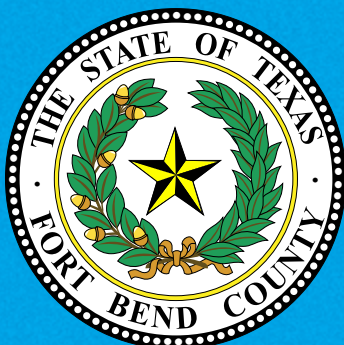


# FORT BEND COUNTY CORPORATE SPONSOR OUTREACH INITIATIVE

*Sponsorship Packet*



Office of the Fort Bend County Judge in collaboration  
with the University of Houston at Sugar Land.



(281) 341-8608  
Fax (832)471-1858

October 29, 2020

The Office of the Fort Bend County Judge and the University of Houston at Sugar Land have partnered to host a yearlong community initiative called "Diversity Over Division" leveraging the visual and literary arts to engage people about diversity, social injustice, and inclusivity. Following recent events including but not limited to the death of George Floyd and historic injustices, as a community, we must actively find ways to meaningfully discuss and confront all forms of hatred. As one of the most diverse counties in the country, we represent the beautiful tapestry of people that work, live, and play together, and, as such, we have a responsibility to create and maintain an equitable environment for all. In this light, Fort Bend County in partnership with the University of Houston at Sugar Land will be hosting a series of initiatives in support of our diversity. Our goals will help to foster a stronger, more supportive, and collaborative fellowship ready to join hands as we tackle the challenges of tomorrow.

Our community initiative **#diversityoverdivision** will be hosting the yearlong series in collaboration with the University of Houston at Sugar Land and the Fort Bend County University Library. The series of initiatives include panel discussions about civic engagement, art demonstrations, public murals, a photography competition, literary spotlights, as well as a series of documentaries.

To launch and promote these initiatives throughout Fort Bend County, your financial support is needed to put these ideas into action. Your support will be used for:

1. A photography contest for young and upcoming artists in the community
2. Awards for literary scholarships for students
3. Bringing in talent from artist and literary speakers throughout the year.

Our community is committed to **#diversityoverdivision**. We are asking our corporate sponsors to make this commitment to cultural awareness and inclusion as part of the action plan through donations of \$10,000.

Thank you,

Shaneka Smith  
Administrative Manager  
Fort Bend County Judge's Office

Angelique Bartholomew, JD  
Community and Business Advocate

## Phase One: Support Black-Owned Businesses

Following suit with counties across the country as one of our nation's most diverse, we want to patronize black-owned businesses and make information about them accessible. Thus, we have released a list to support Fort Bend's black-owned businesses. This list is active and will continue to have additions as we discover and encourage more business owners. It is critical we

support our minority businesses such as these so that we can continue to represent our diverse county in our business owners. Statistically, immigrant entrepreneurs total \$508.0 million in revenue in Fort Bend County alone. Thus, highlighting their representation in the business center and increasing it to maximize diversity recognition in our county is vital for success collaboration.

**"If there is no struggle there is no progress."**

-  
**Frederick Douglass**

## Phase Two: Education in Business Practices

In collaboration with The Carter Group, a business consulting company dedicated to inspiring businesses to reach pursue their passion with purpose and direction, a Virtual Resource highlighting black-owned business management, sustainable practices, and COVID-19 recovery will be livestreamed and made available to all Fort Bend County residents.

This webinar will highlight the importance of community amongst minority business owners and will specifically showcase successful black-owned business owners within our county. A panel will be present to also highlight sustainable practices, strategy, and how to become a vendor in Fort Bend County. This panel will provide businesses with best practices and how to plan for a successful future.

## Phase Three: A Community Mural

Through strategic partnership with the University of Houston, we will employ a local artist to paint a mural highlighting the Black Lives Matter movement as we set the standard for respect of human life and social justice.

