

An invitation to bring healing and community change in response to tragedy

Making the Dream a Reality

Thank You Donors!

A heartfelt thank you to all of the support we receive through donations, and a special thank you to our monthly donors who make it possible to sustain and grow Philando's legacy.

Valerie and Allysza Castile Present $15,000 Grant

On February 17, 2023, Valerie and Allysza Castile (center), on behalf of the Philando Castile Relief Foundation, presented a $15,000 check to Roseville Area Schools to reduce negative lunch balances. The Foundation has made many similar donations in honor of Philando's work as a nutrition services supervisor. Valerie said, "I hope this donation influences the passing of [Minnesota] Governor Waltz's Free Meal Bill."

If passed, the bill will provide breakfast and lunch to students, ensuring, no student in Minnesota goes hungry. HF1729 passed in Minnesota House of Representatives 70-58, and will move on to the Senate. To view the bill status, go to https://www.house.mn.gov/bills/Info/HF1729/92/2021/0



Interactive Learning at the Rondo Community Library

Philando Castile enjoyed helping children in many ways, including helping them to learn how to read. Every Monday, the Rondo Community Library hosts an early learning and story time opportunity for toddlers, preschool age, and their families. Kids can participate in the story time, rhymes and songs while gaining positive interactions with books. To learn more and to see upcoming events, go to https://sppl.org/locations/RD/

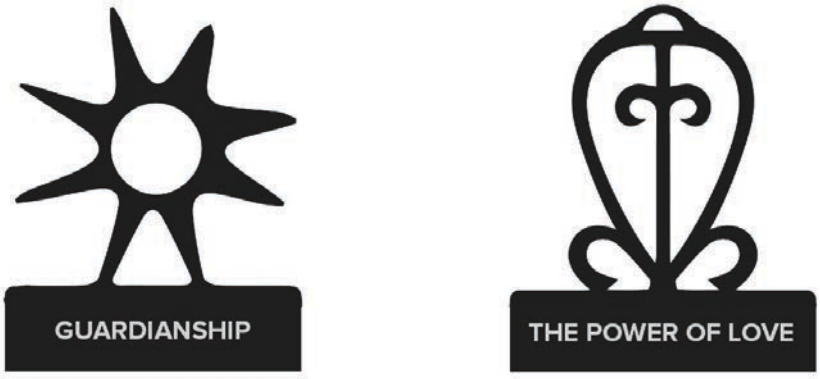
Minnesota Author David Mura's New Book The Stories Whiteness Tells Itself: Racial Myths and Our American Narratives

David Mura, a Japanese American poet, writer, critic, and playwright has something to say about racism. Mura's new book, The Stories Whiteness Tells Itself: Racial Myths and Our American Narratives challenges white narratives and brings to light many of the myths and false histories that have contributed to white supremacy and racism. The book is organized into three sections, the first chapter in section one is: "The Killing of Philando Castile and the Negation of Black Innocence." Mura shares his own personal experience driving down Larpenteur Avenue when he lived just a few blocks from where Philando was killed. He acknowledges the realities of "driving while Black" and says that Philando's death changed the way he writes. A

live reading of his book is scheduled **March 22, 2023 from 7pm-8pm** at the Moon Palace Books in Minneapolis. The book is also available on Amazon in paperback and hard cover.

The Meaning Behind the Sculptures

Have you walked through the Philando Castile Peace Garden and noticed the large metal sculptures? These sculptures are actually West African Adinkra symbols. Each symbol represents its own guiding principle, and most commonly signify a tribute to Philando. Here are two examples, and more will be featured in future newsletters.



Each symbol, carefully selected and constructed holds a powerful message of healing and unity, the mission of the garden.

Follow the Peace Garden on Social Media

Are you following us on social media? You can find the Philando Castile Peace Garden on Facebook, Philando Castile Peace Garden and Instagram @philandocastilepeacegarden. Please accept your invitation to these platforms to help bring healing, community change and peace. Learn more about the Peace Garden and get information on upcoming events.

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