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Klarke Stricklen, C'22
Sewanee, Tennessee



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**THE BENJAMIN
NETWORK**

WEEKEND SCHEDULE

2022 BLACK HISTORY MONTH THEME:
Black Health and Wellness



SEWANEE
THE UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH

FRIDAY, FEB. 25

10 a.m.—4:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION

McGriff Alumni House

Stop by to pick up your packet and get a final schedule, a directory of Black alumni, and your weekend souvenir. Don't forget to take a look at the 55 Years of Black Alumni plaque that was installed to document the important occasion.

noon—5 p.m.

EXHIBITION:

Behind the SEEN: Process, Performance, and Practice in the Work of Fahamu Pecou
University Art Gallery

Dr. Fahamu Pecou received a B.F.A. from the Atlanta College of Art in 1997 and a Ph.D. from Emory University in 2018. Pecou was the Georgia awardee for the South Arts Prize in 2020, and, that same year was one of six artists selected for Emory University's Arts & Social Justice Fellowship. He is the founding director of the African Diaspora Art Museum of Atlanta (ADAMA), and exhibits and speaks internationally. His work is featured in noted private and public national and international collections including the Smithsonian National Museum of African American Art and Culture, The High Museum of Art, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Seattle Art Museum, Paul R. Jones Collection, ROC Nation, Clark Atlanta University Art Collection and the Museum of Contemporary Art of Georgia, and the Collection d'Art Société Générale (Paris).

5:30 p.m.

WELCOME RECEPTION

Learning Commons

Have a drink (wine from Black-owned business) and heavy appetizers on the first floor of duPont library. Hang out with other Black alumni, see the exhibition *Black History/Black Mystery* in the lobby, and get your pic made by Mr. B's portrait! Welcome remarks by Curtis Johnson, C'14, vice president of the Benjamin Network Board.

9—11:30 p.m.

FRIDAY NIGHT ENTERTAINMENT: GAME NIGHT

Multicultural Center

Spades tournament, dominos, board games—prizes, too! Bar, snacks, soft drinks/hot chocolate provided.

SATURDAY, FEB. 26

8:30 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

REGISTRATION

Alumni House

Stop by to pick up your packet, get a final schedule, a directory of Black alumni, and your weekend souvenir. Don't forget to take a look at the 55 Years of Black Alumni plaque that was installed to document the important occasion.

9—11:00 a.m.

OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Pilates: 9 a.m., Fowler Center, led by certified pilates instructor Bruce Manuel, C'80.
- Campus Walk: 10 a.m. Meet at the Quad and walk to the new University bookstore and back (of course, stop in to get some new Sewanee swag!

11:30 a.m.—1 p.m.

NETWORKING LUNCH AT MCCLURG

Students and alumni

Mentor students and share your expertise on careers, life after Sewanee, and advice for living in a city. Your nametag gets you in McClurg. Go through the lines and experience dining as the students do. Bring your meal upstairs to the balcony.

1:30—2:30 p.m.

ROBERSON PROJECT UPDATE

Gailor Auditorium

Hear from Dr. Woody Register, C'80, founding director of the Roberson Project on Slavery, Race, and Reconciliation. The Roberson Project office will also be open for tours.

2:30—4:30

BLACK ALUMNI HEALTH AND WELLNESS DISCUSSIONS

Gailor Auditorium

- 2:30 p.m. Panel: Bruce Manuel, C'80; Cortez Brown, C'16, and Yin Agbontaen, C'18; and Brittany Macon, C'14, moderator.
- 3:30 p.m. Networking Breakout Sessions, Gailor classrooms, (men/women)

6:30 p.m.—midnight

BENJAMIN NETWORK PURPLE CARPET GALA AND DJ PARTY

Guerry Lobby/Convocation Hall

Don't miss this Black-tie signature event. Walk the purple carpet to enter Guerry Lobby for drinks (wine by Black-owned businesses). Get your photo taken. Enjoy the art exhibition by award-winning renowned Dr. Fahamu Pecou. Take in an elegant dinner in Convocation Hall. Learn about the Benjamin Network from President Carla Reed, C'08, be welcomed by Acting Vice-Chancellor Berner, and enjoy student remarks from Klarke Stricklen, C'22, and the keynote address by Dr. Sibby Anderson-Thompkins, vice provost for diversity, equity, and inclusion. Capture the memories at the event photo booth. Celebrate the impact Black students and alumni have had on the University of the South and dance the night away at the DJ party with DJ John Doe.

*Sponsored by the
Benjamin Network and the
Division of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*

SUNDAY, FEB. 27

10:30 a.m.—noon

CHAMPAGNE AND MIMOSA BRUNCH

McGriff Alumni House

This farewell reception will be the perfect way to hang out, say goodbye, talk about future events, and celebrate the success of the inaugural Benjamin Network Weekend.

SAVE THE DATE
Feb. 24–25, 2023