

October 18th Panelist- Across Africa Diaspora

Yemi Abioye, MPH, CPHQ, and RN Candidate

Yemi Abioye has experience as the Associate Director of Patient the Public Safety Office at New York City Health and Hospitals. and as Director at Large for the New York Association for Healthcare Quality and as a Quality and Improvement Analyst for New York Presbyterian Hospital. She earned a Master's in Public Health from Drexel University and is a candidate for a Registered Nurse Degree.



Patricia DaSilva, Ph.D

Dr. Patricia Fernandes Da Silva leads UNFPA's global strategy to advance access to quality health and the rights for people of African descent. Under the agenda 2030 principle of leaving no one behind and in support of the implementation of the program of activities of the International Decade for People of African descent, Dr. Da Silva provides expertise on the implementation of UNFPAs programmatic and advocacy strategies using a human rights approach.

Dr. Da Silva joined UNFPA in 2019. She brought over 15 years of experience working on gender equality, women's health and human rights. Prior to UNFPA, Dr. Da Silva served as the Associate Director of the International Planned Parenthood Federation United Nations Liaison Office in New York and as the gender and health adviser for the mission of the Republic of Angola to the United Nations.

Born in Luanda, Angola, Dr. Da Silva has conducted research on applying a gendered perspective to HIV/AIDS prevention in Luanda, Angola. As the Communications and Research Director of Populations Services International in Angola, she developed the first private sector workplace HIV prevention program in Luanda, eventually scaling it up at the national level. She has worked with international NGOs in Africa, Latin America and the U.S, implementing life, saving sexual and reproductive health programs and successfully advocating for gender equality and women's empowerment in health policies.

Dr. Da Silva holds a Master's degree from New York University, Wagner graduate School of public service in Public Administration, with a focus on Public and nonprofit Management and policy and a PhD from Tilburg University in Sociology, with a focus on gender."



Dr. Joy St. John.

Dr. Joy St. John has been appointed Executive Director of the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA), effective July 01, 2019.

Prior to joining CARPHA, Dr. St. John, a national of Barbados, held the post of Assistant Director-General at the World Health Organization (WHO), with direct responsibility for Climate and other Determinants of Health. She was also the first Caribbean person to chair the Executive Board of WHO from 2012 – 2013.

Over a period spanning more than ten years, Dr. St. John served as Chief Medical Officer at the Ministry of Health and Wellness, Barbados. From 2015 – 2017, Dr. St. John also held the position of CARPHA Director, responsible for Surveillance, Disease Prevention and Control. In her role as Executive Director, Dr. St. John will bring her vast national and global experience in public health to successfully lead the Agency. She will address public health challenges impacting the Region, in collaboration with Caribbean Member States and partner organizations.



Jonathan Perez A, Ph.D.

Jonathan Andrew Pérez, Esq. , Founder, Justiceology-By-Design

Jonathan is a racial justice advocate, a professor at Wesleyan, and a critical scholar of structural inequity. Previously Jonathan was a Senior Assistant District Attorney in New York where he worked on many Social Justice policy initiatives over the past four years. Jonathan was promoted to Senior Assistant District Attorney after starting the first ever research manual of Brooklyn history of structural racism and systemic inequity from slavery to the New Deal. He trained young prosecutors on the communities they serve and ensure justice prosecution and fairness for all. Jonathan recently gave a 2 day seminar at the NYC Bar on criminal justice reform.

Jonathan has been involved in law, policy, and critical race theory for nearly a decade. Early in his career Jonathan served as an adjunct instructor at Hunter College in New York, and most recently, an Instructor at Wesleyan University in Structural Inequity and Critical Race Theory. Jonathan has taught NYC private schools such as Lycee Francais de New York, and Prep-for-Prep, a leadership development program that offers promising students from communities of color access to private school education.

Jonathan won prestigious civil rights fellowships, including a Sparer Fellowship supporting his work at a leading Latino Rights organization, the Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund in Washington, D.C. where he also served on the Congressional Hispanic Caucus.

Jonathan is the founder of a racial justice and equity training program, Justiceology-By-Design (justiceology.com), which focuses traditional equity, inclusion, and diversity program that localizes participants with anti-racist readings and workshops and the U.S. history of laws and policy that produced structural inequity to the present in the wake of the murder of George Floyd and the Black Lives Matter protest.

Jonathan is also a trained Equity By Design professional, leading anti-racist initiatives at his office and for the New York City Bar through the Criminal Courts Committee.

Jonathan has given talks at a number of venues including the Hispanic Heritage Month Lecture at the Hotchkiss School boarding school, the keynote lecture on Critical Race Theory and Law Today at Indiana Maurer Law School, a 2-day Seminar on Systemic Inequity and the Future of Justice at the N.Y.C. Bar, and academic conferences at: Harvard University, the William Jefferson Clinton Institute in American Studies, Dartmouth College, the inter-American cultures conference in Mexico, and NYU Law's Center on Race, Inequality and the Law. Jonathan received his B.A. at Bowdoin and M.A. at the University of Virginia and completed PhD-level work at Rutgers University in the Institute on Race, Ethnicity and American Culture, and received a J.D. at American University Washington College of Law.

Jonathan has published articles, poems, and law review articles; most recently, he has two forthcoming law review articles, *Black Lives Don't Seem To Matter, Justice After George Floyd, a Critical Race Theory Shift to Systemic Inequity*, INDIANA MAURER SCHOOL OF LAW JOURNAL OF LAW AND SOCIAL EQUITY, Fall Issue (2020); and *Rioting by a Different Name: Hearing The Voices of the Unheard and Injustice in the Age of George Floyd a New Vision of Legal History*, IOWA SCHOOL OF LAW THE JOURNAL OF GENDER, RACE, & JUSTICE (2020). Jonathan is also a published poet, and his book is titled, "The Cartographer of Crumpled Maps" a history of racial injustice in poems.

