

Celebrating Trailblazers Making Black History Everyday



Black History Month is often an opportunity to highlight the accomplishments and contributions made by trailblazing Black people in the past. Their hard work, perseverance and ingenuity continue to inspire us daily and much of what we are able to accomplish today would not be possible without their efforts.

But we also want to take time to acknowledge that history is being made everyday. Therefore, we would like to celebrate innovators who continue to make Black history today. They inspire us with their vision, their creativity and their tenacity despite the obstacles and challenges that continue to disproportionately affect Black people around the world.



This month, and every month, we continue to celebrate those who are making the world a better place for all of us; those who, through their entrepreneurial spirit and unwavering fortitude, are paving the way for

future generations to thrive and actualize their full potential regardless of the color of their skin.

The African Diaspora Investment Symposium is a critical opportunity to celebrate, connect with and find opportunities to collaborate with the Black history makers of today. We invite you to come and hear from and network with our inspiring line up of speakers who are charting the way towards a brighter future.

Register for ADIS today!



Dr. Monde Muyangwa

Assistant Administrator, Bureau for Africa, USAID who through much of her career has worked to foster policy-focused dialogue about and options for stronger and mutually-beneficial U.S.-Africa relations; and challenge the dominant narrative about Africa by enhancing knowledge and understanding about the continent in the United States.



Paddy Siyanga Knudsen

Vice President, Global Research Forum on Diaspora & Transnationalism (GRFDT), who has worked for years in development cooperation, regional integration and migration governance. She supports governments, Regional Economic Communities (RECs), bilateral development partners, EU institutions, Civil society as well as UN agencies in engagement strategies, research, programme formulation, implementation as well as monitoring and evaluation



Thelma Ekiyor

Chairperson of the Nigerian Philanthropy Office and co-founder of SME.ng, who is a social entrepreneur and impact investor, and has focused primarily on investing in women entrepreneurs. She started her career supporting women in peacebuilding and has also worked in post-conflict countries such as Liberia with the peace activist Leymah Gbowee

Meet these trailblazing people, and more, making Black History everyday.

Join us at ADIS24

Builders of Africa's Future Program Applications Open



Applications are now open for the 2024 Builders of Africa's Future program!

Builders of Africa's Future (BAF) celebrates innovation and impact in early-stage African enterprises. The program identifies African entrepreneurs running early-stage nonprofits or for-profit businesses that address key community needs through technology or differentiated business models. The goal is to help scale their ventures and impact in the areas of health, education, energy, agriculture, financial inclusion, gender inclusion, nutrition, commerce, industrial development, and other socioeconomic goods.

The BAF program annually awards 15 to 20 of Africa's most promising entrepreneurs with enterprise development training, mentorship, and networking opportunities, and a platform to boost brand visibility and investment potential in Silicon Valley. Since 2018, Builders of Africa's Future has recognized and catalyzed 62 African startups.

Awardees will receive training from the African Management Institute of Kenya and be eligible to apply for funding from the U.S. African Development Foundation.

[**Apply Today**](#)



Book Your Room Today

Early Bird Hotel Discounts Until February 26

Nestled within Northern California's Silicon Valley, Hayes Mansion is part of the National Register of Historic Hotels and offers beautiful grounds and meeting rooms that will be conducive for the variety of breakout sessions and networking opportunities offered at ADIS24. Guests are encouraged to stay at Hayes Mansion with us and can secure their [discounted room rates here](#).

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Learn more about ways to engage:

- Invite a friend to subscribe to our newsletter by sending them the link [here](#)
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- Subscribe to our [YouTube channel](#)
- Give Through Silicon Valley Community Foundation ([SVCF](#)) Donor-advised fund
- Mentor entrepreneurs participating in our ABLE and/or BAF programs. Contact Brett Cave, Entrepreneurship Programs Manager at brett@africandiasporanetwork.org to learn more.
- Be an organizational sponsor and support the African Diaspora Network to bring together diverse people from around the world to collaborate and work together. Support ADN [HERE](#)
- Fill out the ADN Engagement form [here](#).

Engagement Opportunities



African Diaspora Network
4701 Patrick Henry Drive
Building 25
Santa Clara, CA 95054
United States

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