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Though They Shade You, You Shine Like the Sun: Updates from Nakisa Glover

Nakisa 'Sista Sol' Glover [nakisa.glover@gmail.com]

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2019 5:00 AM

To: Steve Johnston

Hey family! I got a lot of GOOD to share this time.

(I'm working on consistency, please bare with me. I let perfection, though I wouldn't consider myself a perfectionist, and life get in the way of sending this out sooner.)

So in this letter I will fill you in on the last few weeks and let you know what's going on in the next few weeks. Learn more about **Sol Nation, Friendship Trays, Girls Who Code, Mosaic Live, CLT 250- Charlotte Shout** in today's letter.

Immediately following each section Look for **The Plug:** which gives a brief recap for how to help or get connected. **VOLUNTEERS, PARTNERS, and SPONSORS are needed.** If you have opportunities that you would like for me to attend or to share, please send them my way nakisa@solnation.org Thank you!

Highlights (In a rush? At least read this before you go...)

- [Go Shopping at Whole Foods Today - Friendship Gardens gets 5% \(April 18\)](#)
- [Your Girl's a Grist 50 Fixer and MLK Jr Dream Day Award Recipient](#)
- [Come to the Girls Who Code by Sol Nation Open House this Monday \(April 22 6-8pm\)](#)
 - *also FACILITATORS WANTED!* No previous experience necessary let me know if you are interested.
- [Come out to Mosaic Live presents Bars & Beats \(April 25 6pm\)](#)

“Cause You Were Made To Do What No One's Done. And Though They Shade You, You Shine Like the Sun” a line from Tobe Nwigwe ft Madeline Edwards <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zS6yfgtZq7E> (I'm really feeling this artist's music. He speaks about faith, family, love, and purpose in a dope fashion. When you have time you should check him out.)

Nakisa

Awards and Announcements

Grist 50 Fixers Fixer: a person who solves problems or fixes things. Last year I saw the national Grist 50 list, and I was completely inspired by so many of the people and their work that I got the opportunity to learn about. This year, back in March, I received the incredible honor of being announced as a Grist 50 fixer. Read more about what that means [here](#). I'm in good company with notable names that I have had the awesome opportunity to know and work with. This is a fantastic honor, and I'm still reeling.



2019 Martin Luther King Jr Dream Day Award I am absolutely honored to be a recipient of the 2019 Martin Luther King Jr Growing The Dream Award. This is an award for unsung heroes strengthening our community with their work. I was recognized for my work as a community advocate alongside 11 others who are doing tremendous work for the real SOLutions to our communities most critical issues. I love ❤️ that the term community advocate was used to describe me and my work.

I'm truly thankful for the friends and family that are in the trenches with me every day that

I get to work beside and who provide a shoulder to lean on. They are deserving, unsung, HEROES!



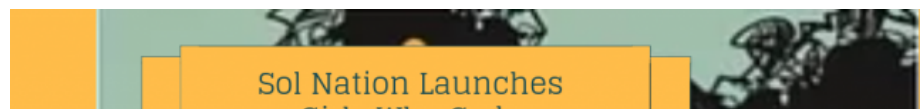
Sol Nation

Girls Who Code powered by Sol Nation Join our Open House and Kick Off Celebration Monday April 22, 2019 6:00pm - 8:00pm. RSVP here www.solnationgirlswhocode.eventbrite.com .

This spring Sol Nation (@solnationinc on Facebook and Instagram) kicks off our second Girls Who Code club cycle. We are thrilled at the opportunity to provide girls in our community with resources that train them to #OwnOurOwnSOLutions especially those in the areas of environmental, climate, and social justice. Our club will meet on Saturdays in May and June in the Camp North End area (28206 Zip Code). To learn more and sign your girl up for free please visit <https://www.solnation.org/girls-who-code>. Space is limited. Priority given to girls in 6th -12th grade and live in westside zipcodes. To support our programming and initiatives please donate <http://paypal.me/SolNationInc> .

FACILITATORS WANTED! No previous experience necessary, many facilitators can learn how to code alongside the girls if they have that interest. Email me at nakisa@solnation.org if you are interested.

The 🐌 Plug: Attend the open house, sign-up your girl up, become a facilitator, donate to our club.





