

**For Immediate Release**  
**"Decolonizing the History Curricula in Our Schools:  
A Crucial Step in Achieving Reparations"**

February 20, 2025, from 6-7:30 PM  
The Foundry - [101 Rogers St, Cambridge, MA 02142](https://www.google.com/maps/place/101+Rogers+St,+Cambridge,+MA+02142)

Cambridge, MA — On Thursday, February 20, 2025, from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, the Mystic Valley NAACP Reparations Committee, The Black Response Cambridge, and The Reparations Interfaith Coalition will host a hybrid roundtable discussion titled "Decolonizing the History Curricula in Our Schools: A Crucial Step in Achieving Reparations." The event is co-sponsored by the Cambridge NAACP and is part of the third annual Foundry Festival in East Cambridge.

White supremacy is coded into laws and practices of the US, yet few of us learn about this in the course of our education. The Trump administration's recent attempts to defund, silence, and censor public education has necessitated further discussions on the country's complex and painful history making it difficult to grapple with hard truths about our nation's troubled history.

What did you learn in school about slavery in the US and its continuing effects in our society? Did your books and teachers talk about how cotton production by enslaved Africans fueled the Industrial Revolution and built the very economic base of our country? Did you learn about the pivotal role of Black soldiers in the Civil War? What about reconstruction and the multiracial governments that flourished briefly until being violently destroyed? What did you learn about Jim Crow and convict leasing? Did your history books cover redlining? What about the GI Bill?

Most of us did not learn any of this in school, making it impossible to understand the call for reparations for people whose ancestors were enslaved in the US and who continue to feel its effects.

Come listen in as our roundtable of scholars/educators talk about the history curricula in our schools and how it continues to reinforce white supremacy. There will be time for questions, too, so come prepared with yours. Our speakers are:

- Professor **Jemadari Kamara** (UMass Boston)  
author of *State of the Race – Creating Our 21st Century*
- Professor **Lawrence Blum** (UMass Boston)  
author of *High Schools, Race, and America's Future*
- Professor **Donald Yacovone** (Harvard University)  
author of *Teaching White Supremacy*
- Moderator - **Jateja Spriggs**  
Chair, Governor's Youth Advisory Council

This hybrid event is free and open to the public. The event space is wheelchair accessible. Please register at the link below. If you plan to attend remotely, please select the "remote" option to receive the Zoom link. For accessibility inquiries or other event-related questions, please contact Maggie at [margaret.carey13@gmail.com](mailto:margaret.carey13@gmail.com).

Register using the link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/VOMAoqbLRN6zZC60sEDk9w>