

# MORE

2023

## END OF YEAR WRAP-UP

**30 EVENTS**

**Attended by  
2000+  
individuals**

At MORE, we engage you and all our supporters on a journey to share knowledge with one another.



We build local capacity to challenge racism and the racial disparities that racism causes in our community.

We are so thankful for the continued support MORE receives from community members like you, including folks representing local organizations, as well as the many others who believe in our antiracist and racial equity mission.





# Nebraska Examiner

## Omaha group aims criticism at UNO for racial inequities among students and faculty

University says the publicly funded institution is committed to inclusivity and better data collection

BY: CINDY GONZALEZ - NOVEMBER 29, 2023 5:45 AM



OMAHA — A local organization whose mission is to call out racial inequities has targeted the University of Nebraska at Omaha, urging its leadership to improve the underrepresentation of people of color on campus, at graduation and in faculty positions.

**MORE**, which stands for Movement in Omaha for Racial Equity, analyzed public information to point out disparities the group said should alarm community leaders and state legislators.

"The data indicates there are problems, obviously, at UNO," said Patrick Velasquez, primary author of the 25-page [report](#).

Troubling to him and MORE board chairman A'Jamal Byndon, they said, is that the publicly funded university was not "entirely transparent" in sharing information that can help measure student success.



A'Jamal Byndon, Chair of MORE's Board of Directors

UNO officials offered links to websites that contained "countless data elements" and did seem to monitor that data on a regular basis, said Velasquez, a UNO alumnus who has worked three decades in California's higher education system. He also is a MORE board member.

"My premise is if you have an institution like UNO they should be right on top of these things," said Velasquez. "I don't see any structure for which they would be utilizing the data to inform what they do."

### Disparities across higher education

MORE has distributed the report to a few dozen University of Nebraska representatives, including the Board of Regents. They also met this summer with four UNO officials about the findings.



Patrick Velasquez, Chair of MORE's Data/Research Committee and the report's primary author

# Nebraska Examiner

## State watchdogs say they're still doing their albeit slower, since legal opinion

Ombudsman tells North Omaha group that they're ho during 2024 legislative session

BY: PAUL HAMMEL - SEPTEMBER 27, 2023 9:55 PM



State legislative 'inspector generals' (from left) Doug Koebernick and Jennifer Carter, along with Ombudsman Julie Rogers and moderator A'Jamal Byndon take questions Wednesday night (Paul Hammel/Nebraska Examiner)

OMAHA — Members of a North Omaha racial justice group expressed fears Wednesday that an adverse legal opinion may be shutting off a vital resource for addressing problems.

If state "inspectors general" for corrections and child welfare can't get access to what's going on, how can they report on concerns with government functions and suggest changes? they asked.

"The key words are transparency and accountability, and we don't have enough of that in government," said A'Jamal Byndon, chairman of the board of the Movement in Omaha for Racial Equality (MORE).

On Wednesday night, about 20 people crowded into the Fabric Lab along North 24th Street to learn more about the two inspectors general's offices, established by the Nebraska Legislature, as well as the State Ombudsman's Office, which investigates complaints about state agency performance.



A'Jamal Byndon, Chair of MORE's Board of Directors

So many of you attended our in-person and virtual community forums with the state Ombudsman, Nebraska Inspector General of Child Welfare, and Nebraska Inspector General of Corrections. This was MORE's third year bringing this group to meet with our Omaha community supporters interested in understanding and improving these public institutions.

We published an important scholarly study demonstrating the lack of racial equity among many University of Nebraska-Omaha outcomes, including enrollment, retention, and graduation. We will use this report to springboard to new studies and analyses, working together with you and all our partners to demand transparency, accountability, and community engagement from our public institutions.