SPRING SCHEDULE

APRIL 22 - OPEN HOUSE 6:00 - 8:00 pm

***All meetings will be held 10:00am - 12:30pm**

MAY 4, 11, 25

JUNE 1, 8

JUNE 8 - PRODUCT LAUNCH AND GRADUATION

Address

The Nest (inside Hygge at Camp North End)
330 Camp Rd Charlotte, NC 28206

Alternative Breaks UCLA North Carolina Visit Sol Nation hosted, Alternative Breaks in Charlotte March 24th and 25th. Their trip was titled '**System Change Not Climate Change: The Roots of Environmental Justice**' We hosted a community gathering on Sunday 3/24 at Friendship Trays and on Monday 3/25 we took the group on a community and volunteer experience tour visiting Seeds For Change, Toucan Louies, Bennu Gardens, The Male's Place.

The 📌 Plug: Stay tuned for future community and volunteer experience tours.



Sol Summit 2019 That's a Wrap!!! Sol Summit 2019 is in the record books. Thank you to everyone that showed up, supported, donated, spoke, shared, liked..... See y'all in 2020... Save The Date April 3-5, 2020. We know that the climate change has happened and the weather is a huge indication of it! The communities that are most affected by climate change are Black communities and other marginalized communities. Sol Nation hosted an all-star lineup to activate and organize around innovative solutions. We were joined by former Mayor [Jennifer Watson Roberts](#), who gave us an awesome spoken word piece. Also, City Councilwoman [Dimple Ajmera](#), Sol Collective Creative Director - [Marcus Kiser](#), Creative [Quintel Gwinn](#), [Georgie Nakima](#) of [Garden of Journey](#), [Bernard Singleton Cejs](#), Michael Zytkow with Sustain Charlotte and Potions and Pixels, [Jonell Jaime Logan](#), Shakeila James with Mom's Clean Air Force and so many others as we actively took up

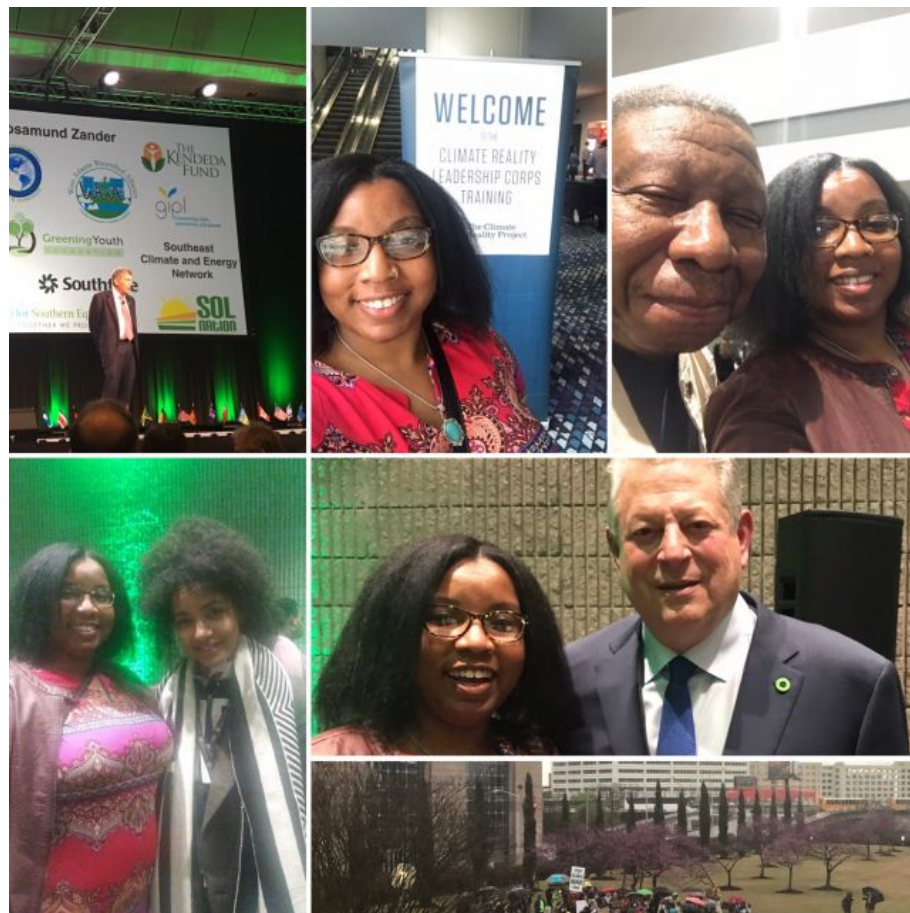
the fight for climate justice! We opened with a Reception & 1 year anniversary celebration. On Day 2 we held the full day summit that delved a little deeper on the topics of Environmental Justice is Social Justice, Environmental Justice is Tech, Environmental Justice is Art & Culture, and Environmental Justice is Health. Finally on Day 3 we closed with a wonderful Community Festival at West Charlotte High School in partnership with [Project LIFT](#) and the Westside Parent Alliance.

