

# JAMES FARMER MULTICULTURAL CENTER ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

**VOLUME 11, ISSUE 2 | November 2022**

2023 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration Keynote Speaker

## Attorney Tara Murray



**Attorney Tara Murray** is a justice defender, public advocate, and civil and human rights lawyer based in Washington, D.C. Her law office's mission is to bring accountability in the justice system through litigation and public advocacy on behalf of communities most vulnerable to unfair treatment.

Attorney Murray is the former Deputy Director of London-based human rights non-profit, Reprieve, where she represented over 30 Guantanamo detainees in federal district court proceedings and led the organization's first investigations into civilian casualties in drone strikes in Pakistan – an

investigation that has expanded to include Yemen and the horn of Africa. Murray's work on behalf of Muslims targeted as a result of the 'War on Terror,' and her conversations with her clients and their traumatized family members, bears striking similarities to her own experiences growing up in Los Angeles, California where law enforcement's heavy-handed and abusive tactics served to terrify her surveilled community and sent a message much like the one sent by drones: that the state intends to police the community with force, and the lives of those impacted do not matter. She is committed to dismantling structural racism and xenophobia that has both domestic and global implications.

Murray's work as a lawyer and advocate has been featured in several publications and news outlets worldwide, including CNN, BBC News, *The Times*, and Aljazeera.

**Join us for the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration keynote speaker Attorney Tara Murray on Wednesday, January 18 at 7 p.m. in Chandler Ballroom C, Cedric Rucker University Center.**



## 2022-2023 Human Rights Film Series

As part of our ongoing commitment to social justice and honoring the legacy of Dr. James Farmer, the James Farmer Multicultural Center proudly presents the Human Rights Film Series. This year, the Human Rights Film Series will focus on the uncomfortable truths of our United States history. Join us as we discuss human rights through the lens of stories that are often avoided or omitted from our history books altogether.

### Teach Us All

Thursday, February 2 | 5 pm  
Colonnade Room, Cedric Rucker University Center

### Hawaii: The Stolen Paradise

Wednesday, March 8 | 5 pm  
Chandler Ballroom A/B, Cedric Rucker University Center



## Alumni Events:

Save the Date:  
**Giving Tuesday**

Tuesday, November 29  
[givingday.umw.edu/makeitpossible](https://givingday.umw.edu/makeitpossible)

For information about upcoming events and programs at the James Farmer Multicultural Center, visit our website at [students.umw.edu/multicultural](https://students.umw.edu/multicultural) or follow us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!



## 2023 Black History Month Celebration Major Speaker

### Wisdom O. Cole



**Wisdom O. Cole** is the National Director of the NAACP Youth & College Division. In this role, he serves more than 700 youth councils, high school chapters, and college chapters actively involved in the fight for civil rights. Wisdom brings extensive experience in civil rights advocacy training institute, electoral action training, grassroots organizing, issues toolkits, and webinars at the local, state, and national level. He has managed national campaign efforts focused on building Black political power through youth leadership development, advocacy, and direct action organizing for the past 3 years with the NAACP, formerly as the National Campaigns & Training Manager.

In his time at the NAACP, he has worked on campaigns around the cancellation of student debt, removing police from schools, as well as increasing voter access for young Black people. He has been featured on NPR, VICE, NBC Washington News, Brookings Institute, and The Economist as an advocate for Black youth voter turnout through issue-based campaign organizing. In 2020 he was named one of Complex Life's 32 young activists who are changing the world.

Wisdom was previously a field and state conference organizer for the Afrikan Black Coalition (ABC), the largest Black collegiate organization in California. In 2014, he collaboratively organized the Afrikan Black Coalition conference that featured keynote speakers such as Marc Lamont Hill, Angela Davis, Bobby Seale, and Attallah Shabazz. For this effort, he received the Chancellor's Achievement Award for Diversity in recognition for outstanding contributions to furthering diversity, inclusion, and excellence at UC Santa Cruz.

Wisdom grew up in California where he earned a B. A. in Chemistry, with a minor in STEM Education, from UC Santa Cruz as well as a M. A. in Teaching from the University of San Francisco. (Credit: NAACP)

**Join us for our major speaker, Wisdom O. Cole on Wednesday, February 8 at 7pm in Chandler Ballroom C, Cedric Rucker University Center.**

#### 2022-2023 Cultural Awareness Series

### Upcoming Events

#### Fall Events:

2023 Native American Cultural Celebration  
November 7 – November 11, 2022

2023 Jewish Cultural Celebration  
November 14 – November 18, 2022

Kwanzaa Celebration  
Wednesday, November 30 | 6 p.m. | Chandler  
Ballroom, Cedric Rucker University Center

Visit [umw.edu/multicultural](http://umw.edu/multicultural) to view all upcoming events in the 2022-2023 Cultural Awareness Series.

#### Spring Events:

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration  
January 15 – January 21, 2023

2023 Black History Month Celebration  
February 2023

2023 Women's History Month Celebration  
March 2023

33rd Annual Multicultural Fair  
Saturday, April 1 | 10 am – 5 pm

2023 Islamic Cultural Celebration  
April 3 – April 7, 2023

Passover Seder  
Monday, April 10 | 6 p.m. | Chandler Ballroom C, Cedric  
Rucker University Center