



North Star Black Cooperative Fellowship 2021

Danielle Mkali & Nkuli Shongwe

Community Wealth Building

Nexus Community Partners

Nexus Community Partners



Founded in 2014



Our Mission is to build more powerful and engaged communities of color



Our Organizational Strategy Nexus supports strong, equitable and just communities in which all residents are engaged, are recognized as leaders and have pathways to opportunities.



Authorship
Leadership
Ownership



North Star Black Cooperative Fellowship

Est. 2017



What is the North Star?

- o A five month fellowship focused on Black American Cooperative Economics. *Typically six months.
- o The North Star is centered on the history of Black cooperative economic thought and practice.
- o 2021 has a special focus on Housing Coops, Land Trusts & Community Ownership of land
- o teaches Black Cooperative Economic local & national history
- o analyzes and rethinks capitalism,
- o Uses Black Feminist & Intersectionality to frame the work
- o and supports and networks new Black coop enterprises and their leaders.

*Art work by Makeba Rainey

Who has been a part of the North Star?

- 37 Cohort Members
- Black and African descent folks
- Majority women identified, a few male and gender non-binary
- A few LGBTQIA identified

Types of cooperatives:

- Worker Owned
- Housing
- Artist
- Investment
- Credit Union

Incredible facilitators & guest speakers

- The North Star is hands on, uses popular education , culturally significant and practices the art of making a sacred space.



North Star Alumni Support

- Access to resources for launching and support for cooperatives.
- Support to connect with technical assistance or cooperative developers
- Ongoing learning opportunities
- Support to attend coop conferences and studies
- Nexus raises dollars to fund all of this support, support is dependent on resources available





North Star Fellowship 2021

Housing Coop, Land Trust and
Community Owned Land



Fellowship expectations

- Fellows are expected to attend all North Star events and Saturday sessions, complete assigned readings and cooperate with fellows on their respective co-op final presentations and initiatives. Fellows should anticipate that this is an 85-100 hour commitment of their time.
- Fellows are provided a small stipend to support their participation in the fellowship. The amount of \$500.00 is disbursed in two payments at the beginning and end of the fellowship

North Star Housing & Land Edition

Housing
Cooperatives

Land Trusts

Investment
Cooperatives

North Star 2021 Sessions

Orientation & Welcome Dinner

January 11, 5:00-8:00pm

Session 1: Saturday, January 16, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 2: Saturday, January 23, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 3: Saturday, February 6, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 4: Saturday, February 20, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 5: Saturday, March 6, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 6: Saturday, April 3, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 7: Saturday, April 17, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 8: Saturday, May 1, 10:00am-2:00pm

Session 9: Saturday, May 15, 10:00am-2:00pm

Graduation: Wednesday, May 26, 5pm-8pm



Application process

What we're looking for:

- Be committed to Black Economic Cooperation
- Be a member of a Black led cooperative or have an idea of one they would like to start. North Star Housing & Land is welcome to folks of all racial backgrounds that are a part of a Black led effort. Black led to us means, Black folks are decision makers, and leaders in the effort.
- Groups of 2 or more committed to their cooperative idea/ initiative or already established cooperative
- Commit to attending all of the North Star sessions and completing the fellowship.
- Deadline to Apply
- **EXTENDED!** *The deadline to apply for the 2021 North Star Cohort is November 27th, 2021.*

Questions & Answer



Photograph of Ella Baker

Thank you for joining us today!

Nkuli and Danielle can best be reached via email

Nkuli: nshongwe@nexuscp.org

Danielle: dmkali@nexuscp.org

Twitter: @nexuscp

Instagram: nexuscp



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