

Statement of Solidarity:

Kaorihiva is extending our solidarity and support to the Black and Black-Indigenous communities. While we always strive to be anti-racist, we recognize that in the wake of the murders of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, Breonna Taylor, Tony McDade, and countless others—not to mention the senseless acts of violence against protestors—speaking up and taking action is imperative. We sympathize with your grief, sadness, frustration, and anger at the brutality perpetrated by both the police and the state. Systemic racism is embedded in the very fabric of this nation and it's long past time for radical change in our criminal justice system.

Why Pacific Islanders Should Take Action:

As an organization, we represent Pacific Islanders' cultures and histories, many of which are heavily entwined with Black struggles. Through oppression and dehumanization, US imperialism created bonds between Black and Indigenous folk; yet, white supremacy continues to foster anti-Black sentiment even among Pacific Islanders, dividing our communities when we should be allies and accomplices. Therefore, in order to overcome these systemic struggles, we must unite against our internalization of white supremacy by decolonizing ourselves and calling out anti-Black racism.

We must also honor the efforts of our ancestors who fought against racialized systems of power. For example, the Hawaiian Kingdom outlawed slavery in the 1852 Constitution and provided refuge to slaves in Hawai'i. Now, let us continue this work by defending Black and Black-Indigenous communities, protecting each other from state-sanctioned oppression, and promoting indigenous alternatives to policing and prisons, such as reconciliation practices and Ho'oponopono. Anti-Indigeneity and anti-Blackness are tied together; we are not free until we are *all* free.

What Kaorihiva is Doing:

Firstly, we reaffirm our commitment to always supporting our Black and Black-Indigenous members. As we wrote in an internal email, "We are a family, and when the going gets tough we stand together."

We are also committed to dedicating our time, energy, and resources to supporting the Black Lives Matter Movement by:

1. Creating space and encouraging our members to take action through donating, signing petitions, contacting people in power, educating ourselves, and being actively and vocally anti-racist. (please see the [Guide to Allyship](#) and the list of action items below for ways to get involved)

2. Ensuring our community is, at all times, a safe space for our Black and Black-Indigenous members.
3. Recognizing that we benefit from and use hip-hop music and other aspects of Black culture in our practices.

We are dedicated to empowering Black and Black-Indigenous folx and dismantling oppressive systems that continue to harm communities of color. In addition to our members, we encourage all Kaorihiva alums and affiliates to join us in taking action against anti-Black racism.

*With aloha and solidarity,
Kaorihiva*

List of action items:

**This is absolutely not an exhaustive list, but a good place to start.*

Petitions to Sign

- [Justice for Breonna Taylor](#)
- [Justice for Tony McDade](#)
- [Justice for Ahmaud Arbery](#)
- [Justice for George Floyd](#)

Places to Donate

- [Official George Floyd Memorial Fund](#)
- [I Run with Maud Memorial Fund](#)
- [In Memory of Tony McDade Memorial Fund](#)
- [Justice for Breonna Taylor Memorial Fund](#)
- [Reclaim the Block](#)
- [Black Visions Collective](#)

Ways to Educate Yourself

- [Reading list](#) from Black and Asian American Feminist Solidarities.
- [Reading list](#) on anti-racism.

Ways to Demand Justice

- Join Students for Workers' Rights in [phonebanking initiatives](#).
- Check out [this document](#) for officials to call to demand justice for Black communities.

Note: We welcome the Black community's guidance and feedback, although we do not wish to burden the community in light of already-existing trauma.