

# NONO



THE  
*Marsha P.*  
*Johnson*  
INSTITUTE

## IMPACT REPORT



# CEO LETTER

As we enter 2023, the Marsha P. Johnson Institute and I are looking back at all of our successes from last year and what challenges we faced that will inform our growth into this new year: our Renaissance Year.

I founded the Marsha P. Johnson Institute (MPJI) after realizing that I was very vulnerable in the world as a Black trans woman and after being arrested in 2014. I spent several days in jail and wanted to do something different to change the experience I was having as a woman and help improve the experiences that Black trans people were having. Additionally, there was and is an epidemic of murders of BLACK trans women that is vastly underreported. The violent and preventable nature of these deaths directly connects to the exclusion of BLACK trans people from social justice issues, namely racial, gender, and reproductive justice, as well as gun violence reform.

As a BLACK trans woman who grew up in midwestern America, I have lived through many of the key issues MPJI is working to eradicate: employment discrimination, physical violence, incarceration, survival sex work, homelessness. These were my realities, and I know they are shared by many. I founded this organization to center these needs and lived experiences.

MPJI was established to protect and defend the human rights of BLACK transgender people. Our communities experience disproportionate rates of systemic violence and economic discrimination, and BLACK trans women are among the most vulnerable populations in our country. MPJI seeks to eradicate the systemic, community, and physical violence that silences our community from actualizing freedom, joy, and safety. Additionally, I also did not see stories of joy, love, and resistance about BLACK trans people, and I wanted to show people that we live fulfilling, joyful lives with friends, families, and loved ones.

Our work involves advocating, offering fellowship opportunities, creating coalitions, capacity building for our community, and establishing trans-centered digital and on-the-ground campaigns. It is my dream to use MPJI to create national resources for the BLACK trans community and to start a new conversation—to enact a true culture change—so that we may all be free.

## **Some of our key programs and resources:**

The Coalition to Protect BLACK Trans Women: This coalition works with partner organizations

to protect BLACK trans women by bringing about solutions that actualize safety within local communities

MPJI Resource Map: We provide culturally competent resources for basic necessities like housing, food security, legal and financial support, COVID-19 relief, health/wellness, employment, social support, and more.

Starship Artist Fellowship (SAF): SAF was created to empower BLACK, TGNC creatives and provide resources to ease the burden of transphobia experienced in artistic spaces.

We are so proud to share these accomplishments with you as MPJI stands strong in a long line of fierce BLACK trans trailblazers, and as the ONLY national non-profit focused on protecting and defending the human rights of BLACK trans people, who are egregiously always under attack.

We've got big plans for our community. I am so honored to support those plans moving forward. The team at MPJI and I hope you will support us as we continue to dream, build, and plan for our community.

- Elle

**Elle Moxley**  
Founder & Executive Director





# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Mission

2022 Broad Review of Funding

Media Insights

2022 MPJI Staff/Office Overview

MPJI Programs Overview

US Map with Program members and Community Events from 2022 (includes Resource Map, SAF and Coalition)

Advisory Board

Staff Leadership Highlight

Statement of Commitment/Purpose/Goals for 2023

Gratitude to Funders/Supporters

Closing statement from MPJI



THE  
*Marsha P.*  
*Johnson*  
INSTITUTE



2022

# OUR MISSION

MPJI protects and defends the human rights of Black transgender people through advocacy, coalition, and capacity building.

We intend to reclaim our relationship as BLACK trans people to our movement legacy. It is in our reclaiming of this that we give ourselves permission to reclaim autonomy to our minds, to our bodies, and to our futures. We were founded both as a response to the murders of BLACK trans women and women of color and how that is connected to our exclusion from social justice issues, namely racial, gender, and reproductive justice, as well as gun violence.

"Beauty is subjective,  
beauty to me is being  
your true self and doing  
what makes you feel  
right."

WHAT DOES  
MEAN TO



# FUNDERS AND COLLABORATORS

- Annie E. Casey
- Ashley Stewart
- Bombas
- Borealis
- Google
- Emergent Fund
- Fund for a Safer Future
- Gilead
- Groundswell Liberation Fund
- H&M
- Hewlett Packard
- Langeloth Foundation
- Moulin Rouge The Musical!
- New York Women's Foundation
- Planned Parenthood
- NoVo Foundation
- Satterberg Foundation
- Solidaire
- Uber
- Wellspring



**THANK YOU TO OUR MAJOR INDIVIDUAL AND FOUNDATION DONORS WHOSE CONTRIBUTIONS ALLOW US TO EXPAND OUR PROGRAM OFFERINGS.**

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF OUR INDIVIDUAL SUPPORTERS AT ANY LEVEL FOR THE SUSTAINABILITY YOUR DONATIONS PROVIDE!**

# NEWS & SOCIAL MEDIA



MPJI was recognized this year in international and national media stories highlighting the organization's work, key partnerships, and, most importantly, impact on our community.

