

**WINTER 2023**

**BLACK IN ANATOMY**

# NEWSLETTER



## UPDATES

Happy New Year! In this [newsletter](#), we are excited to share some 2022 highlights with you, and new features to start off 2023!

## IMPORTANT DATES

**FEB 10, 3pm ET**

**Black in Anatomy Community Meeting**  
[Join us](#) virtually for our first meeting of 2023! Hear about annual membership and volunteer opportunities!

**MAR 28, 11:45am**

**Annual In-Person Conference Social**  
[Visit](#) the National Museum of African American History and Culture in DC with us. More details coming soon!

## RESEARCH FEATURE

**BENEDICTA QUAYE MENSAH, PHD**

Published an article in the *Anatomical Record* titled, "[Ligamentum arteriosum: Muscular and contractile](#)". This study determined that the ligamentum arteriosum is not a passive structure, and may be described as muscular and contractile, with supportive functions.



# COMMUNITY UPDATES

## MELISSA A. CARROLL, PHD



Dr. Melissa Carroll joined the Body Banter Podcast for an episode titled, "Where Are The Anatomists Who Look Like Me?", hosted by Dr. Claudia Krebs and Dr. Segun Oyedele.

This episode covers everything from what it means to be an “expert” in a field that we still don’t know everything about to how a tolerance for ambiguity is key as an educator, and why it’s important to have diverse representation and BIPOC mentors in anatomy. Stay tuned for more Black in Anatomy appearances on Body Banter coming soon!

## TARIMOBO OTOBO, PHD CANDIDATE

Tarimobo Otobo, a PhD Candidate studying Musculoskeletal Imaging Outcomes in Juvenile Arthritis, was a 2022 Student Impact Award Winner at the University of Toronto.

## NI-KA FORD, MS, CMI

Medical illustrator, Ni-Ka Ford was interviewed on the “Her Royal Science” podcast in an episode titled, “Storyteller”. This episode covers her life-long love for the visual arts, the artists she is most inspired by, and her path to becoming a board-certified medical illustrator, as well as storytelling through art and science.

## BYRON D. FORD, PHD

Dr. Byron Ford was appointed the Chair of the Department of Anatomy at Howard University College of Medicine in April 2022.

## IZUCHUKWU AZUKA OKAFOR , PHD



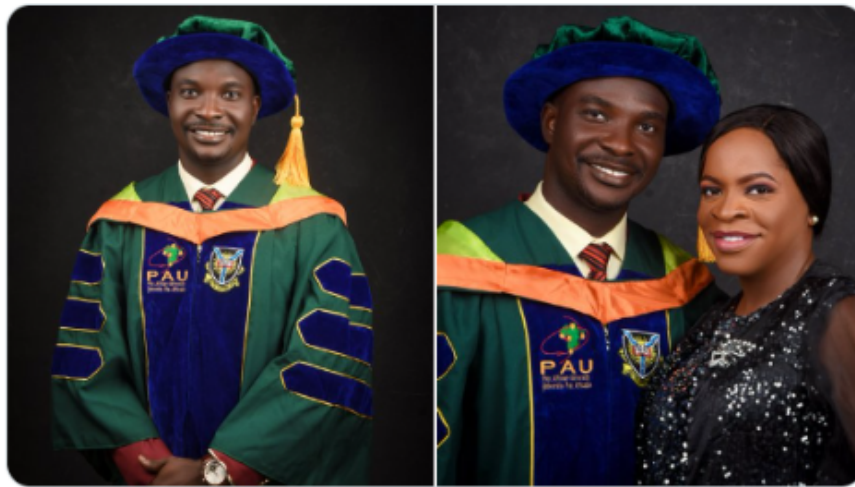
Dr. Izuchukwu Azuka Okafor, earned his PhD in Reproductive Biology from Pan African University of Life and Earth Science Institute at the University of Ibadan.



Okafor, Izuchukwu Azuka  
@IzuchukwuOkaf14

...

PhD in Reproductive Biology - signed, sealed and delivered. To God be the glory! Thank you  
[@pau\\_africaunion](#), [@\\_AfricanUnion](#) and  
[@universityofib1](#)  
[#PhD](#) [#graduation](#)



12:25 AM · Nov 18, 2022

## READING LIST

1

"Preliminary Report: Results of the American Association of Biological Anthropologists Taskforce on the Ethical Study of Human Remains Surveys of Members of the African American Community and of Biological Anthropologists" by Benjamin M. Auerbach and Fatima L.C. Jackson, published by the American Association of Biological Anthropologists.

2

"Skin colour affects the accuracy of medical oxygen sensors" by Matthew D Keller, Brandon Harrison-Smith, Chetan Patil, and Mohammed Shahriar Arefin, published in a special issue of Nature on racism in science.

