

# Webinars

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## Recorded Webinars

### **The Intersection: Environmental Justice: Lessons Learned from the Front Lines**

**Webinar 4 on June 10, 2021**

WE ACT, which has offices in New York City and Washington, D.C., lifts the voices of underserved communities of color as they work together to achieve climate justice, clean air, healthy homes, and sustainability for their neighborhoods. We heard from Peggy Shepard, co-founder and executive director of WE ACT, who shared how the organization engages communities and develops leaders to advocate for a clean, healthy, and sustainable climate.

### **ACT Rochester Report Card Event on May 11, 2021: Inclusive Recovery**

As federal dollars are deployed in the \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan, an **inclusive recovery** will make sure that no one is left behind and that those who have historically been excluded from economic opportunity are prioritized. A 2018 report by the Urban Institute noted a strong correlation between cities that embrace economically and racially inclusive practices and strong economic recovery and health. Of 274 cities studied, Rochester ranked 241st.

At its Annual Report Card event, ACT Rochester hosted

**Christina Stacy**, principal research associate at the Urban Institute, and **Alan Berube**, senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, for a conversation about leveraging the federal resources coming to our community. Their presentations were followed by a panel discussion with local leaders **Bob Franklin**, CFO for Monroe County; **Carleen Pierce**, CFO for Rochester City School District; and **Christopher Wagner**, CFO for City of Rochester.

### **Community Briefing with U.S. Senator Kirsten Gillibrand on May 10, 2021**

Senator Gillibrand talked about the American Rescue Plan and creating an inclusive recovery before participating in a Q&A session.

### **The Intersection: Centering Racial Equity to Sustain Justice Webinar 3 on May 19, 2021**

Across the country, discriminatory practices of public safety entities have led to calls to rethink community safety. We hosted a conversation with experts **Candice C. Jones**, president and CEO of the Public Welfare Foundation in Washington D.C., and **Melanca Clark**, president and CEO of the Hudson-Webber Foundation in Detroit.

### **The Intersection: Where Equity and Vitality Meet Webinar 2 on April 28, 2021**

The Black Lives Matter movement reverberated around the nation and world in 2020 after the killings of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and Daniel Prude.

As part of its commitment to stand in solidarity with racial justice efforts, the Community Foundation supported the work of a team of local photographers and videographers to document the many protests, demonstrations, and rallies that took place

in the Greater Rochester region. Their work – conducted in the midst of the COVID pandemic – demonstrates the connection between art and racial justice advocacy. Our guests **Rashaad Parker, Cocoa Rae David, and Bertram Torres** discuss their personal journeys in documenting these historic moments.

### **The Intersection: Where Equity and Vitality Meet Webinar 1 on April 14, 2021**

Wrongfully convicted of murder in 1991, **Valentino Dixon** was sentenced to 38½ years to life in prison. While this Buffalo native struggled to adjust to prison life, he began drawing again. A request from a warden to draw a scene from the Augusta National Golf Club, home of The Masters tournament, launched his journey as a golf artist. Dixon's drawings – and his arrest and conviction – drew national attention. For a class project, a trio of Georgetown University undergraduate students investigated and produced a powerful documentary about his case that helped exonerate him. Dixon had served more than 27 years before being released in September 2018.

### **Event Planning for Performing Arts Organizations and Venues with Steven Adelman and Erez Ziv on April 20, 2021**

The Community Foundation and Rochester Fringe Festival co-hosted a conversation about the performing arts and venue capacity. Local perspectives were provided by **Erica Fee**, founding producer of Rochester Fringe Festival; **Hillary Olson**, president and CEO of Rochester Museum & Science Center; and **Orlando Ortiz**, board president of the Puerto Rican Festival.

**Noah Rayman**, special advisor to Empire State Development Corp., and **Luke Charde**, NYS Office of Information Technology Services, offered information about the state's new Excelsior Pass. **Erez Ziv**, managing artistic director of FRIGID New York, talked of presenting the first live performance in New York

City in 2021 and **Steven Adelman**, a sports and entertainment lawyer, shared steps on how to safely present events.

Additional information about preparing audiences for live theatre can be found [here](#) and national event safety guidance is available [here](#).

**Racial Equity and Justice: From Protest to Policy  
with Desmond Meade on December 14, 2020**

Desmond Meade joined us to discuss the ways that grassroots action, like the campaign he led in Florida to restore voting rights to more than 1.4 million Floridians with past felony charges, can make positive and lasting change. Meade is the president of the Florida Rights Restoration Coalition and author of *Let My People Vote*.