john a. powell

University of California, Berkeley
Email: japowell@law.berkeley.edu

Selected Employment

University of California, Berkeley: Director, Othering & Belonging Institute; Robert D. Haas Chancellor's Chair in Equity and Inclusion; Professor of Law, Berkeley Law; and, Professor of Ethnic Studies and African American Studies. 2012-Present.
The Ohio State University: Executive Director, Kirwan Institute for the Study of Race and Ethnicity; Gregory H. Williams Chair in Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; Professor of Law, Moritz College of Law. 2003-2012.

Education

Stanford University, Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Philosophy Minor, 1969.
University of California, Berkeley School of Law (Boalt Hall), Juris Doctor, 1973.

Selected Awards

John W. Gardner Leadership Award, Independent Sector, October 2021.
Convergence Bridge-Building Leadership Award, Convergence Center for Policy Resolution, 2022.
Housing Hero Award, Housing Action Coalition, October 2021.
Barry Dym Champion for Change Award, Institute for Nonprofit Practice, 2021.
Charles C. Irby Distinguished Service Award, The National Association for Ethnic Studies, March 2017.
Clarkson Chair in Urban and Regional Planning, University at Buffalo, 2016-2017.
Hero of Health Award, Detroit Authority Health, 2015.
Commitment to Civil Rights and in honor of the Keynote Address, 25th Thurgood Marshall Lecture on Law and Human Rights, Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA, April 2014.
Distinguished Scholar in Residence, University of Arkansas, Clinton School of Public Service, 2011.
Loving Civil Rights Award for Civil and Human Rights, Fair Housing Center, 2010.
HistoryMaker, The HistoryMakers Organization, Chicago, 2002.

Selected Professional Affiliations

Board of Directors, More in Common
Board of Directors, Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET)
National Advisory Board Member, Open Society Foundations
National Advisory Board Member, Institute for Nonprofit Practice
Principal, WK Kellogg Foundation Truth, Racial Healing & Transformation Commission
Advisory Board, U.S. Partnership on Mobility from Poverty (Gates Foundation)
Former Chair of the Board, Tides Foundation
Field Builder, New Pluralists
Core Planning Group Member, Shift: The Commission on Work, Workers, and Technology (New America and Bloomberg)
Board of Directors, Poverty & Race Research Action Council
Former Board of Directors, The Opportunity Agenda
Former Board of Directors, Race Forward
Former Board of Directors, Interaction Institute for Social Change
Former Board of Directors, National Housing Law Project

Selected Books

Where Credit is Due: Bringing Equity to Credit and Housing After the Market Meltdown. Eds. Christy Rogers and john powell. Lanham, MD: University Press of America/Hamilton Books. 2013.
Racing to Justice: Transforming Our Conceptions of Self and Other to Build an Inclusive Society, Indiana University Press. 2012 (second edition to be published in 2023).
Book Chapter: "Dred Scott, Part Six." Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America. 1619-2019. Edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain, One World, 2021.

Selected Law and Academic Journals

Overcoming Toxic Polarization: Lessons in Effective Bridging. Minnesota Journal of Law & Inequality, June 2022.
The Law and Significance of Plessy. RSF: The Russell Sage Foundation Journal of the Social Sciences, February 2021.
Health Equity and the Circle of Human Concern (with Eloy Toppin). AMA Journal of Ethics, February 2021
Uprooting Authoritarianism: Deconstructing the Stories Behind Narrow Identities and Building a Society of Belonging, Columbia Journal of Race and Law, Vol. 11, No.1, January 2021.
Implicit Bias and Its Role in Philanthropy, National Committee for Responsive Philanthropy, Spring 2015.

