Fact Sheet: LA-based “Black-Jewish Entertainment Alliance” is a front for groups with close ties to the Israeli government, created by an anti-Black and anti-Palestinian team

Newly-released documentation reveals that the Los Angeles-based group Black-Jewish Entertainment Alliance (BJEA), which claims its goal is “bringing the two communities together in solidarity,” is really a front group for hardline right-wing organization StandWithUs, a known anti-Palestinian organization with a history of anti-Black racism and ties to Israel’s apartheid government. Leaders and staff who created BJEA recite racist, right-wing talking points. They have cheered the removal of renowned Black scholars from curriculum and ridiculed George Floyd, while promoting white supremacists Tucker Carlson and Stephen Miller.

KEY FINDINGS

- BJEA is simply a project of Creative Community for Peace (CCFP), which condemns artists who boycott Israel in support of Palestinian freedom. CCFP funds BJEA’s activities and CCFP staff oversee them.
- CCFP is in turn a project of right-wing, racist nonprofit StandWithUs, which has ties to the Israeli government.
- All three groups—BJEA, CCFP, and SWU—operate effectively as a single organization, sharing funding, infrastructure, leadership, and staff with a long-established history of racism.

UNDERMINING BLACK PALESTINIAN SOLIDARITY

- BJEA was launched by SWU and CCFP following a leaked 2018 report which revealed that CCFP was “developing strategies to deal with” the “troubling and growing trend” of solidarity between Black Americans and Palestinians resulting from their shared struggles against oppression.
- As Black-Palestinian solidarity surges, BJEA has been working to sabotage it, gaining prominence in recent years by working with celebrities, athletes, and entertainment executives while concealing the organization’s ties to racist, right-wing extremists.

HISTORY OF RACISM

- In January 2023 BJEA promoted an article denying the reality of systemic racism and falsely claiming that “the ‘systemic racism’ explanation for Black-White disparities” has been “conclusively” refuted.
- CCFP/BJEA Director Ari Ingel has tweeted that Black scholar Ibram X. Kendi and critical race theory promote “racism.” In May 2021 Ingel attacked Black Lives Matter activists for supporting Palestinian freedom and dismissed Indigenous Palestinians as “foreign invaders.”
  - Ingel regularly derides the Palestinian rights movement as using “the woke playbook,” and “critical social justice theory,” often tweeting “#StayWoke” to taunt prominent people of color.
- On February 1, 2023, Esther Renzer, the Board Chair of SWU, BJEA’s home, marked the first day of Black History Month by cheering the removal of renowned Black scholars from school curriculum.
  - Renzer tweeted that the removal of renowned Black scholars like Ta-Nehisi Coates, Kimberlé Crenshaw, and bell hooks from AP African American History curriculum was “a positive step towards rational thinking (sic). No more critical race theory.”
- SWU has worked closely with “Christians United for Israel” (CUFI), whose leader, Pastor John Hagee, is known for espousing anti-Black racism and even praising Hitler.
- In 2022 longtime CCFP manager Karys Rhea Oschin reposted a racist tweet mocking the death of George Floyd and applauded another racist tweet saying that Black Americans don’t know what a father is.
  - Oschin has also promoted white supremacist Stephen Miller and has cited Tucker Carlson as an authority on “Black Lives.” Oschin left CCFP for other work for apparently unrelated reasons during 2022, after over two years there.

**DOCUMENTED TIES: BJE, CCFP & SWU**

BJEA doesn’t publicly mention StandWithUs, Creative Community for Peace, or Israel, cultivating an image as a standalone organization. However, documentation of BJE’s ties to CCFP and SWU reveal that the group is simply a project of StandWithUs and used by the Israeli government-linked group to push their right-wing, anti-Palestinian agenda.

- There are no registered nonprofits in California or the US called “Black-Jewish Entertainment Alliance” or “Creative Community for Peace.”
- Receipts show that tax deductible donations to BJE and CCFP are made to the nonprofit Israel Emergency Alliance, a registered alternative name for StandWithUs.
- In May, 2023, Israel Emergency Alliance/StandWithUs filed a legal document with the Los Angeles County Clerk registering Creative Community for Peace as their “Additional Business Name.”
- CCFP’s Director and a CCFP manager answered emails to BJE as BJE staff. Both are reachable via the StandWithUs LA headquarters switchboard.
- The StandWithUs and CCFP Board Chairs are married, participate in Israeli government forums, and toured Israel’s illegal settlements with extremist settlers. Their work is regularly coordinated with and praised by Israel’s far-right apartheid government.

[Diagram of organizational relationships: StandWithUs (Nonprofit, registered in 2001, aka, Israel Emergency Alliance) ↓ Creative Community For Peace (StandWithUs project, launched in 2012) ↓ BLACK-JEWISH ENTERTAINMENT ALLIANCE (Creative Community for Peace project, launched in 2021)]