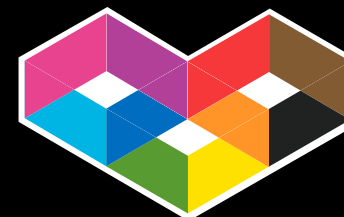


Celebrating all queer, trans, intersex people of colour (QTIPOC) and organisations for #BlackHistoryMonth



QTIPOC Role Models
#BlackHistoryMonth



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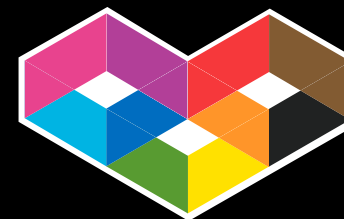
Rainbow Noir

Rainbow Noir was dreamt up by four black queer women in Manchester in 2012 after having had enough of being erased and overlooked in Manchester's LGBT+ scene, as well as within their cultural communities.

Rainbow Noir is a volunteer-led social, peer support and community action group, which celebrates and platforms QTPOC.

They exist to provide a voice for QTPOC in Greater Manchester and the North West. Rainbow Noir strive to influence change within and outside of the LGBTQI community on a local and a national level. One of their soul aims has been to create safe spaces where QTPOC can meet, hang out, form friendships and find community.

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Did you know...



Phyllis Opoku-Gyimah

Phyllis Opoku-Gyimah, also known as Lady Phyll, is a co-founder, trustee and executive director of UK Black Pride, which “promotes unity and co-operation among all black people of African, Asian, Caribbean, Middle Eastern and Latin American descent, as well as their friends and families, who identify as LGBTQ+.”

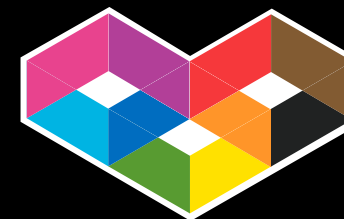
Lady Phyll sits on the Trades Union Congress (race relations committee) and is currently

trustee of Stonewall.

With Rikki Beadle-Blair and John R Gordon, she is the editor of *Sista!*, an anthology of writings by LGBT+ women of African/Caribbean descent with a connection to the UK, released in 2018, which includes work by 31 writers, including Yrsa Daley-Ward and Babirye Bukilwa.

Lady Phyll publicly refused an MBE in the 2016 New Year Honours.

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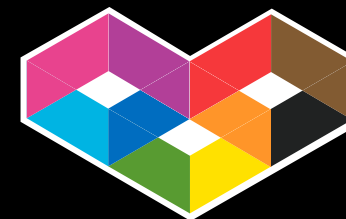


Purple Rain Collective

A collective space for queer, trans and intersex people of colour in the UK to mobilise, converse on experiences and develop strategies for safety, resistance and liberation. A space where BAME LGBTQ+ identifying people & QTPOC, can come together and be there for one another in ways that prioritise their care, safety and wellbeing.

They bring together QTPOCs across generations, political lines and different cultures to work to a new, positive future – not framed against white supremacy, cis patriarchy, heteronormativity (although they are!) but framed by being for QTPOCs humanity, joy and futures.

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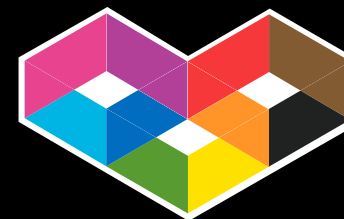
Darren Pritchard

Darren is a performer, choreographer, teacher, producer and director. He has 20 years of experience in the fashion, theatre, television and performing arts industries.

Darren pioneered efforts of initiating, creating and developing Black Pride MCR and is also the co-artistic director for the Manchester-based arts organisation Black Gold Arts.

He's a celebrated Vogue performer, the Mother of the House of Ghetto in Manchester - an all black vogue house that celebrates the origins of vogue ball culture in the black and latino LGBTQ communities of New York. House of Ghetto promotes: Grace - Honour - Etiquette - Talent - Tenaciousness - Originality.

