

CARL BRADEN MEMORIAL CENTER



Youth Organizing Fellowship

Report 2023



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS & PROGRAM COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Kentuckians for the Commonwealth
Black Lives Matter - Louisville
Rubbertown Emergency ACTION (R.E.A.C.T.)
West End Louisville Math & Science Project

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SHIFTING THE NARRATIVE: YOUTH IN POWER

WHAT IS THE 2023 YOUTH ORGANIZING FELLOWSHIP?

The 2023 Youth Organizing Fellowship is a program by the Jefferson County chapter of KFTC (JCKFTC) and Black Lives Matter Louisville (BLML) to equip and engage Louisville Youth in activism & social justice issues specific to Louisville and Kentucky, with a theme of Environmental Justice.

Locally sourced from JCKFTC’s partnership with Noe Middle School art students, the program is a continuation of the collaborative process between traditional and community learning: empowering students to expand their interests outside of the classroom, into new environments.



2023 Youth Organizing Fellows in their exhibit at the West End Louisville Math & Science Human Anatomy Day at KCAAH, July 15, 2023.

This 6-day program provides students with opportunities to participate in base community organizing trainings at the JCKFTC office, tours and intergenerational conversations with movement “elders”, artwork projects, volunteer sessions, and presentations to the Louisville Metro Council.

YOUTH ORGANIZING
FELLOWSHIP 2023



DAY 1: Foundational Training

Day one of the YOF curriculum and schedule prioritized organizer training. This orientation centered around topics of community and power -- through a young persons perspective; As well as, providing space for the youth to become acquainted and reflect on their relationships with family and friends, and how they think about history.



DAY 2: Louisville History Tours



Day two involved a field trip! Visits with KFTC members K.A. Owens at the Carl Braden Memorial Center and Eboni Cochran with Rubbertown Emergency ACTION (REACT), and a tour of Chickasaw Park. Conversations around historical allyship and storytelling blended with examples of present-day environmental racism and redlining.

DAY 3: Art with Youngblood

Look at what we can create! Day three of the YOF included an art workshop session with locally renowned artist Julia Youngblood at the Kentucky Center for African American Heritage. YOF fellows created decoupage plates to represent their unique identities, and grouped together for larger, composite pieces. Their art is now published in the 2023 YOF Art Book (housed at JCKFTC in Smoketown).



Art decoupage plate by KFTC Youth Organizing Fellow Journey Hicks, 2023.

DAY 4: Human Anatomy Day



Fellows with Louisville-based artist Julia Youngblood at the KCAAH, July 15, 2023.

On day four, fellows volunteered at the West Louisville Math & Science Project's Anatomy Day. Learning about STEAM opportunities throughout the city, the fellows also held a premiere exhibit at the KCAAH! The day included a storytelling visit with co-founder and COO of the center, Hosea Mitchell.

DAY 5: Louisville Metro Council

Nearing the end of their program the Youth Organizing Fellows presented to the Parks and Sustainability Committee at the Louisville Metro Council. Entailing their artworks, themes and values learned, and a performance of their communal poem “Focusing on our futures”. After the presentation, each fellow introduced themselves to councilperson Jecorey Arthur and had an in-depth conversation about the 2020 protests at Injustice Square Park.



Youth Fellows with Louisville Metro Councilperson Jecorey Arthur, July 20, 2023.

DAY 6: KFTC Annual Meeting



It’s a wrap! On Day 6, fellows traveled from Louisville to the the KFTC Annual Meeting in Lexington! There, they met with other youth from across the commonwealth, led a conference panel on their fellowship experience, and participated in a Youth organizing workshop.

12 local middle and high school students served.

\$12,000 in organizational funding & chapter member donations.

