

**dr candi  
dugas**

PLAYWRIGHT/PRODUCER

**FATHERS  
MATTER ATL**

IMPROVING FATHERHOOD  
SYSTEMS

**TERRY  
HENRY**

ACTOR/ACTING COACH  
EMCEE

**DR. LATRICE  
ROLLINS**

AUTHOR/RESEARCHER  
CHANGE AGENT

**DR. WILLIE F.  
G~DMAN**

LICENSED  
THERAPIST/PASTOR/  
THEOLOGIAN

**DAVID  
KOTÉ**

DIRECTOR/EDUCATOR

**JULIE  
SKRZYPEK**

CREATIVE  
DIRECTOR/PRODUCER

**GEOFFREY D.  
WILLIAMS**

ACTOR/DIRECTOR

Introducing

the

collective

the artistry x impact of candi dugas collective

SPECIAL EDITION  
JAN 2024



LET'S CELEBRATE! 🎆

I know it's late in the month,  
AND it's STILL worthy of  
CELEBRATING a new year! 😊

And YES, I know  
we've got some shit  
going on in this  
world, including a  
critical presidential  
election in 10  
months - and still -  
let's celebrate this  
new year. #LISTEN 🙌



**PEACE + ALL THAT IS GOOD,**

**rev dr candi dugas**

**LEAD CREATIVE + PRESIDENT  
CANDI DUGAS COLLECTIVE**

**peace + all  
that is good**  
*candi*

SPECIAL EDITION

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Meet  
the  
Collective



the Collective

# artist

dr candi  
dugas

PLAYWRIGHT/PRODUCER

“There’s no greater joy than to do what I love with a-mazingly gifted people!” TYSM! 🤗 ~candi

rev dr candi dugas is a New York Times award-winning writer, dramaturg, producer + cultural organizer compelled to complete freedom. Every project she curates comes from the longing that lives in her breath to help make this world a better place, which includes investing in + collaborating with other creatives.

Most recently candi has been walking her talk of desiring to live her life aligned with the rhythms of the earth/universe. As winter has a hibernation vibe to it, she’s been quite reflective, planning for herself, and for the Collective. Look for this season’s seeds to sprout in spring! 🌱

So, it was kinda cool taking a photo op with Lamman Rucker during the Bronze Lens Film Festival a few years ago after shooting her very 1st concept trailer - for *Desire’s Kiss* - with its director, Collective member, Julie Skrzypek!





the Collective

# social impact

*Fathers  
Matter ATL*

**MOBILIZING FATHERHOOD  
IN METRO ATLANTA**  
“We are developing  
systems that serve fathers  
as well as they serve  
moms + babies.”

A multi-sector team of leaders in the community, academia, and health and human services work together to realize the vision through seven strategies:

- Connecting Fathers to Resources and to Each Other
- Reaching Fathers
- Improving Relationships (Between Men & Institutions; Between Co-Parents)
- Supporting Inner Healing
- Reclaiming the Narrative
- Addressing Mass Incarceration
- Implementing Father-Friendly Policies



**Learn more.**



the Collective

# wellness practitioner

*Rev. Dr. Willie  
F. G~dman*

**THEOLOGIAN/LICENSED  
THERAPIST**

**"I'm always interested in  
creating opportunities +  
dreams." ~G~dman**

Willie F. Goodman is the Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling. In 2012, he was accorded the rank of Associate Professor of Pastoral Care and Counseling within the Department of Psychology of Religion and Pastoral Care at ITC, where he has

taught courses in pastoral care, pastoral counseling, pastoral theology and psychology of religion. He developed courses that researched the intersectional a/effects of sexuality and spirituality in pastoral counseling, as well as his model of pastoral counseling with African American men, good-enough mentoring. His passion for chaplaincy + teaching continues to lead his research in practical academics.

Dr. G~dman  
spreading  
joy - as he  
does!  
**Learn  
more.**





the Collective

# artist

*Terry Henry*

ACTOR/ACTING  
COACH/EMCEE

“Being a mom is the  
greatest joy + honor of my  
life.” ~Terry

Terry Henry is a versatile singer, a successful working actress in television and professional theatre, acting instructor, acting coach and motivational speaker. She is a two-season (2022-2024) teaching artist for The Next Narrative Monologue Competition with Kenny Leon’s True Colors Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia, and recently

completed filming an episode of “Black Mafia Family” on the STARZ network for season three (among a litany of TV credits). Terry is also a captivating Jazz, R&B and Pop singer who has performed with big band orchestras and jazz bands across the country and abroad.