**1,012**  
MEDIA  
MENTIONS

**726**  
MEDIA  
OUTLETS

**25.7M**  
ESTIMATED  
VIEWS

**17**  
COUNTRIES  
REACHED

**5.03  
MILLION**  
AVERAGE  
MONTHLY  
READERS



20 LGBTQ+ COUPLES THROUGHOUT HISTORY

LGBTQ+ SINCE 1967

ADVOCATING FOR ALL

# THE ADVOCATE



A LEAGUE OF  
THEIR OWN IS  
BACK AND GAY!

MUSICIAN  
JAKE WESLEY  
ROGERS

QUEER  
AS FOLK  
STAR RYAN  
O'CONNELL

## Unseen in History

HOW ELLE MOXLEY IS HELPING A  
TRANSGENDER LEGACY LIVE ON

#SeenOnPixel

Elle being featured on the October cover of The Advocate, **THE WORLD'S LEADING SOURCE OF LGBTQ NEWS AND POLITICS**, was a key highlight.



# 128,672 SOCIAL MEDIA FOLLOWERS

 16,969 TWITTER FOLLOWERS	 95,477 INSTAGRAM FOLLOWERS	 14,113 FACEBOOK FOLLOWERS	 2,113 TIKTOK FOLLOWERS
--	--	--	--

\*as of December 31, 2022

More than 120,000 social followers, including Zaya Wade, Elizabeth Warren, Pete Buttigieg, Brandi Carlile, Dominique Jackson, Sonia Renee Taylor, Ibram X. Kendi, Ijeoma Oluo, Rachel Cargle, Ts Madison, Miss Major, and Imara Jones



# CAMPAIGNS



## PRIDE

Pride did not start out with the waving of rainbow flags and parades. Pride was, and is, a display of resistance! At the start of 2022, more than 300 bills were proposed attacking the trans community and LGBTQ+ community as a whole. In a matter of months, those coordinated attacks on trans lives swept across the nation. In the spirit of our namesake, for Pride Month we explored the modern-day movement with a deeper lens in our campaign, "Radical Pride: The Politics of UN(REST)." Let Pride month be a reminder that there is still work to do!

# BLACK HISTORY MONTH

For our BHM Honor series, we honored several brilliant BLACK transgender people who embody MPJI's value of passion. Passion fuels how we celebrate our successes, demonstrate our rage, encourage joy for ourselves, and with each other, explore our desires, think big, and have fun. These individuals are doing big, incredible things in our community in their respective ways.

# WOMEN ' S HISTORY MONTH

We highlighted four history-making transgender women who are making strides in local politics, fighting back and, as a result, exposing discriminatory practices in the Atlanta Police Department.



# BLACK AUGUST

This annual commemoration is a call to remember BLACK freedom fighters and political prisoners while highlighting BLACK resistance against racial oppression. We highlighted four trans and nonbinary activists making big impacts in the community.

# LCBTQ + HISTORY MONTH

During this month, we highlighted individuals who have influenced pop culture in the areas of fashion, music, television, and literature - from those you probably know, to those who have not been given enough flowers.

# TRANSGENDER AWARENESS WEEK

In November 2022, we announced the creation of the Coalition to End Violence Against BLACK Trans Women. The coalition is made up of organizations working collectively to analyze the problem, create advocacy tools, resources, and creative solutions to increase the safety of BLACK trans women & trans femmes.

# TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

We celebrate BLACK trans people, our lives and full experience. Our rallying cry will always be that we figure out how to honor people while they are still here by providing them with the things they need, resources that would minimize the likelihood of them being in dangerous situation. In 2022, we created a digital vigil to remember the lives of our BLACK TGNC siblings who are gone too soon due to acts of violence.

# TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY

Founder and CEO of MPJI, Elle Moxley, was joined by Cecilia Gentili, founder of Trans Equity Consulting, to discuss the good and bad of increased visibility, how to be in solidarity with the community, and how Marsha P. Johnson influenced their lives.

For all  
the  
Black Beauties



# 2022 MPJI STAFF

Our small staff operates remotely from 8 different states and US territories, with a strong Midwestern presence.

