

# A Playbook for Black Austin Activism

**Fall 2020**



## Dear Black People in Austin,

As many of us prepare to break bread and count our blessings this Thanksgiving, I want to encourage us all to continue to support Black-led efforts to uplift our community.

The fall edition of the Playbook asks us to choose to spend our money with Black-owned businesses during this holiday season.

It also highlights the organizations that are doing the work to support one of the most marginalized segments of the Black community: our queer community. I hope that we build ally-ship and co-conspiratorship around issues of justice, healthcare, and economics with the Black queer community.

When we published our first Playbook this summer, we had no idea of the support it would receive.

The Playbook for Black Austin Activism is our response to eradicating White supremacy in Austin. I am grateful for your support and your actions this summer to move the needle. They are making a difference. Thank you so much, and I am grateful for the encouragement to continue this project! While written to support people of the African diaspora in taking specific actions, others outside of Austin's Black community are welcome to use it, too.

Have a wonderful holiday season and many blessings of joy and love to you!

 With love and gratitude,

*Shuronda Robinson*

President/CEO

PS – I did a little praise dance the night of the election. For the first time in my life, I get to see a Vice President who looks like me. It is wholly affirming, and I am so grateful for that too!

# Shuronda's *Favorite Things*

**Here's a list of a few our CEO's favorite things – gifts, foods and places – just in time for the holidays!**

## **Austintacious Gifts**

Shuronda met Mia Washington 25 years ago and has maintained their friendship over the decades. Mia is an exquisite event planner who has already accomplished a reputation in that industry, but this year she took her entrepreneurship passion to a new level – launching Austintacious Gifts.

Shuronda loves these gifts because there are carefully curated under the direction of Mia, and they feature locally-made products – including candles, coffee cups and popcorn (yum!). So, if you are looking for a great gift filled with the goodness of Austin look no further! Austintacious Gifts. These gift box options perfect for any season – but especially now. They can be shipped anywhere and delivered locally. (Black-owned business)



# Hawkins- Bucklew Jewelry

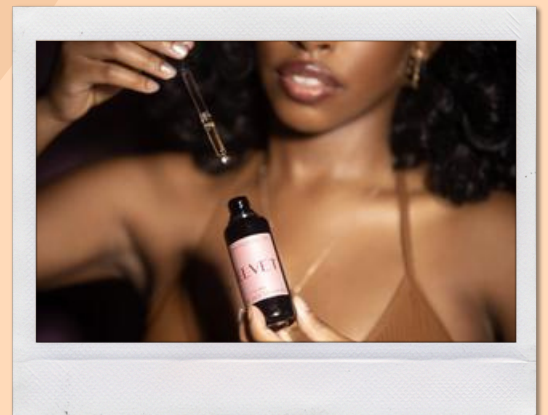
Creativity and beauty are two things we live for at Adisa Communications.

Shuronda loves this collection of jewelry because of the attention to detail its uniqueness. Hawkins-Bucklew Jewelry based in Austin, Texas is a black-owned jewelry store who believes that they are not just a brand but a fashion movement. Hawkins-Bucklew Jewelry aims to encourage community wealth-building and position creative women entrepreneurs for long-term business sustainability. Take a peek at their broad and gorgeous collections at 3200 Palm Way Suite 136 Austin Tx 78758, or call at (512) 736-2502. (Black-owned business)



# Regime Des Velours

Jasmine Nalls, creator and skin-care extraordinaire developed her facial care brand, Regime Des Velours. She's a former employee at Adisa Communications and we always commented on her dewy, balanced complexion. Turns out, she had a secret blend of nourishing, anti-inflammatory, and regenerating facial oil, called Velvet Superfood Facial Oil. Shuronda loves it because it is designed to hydrate and renew the skin after a day in the elements. Not only does she offer her Superfood Oil, but she also lays out instructions and methods to properly take care of your skin. (Black-owned business)







# The Gossip Shack

Some of the most delicious chicken wings in Austin are found at The Gossip Shack! Her top favorites at this delicious establishment are their garlic parmesan wings, lemon pepper wings, and their chicken and waffles! With countless flavor combinations combined with a family-owned business, who could resist? Skip the line and place your order at 512-801-5150, email your questions to gossipshack2@gmail.com or place your order in person at one of their three Austin locations!

