



The MISSION

To be a revelatory, unflickering light for Black girls and young women in the southern United States through safe spaces and focused programming

THE ORGANIZATION

The Lighthouse | Black Girl Projects takes a holistic approach to the leadership development of Black girls and women through a consortium of projects. These projects are avenues by which Black girls in the southeastern United States are centered. We're growing as an organizing, educating, advocating and cultural space that nurtures leadership development, engages in reproductive health work that empowers women through policy work and have a focus on civic engagement. The organization creates safe spaces for these Black girls with the goal of having their homes and communities places where their safety and freedom are welcomed.

Our organizational philosophy is pretty simple. We believe power, as our founder, Natalie A. Collier says, is space and time. We need space to express physically with dance, verbally with a loud voice, rest and just be. We are curators of space. The genesis of power, though, is when space is paired with time—time to play, mourn and rejoice, time to figure things out and explore, which are luxuries for too many of us. Space and time create power, and from them come self-actualization, liberation and growth.

PROJECT BRIEFS

Evans: This project focuses on the development of college students, from those who are often overlooked to those in positions of leadership in student government and college queens. Through a two-year fellowship and summer institute, respectively, these coeds have opportunities for learning enrichment, self-actualization and growth in spaces curated especially for them.

Idella: This project concentrates on the young professional. We believe there are certain leadership skills that must be explored and interrogated in order to be successful by one's own standards. This project also pairs fellows with students in the Evans Project for opportunities for exchange, guidance and support across the year-long fellowship.

Chisholm: Programmatic work coupled with advocacy and lobbying push needles further and help sustain change. This project focuses on change in legislative halls.

Hamer: Named for Civil Rights Activist Fannie Lou Hamer, this project embodies her work of grassroots organizing in an effort to champion human rights causes in underserved communities in the southeast through workshops and campaigns.

Colvin: Named for Claudette Colvin, this project focuses on high school girls that have made choices some think might have rendered them untouchable. We want to celebrate their survival and help them thrive. This goal is achieved through a summer institute where they will fellowship, meet, and be challenged.

Magee: This project provides and maintains an inclusive, safe online platform that celebrate the voices of Black girls and women and uplifts them through social media and multimedia platforms.

Mason: This project is the premiere think tank for Black girls and young women in the United States. Its study and scholarship centers Black girls and young women in the southeastern part of the country.

Re | Defining Adam: Yes, we love Black girls, but we want the boys and men in their lives to respect and love them healthily. This project creates safe spaces for boys and men, so sexism, misogynoir and misogyny can be challenged. It also provides a space for us to offer family support classes, workshops and other events.

We do all of our work, from neighborhoods and schools to state capitols and classrooms, bearing our core values in mind: **Equity, Justice, Safe Spaces, Context, Autonomy and Access.** Our team, though small, has within its expertise in program design, curricula writing, event planning, logistics, documentation, evaluation, capacity building opportunities for organizations, learning tours and, chiefly, a passion for the sociopolitical advancement of Black girls.

In addition to the college-affiliated and professional development fellowship programs, we also offer internship opportunities to high schoolers and undergraduates.



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POWER IS

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