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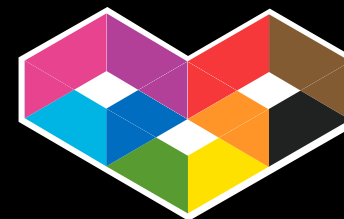
AZ Magazine

Since its birth in 2015, AZ Magazine, started by four black queer women, has developed into an online publication and social space, as well as event organisers, for LGBTQ+ people of colour.

Within the LGBTQ+ community, black people and QTIPOC are often under-represented and in many cases not represented at all.

AZ Magazine creates a platform that not only allows QTIPOC to showcase their talents, but also allows them to address the issues that they face in their communities.

AZ Magazine, a self-funded, award-nominated online community, was formed as an answer to this and their aim is to create a voice for those who have felt excluded from the wider LGBTQ+ community.



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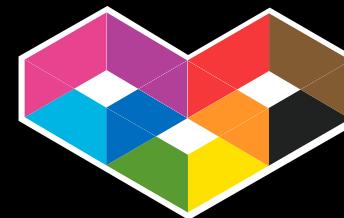


Suriya Aisha

Suriya is a theatre practitioner, spoken word artist and social entrepreneur. She is a passionate advocate for youth leadership, and has been leading creative workshops in confidence building, leadership skills and the arts for a number of years. She is the founder of UNMUTED, a network for people of colour who identify as LGBTQ+ based in Birmingham.

Suriya is the Co-Leader of Colours Youth Network, supporting young people of colour to explore and celebrate who they are. She also chairs the Don't Settle consortium board, which champions untold stories and empowers young people of colour to #KickTheDust off history.

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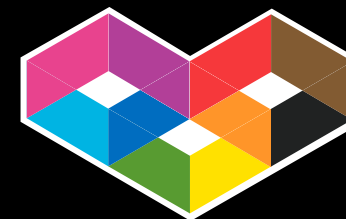
BlackOut UK

BlackOut UK is a not-for-profit social enterprise run and owned by a volunteer collective of black gay men. They recognise and celebrate the diversity of experience and views among black queer men in the UK (extending even to what we call ourselves) and create spaces to explore and reflect on their commonalities and differences.

They believe that the whole can be greater than the sum of parts and are working to build a sense of community between black queer men in the UK.

BlackOut UK encourages and stimulates debate and discussion online and face-to-face through their website, writer workshops, networking events, and supporting interventions to meet the needs of black queer men.

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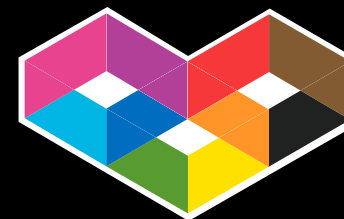


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Chloe Cousins

Born and raised in Birmingham but grown in Manchester, Chloe is a youth worker and the strategic lead for Rainbow Noir, a social, peer support and community action group for LGBTQ+ people of colour based in Manchester, that aims to create spaces to socialise and celebrate QTIPOC identity and culture.

Chloe is co-founder of the Colours Youth Network and has played a central role in raising funds to enable the organisation to become independently run. Chloe featured on the One Show with Michelle Visage as her #ChristmasAngels to celebrate and recognise her work for LGBTQ+ people of colour



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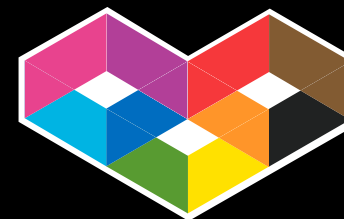
UNMUTED

UNMUTED exists to raise the voices and representation of LGBTQI+ people of colour in Birmingham.

Their vision is a vibrant, diverse LGBTQ+ community Birmingham, UK in which individuals can realise their full potential and have equal access to what the city has to offer.

Through regular meet ups, events and on-going support, they provide safe spaces for QTIPOC to connect, grow and explore their identity.

