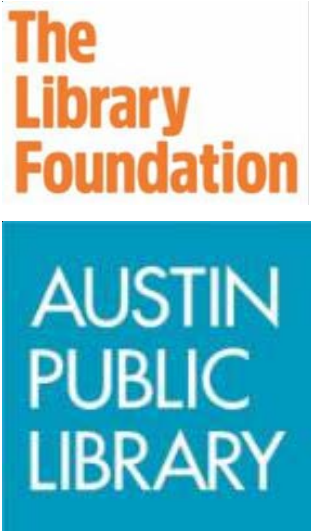


Austin photographer *Leta Harrison* trains her lens on Black women who use beauty as a form of activism

The solo exhibition “Black Girls Don’t Wear Red Lipstick” celebrates self-expression



“Black Girls Don’t Wear Red Lipstick”
When: February 15 through January 28, 2024
Where: The Gallery at Austin Central Library, 710 West Cesar Chavez St.
Gallery hours: 9 a.m. to 8 p.m., Monday-Thursday; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday; 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday; 12 noon to 5 p.m. Sunday
Admission is FREE
Info: library.austintexas.gov/events/exhibit/black-girls-dont-wear-red-lipstick-7740465

(AUSTIN, TX) - Step into a world of audacious beauty and empowerment with “Black Girls Don’t Wear Red Lipstick,” an exhibition at The Gallery at Austin Central Library featuring the work of Austin photographer **Leta Harrison**. The show is curated by **Keyheira Keys** and **Whitney Hamilton** of **Of Color Atx**, an Austin arts alliance that has partnered with Austin Public Library and The Library Foundation to present the exhibition and its programs.

In Harrison’s joyous, bold photographic prints, Black women embrace vibrant colors and confidently wear shades of red lipstick. Harrison showcases women using beauty as a form of activism to reclaim their power, challenge oppressive beauty standards, and stifle stereotypes. These powerful images promote positive change, and self-love, and illustrate Black women breaking free of the shackles of conformity.

Harrison is an Austin photographer with a passion for capturing the essence of her subjects and telling their powerful stories through her lens. Harrison found inspiration in a recollection shared publicly by Texas musician and activist Kam Franklin who recalled facing pressure to be more modest. Franklin’s phrase “Black girls don’t wear red lipstick” struck a chord with Harrison, inspiring her to create this exhibition.

Thomas Gleeson Sworn in as Chairman of Public Utility Commission of Texas

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(AUSTIN, TX) – Thomas Gleeson was sworn in today as Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUCT). Gleeson was appointed to the Commission by Governor Greg Abbott on Jan. 19, 2023. He has worked at the PUCT for 15 years, most recently serving as the agency’s executive director since 2020.

“It’s the highest honor of my professional life to be appointed Chairman of the Public Utility Commission of Texas by Governor Abbott. As a long-time employee of the PUCT, I’m deeply familiar with the duties and responsibilities of the agency. Even more importantly, as a husband, dad, and ratepayer, I know how the decisions we make here impact the daily lives and finances of Texas families. While issues at the PUCT are complex, our priorities are not. Keep electricity and water service reliable and affordable for all Texans.”

Gleeson has worked in a variety of roles at the PUCT, including Chief Operating Officer, director of finance and administration, and fiscal project manager. He also worked as a legislative analyst for the

EVENTS

- **Opening reception: 6 to 9 p.m. February 15.**
Free and open to the public.
Co-sponsored by **Of Color Atx**. Meet the artist and curators Spoken word performance by **Christa Brown**. Music by **DJ Lauren Light**. Free and open to the public.
- **Black History Month Celebration: 1 to 3 p.m. February 24. Free and open to the public.**
Join us in the Gallery for an inspiring spoken word event, featuring **Christa Brown**. Take part in a thought-provoking writing workshop and pen your personal experiences and connect them to the exhibition’s themes of empowerment and beauty activism. Then share your stories in a supportive environment and celebrate the power of breaking stereotypes.

The Gallery at Austin Central Library features rotating art displays from local and national artists with a public call for exhibition proposals occurring every two years. **The Library Foundation** supports the Austin Public Library by increasing awareness about the library and its importance to the community, and by enhancing library collections, programs, and facilities. For more information see austinelibrary.org



Thomas Gleeson

Texas Senate and a budget analyst for the Legislative Budget Board.

Gleeson is the former chairman of both the City of Pflugerville Finance and Budget Committee and the First United Methodist Church of Round Rock Finance Committee.

Gleeson is a graduate of the Governor’s Executive Development Program at the University of Texas at Austin. He earned his Bachelor of Business Administration from Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas and a Master of Public Administration from the Bush School of Government and Public Service at Texas A&M University.

He and his wife, Elisa, are raising their three sons in Pflugerville, Texas.

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First Friday Devotion: 12:00 Noon & 6:30p.m.
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Sunday School 9:00 am Morning Worship 11:00am

Mid Week Services Wednesday
Prayer 6:00pm Pastor’s Desk: 512-926-6932
Bible Study 7:00pm Face Book: First Baptist Church on Hefflin Lane
Email: mbfbc2017@yahoo.com

Church: 512-926-4759

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Kenneth Hill, Pastor

“This life, therefore, is not righteousness, but growth in righteousness; not health, but healing; not being, but becoming; not rest, but exercise. We are not yet what we shall be, but we are growing toward it. The process is not yet finished, but it is going on. This is not the end, but it is the road. All does not yet gleam in glory, but all is being purified.” --- Martin Luther

Romans 5:1 Therefore, having been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ

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