Terry with her daughter, Judah, (also a talented artist), after Judah’s opening night at The Strand Theatre.

**Learn more.**



the Collective

# artist

David  
Koté, MFA

DIRECTOR/EDUCATOR

“There are too many of my students now on Broadway - in film + TV - to count.” ~Koté



David Koté, MFA is an award-winning theatre director, actor, and educator. He began at Tri-Cities High School of Visual and Performing Arts, and acclaimed Freddie Hendricks Youth Ensemble of Atlanta. Koté earned a B.A. degree in speech and theatre arts from Dillard University, and M.F.A. in directing from Indiana University.

Koté served as Director of Theatre Arts at Tri-Cities High School Visual and Performing Arts Magnet where he received many awards for his work, including The Charles Lorigans Foundation for excellence and leadership in theatre education. Kote's production of The Color Purple at Actor's Express is the recipient of **six** 2019 Suzi Bass Awards.

David celebrating yet another win with one of his theatre students, Ronnie McCoy.

[Learn more.](#)





the Collective

# social impact

*Dr. Latrice Rollins*

**AUTHOR/RESEARCHER  
CHANGE AGENT**

**“I love the arts and reaching people in diverse ways.” ~Dr. Rollins**

Latrice Rollins is a dedicated, passionate social worker, author, researcher, educator, and master collaborator. Her broad range of work experiences include working with fathers and families as a state employee; conducting national evaluations of health and human service programs, and making policy recommendations; conducting community-based participatory research; training

practitioners, researchers, and students; and leading community initiatives. She is a change agent with a unique perspective on building a culture of health and advancing health equity.

Dr. Rollins with her daughter in one of her favorite cities, New Orleans, enjoying Beyoncé’s Renaissance tour.

**[Learn more.](#)**





the Collective

# artist

*Julie  
Skrzypek*

**CREATIVE  
DIRECTOR/PRODUCER**

**"I look forward to working  
alongside colleagues who have  
a strong vision and calling to  
make change through an  
artistic lens." ~Julie**

Julie is a mixed-media artist whose practice focuses on elongating the theatrical narrative.



**[Learn more.](#)**



the Collective

# artist

Geoffrey D.  
Williams\*

ACTOR/ACTING  
COACH/DIRECTOR

"I enjoy making  
connections with other like-  
minded artists." ~Geoffrey

An accomplished actor on stage and screen, Geoffrey has appeared in the Virginia Stage Company's production of *Fences* as Gabriel Maxson. Atlanta audiences may remember him in the Alliance Theatre's production of *God of Carnage* with the first all African-American cast. Regional theatre credits include Kenny Leon's *True Colors* Theatre Company, Huntington Theatre,

Geva Theatre Center, Indiana Rep Theatre, Horizon Theatre Company, Theatrical Outfit, Theatre in the Square, Burt Reynolds Theatre, Jomandi Productions, Mill Mountain Playhouse, among others. Always excited to work with talented casts + crews, Geoffrey would like to thank everyone for all that they have contributed to his career. "See you in the lights!"

Geoffrey with Reed Sellers, during a staged reading of candi's play, *Wild & Free*.

[Learn more.](#)



\*Actors' Equity Association

# candi dugas collective

is a Black-centered social impact enterprise, the only creative collective building freedom from within thru the arts.

Our work is organized into three (3) Focus Strategies:

- ✦ the Arts as healing for freedom
- ✦ rooted in Spirituality
- ✦ The dugas Methods

Learn more! 🙏





the  
*Arts*

as healing for  
freedom

**Promotes Creative Growth**

**Enhances Problem-Solving Skills**

**Improves Fine Motor Skills**

**Encourages Positivity + Offers Stress Relief**

**Bolsters Memory, Concentration + Spatial Awareness**

**Fosters Emotional Awareness + Growth**

**Offers a Healthy Challenge**

**Boosts Self-Confidence**

**Builds Nonverbal Communication Skills**

**Brings People Together**

**(from Date Nights to Corporate Team-Building Activities)**

**READ the entire article.**



©: Princess Diamond Painting Art Kit on amazon.com

**10**

# Health Benefits of Painting

Source: [paintingtogogh.com](http://paintingtogogh.com)

**Somewhere I  
read**

**of the freedom  
of speech.**

**Somewhere I  
read**

**of the freedom  
of press.**

**Somewhere I  
read**

**that the  
greatness of  
America is the  
right to protest  
for rights.**

**All we say to  
America is to  
be true to  
what you said  
on paper...**



*~Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.*



about

# The Arts as healing for freedom

Healing is necessary for full freedom.