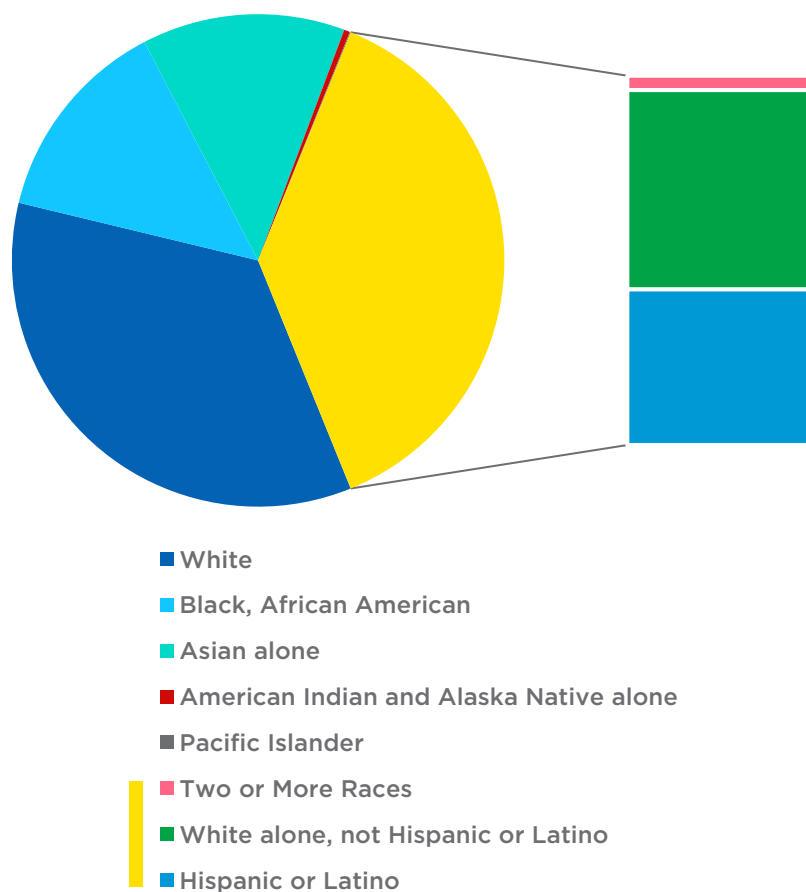
This will be located on campus at the University of Houston Sugar Land for students and visitors alike to view and consider their actions as we strive for a more inclusive and compassionate society. As an extremely diverse county this visual will be a celebration of the progress made but also a reminder of the work to be done as we fight for awareness and justice each day.



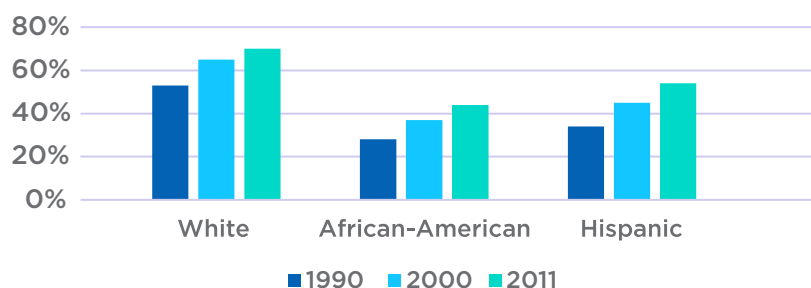
# A CLOSER LOOK AT FORT BEND COUNTY

**29.1%** of the Fort Bend County Population are Immigrants to the United State of America

## Race and Hispanic Origin: Fort Bend County



## Texas Graduation Rates Overtime by Year Entered College



## Immigrants

Historically, they have contributed 2.5 billion in taxes in Fort Bend County alone.

This population has allowed companies to keep jobs on U.S. soil satisfying 10,244 local jobs that otherwise could have left the country.

## Our African American Population

In the state of Texas and our county we recognize a gap in pay in comparison to other ethnicities. Statistically, the median household income for an African American or Black family is \$46,306 in comparison to the \$65,651 (White) or \$88,806 (Asian) made by those of other backgrounds. One must consider the cause of the gap and how to combat it.