They use the outcome of the discussions held in their QTIPOC-only spaces to impact change to mainstream services in Birmingham.



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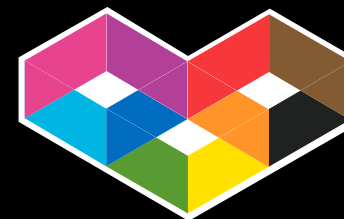


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Enam Asiama

Born in Ghana and raised in the UK, Enam Asiama defines her own beauty, and body, being a plus-size model. Asiama's ideas of beauty were inspired by her mother and London's drag scene. She has partnered with creatives such as Black Girl Picnic, Strickly Queens and Missguided, always having in mind that she embodies and makes the voice of a minority.

Her motto ? Advocate the empowerment of women thanks to self-love and self-esteem.
On social media, she shows to the world how she characterises herself, as a "fat queer black woman". She isn't just advocating for plus-size women of colour, but empowering them to take control of their own narratives.



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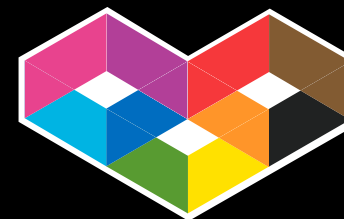
QTI Coalition of Colour

QTI Coalition of Colour is a network for self-identified QTIPOC in Cambridge. Their aim is to explore, discuss and share experiences - creating safe spaces for QTIPOC.

QTI Coalition celebrates, represents and amplifies the uniqueness and diversity that the QTIPOC community brings to society by sheer being.

It offers a space to build political work, a platform for meetings and activities to build community where QTIPOC can share experiences of marginalisation and racialisation, reflect upon oppressive behaviours and imagine individual and collective strategies to make their lives more liveable in Cambridge.

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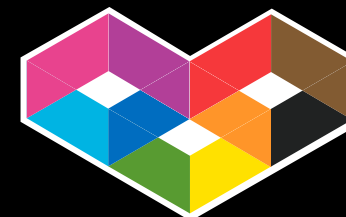
Munroe Bergdorf

Munroe Bergdorf is a model and activist. She was the first transgender model in the UK for L'Oréal but she was dropped a few weeks later after she spoke out against a white supremacist rally in Charlottesville and discussed white privilege.

Munroe Bergdorf has remained a staunch activist championing black and trans rights - even joining the Labour Party's LGBT advisory board.

More recently, Bergdorf and L'Oréal Paris have committed to working together to better the brand's approach to diversity and inclusion and joined its board as a consultant.

She won 'Changemaker of the Year' at the 2018 Cosmopolitan Awards and joined UN Women UK as an advocate in 2019, supporting its #DrawALine campaign, aiming to put a stop to female genital mutilation.



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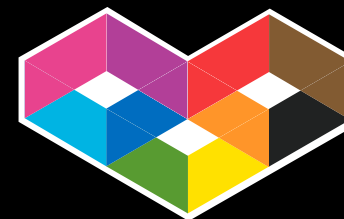
Colours Youth Network

Colours Youth Network was setup in 2016 by LGBTQ+ youth workers of colour, with the aim of supporting each other and to support the creation and sustainability of youth work that centres the needs of young QTPOC.

The network seeks to create opportunities for young QTPOC to meet and build support networks locally and across the UK.

Young people continually voice that in mainstream LGBTQ+ spaces their racial, cultural and religious identities are not recognised, reflected or affirmed and often feel unable to explore and be open about LGBTQ+ identities within cultural and religious spaces. The network exists to provide spaces where young QTPOC can bring and celebrate their identities, without having to defend or explain who they are.

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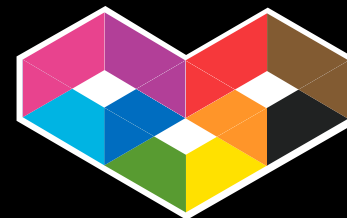
Reverend Jide Macaulay

Reverend Jide Macaulay is the founding Pastor and CEO of House of Rainbow.

