasing a variety of unique projects driven by community members' talents and passions.

Inclusive Environment

An open space where everyone feels welcomed, supported, and empowered to contribute.



West Oakland businesses and organizations in an existing growing collective for creative development.

- 16th Street Train Station:** 1601 Wood Street
- 7th West:** 1255 7th Street
- EBPRC (East Bay Community Recovery Project):** 2577 San Pablo Avenue
- Mandela Grocery Cooperative** 1430 7th St
- Oakland Ballers (Raimondi Park):** 1800 Wood Street
- Oakland Public Library (West Branch):** 1801 Adeline
- Pacific Pipes:** 2140 Mandela Parkway
- Prescott Market:** 1620 18th Street
- Serial Material:** 1634 7th Street
- Sterling Art Supply (Sterling Art Services):** 1558 7th Street
- the Crucible:** 1260 7th Street
- Underdog Film:** 1625 16th Street
- West Oakland Cultural Action Network (WOCAN):** 1801 Adeline Street
- Kaiser Permanente (Oakland Medical Center):** 3600 Broadway



Your
Organization



Precedents

Oakland Culture Zones: Local culture zones——typically originate as grassroots, community-led movements rather than top-down government programs. They are born out of localized community coalitions (like the Eastside Arts Alliance and local non-profits) to directly counteract rapid gentrification and disinvestment.

The local focus leans much heavier into **place-keeping, community self-determination, and direct economic survival.**

For instance, the **Black Cultural Zone (BCZ)** in East Oakland operates explicitly to prevent the displacement of legacy Black residents and businesses. While it deeply centers arts and culture, it integrates them into a massive community development framework encompassing affordable housing, commercial real estate acquisition, and workforce training.

Because they operate as community development ecosystems, local zones build independent, multi-million dollar capital pipelines. Organizations like the BCZ Community Development Corporation (CDC) actively acquire land, develop major projects (like Liberation Park Market Hall or senior housing), and leverage massive local philanthropic partnerships (like the \$100 million *Rise East* initiative) and federal grants to build permanent community wealth.

Exemplars



The **East Bay Permanent Real Estate Cooperative (EB PREC)** is a democratic, Black- and Indigenous-led multi-stakeholder cooperative founded in 2017 to remove land and housing from the speculative market. Incubated by the People of Color Sustainable Housing Network and the Sustainable Economies Law Center, the co-op fights systemic displacement and gentrification in Oakland and the East Bay. By mobilizing local residents and organizers, EB PREC collectively finances and acquires residential and commercial properties, placing them under permanent community stewardship and ensuring long-term affordability.

Operating on a non-hierarchical, one-member, one-vote model, the cooperative integrates resident, community, staff, and investor owners. Capital is raised through a Direct Public Offering (DPO), allowing community members to purchase "Freedom Shares" that yield modest, capped financial returns rather than maximizing profit at tenants' expense. Through projects like restoring the historic Esther's Orbit Room in West Oakland, EB PREC provides a scalable model for keeping legacy BIPOC residents rooted and economically empowered.

Trailblazers

Founded in 1999 by Dr. Ayodele "WordSlanger" Nzinga, the **Lower Bottoms Playaz** troupe began 26 years ago performing on a literal stage in a West Oakland backyard, producing original contemporary plays dealing with systemic social realities, such as *Mama at Twilight: Love by Death*, *Beyond the Bars*, and *Mama's Letters*.

The Lower Bottom Playaz have played a vanguard role in preserving and driving space ownership for Black creators. In 2019, they helped establish and collaborate with the **Black Arts Movement Business District Community Development Corporation (BAMBD CDC)** <https://arts.ca.gov/grantee/black-arts-movement-and-business-district-community-development-cor/>

Civic Engagement and Radical "Place-Keeping"

Named after the Prescott neighborhood of West Oakland—historically known as the "Lower Bottoms"—the troupe has intentionally used performance as a vehicle for community self-determination and defense against the displacement of gentrification. By intentionally bringing community stories back to the community, they have continuously used live performance to provoke critical dialogue, heal generational trauma, and establish communal agency.



Cultivators



The Crucible is a premier 56,000-square-foot non-profit industrial arts education facility in West Oakland. Founded in 1999, it offers hands-on courses in welding, glassblowing, blacksmithing, and kinetics.

Its documented impact on West Oakland is profound. The organization provides thousands of locals with free bike repair clinics, scholarships, and career pathway training.

By partnering with nearby OUSD schools and community programs, The Crucible provides essential youth workforce development and creative community connections in an historically under-resourced area.

