

'Mount Rushmore of Black Conservatism'

A voice uniting Black conservatives cries out into a wilderness of "wokeness" as the U.S. celebrates Black History Month and enters the threshold of its most critical presidential election this century.

The largest gathering of Black conservative leaders in the Midwest—described as "the Mount Rushmore of Black Conservatism"—takes place in Chicago March 24-25.

Among the scheduled speakers at the Fifth Annual Black Conservative Summit are radio host Larry Elder, Dr. Voddie Baucham and Lt. Col. Allen West, featured in the controversial film "Uncle Tom II: An American Odyssey."

Along with other prominent Black leaders, they aim to counter what they see as a tidal wave of "wokeness" in the U.S.—often affecting the physical, spiritual and political needs of Blacks —and "give voice to America's conservative Black community."

Registration for The Summit is open to the public and working press, including a star-studded screening of "Uncle Tom II" that exposes what the filmmakers describe as "the Marxist strategy of creating false racial tension" between Americans—an attempt to tear the nation apart.

 "Too long have others spoken for the Black community ... too long has the public been deceived by misrepresentation of things which concern us dearly," said Eric Wallace, a Black ordained minister holding a Ph.D. in biblical studies, linking past to present by echoing the sentiments of Samuel E. Cornish and John B. Russwurm, co-founders of the first Black American Press. "We wish to plead our cause, to cry out in a wilderness of wokeness," Wallace

said.

With his wife, Jennifer, Wallace founded Freedom's Journal Institute, a faith-based nonprofit, and organized the first Black Conservative Summit in 2013. FJI's birth in 2011 gave tribute to Cornish and Russwurm, who originally started the first African American-owned and-operated newspaper by the same name in 1827.

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