

# BUILDING PAN-AFRICAN REPERTOIRES TO DISRUPT ANTI-BLACK RACISM IN MUSIC EDUCATION

Please join this roundtable discussion on incorporating Black/pan-African music in teaching, program building, and performance on **March 10, 2021 at 6pm**. Our panelists include Brandyn Lewis, Wendy Jones, Darren Hamilton, and Karen Cyrus. This webinar is hosted by the Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in the Arts, School of AMPD, York University.

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email with the Zoom link for the webinar.

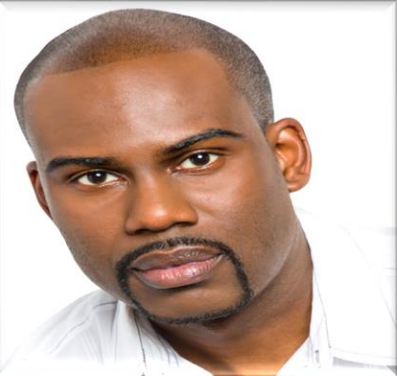
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Montreal native, **Brandyn Lewis** is currently an interim section double bassist at the *Orchestre Symphonique De Montreal* (OSM). With the OSM, Brandyn has played under the direction of maestros including Kent Nagano, Rafael Payare, Suzanna Malkki, Sir Andrew Davis, Michael Tilson Thomas and has toured across Europe and South America. He is also sought after as a chamber and freelance musician for his expressive and sensitive playing, and dynamic energy, and has collaborated with ensembles around Montreal and Toronto. Brandyn holds a Bachelor of Music degree in classical double bass performance at McGill University, and was also nominated for the Golden Violin Award in 2015. He taught as a music teacher for Encore! Sistema in Montreal and believes that the role of music education is important in the early development of young children. He also teaches privately.



**Wendy Jones** is an secondary school teacher in the Toronto Catholic District School Board and the quintessential ambassador of the steel pan. She uses the steel pan as a cultural tool to draw families into the steel pan fraternity: to inspire youth, to ignite leadership skills, and to affect social change. She is a co-founder and the only female band leader of the award winning *Pan Fantasy Steel Orchestra*. Also, as a founding member of the *North York Inter-Community Youth Group*, she has organized concerts which have been an early training ground for some of Canada's great musical artists. Wendy has received several awards for her work in the development of steel pan in Trinidad and in Canada where she is a mentor and master pannist to over 600 children across the Greater Toronto Area.



**Darren Hamilton** is a secondary music educator in the Peel District School Board. He is also a PhD candidate in the Faculty of Music at the University of Toronto, with research interests in formal gospel music education and equity, diversity and social justice in music education. His article, "#BlackMusicMatters: Dismantling Anti-Black Racism in Music Education" was recently in the *Canadian Music Educator* (December, 2020). Darren is the founding director of the Gospel Choir course at the University of Toronto and has been presenting gospel music pedagogy workshops at the annual Ontario Music Educators' Association conferences for the past four years. When not teaching, he is an active clinician and choral director.



**Karen Cyrus**, Ph.D., LRSM, OCT, is an ethnomusicologist, educator and musician. Her research on community music-making in diasporic contexts is published in *Carnival: Theory and Practice* (2013) and her exposition on the nature and definition of repertoires is published in *The Sage Encyclopedia of Music and Culture* (2019). She has also written a series of music education textbooks that features children's music from the Caribbean: *Music for Big Ants and Little Ants* (1998) and *Caribbean Integrated Music* (2002, 2004). Karen facilitates group piano workshops on gospel piano technique and is a founding member of the T-Mento Band in Toronto. She is also the research associate of the Helen Carswell Chair in Community Engaged Research in the Arts at York University which seeks to inform and improve community music for children and youth.