# New Directions



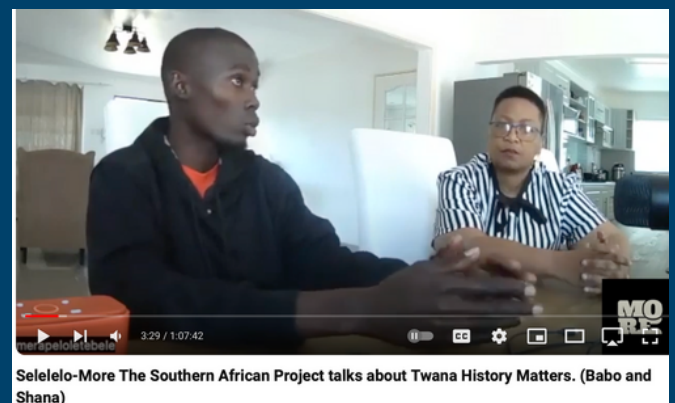
## SELALELO: MORE's Southern Africa Project

Through "Selalelo" we build connection, reconciliation, and racial healing between Southern Africans, African Americans, other Americans of color, and white Americans. We create cross-continental learning communities to expand our understanding of how racism and colonialism have impacted us differently, and also to examine areas of overlap and similarity.

Merapelo "Shana" Letebele, administrator of Tswana History Matters based in Gaborone, Botswana, is MORE's "Selalelo" Project Coordinator. She is collaborating with us to coordinate the portion of the project that will take place on African soil, and helping MORE reach a brand-new audience in Southern Africa.



MORE: Southern Africa Project. Intro to women in Botswana



Selelelo-More The Southern African Project talks about Twana History Matters. (Babo and Shana)



**THE STATUS OF UNDERREPRESENTED STUDENTS OF COLOR AT UNO**

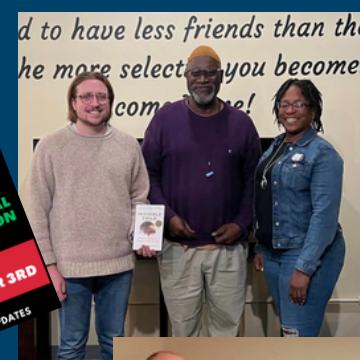
FRIDAY NOVEMBER 3RD

DR. PATRICK VELASQUEZ PH.D.

A JAMAL BYNDON

PLAYBACK AVAILABLE

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG FOR UPDATES



**MORE Invites you to...**

**COMMUNITY FORUM**

THOMAS C. RILEY  
DOUGLAS COUNTY  
PUBLIC DEFENDER

Thursday  
October 12, 2023,  
6 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Moderated by  
A Jamal Byndon,  
Chairman of the Board  
Terri Crawford, J.D.

Location: NorthStar 4242  
North 48th Street

Contact: A Jamal Byndon at  
moreomaha.org or 402.222.7083

**MORE**



**MORE INVITES YOU TO**

**SOUTH SUDANESE IMMIGRANTS & CHALLENGES**

MON. NOVEMBER 13TH  
6:30PM-7:30PM  
3240 LAKE ST  
OMAHA, NE 68111

FEATURING  
REV. TUT KEAT  
CHURCH AND PARISH  
COMMUNITY OF NEW LIFE  
FAMILY ALLIANCE

SUPPORTED BY  
HN HUMANITIES NETWORK

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG TO SIGN UP TODAY



**MORE INVITES YOU TO**

**RELIGION & RACE**

WED. MARCH 29TH  
7:00PM-8:00PM

FEATURING  
JEREMY FRICKE  
NEW PRESIDENT OF MESSIAH  
ANNUALMENT OF THE RACE  
INITIATIVE

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG TO SIGN UP TODAY



**Divisible**

A Discussion about Discrimination  
and Redlining in Omaha

November 1st  
7:00PM-8:00PM

FREE VIA ZOOM  
FACEBOOK LIVE

MOVEMENT IN OMAHA FOR R

Featuring:  
Schmeeka  
Simpson and  
Lizzy Barrett



**MORE INVITES YOU TO**

**SOUTHERN AFRICA PROJECT**

AN INTRODUCTION  
FEATURING:  
MERAPELO "SHANA"  
LETEBELE

Tuesday  
3/28/23 @ 7PM-8PM  
CST USA

Free Via ZOOM &  
Facebook Live

Administrator of Tanzania History Matters

VISIT moreomaha.org to sign up today!