Often healing that eludes can be due to situations or people that we do not want to face. If it's safe, and if it's time, the **Arts** provides the most profound + poignant path into these areas that can call for our attention so that we can (*finally*) heal.

**candi dugas collective** specializes in producing storytelling art forms in safer + supportive spaces, shaping today narratives while honoring tradition's wisdom + steadfastness. We thoughtfully infuse our work with alternative approaches to recognizable issues to shift us forward in meaningful ways, allowing our healing to be sustainable.

This is **contemplative creativiTea™**.

READ MORE >>



SUBSCRIBE



**#perfection** Our National Museum of African-American History & Culture has chosen the national theme, **Black Art & Artisans** and our part in affecting social justice, for their 2024 Black History Month celebration! 🙌🎨🎶 How perfect 😊👊 [Learn more.](#)

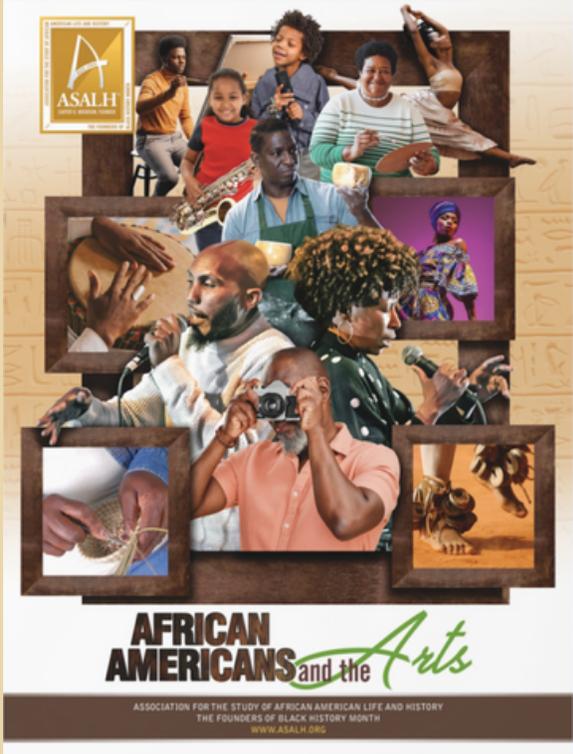


**Learn More** about all things Black History Month 2024

*What's happening in your community?*

Post on Insta, and tag us!  
 (@candigirlfreedom)

**Stretching Forward continued from p22:**  
 concepts as mutually exclusive, allow your mind to hold seemingly contradictory beliefs. Just as particles navigate various possibilities, your expanding ideologies can exist in a state of continuous evolution, fostering a more nuanced understanding of the world around you.  
 Remember, the expansion of ideologies is a cosmic journey within, where the universe of ideas continually unfolds. Embrace the scientific principles that guide the cosmos to navigate the ever-expanding landscape of your mind.





A close-up photograph of a dandelion seed head, showing the intricate structure of the seeds and their stems. The image is set against a dark, almost black background, which makes the golden-brown tones of the dandelion stand out. A soft, golden glow emanates from the center of the seed head, creating a dreamy and ethereal atmosphere. The text is overlaid on this image.

rooted in

*Spirituality*

## Stretching Forward: 3 Scientific Hacks to Expand Within

Unfolding within to become “larger” in our soul’s development, expanding can be akin to a cosmic journey. Here are three fun-infused, scientifically inspired hacks to help you spread on out:

### Dilate Your Perspectives

Just as the universe undergoes continuous change, allowing galaxies to recede from one another, embrace a dynamic mindset. Challenge yourself to explore diverse viewpoints, engage in conversations with people of varied backgrounds, and consider alternative points of view. Allow recession as much as progression as a good thing.