The 📌 Plug: Save The Date, Help Us Plan for Next year, participate with us throughout the year.



Climate Reality Training Sol Nation, Dogwood Alliance, and Garden of Journey partnered with Climate Reality to get people from North Carolina to Atlanta for the Climate Reality Training March 14-17. By all accounts everyone got a ton of useful information, expanded their network, and had a great time. We are excited about the partnership that may form from this experience.

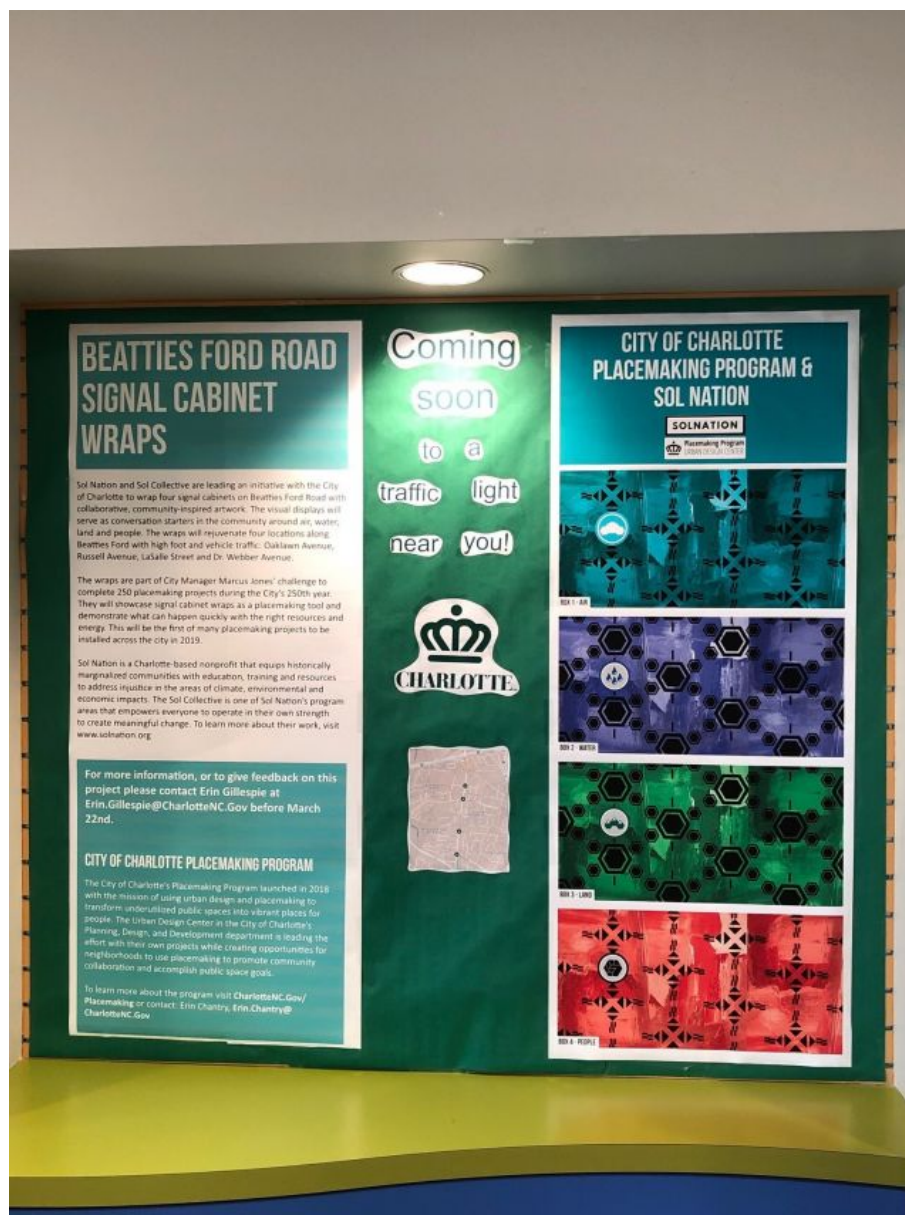
The 📌 Plug: Learn more about Climate Reality Project, and connect with Sol Nation, Dogwood Alliance, and Garden of Journey



