

# RACIAL JUSTICE SUMMIT 2024

Fighting for the Now, Hopeful for the Future

## LIVING AND BREATHING CAMDEN

Register for the Racial Justice Summit [here](#).

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| <b>Attendee Check-In</b><br>9:30 AM to 9:55 AM   | Attendees check in with Racial Justice Summit volunteers to receive their lanyards. Light breakfast will also be available on a first come, first served basis.   |
| <b>Opening</b><br>10:00 AM to 10:15 AM   | An official welcome to the second annual Racial Justice Summit, hosted by the Institute for the Study of Global Racial Justice.<br><b>Speakers:</b> <b>Dr. Carlos Decena</b> , Cross-Campus Director of the Office of Undergraduate Intellectual Life and Co-Creator of the Fellows in Racial Justice Learning Community (RAJU); <b>Jilary Guaman Calle</b> , Chair of 2024-2025 Student Advisory Board and Rutgers-Newark Honor's College senior double majoring in political science and women's and gender studies with a minor in social justice  |
| <b>Community Changemakers: 2023-2024 RAJU Fellows Panel</b><br>10:20 AM to 11:10 AM  | Fall 2022 marked the launch of the Inaugural Cohort of the Fellows in Racial Justice Learning Community, a tri-campus academic program for undergraduate students at Rutgers University committed to activism and advocacy. Those 12 groundbreaking trailblazers redefined what it means to drive change on campus. Now, as we continue the legacy of RAJU, the second cohort is ready to present their own social action projects. During the spring semester, they developed initiatives aimed at improving the communities they care deeply about, and our six speakers will share their inspiration, process, and key takeaways.<br><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Camila Belliard</b> , RAJU Co-creator and Rutgers-New Brunswick graduate student<br><b>Panelists:</b> <b>Herrin Oum Fontenette</b> (RU-NB), <b>Varenya Alvakonda</b> (RU-NB), <b>Anika Chopra</b> (RU-NB), <b>Corey Saunders</b> (RU-N), <b>Samira Lari</b> (RU-CMD)   |
| <b>Shelter and Sustainability: Bridging the Gap Between Housing and Environmental Justice in Camden and Beyond</b><br>11:20 AM to 12:25 PM | Guided by the invaluable insights of our dedicated community leaders, the focus of this year's Summit centers on the urgent and intertwined issues of housing and environmental justice. As these challenges continue to shape the lives of many, particularly in urban areas, our panel will delve into the complexities and solutions at the intersection of these critical topics. With a special emphasis on the experiences and voices from Camden, this discussion aims to illuminate the unique struggles and opportunities faced by communities grappling with housing inequities and environmental concerns. This panel will explore innovative approaches and reimagine strategies for achieving justice in housing and the environment, highlighting the power of community-driven action and collaboration.<br><b>Moderator:</b> <b>Grace Asare</b> , 2024-2025 Undergraduate Program Coordinator and Rutgers-Camden Honor's College senior majoring in political science with minors in statistics and legal studies.<br><b>Panelists:</b> <b>Samir Nichols</b> , Executive Director for Superior Arts Institute, <b>Reet Starwind</b> , activist, educator, author, and Creative Director at Watu Moja, <b>Caryn Schreiber</b> , Assistant Professor of Law and the Director of the Civil Legal Services Clinic at the University of Wyoming College, <b>Kelvin Boddy</b> , Director of Healthy Homes and Communities at the Housing and Community Development Network of New Jersey, <b>Chris Tandazo</b> , Statewide Environmental Justice Organizer NJEJA. |
| <b>Networking Lunch</b><br>12:30 PM to 1:40 PM   | Students, administrators, and guests will have the opportunity to get to know one another during this networking lunch. Food will be provided and conversations with attendees you may not know are greatly encouraged.<br>Towards the end of the lunch, an extended snippet of a documentary created by Grace Asare, Samira Lari, and Freideliz Perez of the 2023-2024 RAJU Fellows Cohort will be screened. The documentary focuses on housing and environmental justice in Camden, specifically through the experiences of Camden residents.   |
| <b>Keynote Address and Q&amp;A with Arielle King</b><br>1:50 PM to 2:50 PM   | What does inclusive and accessible environmentalism look like in today's world? How can we inspire a sense of climate optimism while addressing deep-seated environmental injustices? <b>Arielle V. King</b> , Assistant Director at the Racial Justice Center for the New York Civil Liberties Union, will explore these questions through the lenses of environmental justice, culture, and media. With a background in environmental racism analysis, civil rights law, and community engagement, Arielle's keynote speech will delve into the intersection of environmental justice and climate optimism, drawing on her extensive experience as an educator, consultant, and strategist.<br><b>Q&amp;A moderators:</b> <b>Grace Asare</b> , 2024-2025 Undergraduate Program Coordinator and Rutgers-Camden Honor's College senior majoring in political science with minors in statistics and legal studies, <b>Azinwi Numfor</b> , 2024-2025 Student Advisory Board member and Rutgers-New Brunswick senior double majoring in political science and public policy.   |
| <b>ISGRJ Announcements</b><br>3:00 PM to 3:15 PM   | We are excited to announce our call for applications for the 2024-2025 cohort of RAJU Fellows. We invite passionate individuals to join this transformative community of changemakers dedicated to driving meaningful change on campus and beyond.  |
| <b>Closing Remarks</b><br>3:15 PM to 3:30 PM   | <b>Dr. Carlos Decena</b> , <b>Grace Asare</b> , the <b>2023-2024 Student Advisory Board</b> , and <b>Camila Belliard</b> will give the evening's closing remarks. Thank you to everyone who has supported our mission to embrace community, take up space, and create a more equitable world for all.   |