# RECENT SOCIAL MEDIA POSTS

## Decolonizing the Body

### UTERINE TUBES



The uterine tubes are paired structures between the ovaries and the uterus that transport ova (eggs) from the ovaries.

@blackinatomy

**Celebrating  
2 years of  
BLACK IN ANATOMY**

**Thank you for the support!**  
[blackinatomy.com/donate](https://blackinatomy.com/donate)

@blackinatomy BLACK IN ANATOMY

## BLACK IN ANATOMY COLORING PAGES

Download your FREEBIES from [blackinatomy.com](https://blackinatomy.com).  
Share your creations with #BlackinAnatArt!



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## Get your hands on limited edition... Black in Anatomy Merch!



Visit our website to shop!

Proceeds support Black in Anatomy,  
a 501c3 nonprofit organization.

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## Black in Anatomy Roll Call

#BlackinAnatRollCall

### Shaun Logan, PhD

Assistant Professor

Neuroscientist  
Pharmacologist



I use #AnatomyEveryDay to teach dental students neuroanatomy, histology, and pharmacology. My work involves nerve regeneration, palate fusion, & Alzheimer's drug development.

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You're invited!

## Paint & Celebrate

World Anatomy Day

Sat Oct 15th, 2022, 12:00pm EDT

Celebrate the second annual Black in Anatomy Week and #WorldAnatomyDay with a guided painting activity of a kidney led by medical illustrator, Ni-ka Ford.

All are welcome to #PaintCelebrate!

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You're invited!

## Black in Anatomy Community Social

Fri Oct 14th, 2022, 5:00 pm EDT

All friends and community members of Black in Anatomy are invited to join the online #BlackinAnatSocial to network, celebrate, and wind down together for #BlackinAnatWeek. Snacks and beverages encouraged!

Register today!

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## Reclaiming the Body: Anatomy Textbooks vs. Reality

Discussion with Medical Illustrators and POP-AART members

Thur Oct 13th, 2022, 5:30pm EDT

#ReclaimingTheBody

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## Inclusive Anatomy and Representation in Pelvic Health with Black in Anatomy

Academy of Pelvic Health Physical Therapy - Free Webinar

Wed Oct 12th, 2022, 8:00 pm EDT

#InclusiveAnatomy

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## Transforming Medical Education to Advance Equity and Inclusion

AAMC IDEAS Learning Series Webinar

Tues Oct 11th, 2022, 12:00pm EDT

#TransformingMedEd

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You're invited!

## Black in Anatomy Roll Call

Mon Oct 10th, 2022, All Day

All Black scholars, illustrators, and healthcare professionals who use #AnatomyEveryDay are invited to join the #BlackinAnatRollCall to network, celebrate & amplify each other during #BlackinAnatWeek.

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To keep up with our posts as they are shared, follow [@BlackInAnatomy](https://www.instagram.com/BlackInAnatomy)



# DECOLONIZING THE BODY

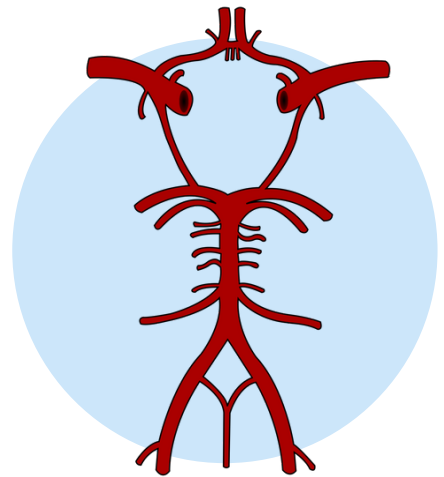
WITH DR. ERIN-MARIE WILLIAMS-HATALA



## CEREBRAL ARTERIAL CIRCLE

### ANATOMY

The cerebral arterial circle (also called *circulus arteriosus cerebri*) is a network of connected arteries that travel along the base of the brain. Interestingly, the cerebral arterial circle often presents as an incomplete circle. Ideally, it functions to provide arterial redundancies that maintain blood flow to the brain in cases of blockage or damage to a participating artery (1).



### ORIGIN OF THE EPONYM

Though named for him, Thomas Willis (1621-1675) is not credited as the first person to describe the cerebral arterial circle; he was the third. However, Willis' description, published in *De Cerebri Anatome* in 1664, is credited as being the most complete and the first to detail the function of the circle (2). Willis was born in Great Bedwyn, England, and was one of the early Fellows of the Royal Society of London.

### WHY USE CEREBRAL ARTERIAL CIRCLE?

"Cerebral arterial circle" is a wonderfully descriptive term that conveys location (cerebrum), function (to supply blood), and morphology (circular) in three short words! "Circle of Willis," on the other hand, leaves one wondering who Willis is and where their eponymous circle may be located. Its use may also lead to confusion, since there are at least two other eponymous structures named for Willis (3).

