



On behalf of Critical Exposure's (CE) Board of Directors and staff, I'm thrilled to announce **Nicole Newman** as our next **Executive Director**, effective November 16th.

Nicole was unanimously selected for this position after a recruiting process led by [Koya Leadership Partners](#) that included CE Board, staff, and youth. Nicole's candidacy for this role feels 100% aligned: she exhibits all qualities and passions CE has been looking for since launching this search.



A writer, passionate advocate, and nonprofit professional, Nicole learned how to organize from her aunt and grandparents who, at an early age, exposed her to collective action by those most impacted demanding equity.

A fourth-generation Washingtonian, she graduated from Trinity University with a Bachelor's in Political Science and a Master's in Organizational Development from American University, both in Washington, DC.

She has spent her career focused on creating more equitable, people-focused organizations through training and conversation around racial equity and inclusion; community organizing and client engagement; advocacy; strategic growth and planning; and navigating change and conflict.

Most recently, Nicole was the Senior Specialist of Community Relations at the DC Public Charter School Board, where she managed public engagement on behalf of the board.

We've known that this change in leadership would be an incredible opportunity for CE. Recent words from Nicole prove us 100% right:

*There are few times in our careers when passion and timing so beautifully meet. This is one of those times. This role represents both a homecoming to the work that made a difference for me as a young person and **the work that I know is critically important to this generation of Black and Latinx young people in Washington DC.***

*By combining youth photography and organizing, CE has always done meaningful and important work. **We will continue to create the future with young people leading us** and programs that support their development.*

COVID-19 and the persistent racial injustice of this country continue to highlight what will make the difference for our country and this city is a generation of leaders that are willing to ask critical questions of themselves and the world around them. CE is the place for that.

CE is also walking into a future different from what lies behind us. Yet, we will be clear in our commitment and unapologetic that the change ahead will be both difficult and necessary.

We believe that Nicole's leadership will spark the passion, commitment, and experience of CE youth, alumni, staff, and Board into **the new vision, innovation, and energy that will carry this vital work through the next decade.**

Moving forward,

Aimee Peoples
Chair, Board of Directors