BLACK TEACHER COLLABORATIVE

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BTC SALON SERIES OVERVIEW

The BTC Salon Series, returning for its 2025–2026 season, will feature a powerful collection of virtual conversations exploring the intersection of Black Education, Social Justice, and Education Innovation.

Led by BTC's CEO, Hiewet Senghor, the series is designed as a modern salon—a safe, Black-curated space modeled after historic Negritude salons, such as those led by Paulette Nardal, where Black intellectuals, artists, and activists gathered to exchange ideas, debate, and celebrate cultural vitality.

Key Focus Areas

- **Identity as Instructional Power:** Centering racial identity as an essential ingredient in cultivating learning environments where Black children experience joy, rigor, and belonging.
- **Educator Ecosystems:** Exploring systems, structures, and strategies that sustain Black educators in community—not just as professionals, but as cultural leaders.
- **Innovation + Policy:** Investigating how technology, AI, and philanthropy shape the future of Black education—and how Black-led models can shift those narratives.
- **Literacy as Liberation:** Examining how culturally grounded, identity-affirming literacy practices can fuel both imagination and academic success for Black students.
- **Culturally Responsive STEM:** Challenging deficit narratives and reframing math and science education as places for Black excellence, creativity, and problem-solving.

Our Conversation Goals

- **Reclaim and Reimagine Black Education:** Elevate solutions that disrupt harmful norms and reclaim Black teaching as a liberatory practice.
- **Build Collective Power:** Foster spaces of reflection, healing, and forward momentum for educators, funders, and movement partners.
- **Bridge Across Sectors:** Convene a cross-section of thinkers—from classrooms to funders —committed to educational justice.