



Taking Nature Black® is an event, an opportunity, a time to pause for the cause. It's a regional and national environmental lovefest we call a conference. It's a Black healing, welcoming, organizing, networking space, bursting with leaders, speakers, creators, innovators, scientists, educators, musicians, artists, and entertainers telling their stories about everything from climate change to environmental justice and environmental joy. It's a place to meet old friends and make new ones. So, you know what you have to do, right? **JOIN US!**

Our 2021 celebration will run virtually from Tuesday, February 23 – Saturday, February 27, with select outdoor activities. Our theme is ***Call and Response: Elevating our Stories, Naturally!***

Our confirmed speakers list is growing by the day, so please stay tuned to www.anshome.org/taking-nature-black for updates, and enjoy the world class presenters below who have confirmed so far!

Beatra Wilson, MPA, Assistant Director for Urban & Community Forestry, U.S. Forest Service

Derrick Evans, Director of Turkey Creek Community Initiatives, former Civil Rights History Professor, Sixth Generation Native of Turkey Creek, Mississippi, Community Organizer Extraordinaire, star of the acclaimed documentary *Come Hell or High Water*

Thomas RaShad Easley, Assistant Dean for Community and Inclusion at Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, and a musician known as RaShad. His art is called "Save Your Life Music," because he puts a message of love, embracing self and helping others in his music.

Sacoby Wilson, Phd, Associate Professor with the Maryland Institute for Applied Environmental Health and Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Public Health, University of Maryland-College Park

Evelyn Cooper, Phd, Assistant Dean for Academic Programs in the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Maryland

Jason Ward, Naturalist, Birder, Activist, new Chief Diversity Officer for the American Bird Conservancy, Host of *Birds of America*, Founder and CEO of BlackAFinSTEM

Tykee James, Birder, Co-founder of #BlackBirdersWeek, Government Affairs Coordinator for the National Audubon Society, Co-Founder of BlackAFinSTEM

Chanceé Lundy, Engineer and Founder of InspireGreen, a firm that combines engineering and urban planning with community organizing, Member of the Board of Directors for ANS

Karen Wilson Ama'Echefu, Phd, Master Storyteller, Singer, Spoken Word Artist, Cultural Historian



Beatra Wilson



Derrick Evans

Lolita



Thomas RaShad Easley



Sacoby Wilson



Evelyn Cooper



Jason Ward



Tykee James



Chanceé Lundy



**Karen Wilson
Ama'Echefu**