### The Ideological Spectrum

Similar to the principle of light dispersion, where a beam is separated into its component colors, let loose your intellectual spectrum. Spread out your curiosities even further into topics you’ve never considered before! Your local librarian is a great resource.

### Quantum Growth

In the quantum world, particles can exist in multiple states simultaneously. Apply this concept to your ideological growth – embrace the coexistence of contrasting ideas. Instead of viewing

*continued on p. 19*



Check out  
Sarah Blondin’s  
guided meditation,  
“Our Souls Expansion”

rooted in Spirituality

# expand

“If you put yourself in a position where you have to **stretch** outside your comfort zone, then you are forced to **expand** your consciousness.

~Les Brown

DONATE

**“[C]elebration make us pause  
and be mindful, and that  
boosts our well-being.”**

**~Polly Campbell**



### **Ways to Celebrate the Little Moments**

- 1. Notice the moment.**
- 2. Move out of the routine and set the scene.**
- 3. Commemorate the moment.**

**READ the entire article.**

**Why Celebrate During  
Tough Times?**

**Spirituality** is the heart + soul of building freed•dom for Black people.

It's our life-force.  
It's our essence.

the **candi dugas collective** (*cdc*) invites you to immerse yourself in our visionary, syncretic spiritual offerings - from meditations to other spiritual practices like journaling - to help heal + ground you, increase your mindfulness, support your decision-making, manifest your dreams, and more! 🧡



©: @MenWithLocs on Fb

**about**

READ MORE »

**rooted in**

*Spirituality*

SUBSCRIBE

*in the spirit of Black Liturgies ...*

**INHALE**

I stay human.

