



**A SCREENING AND CONVERSATION OF THE FILM
AFTERSHOCK
DIRECTED AND PRODUCED BY TONYA LEWIS LEE AND PAULA EISELT**

**HOSTED BY
THE WELLNESS COLLABORATIVE, INC. &
ROXBURY INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL**



In October 2019, 30-year-old Shamony Gibson tragically died 13 days following the birth of her son. Two months later, the film team began documenting Shamony's surviving mother, Shawnee Benton Gibson, and bereaved partner, Omari Maynard, as they began to process what happened and figure out their new normal. In April 2020, 26-year-old Amber Rose Isaac, died due to an emergency c-section. Within weeks of Amber's death, Omari reaches out to Amber's surviving partner Bruce McIntyre and a lifelong bond is formed. Together, Omari and Bruce begin the fight for justice for their partners with their families and community by their side, while caring for their children as newly single parents. The film witness these two families become ardent activists in the maternal health space, seeking justice through legislation, medical accountability, community, and the power of art. <https://www.aftershockdocumentary.com/>

Panelists



Moderator: Jallicia Jolly is a writer and reproductive justice educator who is currently a post-doctoral fellow and incoming Assistant Professor in American Studies and Black Studies at Amherst College. Dr. Jolly researches and teaches on Black women's health and activism, reproductive control and birth justice, and intersectionality and HIV/AIDS in the U.S. and the Caribbean. As a doula-in-training and health equity practitioner, Dr. Jolly dedicates her work to improving maternal health, HIV/AIDS care and mobilization, and psychosocial support among women in the African diaspora using human rights and reproductive justice frameworks. She has written for the Huffington Post, Ms. Magazine, Rewire News, Black Youth Project and her work has been supported by grants and fellowships such as The Fulbright Scholar Program, The Mellon Mays Foundation, National Women's Studies Association, Yale University, and the University of Michigan. <https://www.jalliciajolly.com/>



Tonya Lewis Lee is a director, producer, writer whose work often explores the personal impact of social justice issues such as civil rights and criminal justice. Tonya Lewis Lee is a director, producer, writer whose work often explores the personal impact of social justice issues. As a television producer, Tonya served as Executive Producer on the episodic series SHE'S GOTTA HAVE IT which is currently streaming on Netflix. As a film producer, Lee produced MONSTER which premiered at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival and is now available on Netflix. Most recently Lee co-directed and co-produced AFTERSHOCK which premiered at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival, which examines the U.S. maternal mortality crisis winning the Special Jury Award for Impact for Change and was acquired by Onyx and ABC News to stream on Hulu. IndieWire named Tonya as one of 22 rising female filmmakers to watch 2022.



Yvonne Carrion OB/GYN. Yvonne Gomez-Carrion (MD) is a gynecologist who has been in clinical practice since 1987 after completing her Ob/Gyn residency training @ Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center in New York City. She practices at the Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center. She believes in a holistic approach to health care. She cares for patients with medical and social challenges ie hypertension, diabetes, seizure disorders, autoimmune diseases, obesity, domestic violence, substance abuse and homelessness. After delivering babies for 31 years (9,000+), she changed paths in 2014. Now, she is a problem oriented gynecologist who has expertise in managing patients with uterine fibroids, abnormal pap smears, abnormal vaginal bleeding, ovarian masses, gender dysphoria, anxiety with pelvic exams, etc. She honors the long-term relationships with her patients. She is a gynecologic surgeon who performs complex open approaches as well as minimally invasive surgeries, including advanced laparoscopic and hysteroscopic techniques. She has devoted her professional life to educating patients about their bodies' functioning and resilience.



Nashira Baril Nashira (she/her) is the daughter and great-granddaughter of midwives, who birthed both of her children at home and has experienced firsthand the transformative experience and liberation of midwifery support. Nashira is the founder of Neighborhood Birth Center, the city's first community birth center startup. With a master's degree in Maternal and Child Health from Boston University School of Public Health and nearly 20 years of experience designing and implementing public health strategies to advance racial equity, Nashira brings a structural analysis and somatic practice to the design and implementation of public health strategies that advance justice and equity. She has worked at the Boston Public Health Commission, Harvard School of Public Health, and most recently Human Impact Partners, and she maintains a small consulting practice focused on facilitating organizational development for equity. Nashira currently lives on unceded Massa-adchu-es-et land, known as Mattapan, Boston with her husband and two kids. <https://neighborhoodbirthcenter.org/staff>



