

CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT   
*At The Dukes*

# 3 YEAR

# IMPACT CELEBRATION

*Giving Circle Appreciation*

MAY

WEDNESDAY

6

6-7:45 PM

**Tucson Small Business Center**

600 S Meyer Ave, Tucson, AZ 85701

Join us for a time of reflection and vision casting as we celebrate three years of being A Better Community through our community program, Connections that Count.

For more info contact:  
Trehon Coleman at 520.677.7338

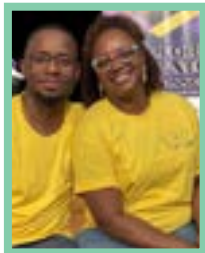
SPECIAL THANKS



# A LETTER FROM THE FOUNDERS

## Here's to 3 Years of Community Impact

In May 2023, compelled by the call of bringing our community together, we used \$750 to create a space for unity and connection right here in Southern Arizona. Clueless about what we were doing but needing to maximize the seed money, we contacted The Dunbar Pavilion to share our vision to meet once a month, on the first Wednesday, for a three-month summer pilot Initiative titled "Connections that Count". The Dunbar gladly agreed to assist and sent us a venue rental agreement, which we signed to use their dining hall space.



The inaugural May 3rd meeting brought together 30 residents. The following June 7th meeting doubled to 60, and the July 5th grand finale attendance almost doubled again to 109. What began as a mere idea to simply host a couple of community events quickly blossomed into a safe space where Tucson natives, newcomers and long-time residents can create Connections that Count.

We never envisioned our 3-month "Connections that Count" summer pilot would grow into the signature programming series of a small nonprofit in Tucson called A Better Community (ABC). For this alone, we say **THANK YOU!**

Thank you for rallying in front, beside and behind us to provide recurring, place-based community gatherings rooted in cultural affirmation, relationship-building and equitable access to resources here in Southern Arizona.

Without you today, past and future community gatherings are not possible. As we celebrate the 3 Years of Community Impact, let us continue to bring as many people together around the pillars of **Community, Connections, Culture and Collaboration**. This is the true essence of our work and the only way we continue to arrive at a better, more connected community. We love you.

In Community,  
*Trehon and Carmishun*



# 3 YEAR IMPACT CELEBRATION

## Mistress of Ceremony

**Nikieia Johnson**

Director, African American Museum of Southern Arizona

## Welcome

## Invocation

## Networking/Live Music/Food

Entertainment Provided by Nia Elise

## Community Congratulatory Remarks (2 min)

**Freda Marshall**

Executive Director, The Dunbar Pavilion

**Dr. Da'Mond Holt**

President/CEO, Fresh Start International

**Natalie Clark**

Chair, A Legacy of Excellence Scholarship Program

**Dr. Kiana Green**

Program Manager, Goodwill of Southern Arizona

**Arika Wells**

Executive VP and COO, United Way of Tucson and Southern Arizona

**Cheryl Ali**

President/CEO, Bright Star Community Development Corporation

**Mr. Earl and Natalie Grissette**

Owners, Automated Presort Services & Digital Print

**Dr. Tonya R. Strozier**

CEO, Black and Brown Girl Wellness/Ubuntu Academies & Preschool

**Larry Starks, MBA/PA**

Board President, Tucson Juneteenth Festival Committee Inc.

## Giving Circle Appreciation

## Remarks

**Trehon and Carmishun**

## Mix & Mingle Reception

**BUILDING COMMUNITY + CONNECTIONS IS WHAT WE DO!**

## SPECIAL THANKS TO

### EVENT PLANNERS

Wanda & Gerry Buchanan,  
Ashley Clark, Natalie & Earl  
Grissette, Manya Ponder,  
Cynthia Carr-Person