- **2709 Rogge Ln**
- **Burnet Rd. Suite 120B**
- **1615 Grand Ave Pkwy #110 (Black-owned business)**

## Hoover's Cooking

For 20 years, Hoover's Cooking has provided Austin with bonafied Southern-style home cooking guaranteed to give you the "itis"! Each mouth-watering menu item is made with the same love Hoover Alexander had when he first fell in love with food! One of our must-haves on every visit is his Jerk Ribs and Black-Eyed Peas. Not only can you fill up on Chicken Fried Steak, Catfish, and Meatloaf, make sure you get your hands on their Big Ol' Bowl of Banana Pudding! Place your order at (512) 479-5006, and pick-up your delicious meal at 2002 Manor Rd, Austin, TX 78722.

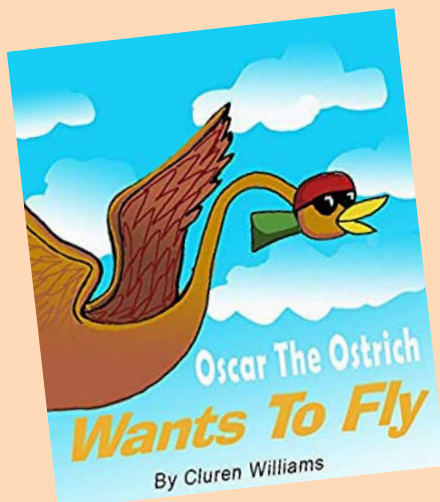


# Soul Popped

One of the most delicious and guilty goodies we love to snack on is the Banana Pudding Popcorn from Soul Popped in Austin, Texas! Soul Popped aims to provide the community with something that tastes like home by creating popcorn flavors inspired by soul food. Not only does Soul Popped make delicious and finger-licking good popcorn, but they also are committed to building capacity for those who are dedicated to helping others. Try your first bag of soul food-inspired popcorn at their 2901 S Capital of Texas Hwy, or pre-order your favorite at (512) 373-8335!

## "Oscar the Ostrich Wants to Fly!"

Local author and activist Cluren Williams' has written a new children's book: Oscar The Ostrich Wants To Fly. Cluren is an active member of the Black Leaders Collective. The book is available for Kindle and in print on Amazon!



# Take Action

Here is a list of actions to take this fall to address White supremacy and inequities in Austin head on.

Wherever you see a ★, there is a simple action you can take.

You can share this playbook with others. Feel free to refine and adapt this document, based on your interests, passion and experience.

(Note: this is an Adisa Communications passion project. As an organization, we believe in global peace and the unification of all voices. With that said, we invite you to point out any differences in opinion, changes and make suggestions for the Winter edition. To share your feedback, please email [social@makingthingsclear.com](mailto:social@makingthingsclear.com).)

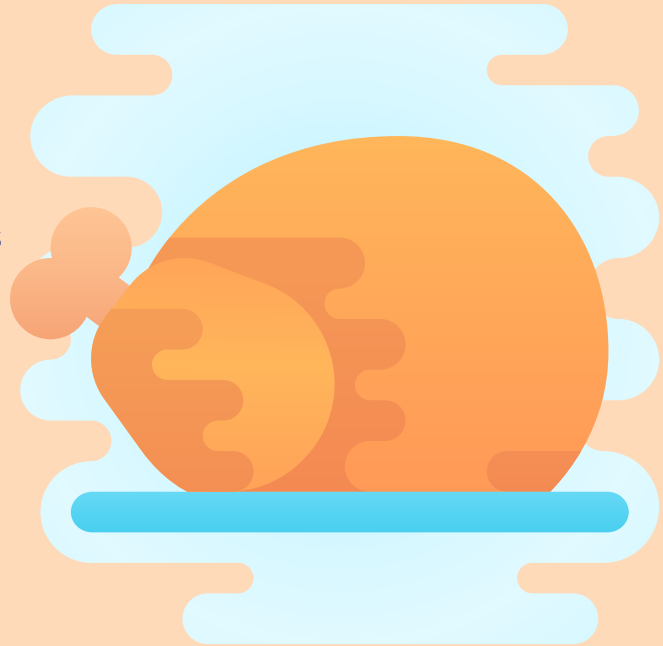


# November 2020

## Thanksgiving

Before we stuff the turkey and make the candied yams, it is important to recognize our Indigenous communities as well as look for ways to give back.