Ndiyamaka Amutah-Onukagha. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha is the Julia A. Okoro Professor of Black Maternal Health in the Department of Public Health and Community Medicine at Tufts University School of Medicine. Her current research interests include maternal health disparities, reproductive health and social justice, infant mortality, and HIV/AIDS in Black women. Dr. Amutah-Onukagha also serves as the inaugural Assistant Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for Public Health and Professional Degree Programs. In 2022 Dr. Amutah-Onukagha founded the Center for Black Maternal Health and Reproductive Justice (CBMHRJ) at Tufts University School of Medicine and is one of the first centers dedicated nationwide to addressing maternal health inequities. Ndiyamaka is the Principal Investigator of two multi-year studies on maternal mortality and morbidity, an R01 funded by the National Institutes of Health and an interdisciplinary grant on health equity funded by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. Additionally, she is a member of the MA-COVID 19 Maternal Equity Coalition and was honored with the American Public Health Association's Maternal and Child Health Section's Young Professional of the Year Award in 2019. <https://medicine.tufts.edu/people/faculty/ndiyamaka-amutah-onukagha>



The Wellness Collaborative (TWC), founded by three Black women – an internist, a pediatrician, and a psychologist – is a wellness educational nonprofit located in Roxbury MA that provides an innovative solution to eliminating health care disparities. We provide education, insight, and best practices that promote sustainable personal and community health, wellness, and resilience. TWC is unique because of our inter-

disciplinary framework, ethnocultural focus and our strengths approach to the social determinants of health. Rather than using the typical labeling of social and environmental issues as “determinants,” we frame them as “influencers.” TWC seeks to solve the problem of health disparities by addressing these social influencers of health through a people-centric, community and partnership model to co-create collections, programs and support collaborative solutions. TWC’s innovative approach strategically links people, programs, practice and policies that engage BIPOC communities and leaders. We convene and curate programs by incorporating our signature 7 Disciplines of Wellness©. <https://www.thewellnesscollaborative.org/>



Roxbury International Film Festival. The **Roxbury International Film Festival** is the largest festival in New England that celebrates people of color. Over the course of 10 days the festival screens all genres of films, holds workshops and panel discussions and offers filmmakers the opportunity to network with each other as well as audience members. Screenings take place at the Museum of Fine Arts, Hibernian Hall, and North-

eastern University and other sites in and around Roxbury. The Roxbury International Film Festival is competitive festival that awards certificates in the categories of Audience Favorite, Narrative Film, Documentary Film, Narrative Short, Documentary Short, Youth, Emerging Filmmaker Award and a special award named after award-winning filmmaker Henry Hampton and Amy Hood a life long audience member. Our goal is simply to screen films that celebrate and present more diverse images of people around the world. For years, filmmakers, distributors, and film enthusiasts wondered why Boston, one of the largest metropolitan areas on the east coast, lacked a vehicle that supported independent films of color or that showcased diverse experiences of people of color throughout the world. <https://www.roxfilmfest.com/2023festival>



RESOURCES/INFORMATION

[Aftershock Film Documentary Screening - TAKE ACTION](https://www.aftershockdocumentary.com/home#action)

<https://www.aftershockdocumentary.com/home#action>

REPORTS AND NEWS ARTICLES

[Blackmaternalhealth.tufts.edu \(report enclosed\)](https://blackmaternalhealth.tufts.edu)

USEFUL LINKS

(From TU Center for Black Maternal Health & Reproductive Justice)

[Maternal Outcomes for Translational Health Equity Research \(M.O.T.H.E.R.\) Lab](#)

[M.O.T.H.E.R Lab Black Maternal Health Policy Toolkit](#)

[Fast Facts on Black Maternal Health](#)

[History of Abortion Infographic](#)

[Introduction to Midwifery Slides – Black History Month 2021](#)

[Maternal Mortality and Birth Terms Defined: Terminology Vault](#)

[Report of the Special Commission on Racial Inequities in Maternal Health](#)

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORT

Crisis Text Line

Text “MHFA” to 741741

Lifeline Crisis Chat

www.crisischat.org

Finding a Therapist and Mental Health Network:

PureSpark

<https://yourpurespark.com>

ORGANIZATIONS

www.motherlab.org

<https://blackmaternalhealth.tufts.edu/>

[Therapy for Black Girls](#)

<https://therapyforblackgirls.com>