# 25th Booker T. Washington Economic Development Summit Agenda

## Tools of the Titans: Envisioning the Future of Black Economics

<table>
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<tr>
<th>September 15, 2021 (Post-Covid Next Steps and Access to Capital)</th>
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<td><strong>9:00 – 9:05 am</strong></td>
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<td><strong>9:05 am to 9:30 am</strong></td>
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| **9:30 am to 10:30 am** | Panel Discussion: Post-Covid: The Road to Recovery  
Moderator: Felecia Lucky, President, Black Belt Community Foundation |
| **9:30 am to 10:30 am** | • Dr. Ken Harris, President and CEO, National Business League  
• Bob Dickerson, Executive Director, Birmingham Business Resource Center  
• William Barnes, President and CEO, Birmingham Urban League |
| **9:30 am to 10:30 am** | Access to Capital: Funding Pathways  
Moderator: Grover Brown, Community Enterprise Investments, Inc. |
| **10:30 am to 11:30 am** | • Reginald Smith, Managing Director, Sabre Finance  
• Kevin Tillman, Small Business Lender, Communities Unlimited  
• Corey Green, Commercial Relationship Manager/Vice President, Regions Bank |
| **10:30 am to 11:30 am** | Closing Remarks |

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<th>September 16, 2021 (Digital Marketing and Sustainability)</th>
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<td><strong>9:00 – 9:05 am</strong></td>
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| **9:05 am to 9:25 am** | Keynote: Jeremie Greer, Founder and Co-CEO, Liberation in a Generation  
Sustainability and its Social, Economic, and Environmental Impact  
Moderator: Dr. Jasmine Ratliff, Self-Determining Food Economies and Policy Manager, Black Food Justice |
| **9:30 am to 10:25 am** | Panelists:  
• Niki Okuk, Program Manager, CALSTART, Inc.  
• Elaine Rasmussen, CEO, Social Impact Now  
• Jalaal Hayes, PhD., Founder, Elyte |
Panel Discussion: Branding: Aligning Business, Brand, and Behavior
Moderator: Vanessa Kelly, Digital Marketing Director, New Georgia Project
Panelists:
- LaVon Lewis, President, Connected Branding
- Portia Obeng, Social Media Strategist
- Sherrod Shackelford, CEO, Connected Branding

Report: State of Microbusiness in Alabama
- Dr. Nyesha Black, Director of Socioeconomic Analysis & Demographics, Culverhouse College of Business, University of Alabama

Closing Remarks