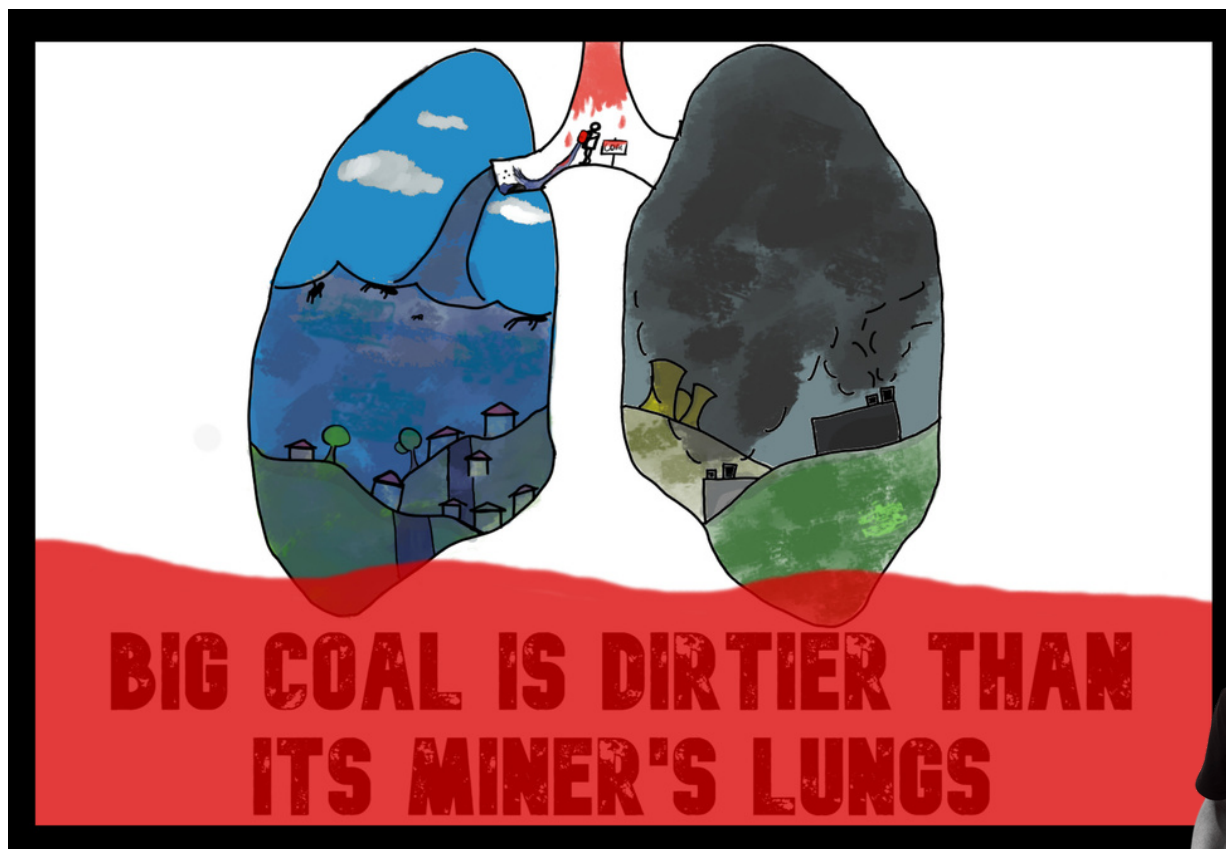
4 local partnerships formed.

24 hours of learning in community.

IMPACT

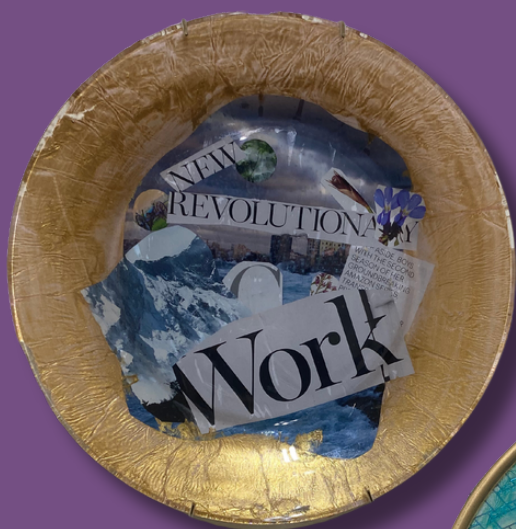


We've got work to do. Join us as we lift the future.



**Keep up with
the work.**







KENTUCKIANS FOR THE COMMONWEALTH

JEFFERSON COUNTY
CHAPTER 2023

