

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Dr. Carl Hart from Columbia University to address Modern Day Drug Addiction in Relation to Health and Poverty in the African American Community in Sacramento**

SACRAMENTO (March 21) – The 8th annual Northern California Black Physicians Forum (BPF) will take place on Friday, March 23, 2018 at the UC Davis School of Medicine – Education Building, 4610 X Street, in Sacramento, California from 5:30 – 9:30 pm.

The purpose of the BPF is to connect physicians, clinicians, medical students, health care and public health professionals with colleagues throughout Northern California to discuss physician leadership and collaborative roles in chronic disease treatment, prevention, and access to healthcare.

“Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation annually hosts the Black Physicians Forum as a call to action. Black Physicians leadership changes social norms by increasing community awareness and developing solutions for health disparities. Strong physicians’ leadership is also essential for solving health inequities in care and offers collaborative opportunities for physician-led reform of traditional and nontraditional treatment. Additionally, physicians’ knowledge and first hand perspective of medical education financing, health information, coverage and technology implementation are powerful factors to shape legislation. Black healthcare and public health professional add credibility and strengthen the viability of these reforms in the professional and public arenas for the African American community.” - stated Twlia Laster, Strategic Marketing Director, Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation.

This year’s topic of discussion is "Modern Day Drug Addiction in Relation to Health and Poverty in the African American Community". UC Davis Chancellor Dr. Gary May and Dr. Hendry Ton, Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Diversity and Inclusion at UC Davis Health, stated: “the Black Physicians Forum is vitally importance for addressing the social determinants that contribute to the health of the African American Community. We must examine the impact of bias, poverty, and policy on drug addiction and its treatment, and identify positive approaches that providers and communities can use to transform our systems of care to truly achieve health equity.”

This year’s platform includes: Keynote Presenter Dr. Carl Hart - Chair of the Department of Psychology at Columbia University. He is also the Dirk Ziff Professor of Psychology in the Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry, Master of Ceremonies Dr. Thomas Hopkins Board-certified physician in Internal Medicine; Dr. Olivia Kasirye - Public Health Officer, Sacramento County Department of Public Health; Dr. H. Westley Clark, Dean's Executive Professor of Public Health at Santa Clara University; and Dr. Tamu Nolfo, Principal of Nolfo Consulting, Inc.

Pleshette Robertson, CEO and Founder of Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation stated “Our Foundation is proud to partner with co-presenting partner UC Davis School of Medicine to host this 8<sup>th</sup> annual gathering. It is our responsibility to discuss, research, translate, objectively guide, and provide solutions that improve healthcare and ensure the public is well informed and maintains the freedoms to make appropriate choices for themselves and our communities.”

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Corporate and Community Contributing Partners include: AFSCME 3299, African American Tobacco Control Leadership Council, United Healthcare, City of Sacramento – Councilmember Allen Warren – District 2, Coleman Communications, Northern California Medical Billing & Coding Institute, One Community Health, Rex & Margaret Fortune School, BBVA Compass, Sacramento County Department of Health and Human Services, The SOL Project – Saving Our Legacy, African Americans for Smoke Free Safe Places, UC Davis Office of Campus Community Relations.

Registration is open to physicians, medical students, health care and public health professionals. RSVP online at <http://bpf2018.eventbrite.com>. For more information call (916) 234-3589 or email [contact@sacculturalhub.com](mailto:contact@sacculturalhub.com).

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#### **About Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation**

The Sac Cultural Hub Media Foundation was created in 2003 to develop programs that mentor young adults and women of color in under-served communities. The Foundation has implemented programs in partnership with corporations and businesses to promote mentorship, higher education, provide entrepreneurship opportunities, further diverse partnerships, encourage collaboration in the community, offer educational workshops and exceptional signature events that include: Exceptional Women of Color (EWOC) Conference, Young Women's Summit & Scholarship Program, Hub Choice Awards (HCA), and the Black Physicians Forum (BPF). Our mission is to provide exciting non traditional vehicles of engagement where businesses and non profit organizations can market services and products, mentor those in need, and provide public service information to educate and inspire the urban community. The Foundation's primary goal is to motivate and empower African American professionals, communities, and youth to thrive and succeed in life. [www.sacculturalhub.com/media-foundation](http://www.sacculturalhub.com/media-foundation)

#### **About UC Davis School of Medicine**

A national reputation for life-changing biomedical discoveries, a passion for clinical care, and a commitment to engaging people from underserved communities are the hallmarks of a UC Davis School of Medicine education. Our students are leaders who appreciate rigorous academic training balanced with hands-on experience, and have a strong desire to serve. Our faculty specialize in translational research covering a wide range of areas and are engaged in innovative, interdisciplinary collaborations, both within the UC Davis community and with other highly regarded institutions. For more information, visit UC Davis School of Medicine at [www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/medschool](http://www.ucdmc.ucdavis.edu/medschool).

**8th**  
Annual

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

**BLACK**



**PHYSICIANS**

FORUM 2018

**Friday, March 23, 2018**

**5:30 pm to 9:30 pm**

**UC Davis School of Medicine Education Building • 4610 X Street • Sacramento 95818**



**KEYNOTE SPEAKER**  
**Dr. Carl Hart**  
Chair of the Department of Psychology at Columbia University and Dirk Ziff Professor of Psychology in the Departments of Psychology and Psychiatry



**Master of Ceremonies**  
**Dr. Thomas Hopkins**  
Board Certified Physician in Internal Medicine & Chief Medical Correspondent for KCRA-3



**Guest Presenter**  
**Dr. Tamu Nolfo, PhD**  
Principal of Nolfo Consulting, Inc.



**Guest Presenter**  
**Dr. H. Westley Clark**  
Dean's Executive Professor of Public Health at Santa Clara University



**Guest Presenter**  
**Dr. Olivia Kasrye**  
Public Health Officer, Sacramento County Department of Public Health

## "Modern Day Drug Addiction In Relation To Health and Poverty in the African American Community"

Open to physicians, clinicians, nurses, medical students and public health professionals  
There is no cost to attend this event; however you must RSVP online to attend.  
[www.sacculturalhub.com/black-physicians-forum/black-physicians-forum](http://www.sacculturalhub.com/black-physicians-forum/black-physicians-forum)

**Join us at 5:30 pm to network with colleagues & enjoy our catered reception**

8th ANNUAL BLACK PHYSICIANS FORUM PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP BY

**sac cultural hub**  
Media Foundation

**UC DAVIS**  
**HEALTH**

Office for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion

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