Selected Media

Countering Authoritarianism (with Sara Grossman), Nonprofit Quarterly, March 16, 2023.
Equity 2.0? What is Targeted Universalism and How Does It Address Inequality? Nonprofit Quarterly, June 8, 2022.
Bridging or Breaking? Nonprofit Quarterly, February 15, 2021.
Only Bridging Can Heal a World of Breaking, Yes! Magazine, November 2019.
Dialogue is crucial after an election season marked by hate, Op-ed, San Francisco Chronicle, November 6, 2018.
Us vs them: the sinister techniques of 'Othering', The Guardian, Opinion: Guest Essay, November 2017.
Interview, on Housing Discrimination, Last Week Tonight with John Oliver (HBO), Aired July 25, 2021.
Interview, Othering & Belonging, Citizen Brain Animated Video Series, February 2021.
Radio Interview, Courageous Conversations Across a Growing Divide: One Small Step, NPR, October 13, 2020.
Podcast interview, "Can President Trump unify the country despite a reluctance to denounce hate groups?" Washington Post podcast, with host Allison Michaels. August 16, 2017.
Interview, The Life of Thurgood Marshall, with NBC host Marshaun Simon. June 29, 2017.
Podcast, Opening to the Question of Belonging, On Being, with host Krista Tippett, June 15, 2015.

Invited Talks (Selected)

Discussant, Governor's Roundtable on Engaged & Inclusive Democracy, March 30, 2023.
Keynote, Beyond Equity, Unpacking Targeted Universalism, Institute for Nonprofit Practice Leadership Learning Series, March 7, 2023.
Keynote, CareLab: Three Dinners Event, Professional Development for Capitol Hill Senate Chiefs of Staff (Democratic and Republican), February 27, 2023.
Fireside Chat with Isabel Wilkerson, City Arts and Lectures, San Francisco, CA, February 17, 2023.
Keynote, National League of Cities: 2023 National Day of Racial Healing, Washington DC, January 17, 2023.
Presenter, Othering & Belonging and the Health of People of African Descent, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health, December 5, 2022.
Keynote, Belonging 2022, Belong Network, United Kingdom, December 2, 2022.
Keynote, How to Make Belonging Real, Governor's 2022 Equity Summit, Washington State Office of Equity, November 30, 2022.
Keynote, Belonging, Bridging and Outcome of the Midterm Elections, Kettering Foundation Board, Nov. 17, 2022.
Keynote, The Role of Spiritual Connection in Belonging, Fetzer Institute, November 9, 2022.
Keynote, Targeted Universalism, Packard Foundation, Palo Alto, CA, November 9, 2022.

Opening Remarks and Panelist, Bridging Convening of Indigenous and Western Psychedelics Researchers, November 4, 2022.

Keynote, Bridging and Belonging, Casey Foundation's Children and Family Fellowship Network, October 15, 2022.

Fireside chat, X (formerly Google X), Innovation Summit, Palo Alto, CA, October 7, 2022.

Panelist, Othering & Belonging Linked to the Health of People of African Descent, World Health Organization (WHO) International Day of People of African Descent, August 31, 2022.

Guest Lecturer, Clinton School of Public Service: Racial Healing Certification Program, University of Arkansas Clinton School of Public Service, August 19, 2022.

Interview, Othering & Belonging and Structural Racism, The Aspen Institute: McCloskey Speaker Series, August 11, 2022.

Keynote, What Democracy Needs to Work as it Should, Kettering Foundation Retreat, Dayton, OH, July 26, 2022.

Keynote, Othering & Belonging, 2022 Mind & Life Summer Research Institute, June 10, 2022.

Keynote, Othering & Bridging, Welcoming Australia Symposium, May 10, 2022.

Fireside Chat with Marshall Ganz, "Democracy Set (A)Flame: Is Polarization the Problem?" UC Berkeley Service Center, May 6, 2022.

Presentation, Targeted Universalism, Meta / Facebook Executive Leadership, May 4, 2022.

Keynote, Interfaith Community Values Event, InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit, May 3, 2022.

Keynote, Omidyar Network Annual Gathering, April 26, 2022.

Presentation, Leadership Team, Gates Foundation, April 18, 2022.

Keynote, Political Science Speaker Series, San Francisco State University, April 14, 2022.

Keynote, Belonging, Human Flourishing: A Journey, Spirituality & Science Forum, Krueger & Lee of Switzerland, and the Fetzer Institute, April 7, 2022.

Workshop, Targeted Universalism, First 5 LA Board of Commissioners, April 6, 2022.

Keynote, Racial Hierarchy in America, Office of Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison, March 7, 2022.

Keynote, Othering & Belonging, The Student Diversity Leadership Conference, National Association of Independent Schools, March 3, 2022.

Keynote, Belonging and the Investment Industry, Confluence Philanthropy: 12th Annual Practitioners Gathering, March 8, 2022.