[Source 1](#); [Source 2](#); [Source 3](#), Image from Wikimedia

# BLACK IN ANAT WEEK HIGHLIGHTS



In October, Black in Anatomy celebrated our 2nd annual Black in Anatomy Week, joined by many incredible, anatomists, researchers, educators, and community members!

## 1 AAMC IDEAS LEARNING SERIES WEBINAR

On October 11th Black in Anatomy collaborated with the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) for an IDEAS (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Anti-racism) Learning Series Webinar, moderated by Dr. Allison Nesbitt.

[Watch it Here!](#)

## 2 APTA PELVIC HEALTH WEBINAR

On October 12th Dr. Karen Snowden and Dr. Melissa A. Carroll led a podcast-style dialogue on inclusive anatomy and representation in pelvic health. They discussed representation in anatomical images, racism in pelvic anatomy, some of the pelvic anatomy research on standardizing anatomical terminology, eliminating eponyms (anatomical structures named after people), and the new initiative called "Decolonizing the Body" from Black in Anatomy, Inc.

[Watch it Here!](#)

## 3 MEDICAL ILLUSTRATOR PANEL

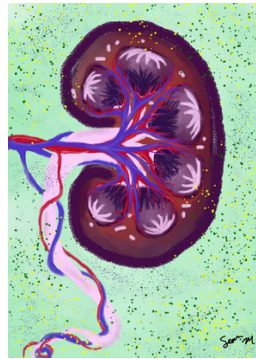
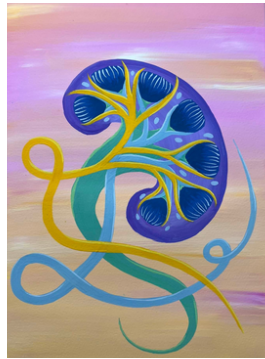
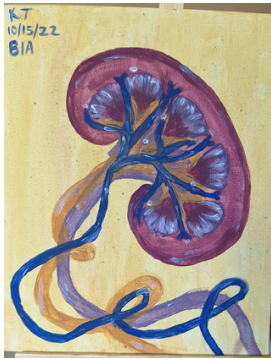
On October 13th Black in Anatomy hosted a panel discussion with a group of anatomists and medical illustrators titled, "Reclaiming the Body: Anatomy Textbooks vs. Reality".



[Watch it Here!](#)

## 4 PAINT AND CELEBRATE

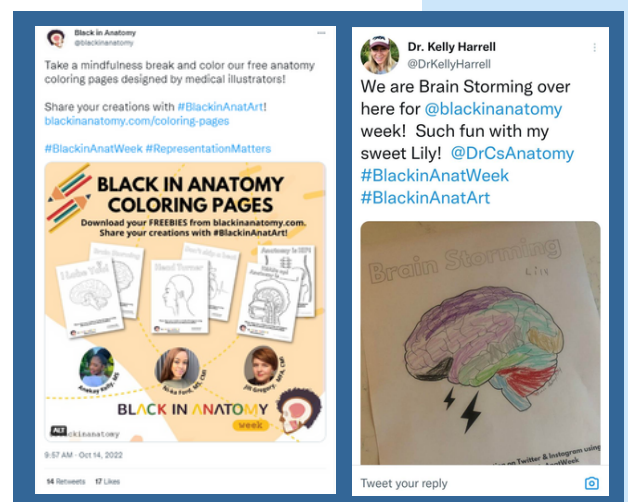
On October 15th we celebrated World Anatomy Day and the last day of Black in Anatomy Week with a Virtual Painting Session led by medical illustrator, Ni-ka Ford.



## 5 COLORING PAGES

Medical illustrators Anekay Kelly and Ni-ka Ford donated line drawing images to add to our collection of coloring images from Jill Gregory.

[Download them from our website for fun or to share with your students.](#)



# THANK YOU

At Black in Anatomy, Inc., we are so grateful for the generosity and support from the Anatomy Community and beyond. We are excited to see how far and wide our merchandise has traveled, and subsequently will be represented. We are so proud to feature many more anatomists, researchers, and professionals that use Anatomy Every Day. Our community would not be as successful without your continued support.



Black in Anatomy, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization whose continued growth and future success are largely dependent on donations. Donations can be made on our [website](#).



## Operational Costs

- Hosting our website
- Administrative fees
- Legal and filing fees



## Resources and Community Support

- Travel grants
- Archival research fees
- Research grants and programing
- Professional development grants and programming



## Future Plans

- Community outreach
- Symposia and workshops
- Mentoring and career support
- Networking and social events
- Speaker and panelist compensation



**WANT TO VOLUNTEER?**  
**KNOW SOMEONE TO NOMINATE?**

There's a form for that!