

Greetings BTS community and friends, we hope this finds you safe and well.

We want to first extend ourselves as comrades and as a student org to say that BTS is here to listen, to learn, and to advocate against police brutality, racial violence, and the systematic oppression of our Black and Brown communities.

Over the last few months, COVID-19 has not been the only pandemic at the forefront. We are reminded that racism is a prevalent pandemic and one that is violently inserted within the fabric of our society.

The recent and tragic deaths of George Floyd in Minnesota, Breonna Taylor in Kentucky, and Ahmaud Arbery in Georgia are only a few lives in a long list of murders and violence against Black bodies in amerikkka. We equally recognize the many other acts of violence the police, criminal justice system and the government has authorized against its own people, people of color, and Black people especially. As we highlight the sad realities of this country, we speak directly to a settler-colonial historical grievance, and to the root of these unjustified murders.

We are angry, frustrated and grieving alongside our Black community and non-Black allies. More importantly, we understand that Black students, faculty, activists, mothers, parents, siblings, and communities are especially tired, and deserve to heal.

As a collective of formerly-incarcerated and system-impacted students, it is our imperative to call out institutions that oppress us, including the carceral state that has entered our lives and communities. In this awareness, we acknowledge that no social justice movement could be what it is and has become without Black minds that have directed the revolution. We are committed to amplifying Black voices, authors, artists, activists and healers of the community. We are committed to working towards policy change on a local, state, and national level. We are committed to showing up and fighting for Black liberation.

To our comrades taking the streets, please stay safe. Protect yourself, protect Black bodies, and protect our communities! To those watching from afar, show-up someday. Remember that the revolution will not be televised, it will be LIVE. Also, please be vigilant in not getting caught in rhetorics of “violence.” Protests, riots, looting, and other demonstrations are a response to oppressive forces.

To our community, please take care of yourselves and others. Love a little louder.

To our black communities, BTS hears and supports you. We stand in solidarity and community with you. We will continue to show up. Your life matters. Your breath matters. You matter.

Ally Resource List:

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bJv46eTRaV\\_-PTFwg35W4jF3n\\_f65qaJwmrTANBH0po/edit](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1bJv46eTRaV_-PTFwg35W4jF3n_f65qaJwmrTANBH0po/edit)



Marcelo Lopez  
UC Davis Undergraduate  
Officer for Beyond the Stats at UCD  
[Mrlopez@ucdavis.edu](mailto:Mrlopez@ucdavis.edu)  
<https://facebook.com/beyondthestatsatUCD/>