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Day 7 - Sept: 18th, 2024 of The 22nd Oakland International Film Festival will host two screening sessions The first screening session will feature the feature doc- “The fight for Black Lives”” preceded by the short docs- “Descendants and Keith Lamar Sweets”

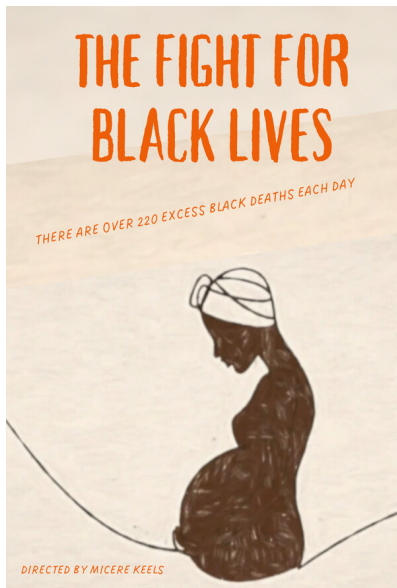
Wednesday, September 18th

6:00 - **DESCENDENTS OF US**- (RT- 17 MIN)

6:20 - **KEITH LAMAR SWEETS** - (RT 5:49 MIN)

6:30 - **THE FIGHT FOR BLACK LIVES** - (RT-72 MIN)

Location - Mills College @ Northeastern



THE FIGHT FOR BLACK LIVES

The Fight for Black Lives chronicles the ways that racial stress and the American healthcare system disadvantages the health of Black Americans. This health disparity is traced back to emancipation, which increased the Black mortality rate, in part, because formerly enslaved people had no access to formal health care even when they could pay. The film shows that there is nothing new about the disproportionate rate of Black mortality that was associated with the COVID-19 pandemic by showing that on almost all measures of health Black people in the United states live sicker and die younger.



**“The Fight For Black Lives”
Directed by Micere Keels**

Micere Keels is a Professor in the Department of Comparative Human Development at the University of Chicago. Her research focuses on understanding how race, ethnicity, and poverty structure exposure to challenges that place people at risk for poor life outcomes. She is particularly invested in systems-change interventions that can narrow intergenerational inequities. This is her first attempt at using popular narrative forms to influence how people understand persistent inequities.

The injustice of high overall Black mortality and how it shows up in maternal and infant wellbeing is both personal and political for me. Within a 12-month period in my early 20s I went from my excessive menstrual bleeding not being taken seriously at the emergency room, to a doctor suggesting that the bleeding may be due to having a long-term untreated STD and recommending immediate precautionary medications before waiting for test results, to finally receiving the appropriate examination and diagnosis of large obstructive fibroids that were removed in expedited surgery. Fibroids that had been there so long they had begun to calcify. Fibroids that were identified only after I drove 45 minutes to begin seeing a female gynecologist of color.



A compelling, artistic, and humanitarian short film that shares the stories of people whose families overcame incredible odds to build lives in America.

Directed by Shaun Daniels



“KEITH LAMAR SWEETS”

KEITH LAMAR: SWEET is a collaboration unfolding across and over the prison walls. It was inspired by a call between Keith LaMar and Samora Pinderhughes (Keith calling from death row), part of a series of interviews conducted as part of The Healing Project. Keith LaMar is a writer, poet, and musician who has spent over 30 years in solitary confinement on Death Row in Ohio after being framed for murder following the 1993 Lucasville Prison Riot. Our mission, through this film, is to free him from prison.

Directed by **Samora Pinderhughes, Christian Padron, Amanda Krische**