An openly gay British-Nigerian born in London, he has been a Christian minister since 1998. He is a dynamic and inspirational speaker, author, poet, pastor and preacher and HIV Activist.

He has won several awards including the 2003 and 2007 Black LGBT Community Award for "Man of the Year" for his work helping people of faith and was shortlisted for the National Diversity Awards Positive Role Model in 2014. He previously served from 2007 to 2013 as Executive Board member and Co-Chair of Pan Africa International Lesbians and Gay Association.

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Did you know...



UK Black Pride

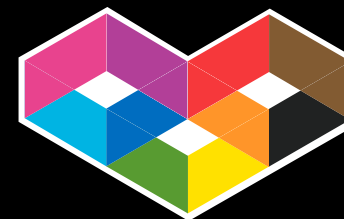
UK Black Pride is Europe's largest celebration for African, Asian, Middle Eastern, Latin American and Caribbean-heritage LGBTQ+ people.

They produce an annual celebration during pride month, as well as a variety of activities throughout the year across the UK, which promote and advocate for the spiritual, emotional, and intellectual health and well-being of the communities they represent.

UK Black Pride is a safe space to celebrate diverse sexualities, gender identities, cultures, gender expressions and backgrounds and they foster, represent and celebrate black LGBTQ+ and QTPOC culture through education, the arts, cultural events and advocacy.

Importantly, they promote unity and cooperation among LGBTQ+ people of diasporic communities in the UK, as well as their friends and families.

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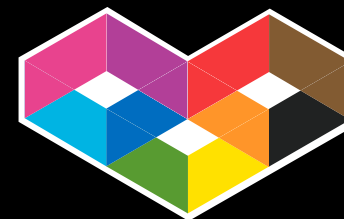
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Travis Alabanza

Travis Alabanza is a performer, writer and theatre maker. In the last two years they have been noted by numerous publications, such as Artsy, ID and Mobo Awards, as one of the most prominent emerging queer artistic voices. They have been listed in OUT as an influential queer figure, appearing in campaigns with MAC X ASOS.

Known for increasingly paving much of the UK conversation around trans politics, Alabanza has become a staple part of the London queer scene and further afield.

Their unique mixture of performance, poetry, style, political views and risk taking performances has given them a unique placement both nationally and internationally.



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Did you know...



House of Rainbow

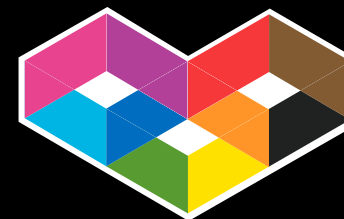
House Of Rainbow was birthed by Rev. Jide Macaulay, an openly gay African theologian and is an inclusive, welcoming and affirming religious community to all people including sexual minorities and marginalised people.

They host gatherings of “People of Faith” for “Prayer and Praise”, which focuses on the person’s journey towards reconciliation of sexuality and spirituality.

House Of Rainbow aims to provide an inclusive Christian theological focus and interpretation of Scriptures. House of Rainbow is not exclusively for self-identifying LGBTQ+ people: all are welcome.