Incubators



[The Kingmakers of Oakland](#) is a nonprofit dedicated to uplifting Black boys and young men by disrupting systemic inequities and replacing them with culturally affirming mentorship and education. Born out of the Oakland Unified School District, their targeted strategies heal the "toxic ecosystem" of public education.

In West Oakland, their documented impact centers on dismantling harmful narratives and empowering youth. Through on-the-ground hubs like their Design Center, they provide essential programming such as [KOO Labs Academies](#)—where scholars master skills in digital arts, music, and software—and college readiness initiatives like the [TFI Oakland](#) program.

Participants in their programs experience tangible academic and personal growth, including boosted average grade point averages. By prioritizing the brilliance of Black youth, the organization helps foster a profound sense of self-efficacy and civic confidence.

HISTORY

Journalism

Greenbelt Alliance: Tallulah Shepard brings stories of how historically redlined Black neighborhoods in Oakland built dense, walkable, and transit-connected communities out of necessity, creating a lasting blueprint of physical and social infrastructure that serves as a model for modern climate-resilient city planning.

FoundSF: Jennifer Soliman's historical essay describes an Oakland driven by a booming wartime economy and the growth of an African-American middle class. Seventh Street in West Oakland flourished as a bustling commercial and world-renowned musical haven during the 1940s and 1950s, only to face social and economic devastation due to postwar job losses, urban renewal programs, and disruptive transit infrastructure.

Tota World: Rod Mullen completed an in-depth photographic study of an economically depressed and socially turbulent neighborhood in West Oakland during the civil rights movement of the 60's. These photographs are housed in the archives of San Francisco State University.

Soul City: in this new book, Ken Light shares for the first time his powerful visual record of community, culture, and resilience in the vibrant Black community of 1970's West Oakland – a rare and intimate portrait of this major American city's urban life. The story emerges from the Second Great Migration of African Americans, settling a middle class society that became known as “the Harlem of the West” – only to confront devastating decline due to political and environmental oppression, giving rise to the political activism of the Black Panther Party. In that moment the photographer captured pride, friendship, love, and self-reliance through “making much of little.”



Blueprint for Resilience: Lessons from Oakland's Black Neighborhoods

By Tallulah Shepard, Marketing & Communications Manager, [Greenbelt Alliance](#), February 27, 2025

This [article](#) is reprinted with permission from the [Greenbelt Alliance](#) copyright 2025.



Group photograph of patrons seated around bar at Slim Jenkins Bar and Restaurant, circa 1950s. (Harold Jenkins Photograph collection, MS 11, (African American Museum and Library at Oakland, Oakland Public Library).



[norcalapa.org blueprint-for-resilience](https://norcalapa.org/blueprint-for-resilience)

SHAPING
25
YEARS
SAN FRANCISCO

Donate ♥

« shapingsf.org the San Francisco digital history archive

Browse: Decade Neighborhood Population Theme Tours Give

Categories:

- East Bay
- African-American
- 1920s
- Racism
- 1940s
- 1950s
- 1960s
- Music
- What Links Here

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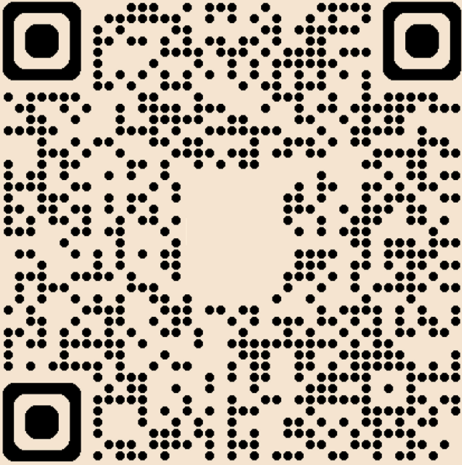
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- Patreon patron