### FILM CREW

Michael Schuette

### PROGRAM & MARKETING

ASSETS CREATED BY  
B. Hope Marketing



2026 ABC AND  
CONNECTIONS THAT  
COUNT OFFICIAL  
PRINTING SPONSOR



# CARES GIVING CIRCLE

- Mr. and Mrs. Trehon and Carmishun Coleman  
Bob and Beverly Elliott Family Charities  
Bavan Holloway (The B.M. Holloway Family Charitable Fund)  
Anonymous  
Captain Michelle and Danny Pickrom  
Lt. Col Winston and Mrs. Marie Williams  
Dr. Beverly Wright  
Natalie Clark  
Victoria Buntin  
Mr. and Mrs. Delano and Cheryl Ali  
Kechi Olumba (A Delightful Affair)  
Mr. and Mrs. Fred and Daisy Jenkins  
Mr. and Mrs. Alvin and Dr. Ashley Holton  
Margo Susco  
Dr. Tonya R. Strozier  
Elizabeth Starks  
Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy and Lillian Thompson  
Ima Jean Johnson  
Gail Clanton  
Mr. and Mrs. Ronald and Beverly Thompson  
Mr. and Mrs. Eseosa and Robin Elaiho  
Barbara Mosley  
Keisha Coleman  
Mr. and Mrs. Herman B. Harris Jr. and Randiesia Fletcher, M.Ed.  
Barbara Jones Burnes  
Jewel Coleman  
Tisha Carey (Mama Carey's Catering)  
Mr. and Mrs. Justin and Krystal Coleman  
Lorraine H Richardson, PhD  
Rukiya Higgins (The Tucson Cotton Candy Co)  
Yvette Leonard  
Mr. and Mrs. Maurice Johnson and Gayle A. Dean, M.D., F.A.C.O.G.  
Karrie Hazwezwe



CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT

*At the Dunbar*

PAST EVENT

*February*

ATTENDANCE

475



35<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# MERCHANT MISSION-FOCUSED MARKETPLACE

FEBRUARY 4, 2026

5PM-7PM

FREE EVENT

THE DUNBAR PAVILION

325 W. 2ND ST.

TUCSON, AZ 85705

ARIZONA



**RACIAL  
JUSTICE**  
INITIATIVE

2026 TITLE SPONSOR



## The Dunbar Pavilion

PRESERVING OUR CULTURE. CULTIVATING OUR COMMUNITY

2026 OFFICIAL VENUE SPONSOR  
FOR CONNECTIONS THAT COUNT

PAST EVENT

March  
ATTENDANCE  
70

CONNECTIONS *That Count!*  
*At the Dunbar*



# ESCAPE THE MADNESS

INTO WELLNESS



Wednesday  
March 4th



5:00PM -  
7:00PM



The Dunbar Pavilion  
325 W. 2nd St. TUCSON, AZ 85705

## GUEST SPEAKERS



**Erika Michelle**

Founder of Erika  
Michelle Coaching

**Dr. Da'Mond T. Holt**

Founder of Trauma  
Resilient Schools

**Dr. Ashley Hoffman**

Owner of Harmony  
Integrated Care, PLLC



AND MORE  
PRIZES!

FOR MORE  
INFO CONTACT  
TREHON COLEMAN  
(520) 437-7318



2024 Official Venue Sponsor  
for Connections That Count.

FREE  
EVENT

PAST EVENT  
*April*  
ATTENDANCE  
552



# EGG-STR LOVE EASTER EGG HUNT



SPRING RESOURCE COMMUNITY FAIR

APRIL 4

10AM-1PM

Goodwill Industries of Southern Arizona HQ  
1940 E. Silverlake Rd. Tucson, Arizona, 85713

- DJ & LIVE MUSIC
- HAIRCUTS
- FOOD TRUCKS
- FOOD BOXES
- RESOURCES
- FACE PAINTING
- COTTON CANDY
- AND MORE



## EASTER EGG HUNT SCHEDULE

10:30-10:45a

Under 5, Neurodivergent,  
Tailored Asst. & Special Needs

11:15-11:30a

K-5 Grade  
Boys & Girls

11:45a-12p

Middle & High School  
Boys & Girls

12:15-12:30p

Adults  
Men & Women

1000 eggs • \$250 in total cash • \$250 gift cards • \$250 prizes & candy

Thank you  
to our  
community  
partners!



# UPCOMING



# EVENTS

WED **JUNE 3**

Pre-Juneteenth  
Meet-and-Greet and  
Concert - Wed, June 3  
5-7pm @ The Dunbar  
*\*Community Partnership  
Agreement with Tucson  
Juneteenth Festival, Inc.*

WED **JULY 29**

4th Annual Back to School  
Bash - Wed, July 29 5-7pm  
@ The Dunbar

WED **SEPTEMBER 2**

- How We Show Up -  
DAD Edition - Wed, Sept  
2 5-7pm @ The Dunbar  
*\*Community Partnership  
Agreement with The State of  
Black Arizona*

WED **OCTOBER 7**

HBCU Unity and Greek  
Night - Wed, Oct 7  
5-7pm @ The Dunbar

WED **NOVEMBER 4**

Boots and Connections  
Year-End Celebration -  
Wed, Nov 4 5-7pm @  
The Dunbar



**Follow us on social media!**  
**FACEBOOK.COM/TREHONSTIME**



ABC  
A Better Community

CELEBRATING  
**3** *Years*  
OF COMMUNITY  
**IMPACT**

*Thank you, Tucson!*



CASH APP  
\$ABETTERCOMMUNITYAZ

**DONATIONS  
THAT COUNT**



ZELLE  
TREHON@ABCTUCSONAZ.ORG

1517 N WILMOT RD. #248, TUCSON, AZ 85712