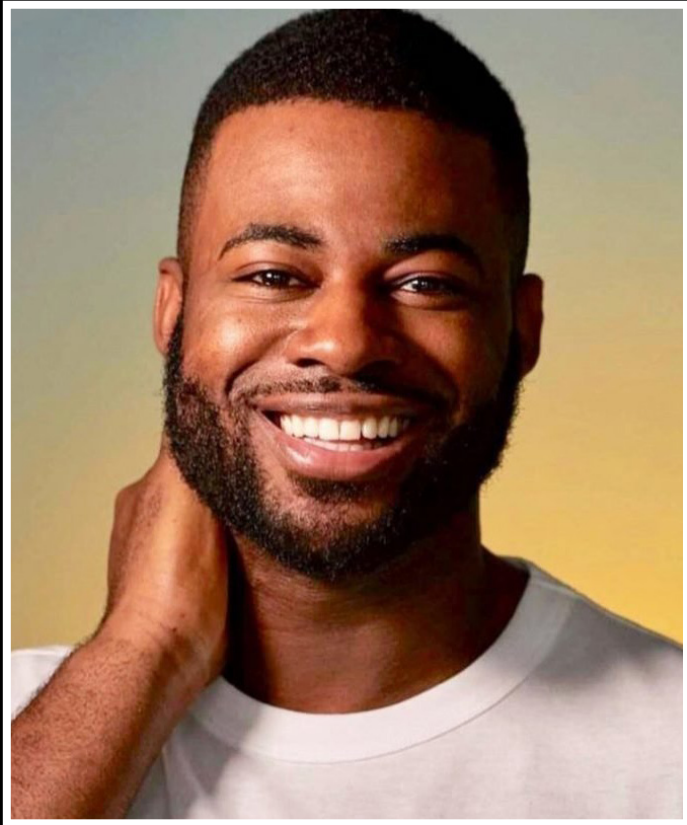
House of Rainbow is reaching out with a primary mission to marginalised communities within faith communities.

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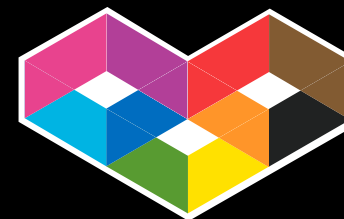
Ben Hunte

Ben Hunte is a British journalist from London who is the BBC's first LGBTQ+ correspondent, reporting on stories surrounding sexuality and gender for all BBC platforms. In July 2020, Ben took the top spot in The Guardian and DIVA Magazine's Pride Power List. Since starting the role in April 2019, Ben has uncovered Poland's 'LGBTQ+ Free Zones'; he exposed how black male victims of sexual abuse

are being 'failed' by the government and he fronted a season of coverage celebrating 50 years since the Stonewall Riots.

Ben's digital films have been seen by millions, with topics ranging from men feeling 'too ugly' to be gay, to racism within the LGBTQ+ dating scene. Ben's journalism has already been nominated for awards, including by PinkNews and British LGBT Awards.

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Did you know...



Black Trans Alliance

Black Trans Alliance founded in 2020 is a black queer and trans-led non-profit organisation that supports black trans and non-binary people in London and the wider community.

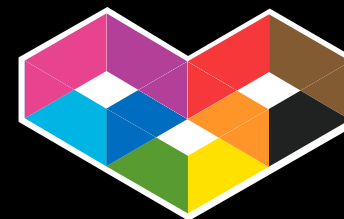
Their mission is to support, protect and amplify the voice of black transgender persons; through advocacy, education, visibility and empowerment.

They also offer information and campaign for the rights of transgender people.

Black Trans Alliance as a young organisation has begun to change and shift the cultural narratives that heighten the value of black trans lives.

Their platform centres and celebrates the lives of black trans and non-binary people.

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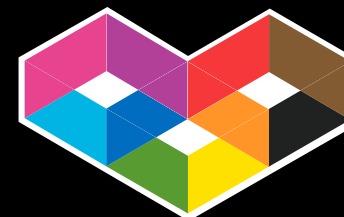
Dean Atta

Dean Atta has been described as 'one of the leading lights in London's poetry scene' and 'the Gil Scott-Heron of his generation.' He's young, gifted, black and gay.

Dean Atta was named as one of the most influential LGBTQ+ people in the UK by the Independent on Sunday. His debut poetry collection, was shortlisted for the Polari First Book Prize.

His debut novel, *The Black Flamingo*, was awarded the 2020 Stonewall Book Award, and shortlisted for the CILIP Carnegie Medal, YA Book Prize and Jhalak Prize.

His writing deals with themes of race, gender and sexuality. He has appeared on the BBC and Channel 4, and has a regular column for *Attitude* magazine.



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