The Rise and Fall of Seventh Street in Oakland

Historical Essay

by Jennifer Soliman, 2015



www.foundsf.org



Stories From The Block: McElroy Street in the Oakland 1970's



Andre James / Buddy Jones & Friends

Discuss

Share



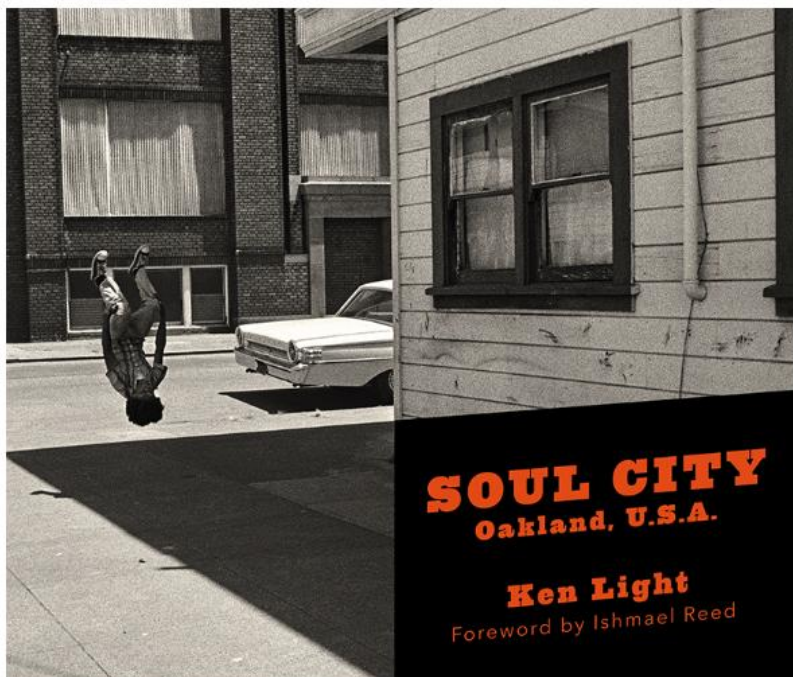
Stories From The Block - McElroy in the 70's

The Block
McElroy Street – 1970's



Tota.World Stories from the Block

Soul City: Oakland, U.S.A.

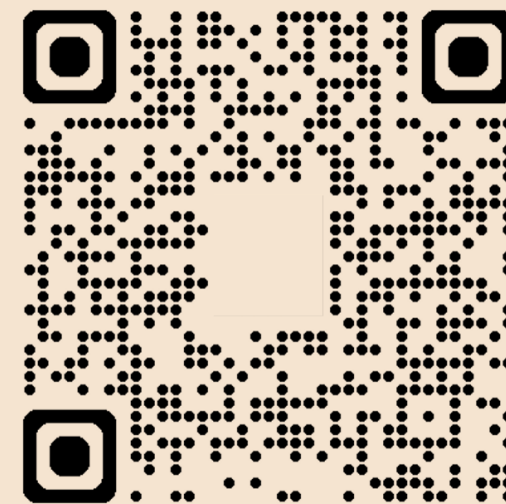


Hardcover, black and white photographs, 160 pages.
ISBN: 9781597147316.

By Ishmael Reed , Ken Light

Uncovered after 50 years, an absorbing and illuminating photographic archive of Black West Oakland in the 1970s.

In 1974 Ken Light, a young underground press photographer recently arrived in California, was encouraged by residents of West Oakland to document daily life in the neighborhood. A white activist building relationships in an eminent Black community, Light was invited into homes and churches, flagged down on the street for impromptu portraits. The resulting images, taken over two years, ended up unpublished and nearly forgotten for half a century. Now made public for the first time in *Soul City*, they form a stunning and historically important archive of Black urban life in a



Heyday Books Soul City

WEST FEST '26



COME TOGETHER LEGACY AND VISION



1255 7th STREET OAKLAND, CA 94607

SUNDAY, JULY 26, 2026

3PM — 8PM — 7TH WEST

WEST FEST!
ART FOR POWER
WEST OAKLAND MATTERS



Add note: "West Fest"

All Donations Welcomed! Suggested: \$5



Zelle

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3PM OPEN STAGE & ART

3:30 EXHIBITS & VIDEOS

4PM WELCOME

4:30 STAGE: HULA Show

**5PM JANICE EDWARDS TV:
BAY AREA VISTA**

5:00 NONI SESSION: COMMUNITY

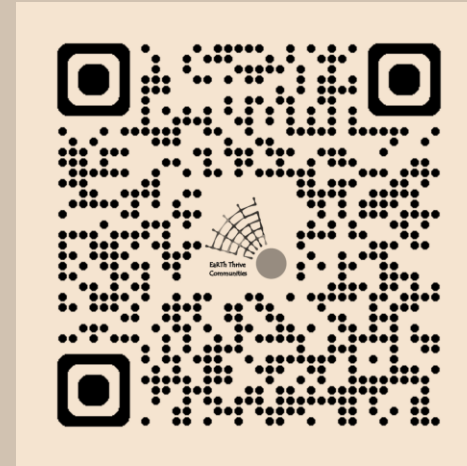
5:30 MS. MARGARET GORDON: LEGACY

6:00 RANDOLPH BELLE: VISION

6:30 STAGE -DJ JAEFLOWZ

7:15 STAGE - DJ LIAM

WEST OAKLAND MATTERS ONLINE COMMUNITY





ACTION | Activism

Black Panther Party Newspaper Art: from Surviving to Thriving (1 of 2)

🕒 24 Apr 2025 👤 by Gayle Asali Dickson PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

Gayle "Asali" Dickson talks about being the only female artist for the Black Panther Party newspaper when she was a member in Oakland, California, and how art was a pivotal means of educating, informing, and reaching the community.



