



## PRESS RELEASE

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### ***Freedom Birders Take Wing in Ohio***

# Freedom Birders: Birding for Freedom and Social Justice

June 2, 7-8 p.m.  
Virtual Program



Celebrate Black Birders Week with an exploration of *The Freedom Birdhouse*, a project of Amplify the Future, founded by presenters Tykee James and Jeffrey Train. As part of the Freedom Birders movement, the organization seeks to change the culture of bird watching in the United States by developing a racial justice curriculum and bird education project resourced by the lessons and inspiration of the Civil Rights Movement, the Freedom Riders, the Black Lives Matter Movement, the 1619 Project, and Black Birders Week.



Take a virtual tour of the Cincinnati Freedom Birdhouse, created by Tykee James and Jeffrey Train, where they share the roots of their inspiration and the connections between the movement of people, observation of birds, the Ohio River, and recognition of land. Discover the intersection of history, nature, and science through the Freedom Birders program.

**Free and open to the public. [Click here](#) to register.**

Tykee James has been part of the birding community for almost a decade. He has served as governmental affairs coordinator for the National Audubon Society, Co-chair for the National Black and Latinx Scholarship Fund, and on the Board of Directors of the Birding Co-op, the IDEAL Committee at the Academy of Natural Sciences at Drexel University, and the D.C. Audubon Society. He is currently the President of D.C. Audubon Society. James has earned international recognition as one of the organizers of the first #BlackBirdersWeek and is the audio producer for the Wildlife Observer Network. James hosts two podcasts: *Brothers in Birding* and *On Word for Wildlife*.

Jeffrey Train is the founder of *Mr. Train's Life Lessons for Better Birding & Beyond*, a curriculum driven program seeking to inspire families and young naturalists to discover the wonder of birds. Train welcomes viewers into his world of wonder by introducing them to the birds inhabiting his neighborhood. An award-winning educator, he has taught, mentored, counseled, and coached for more than two decades, and is a trained racial equity facilitator. Train is an avid birder and leads bird and nature walks in Central Park and northern New Jersey.

Want to know more about Freedom Birding? Check out this [video](#) and listen to Episode 9, *Freedom Birding with Tykee James*, of the Lloyd's podcast [Between the Leaves](#). To further explore the history of birding and nature visit the Lloyd Library's exhibition, [On the Wing: An Illustrated Chapter on Birds](#), now through June 24.

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This program is supported in part by the Elizabeth Wakeman Henderson Charitable Foundation and [Members](#) of the Lloyd Library and Museum.

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The Lloyd Library and Museum is located at 917 Plum St. in Cincinnati, Ohio. Free and open to the public. Open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday and the third Saturday of the month. For more information, contact the Library at (513) 721-3707, email [contact@lloydlibrary.org](mailto:contact@lloydlibrary.org) or visit [LloydLibrary.org](http://LloydLibrary.org).

