



2022 Facing Race Awards Recipient Biographies

Classie Dudley

Classie Dudley is the executive director of [Community Action Duluth](#) and president of the [Duluth NAACP](#), currently the largest branch in Minnesota, with over 1,400 members reaching as far as the Canadian borders. In both roles, she works to eliminate systemic racism and gender disparities in the community. Under Classie's leadership, the city of Duluth now commits \$600,000 annually to implement a nonpunitive crisis response team that is separate from the Police Department. With her team, Classie has established the first NAACP-hosted Minnesota Afro-Academic Cultural Technology Scientific Olympics in Minnesota for area BIPOC students, eliminated privatized healthcare in four Duluth-area jails, and is implementing the Stop the Stops campaign to end racial bias policing by pretextual stops. Dudley is also collaborating with the area's top employers and Duluth Chamber of Commerce to recruit and retain BIPOC professionals.

Angela Hooks

Angela Hooks is a community activist, founder and executive director of [Black on Black Entertainment, Inc.](#), a Saint Paul-based nonprofit working to empower Black people and rebuild the Twin Cities' Black community by removing racial disparities in institutions, corporations and the justice system. Angela provides business consulting and services to Black business owners, in addition to helping the underserved interpret medical and other social service applications. Her next venture will create the Cultural Arts Café and Supper Club in Saint Paul, where Black chefs and cooks, entertainers, artists and the formerly incarcerated will showcase their talents while gaining a consistent revenue stream while receiving hospitality and maintenance training.

Txongpao Lee

Txongpao Lee is the executive director of the [Hmong Cultural Center](#). For 20 years he has strived to uplift the Hmong community in Minnesota by advocating against racial hatred and spearheading programs such as Hmong 101, which teaches the Twin Cities about Hmong culture and history. In response to the center's new storefront museum being vandalized by White Supremacist graffiti 2021, he helped rally the Twin Cities community to give more than \$30,000 to support the museum, including cleanup and security improvements and enhancements. Over the years, Txongpao has also served as a cultural resource for social workers, teachers, lawyers, criminal justice officials and health care professionals working with Hmong clients. He has been a steady advocate and teacher for immigrant and refugee clients working to earn their U.S. Citizenship, personally assisting well over 1,000 older Hmong individuals in navigating the U.S. immigration system to earn their U.S. Citizenship.



Lulete Mola

Lulete Mola is co-founder and president of the [MN Black Collective Foundation](#), Minnesota's first Black community foundation advancing the genius of Black-led change. She leads the Collective as it is building infrastructure, practicing creative and innovative resource disbursement, growing assets, and expanding Black philanthropic power to advance a new model of philanthropy. Previously, Mola served as Chief Strategy Officer at the Women's Foundation of Minnesota (WFMN), focused on the advancement of women, girls, and gender-expansive people at the intersection of gender and racial justice. At WFMN, Lulete led the Young Women's Initiative of Minnesota, a \$10 million visionary public-private partnership to achieve equity in opportunities and improve the lives of Black, Indigenous and young women of color.