

We, the leadership of the Stanford Alpine Club, would like to take a moment to address the recent tragedies affecting our country. We like to think of nature and the outdoors as the great equalizer, that there are no racial or socioeconomic barriers to accessing the immense benefits that spending time in nature can provide. But the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others (many who have gone unnoticed) highlight the deep-rooted racial divides that penetrate every aspect of life in America.

The Stanford Alpine Club is not above these divides. Most of our membership is now, and in the past has been, white. If you flip through our history book you'll find details of incredible first ascents in the Andes and Himalaya, but not a single person of color in nearly 200 pages. While this problem is not unique to the Stanford Alpine Club, we are in a position to do something about it in our organization. It is not simply enough to acknowledge racial biases in our sport, but to take actions to dismantle them. With that in mind we, the leadership of the Stanford Alpine Club, have provided a list of resources below on the divides that exist in the outdoors and our plans to address. Diversity in something as trivial as climbing may seem like a small thing to focus on right now, but we believe that change starts at the community level. We also encourage you to explore more resources addressing racism in higher impact areas such as education, criminal justice, and the healthcare system (to name a few).

What we're doing:

- We are hosting a [film screening on diversity in the outdoors](#) organized by No Man's Land, with proceeds benefiting Outdoor Afro. If you're interested, fill out this [RSVP](#) form (sales end 6/30) and we will purchase a personal link for you. Once we've all got links we will set up a time to watch together!
- We will be making efforts to broaden our community by hosting beginner nights and other events
- We will be seeking future partnership opportunities with the organizations below
- We've created a Slack channel to encourage a more open forum for all members to openly connect and share resources ([join our workspace!](#))
- We recognize that our efforts as leadership are not as effective without community support. We are looking for your anonymous feedback [here](#) if you have suggestions for other efforts we might be able to take on as a group, or any other comments you might have.

Educational resources:

- *Black Faces, White Spaces* by Carolyn Finney
 - A book addressing how nature and environment are racialized in America.
 - Available from the Stanford Library at <https://searchworks.stanford.edu/view/13085711>
- Whiteness in the Outdoors
 - An Instagram post detailing some actions that can be taken to aid in creating an accepting culture in the outdoors
 - https://www.instagram.com/p/CAImlQCp5nb/?utm_source=ig_embed&utm_campaign=loading
- Kai Lightner: Open Your Eyes to the Reality of Black Lives

- An article written by Kai Lightner for Rock and Ice detailing the importance of action in addition to words
- <https://rockandice.com/climbing-news/kai-lightner-open-your-eyes-to-the-reality-of-black-lives/>
- I'm a Black climate expert. Here's how racism derails our efforts to save the planet.
 - An article by Ayana Elizabeth Johnson on the challenges of diversifying climate change solutions
 - <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/06/03/im-black-climate-scientist-racism-derails-our-efforts-save-planet/>

Organizations that are already working on these problems (consider donating if you can):

- Brown Girls Climb: <https://www.browngirlsclimb.com/>
 - Donate: <https://www.browngirlsclimb.com/product/brown-girls-climb-sticker/>
- Outdoor Afro: <https://outdoorafro.com/>
 - Donate: <https://outdoorafro.networkforgood.com/projects/6896-healthy-people-communities-and-places>
- Latino Outdoors: <https://latinooutdoors.org/>
 - Donate: <https://latinooutdoors.wedid.it/>
- Brothers of Climbing: <https://www.instagram.com/boccrew/>

Lastly, for our BIPOC members: we stand with you. Your voices will always be heard in our organization, and we are committed to being better allies. *Please* do not hesitate to reach out to leadership with suggestions or tell us what we are doing wrong. We are here to learn and get better as a club, and we hope that we can increase equality in the outdoors.

In solidarity,

The Stanford Alpine Club Leadership