Educate yourself on the true meaning and history behind the first feast. Check out these sites for more information on the historical events that occurred on November 25th, 1621 and where to donate to Indigenous communities.



Include a land recognition in your Thanksgiving festivities. What is a land recognition? [Learn more here.](#)

## Volunteer to serve those in need

Not everyone is fortunate to be surrounded by family and loved ones on Thanksgiving or have the ability to put a Thanksgiving meal on their tables. Here are organizations who are helping those in need.



Sign up to volunteer and help brighten someone's day.

- **Meals on Wheels Central Texas:** Volunteers deliver groceries, meals, and other materials requested by clients who have disabilities preventing them from performing those tasks.
  - 512-476-6325
  - [www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org](http://www.mealsonwheelscentraltexas.org)
- **Foundation Communities:** This organization provides low income families with affordable housing. Volunteers serve meals, provide tax prep services, tutoring services, and financial coaching.
  - 512-610-7377 3036 S. First St., Austin
  - [www.foundcom.org](http://www.foundcom.org)
- **Explore Austin:** Volunteers mentor youths from low income communities in accompaniment with outdoor based adventure curriculums paired with social and emotional learning.
  - 512-320-8899 2201 E. Sixth St., Austin
  - [www.exploreaustin.org](http://www.exploreaustin.org)
- **Out Youth:** Volunteers work with youths centered around 12-23 all ranges of sexual orientations and gender identities. Your job will be to teach them leadership development and health and education to help them transition into adulthood.
  - 512-419-1233 909 E. 49th ½ St., Austin
  - [www.outyouth.org](http://www.outyouth.org)



# Food Access and Food Security



Throughout the pandemic, there has been a surge in Austinites requesting help because they are facing food insecurity.

Approximately 40% of food in the United States is wasted. Organic materials, including food scraps, make up about 37% of the materials sent to local landfills. Much of this wasted food could be put to good use — most importantly to feed other people!

One in six people in Central Texas struggle to have enough food to eat and almost 25% of children in Travis County lack consistent access to food.



Make a donation to a local food pantry, food bank, or food rescue program.

## What to donate:

You may donate pre-packaged items, non-perishable items, and whole fruits and vegetables.

Visit the Food Donation Guidelines for more helpful and informative tips on how you can save money through tax incentives, reduce green house gases, and lower the percentage of wasted food within the United States!

## Places accepting donations:

- Mom's Place 512-972-6700 8701 Research BLVD Suite B, Austin TX 78758
- Northwest Clinic 8701 Research BLVD Suite A, Austin TX 78758
- Rosewood-Zaragosa Clinic 2800 Webberville Rd, Austin TX 78702
- Far South Clinic 405 W. Stassney Austin 78745
- Manor Clinic 600 West Carrie Manor, Manor TX 78653
- Center for Health Empowerment 512-840-1273 4532 West Gate Blvd #106, Austin TX 78745 (Located inside West Tower Village) Checlinic.org

# Redistricting

Every ten years, the maps creating jurisdictions for representation in government are redrawn. This includes the boundaries for the City of Austin. The redrawing of districts greatly impacts Austin's government and the representation for the next decade.

The districts for Austin City Council are redrawn by the Independent Citizens Redistricting Commission.



Visit [www.redistrictATX.org](http://www.redistrictATX.org) for more information how to apply to serve on the Commission.

**You can also contact Austin City Auditor:**

**Corrie Stokes  
512-974-2805**

**200 West Cesar Chavez ST, Suite 200 Austin TX 78701**

**Mailing Address: PO Box 1088 Austin TX 78767**

## You are eligible to serve if:

- you have been registered to vote in Austin for five or more years without interruption;
- you voted in at least three of the last five City of Austin general elections;
- you have no conflicts of interest;
- or you meet the criteria for students
  - you are enrolled in a community college or university in Austin
  - you live and are registered to vote in Austin



# Pride



Let's stand with our LGBTQIA+ siblings in the fight for equality and basic human rights. Our Trans siblings have been under attack consistently. We've focused our fight for equality and decency on cis gender Black lives but that stops here. You cannot believe that Black Lives Matter while turning a blind eye to the overt violence that the Black and Brown LGBTQIA+ community experience. Not sure where to start? Support your local organizations. Austin has the 3rd largest population of LGBTQIA+ people in the world. We need to discuss the need for Black community support of this specific segment of the community and pledge to support them by all means.