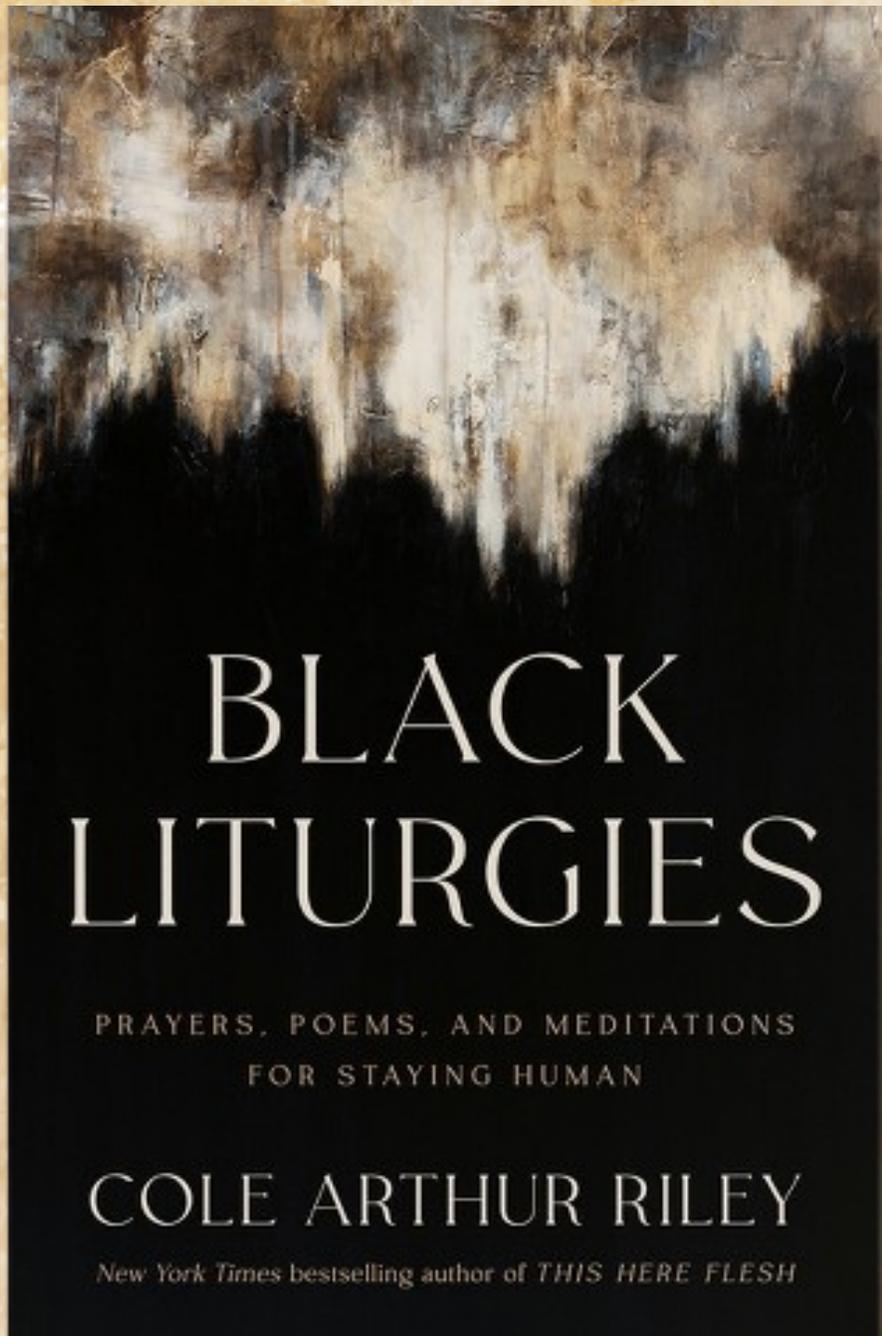
**EXHALE**

That's it. That's the plan.

**This work right here ...  
kept many of us  
grounded  
sane  
human  
during the pandemics of  
COVID-19 and 2020's  
round of racial reckoning.**

**We celebrate with Cole  
Arthur Riley the release of  
her presence + labor as a  
printed project. 🙌🍷**

**Grab yours today from  
your local Black  
bookseller.**





#LISTEN on InsightTimer + #WATCH on YouTube  
as we focus deeply on the kinds of thoughts  
that help us **heal, grow, thrive + BE FREE!**

# WAITING'S CENTER

*Grounding :: The Waiting Series  
with dr candi dugas*



# Spiritual Awakening

A Guided Journey of  
Choosing a Spiritual Path

candi dugas

The good news is that there has never been greater access to such a wide variety of spiritual paths. The challenging news is the same - with soooo many choices + relatively easy access to them all, choosing the best spiritual path can become completely overwhelming. 😊

So, this e-book will help guide you through **5 tools** to help you begin to sift through your options so that the process is not so daunting. We all need a helpful spiritual practice simply to navigate life well - to be healthy and at peace.

"Spiritual Awakening: A Guided Journey of Choosing a Spiritual Path" is particularly designed with the spiritual seeker in mind, especially those who are very, very brand new even to considering practicing any form of spirituality. However, those of us who may be considering changing spiritual/faith/belief traditions can benefit from it as well.

**Download** it, **FREE**, and let us know how it's going 🧑🏻🧑🏻🧑🏻





# The *dugan* Method



# In Relationship with Money?

/ from candi dugas

If money is neutral + has no energy of its own, how are we in relationship with it? Right. We are not.

Your relationship is not with money.

Your relationship is with whatever is on the other side of the money exchange.

Our social media followers are calling this message "powerful... 🔥🔥🔥"

**Check it out**, let us know in the comments how you experience it - and share with others if it resonates! 🙌✨





# The Journaling Challenge

with licensed therapists



# DREAM

14 days

February 10-23, 2024



*Free*

**"Dream Crafting: Unraveling Assumptions to Ignite Possibilities"**

Join this journaling challenge to explore the assumptions we make, even subconsciously, **that may be hindering our dreams coming true** 🌸 ...

**#LISTEN** to learn more 🗣️



# Expression

6 styles - hoodies, tees, journals + candles:

free ... Since I said so 😊  
gotta think about that shit

3 NEW styles dropping for Black History Month - stay tuned!!! 🤗👏

light up your voice; ignite impact

savage & chic

standing on business 2024

stay out of Black folks business

standing on business



building freed•dom™



GRAB your cdc building freed•dom merch!



SHOP NOW

about

# The *dugas* Method

Crafting YOUR Blueprint for Success with  
and  
Unlocking the Power of

The **dugas** Method™

*Hint: Strategy is Everything ... 😊 🙌*

As our global marketplace is ever-evolving, one undeniable truth remains constant: **strategy** makes allllll the difference in the world. It's not just the guiding star that illumines our paths to success - it's how we garner the momentum *to* succeed.