Keynote, Applying Targeted Universalism to Health Equity Planning, Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, February 22, 2022.

Presentation, Targeted Universalism, Chan Zuckerberg Initiative, Virtual Event, January 26, 2022.

Keynote, Muslim Legal Fund for America 20th Anniversary Symposium: Citizens on Probation, Virtual Event, November 3, 2021.

Presentation, Skoll Foundation, Virtual Event, November 2, 2021.

Presentation, Pixar Animation Studios, On Being an Outsider and the Power of Belonging, Virtual Event, October 26, 2021.

Fireside Chat with Dan Cardinali, President of Independent Sector, Upswell Virtual Conference, October 20, 2021.

Keynote, ComNet 2021, The Communications Network, Virtual Event, October 8, 2021.

Keynote, National Immigrant Integration Conference: New American Dreams, National Partnership for New Americans, Virtual Event, October 5, 2021.

Keynote, Raikes Foundation, Virtual Event, Sept. 28, 2021.

Moderator, Climate Justice Conference, Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET), Virtual Event, Sept. 28, 2021.

Expert Testimony, Task Force to Study and Develop Reparations Proposals for African Americans, State of California, Sept. 24, 2021.

Keynote, Washington State Supreme Court: 62nd Annual Judicial Conference, Virtual Event, Sept. 14, 2021.

Presentation, Targeted Universalism Learning Session with CEO, US President, and US Program Leadership Team, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, August 9, 2021.

Panelist, The Russell Sage Foundation: Plessy v. Ferguson and the Legacy of Separate but Equal After 125 Years, May 18, 2021.

Keynote, From Conversations to Action: Strategize, Mobilize, Actualize, University of Toronto AntiRacism and Cultural Diversity Office, 2021 International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination Conference, March 19, 2021.
Keynote, Opening Plenary Session, Welcoming America Conference, March 3, 2021.
Keynote, "Colorado Health Symposium: Bridging Ethnicity, Cultural Identity, and Health," Colorado Health Foundation, February 23, 2021.
Keynote, Journey Toward a City of Belonging: A Pilot Experiment, The City of Lincoln, Nebraska, Video Conference, September 28, 2020.
Panelist, Free Speech and Hate Speech on Campus, The Andrea Mitchell Center, University of Pennsylvania, Video Conference, September 25, 2020.
Keynote, Are the Kids Alright? COVID-19 and Youth, New York State Youth Justice Institute, Video Conference, June 5, 2020.
Keynote, Bridging Differences, Greater Good Science Center, Video Conference, May 15, 2020.
Keynote, Beyond Desegregation: Engaging Practices for Creating Diverse and Equitable Schools, Harvard Grad School of Education, Cambridge, MA, May 1, 2019.
Panelist, Conversation on Race: Town Hall with Congresswoman Barbara Lee and Congressman Mark DeSaulnier, Berkeley, CA, April 27, 2019.
Moderator, African Economies Panel, hosted by Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET) and Institute of New Structural Economics (INSE), Beijing, China, December 11-15, 2018.
Keynote, Targeted Universalism as Approach to Poverty Reduction in Washington, Budget Matters Policy Conference, Washington State and Policy Center, Seattle, WA, November 13, 2018.
Panelist, Weaving a New Narrative of Belonging for Health, American Public Health Association Conference, San Diego, CA, November 12, 2018.
Closing Plenary, Is America Possible? Building a Multiracial Democracy in an Era of Division, Facing Race conference, Detroit, MI, November 10, 2018.
Presentation, Unintended Consequences of Technology (UCOT) World Forum, San Francisco, CA, October 29-30, 2018.
Keynote, Art at the Intersection of Race, Space, and Place, Grantmaking in the Arts, Oakland, CA, October 22, 2018.
Respondent to the Tanner Lecture, Cambridge, London, UK, October 5-6, 2018.
Fireside Chat with Carla Davis, President of Roberts Enterprise Development Fund, San Francisco, CA, October 4, 2018.
Keynote, One Year After Charlottesville: Replacing the Resurgence of Racism with Reconciliation, University of Virginia Law School, September 28, 2018.
Keynote Panelist, 360 Citizenship Now, 6 Degrees Conference, Institute for Canadian Citizenship, Toronto, Canada, September 26, 2018.
Panelist, Belonging and Bridging, NY State and County Agency Staff, New York State Museum, September 25, 2018.
Keynote and Fireside Chat with Fred Ali, President of Weingart Foundation, Southern California Grantmakers Annual Conference, Los Angeles, September 17, 2018.
Keynote, Othering, Belonging, and Social Mobility, Aspen Institute Opportunity Youth Forum, Seattle, WA, May 15, 2018.
Keynote, A Conversation on Othering and Belonging, White Privilege Conference Global, Toronto, ON, May 15, 2018.
Keynote, Institute for New Economic Thinking (INET) Kerner Commission Conference, New York, NY, April 20, 2018.
Keynote, 50th Anniversary of the Fair Housing Act, Ohio Fair Lending Consortium, Cleveland, OH, April 18, 2018.
Keynote, Race and Poverty, Community Action Partnership Annual Convention, Harrisburg, PA, April 19, 2018.
Fireside Chat with Dr. Bernice King and George Lakey, 50th Anniversary, The King Center's Beloved Community Talks, Atlanta, GA. April 5, 2018.
Panelist, Hatred & Brain Science, UCSF Medical Center, San Francisco, CA, March 15, 2018.
Keynote, Sports and Social Platforms, Morehouse and RISE NFL Bootcamp, Atlanta, GA, February 21, 2018.
Host & Keynote Speaker, The Kerner Commission at 50 Conference, Haas Institute for a Fair & Inclusive Society, UC Berkeley, CA, February 27- March 1, 2018.
Keynote, Annual Derrick Bell Lecture, University of Oregon School of Law, Eugene, OR, February 13, 2018.