**MORE INVITES YOU TO**

**BLACK ELITES**

AND THE STATE OF BLACK OMAHA

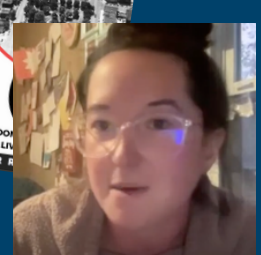
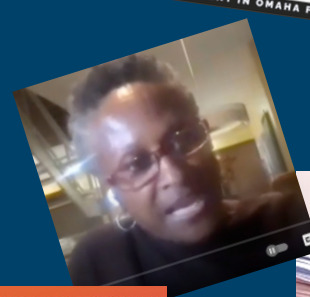
FEATURING  
TRIP REYNOLDS  
Community Advocate

Wednesday March 22nd 7PM-8PM

LIVE ON ZOOM & FACEBOOK

Hosted by  
A Jamal Byndon  
MORE Chair of the  
Board

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG  
TO SIGNUP TODAY!



**PATRIARCHY & WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT.**

THE INTERCONNECTED STRUGGLE FOR  
EQUALITY IN SOUTHERN AFRICA AND THE  
UNITED STATES.

Merapele Letebele  
Project  
Coordinator

Monday July 24th  
11:30AM -1:00 PM CST

FREE VIA ZOOM &  
FACEBOOK LIVE

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG TO SIGN UP TODAY!

**MEDICARE CHALLENGES!**

Tuesday October 25th 7PM-8PM CST

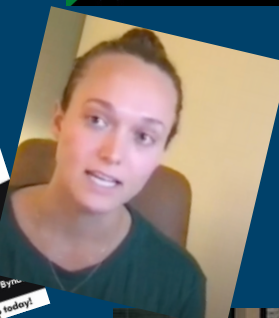
FREE  
VIA ZOOM &  
FACEBOOK LIVE

FEATURING  
Gina Landsperger  
Independent Insurance Agent

LIVE  
Q & A Session

Moderated  
by A Jamal Byndon

VISIT moreomaha.org to sign up today!



**NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER**

Everything You  
Already Know About  
Your Own Racism  
and How to Do Better

**White Women**

With a Guide to  
Start the  
Unlearning

Regina Jackson  
and Saira Rao

**THE INVISIBLE CHILD**

BOOK DISCUSSION

FEATURING  
CHRIS BOWLING  
REPORTER-  
PLAYWRIGHT  
REST

Monday December 11th  
6PM-7:30PM  
2 DADS & A Bookstore  
1015 Franklin Rd S  
Bellevue, NE 68005

FREE & OPEN TO THE PUBLIC | MODERATED BY A JAMAL BYNDON  
VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG AND SIGN UP TODAY!

**BAD MEXICANS**

Book Discussion  
& other issues

Featuring: Patrick  
Velasquez, PH.D.

October 20th  
7PM-8PM CST |

FREE VIA ZOOM &  
FACEBOOK LIVE

VISIT MOREOMAHA.ORG TO SIGN UP TODAY!



**REPENTANCE & RECONCILIATION**

Paul Zellmann

Wednesday  
September 26th  
7PM-8PM CST

Contact host  
Byndon for  
more details

402.222.7083  
moreomaha.org

FREE VIA ZOOM &  
FACEBOOK LIVE



**MORE**

MOVEMENT IN OMAHA FOR RACIAL EQUITY

**LAW ENFORCEMENT IN COMMUNITIES OF COLOR!**

FEATURING  
BERNARD L. BAZALGAR  
US Civil Rights Officer  
GAMMA WALKING  
Executive Director of Justice Community  
JAMAL BYNDON  
MORE Chair of the Board  
HOLY Child of the Holy Spirit

THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 23rd  
7PM-8PM CST

FREE VIA ZOOM &  
FACEBOOK LIVE

**A TIME FOR BUILDING**

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 25 | 6PM-8PM

AUGUSTAN LUTHERAN CHURCH  
847 S. KENNEDY AVENUE



Thank you to all our supporters,  
including the 85 individuals who  
contributed a total of \$7,130 to MORE  
in 2023, helping us reach an annual  
budget of \$20K this past year.

**YOU ARE AWESOME!**

**Thank you to our philanthropic funders!**



**Thank you to our co-sponsors!**





**MORE**  
The Pursuit of Equity

**2024**

**Because of you, the  
New Year will be a total success!**

Your gift to MORE right now is your investment in ending racism. That's because MORE transfers knowledge directly from human to human about **antiracism, racial equity, and racial justice.**

**[https://givebutter.com/  
MORE-Donations](https://givebutter.com/MORE-Donations)**

When you attend MORE events, when you participate in antiracist activities, and when you give to MORE, you are taking direct action to **end the racial divide.**

**THANK YOU!**