Sol Collective Art Installation We were awarded a placemaking grant to design and wrap signal cabinets in the Beatties Ford Road Corridor of Charlotte, North Carolina. The idea was cultivated as a project where The Sol Collective has come together to develop pieces that expands the conversation of environmental justice in the Historic West End Corridor while also taking into consideration the art, culture, and history of the area. The corridor is one of the most heavily traveled in the city and is always bustling with something. We looked to design cabinets that presented a simple statement and could stand out against the backdrop of the busyness of the corridor. The vision was pretty clear on the messaging for the environment but we wanted to have the community's input on the art, culture, and history. Through a community engagement session we were able to collect thoughts, ideas, and themes that we could incorporate into the art work. To note, future, communal, water, African spirituality & symbols, vibrant colors, movement, and RBG (red, black and green) were direct concepts pulled from the meaning and interpreted for the cabinet wraps. These concepts are represented by the style of art afrofuturism, the patterns for African spirituality & symbols and movement, the color

scheme speaks to the vibrant colors and RBG, and the icons speak directly to the land, the air, the water, and the people! Check out the designs below.

The  Plug: Stay tuned!!



Friendship Trays

Shop Whole Foods Help Friendship Gardens April 18 FRIENDSHIP GARDENS, a program of Friendship Trays, Meals-On-Wheels of Charlotte-Mecklenburg, announced

that it will receive 5% of net sales from all Whole Foods Market locations in the Charlotte area on Thursday, April 18 as part of the company's annual Community Giving Days.

[Read the full press release here.](#)

The 📌 *Plug: Go shop today for a easy way to give back! Share this with friends.*



Driving Away Hunger Golf Tournament 2019 Enjoy a day showing off your golf swing and supporting a great cause. Create a team of four with work colleagues, fellow church patrons or neighborhood friends. This event supports Charlotte's meals-on-wheels program, Friendship Trays. When you sign up to play golf, volunteer, or sponsor, you are helping to feed those in your neighborhood who are hungry and need help. [Get more information here.](#)

The 📌 *Plug: Sign up to play or volunteer*

Girls Who Code

2018-2019 Reflections This has been an incredible year for my work with Girls Who Code. If you have ever talked to me about this work you understand that I amplify this organization because we know that tech jobs pay well, and creating pathways to support growing interest in this area is a solution to the socio-economic mobility crisis. Communities have got to be put in a position to own their own solutions. If you ever shared anything that I've sent, liked a post, showed up to an event, invited me to speak, invited me to an event, partnered, signed-up, started a club, became an official Girls Who Code Partner, or any other way you showed support, I THANK YOU from the bottom of heart and for the girls that will be positively impacted because of this.

Together we launched 163 clubs across North Carolina and 51 across South Carolina. We also supported 130 girls through the completion of the Summer Immersion Program

application meeting goals for diversity, equity, inclusion, and income-based participation. My work with Girls Who Code is expanding, and I am gearing up for a full year of closing the gender gap in tech in North Carolina

The 🌱 Plug: Let's connect to support girls in tech by partnering and launching clubs in North Carolina.



CLT250 - Charlotte SHOUT!


A celebration of art, music, food and ideas in Uptown Charlotte taking place April 29 - May 11. Kicking off with the Charlotte Jazz Festival, and culminating with a three-day convergence, this celebration will feature exceptionally curated programming from around the corner and around the world. This year, SHOUT! is the grand finale of CLT250, the year-long commemoration of Charlotte's 250th anniversary. With 75+ concerts, installations, performances and everything in between, everyone can discover something inspiring. [Learn more here](#)

Volunteers Interested in helping put on Charlotte SHOUT!? We need dedicated, dependable, helpful, and most of all friendly volunteers. Come be a part of the team! Email: mponce@charlottecentercity.org

The 🌱 Plug: Plan your schedule accordingly, many events are free. Reach out to volunteer

Legacy Projects [#CLT250](#) would like to inspire our community to complete 250 Legacy

Projects in 2019, so please complete the form below to submit your project need. Perhaps challenge yourself to come up with something 250-themed - plant 250 trees, send 250 kids to camp, clean up 250 acres of trails, etc. While some project sponsors may have funding to contribute, most will have primarily volunteers to offer. If you would like to create a legacy project please sign up here https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLScczbt29k9Jg_5XAq.../viewform

The  Plug: Do you have a project, initiative, or organization that needs resources, volunteers, support, or dollars that can be connected to CLT250? Sign-up here to have it included in the awareness effort being generated here.



Why are you receiving this email?

You are receiving this email because we are family, friends, met at some point, or talked about our work. As you probably know, I am working on a number of projects and I wanted a way to make it easier to communicate with family and friends about what's going on and ways to plug in. I was preparing an update for family and friends, and I came across tynyletter. I think this might be a solution. Please find ways here to connect, support, and collaborate. Let me know what you think.

[Plugs & Sockets](#) by Nakisa "Sista Sol" Glover
 Charlotte, North Carolina Charlotte, NC USA
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