Our team spans decades of experience in the social justice, organizing, visual and performing arts, human services, and nonprofit sectors.

Additionally, MPJI is expanding our Institute staff and adding some brand-new positions as we continue to build out our organization with intentionality and in the spirit of collaborative solidarity.



# ADVISORY BOARD CHAIR

**J MASE  
III**

**Advisory Board Chair**

(He/Him)



J Mase III is a BLACK/trans/queer poet & educator that has worked in the US, UK, and Canada on LGBTQIA+ rights and racial justice in spaces such as K-12 schools, universities, faith communities and restricted care facilities. He is founder of awQward, the first trans and queer people of color talent agency. His work has been featured on MSNBC, Essence Live, Everyday Feminism, BLACK Girl Dangerous, NPR, Blavity, the New York Times, BuzzFeed, the Root, the Huffington Post, TEDx and more.

# MPJI PROGRAMS OVERVIEW



# THE STARSHIP ARTIST FELLOWSHIP

Marsha “Pay it no mind” Johnson existed and expressed boldly as a living art form. From being a model for an Andy Warhol campaign to being a part of the “Hot Peaches” performance troupe, Marsha is indeed a conduit for creativity. The purpose of MPJI’s artist fellowships is to empower BLACK trans creatives and provide resources that will ease the burden of transphobia experienced in artistic spaces.

The Starship Artist Fellowship is a six-month fellowship where five emerging artists will receive a monthly stipend, tools, and resources necessary to further their craft as well as be paired with a mentor to learn both technical and developing skills that support their medium of choice. With the support of their mentor, artists will work to create pieces that reflect their vision for a BLACK Trans Renaissance to be shared at a final showcase event in NYC!

# THE COALITION TO END VIOLENCE AGAINST BLACK TRANSGENDER WOMEN

The Marsha P. Johnson Institute was initially founded as a response to the murders of BLACK trans women and remains deeply committed to working to stop the epidemic of violence. From unjust local and national laws that strip trans people of humanity to the growing number of BLACK trans women and femmes whose lives are lost to structural, institutional, and interpersonal violence, we seek to end all systems of violence against BLACK trans women and trans femmes by abolishing the circumstances that invoke these tragedies.

This coalition works collectively to analyze the problem and create advocacy tools, resources, and creative solutions to increase the safety of BLACK trans women & trans femmes. As with all the work MPJI embarked on, this project is rooted in abolitionist values with a firm rejection of any solutions that increase policing, surveillance, or incarceration.





# MPJI RESOURCE MAP

What started as an idea in 2021 became a reality in 2022 with the launch of the MPJI Resource Map. After a year of dedicated research and development, we identified resources for the TGNC community in all 50 states! The MPJI Resource Map is a national list to help our TGNC siblings find local resources from employment and legal care to TGNC-friendly physicians and TGNC-owned businesses. We will continue to keep this resource updated for the community to access for years to come.

# EVENTS

2022

## ESSENCE FEST

Louisiana



## H&M FRESH & FABULOUS

Texas & Ohio

## THE HAIR TALES

New York





# DUSABLE BLACK HISTORY MUSEUM

Illinois

# PRIDE IN BLOOM BRUNCH

Ohio



# WHITE HOUSE

Washington, D.C.

# A DAY OF UNREASONABLE CONVERSATION

California





# THANK YOU SO MUCH

for putting action to your beliefs. Contributing to MPJI ensures that equity and access is available to BLACK trans people. It also ensures that our staff are able to persist in moving the mission of MPJI into the future. We are so grateful!”

- Elle

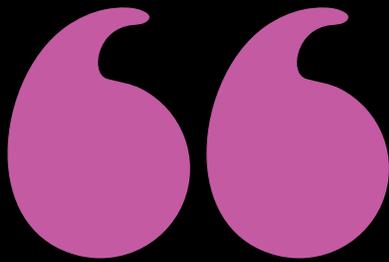
**Elle Moxley**  
Founder & Executive Director





Our supporters provide ongoing sustainability for MPJI and allow us to create a space of radical hope and collaboration. MPJI imagines a world that centers the most marginalized and is deeply invested in serving the needs of BLACK trans and gender nonconforming people.





**WE'VE PROVEN WHAT'S  
POSSIBLE IF THE  
INVESTMENT IS MADE  
INTO BLACK TRANS  
ORGANIZATIONS.**

**JOIN US IN 2023**

THE  
*Marsha P.*  
*Johnson*  
INSTITUTE