## ABOUT OUR ARTISTS



### Deborah Mouton

Deborah D.E.E.P. Mouton is an internationally known writer, educator, activist, and Poet Laureate Emeritus of Houston, Texas. Formerly ranked the #2 Best Female Poet in the World, Her work has appeared in *Houston Noir* by Akashic Press (2019), *Black Girl Magic* by Haymarket Books (2019), *Fjords Journal*, *Crab Orchard Review*, and on such platforms as NPR, BBC, ABC, Apple News, Blavity, Upworthy, and across the TedX circuit. She serves as a contributing writer to *Texas Monthly* and *Glamour*.

Her most recent poetry collection, *Newsworthy*, won honorable mention for the Summerlee Book Prize. A German translation, under the title *SayTheirNames*, is set to be released in Fall 2021 by Elif Verlag.



### Reginald C. Adams

Reginald C. Adams is a public artist, social entrepreneur, and community developer. He is best known for his award-winning public art projects, which are strategically located in some of Houston's most historic and under-served neighborhoods. His creativity and approach to his artwork is inspired by travels to more than 40 countries around the globe. Adams fundamentally believes that everyone deserves access and exposure to the arts and strives to engage the public in the design and production of his public art projects.

Over the past 20 years Reginald has facilitated the design, coordination, and production over 350 public art projects and sacred spaces across the Houston area and abroad. These projects have been co-created with the involvement of over 50,000 area youth volunteers, 100's of artists and thousands of community stakeholders.

The designs, motifs, and imagery, captured in my work, is a direct reflection of the communities and public spaces that the work is designed to serve. This expands the style, social context, and technique for the execution of Reginald's work into broad and diverse territory. Each project is unique unto the community itself. By placing the public in public art, Reginald works to represent the culture, heritage, history and social context of communities and shared public spaces. His intention is to transform these environments into cultural and artistic destinations.

Reginald is a Senior Fellow with the American Leadership Forum (ALF) Class 24 and Community Development Class 1, an alumnus of Leadership Houston Class XXVIII, Graduate of the Center for Houston's Future 2013, and Past-President of the Rotary Club of Houston Skyline. In 2010, the Houston Press honored Reginald with their annual Mastermind Award, an honor recognizing creative professionals that are making a significant impact on the city of Houston through the arts. He was recently honored by the Houston Business Journal as one of Houston's 2012 top 40 Under 40 business executives.

In his personal time Reginald is an avid runner, he enjoys Salsa dancing, photography, traveling and spending quality time with his family.

# COMMUNITY OUTREACH INITIATIVE SPONSORSHIP PACKET

If you would like to contribute to the Fort Bend BLM initiative, donations can be made online at (GoFundMe Link) or checks can be made payable to **Fort Bend Forward** (note Fort Bend BLM Initiative). Please attach the following sheet with your check or email it to [keri@fortbendcc.org](mailto:keri@fortbendcc.org), noting Fort Bend BLM Initiative in your email if you desire the benefits of the specific donation level.

DATE: \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

COMPANY NAME AS IT SHOULD APPEAR ON PRINTED MATERIAL:

CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_-\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

## QUESTIONNAIRE

1. How long has your company been in business? (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

2. Is there anything your company expects from our team? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## SPONSORSHIP

LEVEL: \_\_\_\_\_ AMOUNT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

## PAYMENT

- SEND CHECK TO Fort Bend Forward  
Fort Bend Chamber of Commerce 445 Commerce Green Boulevard Sugar Land, Texas 77478
- Fort Bend County Community Outreach GoFundMe  
([gofundme.com/f/diversity-over-division](https://gofundme.com/f/diversity-over-division))

**TAX EXEMPT ID: 76-0285756**

**\*\*\*Donations to 501c(3) Organizations are tax-exempt under Section 170 of the IRS Code\*\*\***

The mission of Fort Bend Forward is to meet the literary, cultural, educational, and health needs of the greater Fort Bend County. Please direct any questions regarding Fort Bend Forward to Keri Schmidt, 281.491.0216 or [Keri@fortbendcc.org](mailto:Keri@fortbendcc.org).

*Diversity*  
OVER  
DIVISION

