

BLACK DEFINED :

DANDY | 5020 W VLIET ST, MILWAUKEE

The community is invited to join us for a moderated discussion and Q&A that explores how artists create the frameworks that sustain Black cultural life.



LESLIE GUY MODERATOR

Leslie Guy, founder of an arts consultancy and the Midwestern Black Visual Art Preservation Initiative Conduit, is a museum professional with over 25 years of experience. Her work centers on culturally sensitive collections stewardship, collaborative programming, and the preservation of Black visual art across the Midwest.



DANNY SIMMONS

Artist and Founder, Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation

Simmons is an artist, author, poet, philanthropist, curator, co-creator of Def Poetry Jam, and co-founder of the renowned Rush Philanthropic Arts Foundation. Through this nonprofit, Rush Arts Gallery NYC and Rush Arts Philadelphia have served as vital cultural hubs, providing exhibitions, arts education, and opportunities for hundreds of emerging, developing, and underrepresented artists of color since 1995.



DIEDRA HARRIS-KELLEY

Co-Director, Romare Bearden Foundation

Diedra Harris-Kelley is the Co-Director of the Romare Bearden Foundation, where she stewards the legacy of her uncle, Romare Bearden. An artist, curator, and educator, Harris-Kelley has been instrumental in expanding the Foundation's educational and public programs that connect Bearden's work to contemporary issues in art and community. Her career bridges creative practice and cultural preservation, emphasizing art's power to sustain memory and social connection.

SHAPE THE FUTURE OF BCA
LECTURE SERIES

SESSION 2: How artists build institutions, nurture future generations, and ensure that Black creativity continues to thrive.

ARTISTS AS BUILDERS

**THURSDAY,
NOVEMBER 20, 2025**

6:00 - 8:00 P.M.

RSVP AT [BCAMKE.ORG/RSVP](https://bcamke.org/rsvp)
Refreshments will be served.