**Let's stand with our LGBTQIA+ siblings in the fight for equality and basic human rights.**

## Black-led LGBTQIA+ Organizations

- **Center for Health Empowerment** 4534 West Gate Blvd #106, Austin, TX 78745 (512) 840-1273 [www.checlinic.com](http://www.checlinic.com) Center for Health Empowerment (CHE) offers educational services and FDA approved medical treatments at little to no out-of-pocket cost. The CHE wellness clinic provides PrEP and PEP medications, STI screenings, prevention, treatment and continuing care.
- **ALLGO** 701 Tillery St, Austin, TX 78702 (512) 472-2001 [www.allgo.org](http://www.allgo.org) ALLGO celebrates and nurtures vibrant queer people of color communities in Texas and beyond. We do this through cultural arts, wellness, and social justice programming by: supporting artists and artistic expression within our diverse communities; promoting health within a wellness model; and mobilizing and building coalitions among groups marginalized by race/ethnicity, gender/gender identity, sexual orientation/sexual identity in order to enact change.
- **Black Trans Leadership of Austin** [www.btla.squarespace.com](http://www.btla.squarespace.com) Black Trans Leadership of Austin was formed by local queer black activists who saw where other LGBTQIA2+ organizations did not have the lived experience and direct connection to black and queer people. BTLA exists to help our community to thrive, not just survive.

# December 2020

## Vote in the 2020 runoff election

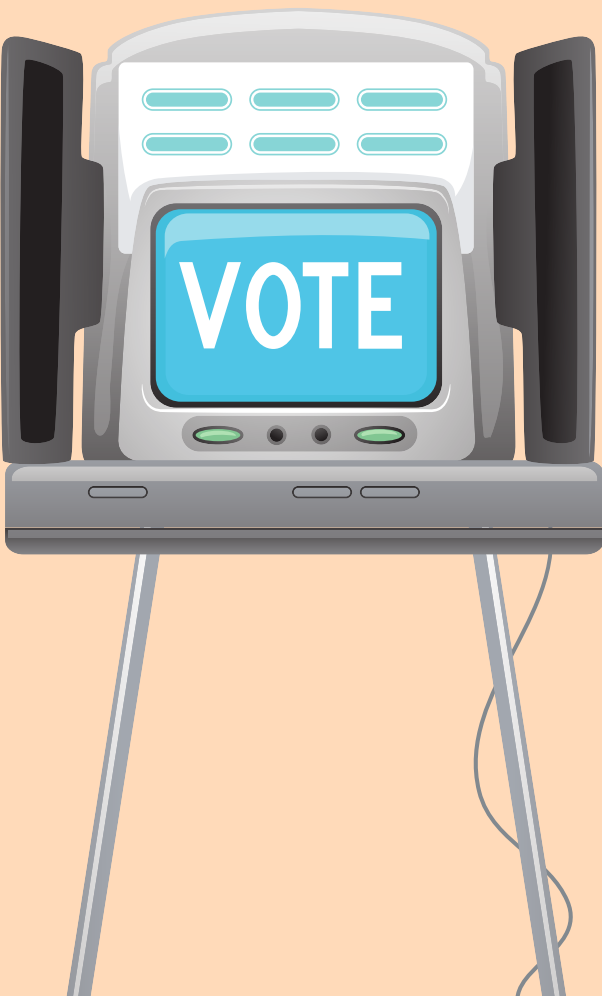
In some cases, elections do not end when Election Day is over. There may be some runoff races in your community. Election Day for municipal runoffs is Tuesday, December 15, 2020.



Make a plan to vote in the runoff election. Go to [VoteTravis.com](https://VoteTravis.com) to find your nearest polling location.

## You can vote by mail if:

- you are 65 years or older
- cite a disability or an illness
- are confined in jail but still eligible to vote
- you will not be in the county where you're registered on Election Day



**Otherwise  
make a plan to  
vote in person.**



**“ ‘Thank you’ is the best prayer that anyone could say. I say that one a lot. Thank you expresses extreme gratitude, humility, understanding.”**

**-Alice Walker**