

Dear Friends,

According to a spring 2023 Chronicle of Philanthropy research brief, Black-led nonprofits receive significantly less philanthropic support than their white-led counterparts. This is one of numerous reasons a group of local Black community leaders, in partnership with Akron Community Foundation, launched the Black Giving Collective Fund (BGC) in August 2023.

The Black Giving Collective is the most recent affiliate fund established at the community foundation, to provide grants to Black-led and Black-serving nonprofits within Summit County. To date, the fund has raised nearly \$200,000 and is gaining momentum and recognition in the broader community.

In 2025, BGC will launch The Soul of Philanthropy (TSOP), a national touring artistic exhibit to celebrate the history of philanthropy within the Black community, which so often goes unrecognized. The exhibit also honors the ongoing commitment and generosity of the local Black community to enrich the lives of those residing within Greater Akron. The Soul of Philanthropy will be featured at the Akron Art Museum from Nov. 15, 2025, through Feb. 14, 2026.

Through a combination of photography, interactive displays, and personal narratives, The Soul of Philanthropy aims to broaden the understanding of philanthropy and challenge traditional notions that often exclude the contributions of the Black community. The exhibit was inspired by the book "Giving Back: A Tribute to Generations of African American Philanthropists" by Valaida Fullwood, and it seeks to inspire visitors to recognize the power of giving in all its forms.

In an era where companies are laying off Diversity, Equity and Inclusion staff and cutting budgets for related initiatives, we're asking you to help build the Black Giving Collective Fund endowment and bring this nationally recognized exhibit to Akron to help raise awareness about the power of philanthropy to transform lives and communities.

Your generous contribution is welcome to support one or both of these vital initiatives:

- Your gift to the **Black Giving Collective Fund** will be invested by Akron Community Foundation to give back to the local Black community now, and forever. Learn more about endowment funds at akroncf.org/powerofendowment. Your gift will be recognized on our website and in Akron Community Foundation's biannual magazine.
- Your sponsorship of **The Soul of Philanthropy Akron** will help us raise the profile of Black philanthropy overall, while specifically celebrating the good works of our local Black philanthropists – who give back in numerous ways. Please review the enclosed sponsorship form for more details regarding contribution levels and benefits.

Thank you for your consideration. We look forward to discussing how we may work together to ensure our local Black community is supported now and for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Tracy Carter
Co-founder and Chair, The Black Giving Collective
Advisory Board

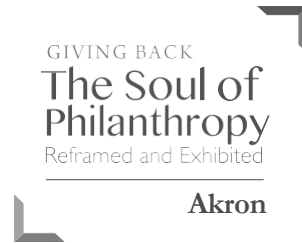
Torey S. Tolson
Chair, The Soul of Philanthropy Akron
Steering Committee

Sponsorship Opportunities

If you have questions about the sponsorship benefits listed here, please contact Malia Rivera at 330-436-5649 or mriviera@akroncf.org. All phone calls and emails will be returned during normal business hours. For more information about TSOP Akron related events and activities, check back on our website at TSOPAkron.com.

Legacy	Transformational	Visionary	Impact	Champion
\$100,000 <i>(\$97,400 tax deductible)</i>	\$50,000 <i>(\$48,750 tax deductible)</i>	\$25,000 <i>(\$23,750 tax deductible)</i>	\$10,000 <i>(\$9,400 tax deductible)</i>	\$5,000 <i>(\$4,700 tax deductible)</i>
Logo prominently displayed on website	Logo prominently displayed on website	Logo prominently displayed on website	Name prominently displayed on website	Name prominently displayed on website
Logo included in event invites, programs and signage	Logo included in event programs and signage	Logo included in event programs and signage	Name included in event programs and signage	Name included in event programs and signage
Logo included in TSOP Akron brochure/info sheet	Logo included in TSOP Akron brochure/info sheet	Logo included in TSOP Akron brochure/info sheet	Name included in TSOP Akron brochure/info sheet	Two VIP tickets to Signature Event
Two VIP Tables (16 seats) at Signature Event	VIP Table (8 seats) at Signature Event	VIP Table (8 seats) at Signature Event	Four VIP tickets to Signature Event	
4 Honorary guest tickets for TSOP Akron Exhibit Opening	2 Honorary guest tickets for TSOP Akron Exhibit Opening	2 Honorary guest tickets for TSOP Akron Exhibit Opening		
Speaking opportunity at Signature Event and Exhibit Opening	Recognition from stage at TSOP-related events	Select TSOP merchandise		
Recognition from stage at TSOP-related events	Select TSOP merchandise			
Select TSOP merchandise				

Please Note: Funds contributed to The Soul of Philanthropy that are unexpended following the exhibition may be transferred to the Black Giving Collective Fund.



Please submit this form to indicate your gift to the Black Giving Collective or sponsorship of The Soul of Philanthropy Akron. To submit this form electronically, please scan and send to Malia Rivera at mrivera@akroncf.org. To mail, please send to: Akron Community Foundation, Attn: Malia Rivera, 345 W. Cedar St., Akron, OH 44307.

If you would like to discuss additional options for giving, such as giving through your donor-/corporate-advised fund or splitting your payment over multiple years, please contact Laura Lederer at 330-436-5611 or llederer@akroncf.org.

Please print your name or organization name as you wish it to appear in publications and online:

Name / Organization

Please select the fund(s) you would like to support and indicate your contribution level:

I would like my gift to support the Black Giving Collective Fund (this gift is fully tax deductible)

Gift Amount: \$100,000 \$50,000 \$25,000 \$10,000 \$5,000 Other: _____

I would like my gift to support The Soul of Philanthropy Akron Fund

Gift Amount: \$100,000 \$50,000 \$25,000 \$10,000 \$5,000 Other: _____

Payment Instructions

Credit (Visa, MC, Discover): Give online at either akroncf.org/Give/BlackGivingCollectiveFund or akroncf.org/Give/TSOPAkron and select that this is an ACF/fund event sponsorship.

Check: Make payable to Akron Community Foundation with Black Giving Collective or TSOP Akron in the memo line and return with this completed form.

Contact Information

Please complete the following information for the person responsible for providing necessary information (attendee names, logos, etc.)

Contact Name

Street Address

City/State/Zip

Phone

Email Address

Please submit high resolution logos in EPS format to tburt@akroncf.org, including full color, black, and white versions if available for use in various publications/formats.

The Black Giving Collective Fund and The Soul of Philanthropy Akron Fund are funds of Akron Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) public charity. Your tax acknowledgment will confirm your contribution. Please notify Akron Community Foundation of any changes to your contact person or company names. Contributions are nonrefundable.