Experience taught us this, and that's why strategy is at the heart of The **dugas** Method™ — an approach that is a proven game-changer in whatever work we do. From planning to producing - our Method is the essence of transformation, the embodiment of rationale, and the guarantor of your efforts' results.

[READ MORE](#) »

[SUBSCRIBE](#)





**Struggle is a  
never-ending  
process.**

**Freedom is  
never really  
won,**

**you earn it  
and win it**

**in every  
generation.**

---

*~Coretta Scott King*



# Stewardship of the Collective



## HANSBERRY

Your support at this first level, \$25, honors Lorraine Hansberry, the first-ever African-American woman to write a play performed on Broadway - *A Raisin in the Sun* (1959). FOCUS: supporting creative + mental health resources + community for the Collective's artists.



## POINT DU SABLE

Your gift of \$50 honors Jean Baptiste Point du Sable, a pioneering trader/settler born in Haiti and founder of the settlement that later became the city of Chicago, Illinois. FOCUS: supports the creation of transformative content for cdc's spirituality programs that empower individuals on their life journeys.



## L'OUVETURE

Your gift of \$75 honors Haitian leader of that land's independence movement, François Dominique Toussaint L'Ouverture. His leadership included the liberation of his enslaved people, restoring his people's economy. FOCUS: helps support community outreach + engagement for initiatives that drive social impact.



## CHISOLM

Your gift of \$125 honors Shirley Chisolm, "unbought & unbossed," the first-ever African-American woman elected to the U.S. Congress, and the first Black person to make a bid for the U.S. presidency as a major-party candidate — no permission needed. FOCUS: supports 10 meals at a Broadway Brunch.



## MANGOU

Your gift of \$250 honors Sarraounia Mangou, fearless warrior-chief priestess of the largest ethnic subgroup of the Hausa, a people of northern Nigeria and surrounding areas. She successfully fought off the French, trying to colonize her land. FOCUS: supports professional development for emerging + established artists.



## X

Your gift of \$500 honors El-Hajj Malik El-Shabazz — better known as Malcolm X. One of his most famous quotes is simple, and inspires perspective + resilience, "Stumbling is not falling." FOCUS: supports focused marketing, social media boosts, and other amplified outreach to cdc audiences.



## TUBMAN

Your gift of \$1,000 honors Harriet Tubman, 1st-ever woman to lead a U.S. armed military operation, most widely renowned for freeing dozens of her enslaved people. "I freed 1,000 slaves. I could've freed 1,000 more—if only they knew they were slaves." FOCUS: supports cdc technology from upgrades to subscriptions for apps, enhancing digital communications + advances.



Thank you SO much for your generous support of **candi dugas collective** over the years, and as we brought 2023 to a close!

Your gifts help support our work at the intersection of artistry, spirituality + social impact.

Every amount makes a significant difference in the lives of communities, audiences + artists whom we touch. Read more in the description to the left of the kind of legacy you're supporting when you generously give to cdc. **Thank you so much, always, for your support!**



# Thank YOU!!!

## candi dugas collective donors

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Marlan Crawford | Darryl Crowder

rev dr candi dugas

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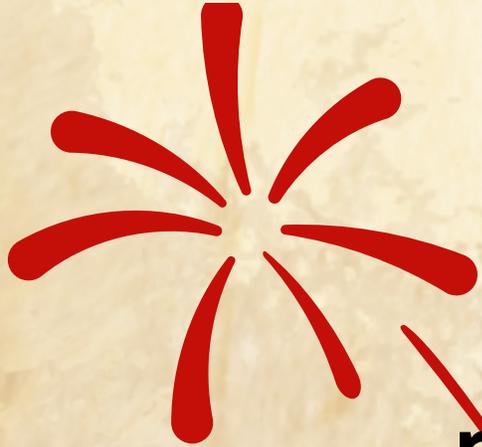
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*the artistry of candi dugas collective is a sponsored project of FracturedAtlas.org. Donations via Fractured Atlas are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.*



**Have an  
a-mazing  
rest of January/  
beginning of February**

**and we'll see you  
with next month's edition!**

**xoxo**

*Happy Black  
History Month!!!*





the artistry x impact of candi dugas collective

# the collective

LINK  
IN  
BIO



FOLLOW us  
on Insight  
Timer!!!



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