Speaker, (with Eddie Moore), Communities Creating Opportunity, On Race & Privilege, Kansas City, MO, February 21, 2017.
Panelist, World Meeting of Popular Movements, U.S Regional Meeting, Modesto, CA, February 17, 2017.
Keynote, Clarkson Chair, University at Buffalo, NY, February 6-10, 2017.
Speaker, Open Society Foundation Grantmaking Summit, Philadelphia, PA, February 1, 2017.
Speaker, How Does Implicit Bias Influence Philanthropic Effectiveness, Grantmakers of Oregon and Southwest Michigan, Portland, OR, November 18, 2016.
Keynote, Psychotherapy and Social Justice: A Dialogue on Othering and Belonging, The Psychotherapy Institute Fall Symposium, Oakland, CA, October 26, 2016.
Keynote, How Philanthropy Can Best Invest to Advance Racial Equity for Youth and Young Adults, Youth Transition Funder's Group, Washington D.C., October 19, 2016.
Keynote, Foundation for the Carolinas, Charlotte NC, October 18, 2016.
Keynote, How to Promote Equity and Justice in Health Sciences, University of California, San Francisco, September 22, 2016.
Speaker, Invitation to Join the Shift Commission, Bloomberg and New America, New York, NY, July 19, 2016.
Presenter, State of Race Relations in the Country Relative to the Elections, Marguerite Casey Foundation Board of Directors, Knoxville, TN, May 15, 2016.
Keynote, Creating Inclusive Work Environments, ACE Leadership Symposium, Greenville, SC, April 21, 2016.
Presenter, Is Perception Reality? Center for Civil and Human Rights, Atlanta, GA, April 19, 2016
Presenter, Center for Disease Control Division of Violence, Atlanta, GA, April 18, 2016
Speaker, Universal Basic Income Convening, Special Initiatives and Partnerships, U.S. Programs, Open Society Foundations, New York, NY, March 23, 2016.
Keynote, Wisdom 2.0 Conference, San Francisco, CA, February 21, 2016.
Presentation, San Francisco Foundation Annual Board Retreat, Sonoma, CA, February 2, 2016.
Presenter, Putting Racism on the Table, Washington, D.C., January 22, 2016.
Presenter, AFL-CIO: Dog Whistle Politics; Race Baiting and Right-Wing Populism in the 2016 Election, Washington, D.C. January 14, 2016.
Keynote, Othering & Belonging, Kauffman Foundation Community, Kansas City, MO, December 14, 2015.
Speaker, Roosevelt Institute with Joseph Stiglitz, Washington D.C., December 7, 2015.