ACTION | Activism

Billy X: Why the Black Panther Party Formed in Oakland (1 of 4)

🕒 20 Apr 2025 👤 by Billy X Jennings PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

Billy X explains the historical reality of Afro-Americans leading up to the formation of the Black Panther Party, in 1966, in West Oakland (United States), including the opening up of employment opportunities in the west amid ongoing violence against Afro-Americans.



ACTION | Activism

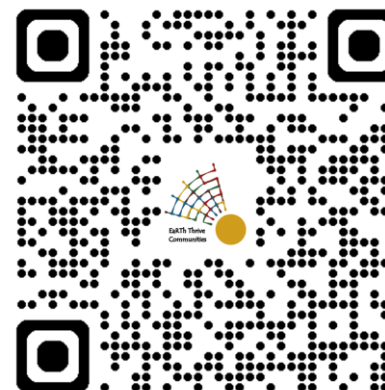
It's About Time: An Archive of the Black Panther Party (1 of 2)

🕒 17 Apr 2025 👤 by Billy X Jennings PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

A long-time member of the Black Panther Party (BPP), Billy X provides a tour of the archive he founded on the works and legacy of the BPP, showing carefully preserved specimens of issues of the Black Panther Party Newspaper.



COMMUNITY ONLINE





Mandela Grocery is on 7th Street in West Oakland, California, a once bustling street full of black-owned businesses, before mass transit constructions destroyed large sections of the neighborhood.

SYSTEMS | Extractivism Alternatives
A Cooperative Grocery Store in the West Oakland Food Desert

🕒 12 Mar 2025 👤 by James Bell PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

An African-American worker-owner of the Mandela Grocery cooperative in West Oakland, California, James Bell shares his passion for bringing fresh, nutritious produce to his community that has been living in a food desert for many years.



WELLBEING | Art-Music-Performance
Greens, Grit, and Grooves in the Lower Bottoms

🕒 12 Mar 2025 👤 by James Bell PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

James Bell, a native of West Oakland, California, US (also known as the Lower Bottoms), talks about what inspires his special brand of music: eating healthy, cooperative ethics, and life. He shares two tracks about black identity and eating nutritiously.



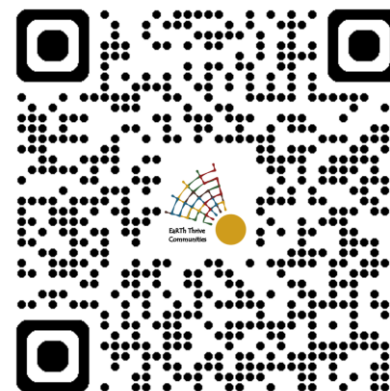
ACTION | Activism
Surviving and Thriving in Oakland through Creative Community-Building (1 of 2)

🕒 23 Mar 2025 👤 by Looove Moore PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

Looove Moore, a native of Oakland, California, talks about why he feels it is his purpose to help people in his community survive and thrive; he does this through collaborative creativity, connecting people to nature, and spreading love and support.



COMMUNITY ONLINE





WELLBEING | Food Sovereignty
Chef Green: Revitalizing the Food Scene in West Oakland

🕒 24 May 2025 👤 by Chef Green PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

Chef Green talks about how he's helping to revitalize the food scene in West Oakland through his own blended culinary style, including tacos and fried fish, which draws clients from across the San Francisco Bay Area (California, United States).



SYSTEMS | Extractivism Alternatives
Curyj: Community-Led Food Pantry in West Oakland

🕒 24 May 2025 👤 by Little Bear PROJECTS: 🗨️ Interviews

Little Bear talks about his organization's food pantry project, which he leads, and through which they distribute fresh produce and prepared foods to marginalized community members, such as unhoused people and residents of West Oakland (California, United States).



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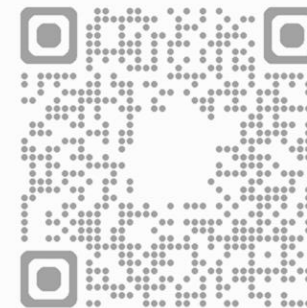
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Our aim is to bring together the community of creatives in West Oakland to
amplify their influence as a collaborative force for the community's self-
determination and cultural renaissance.

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