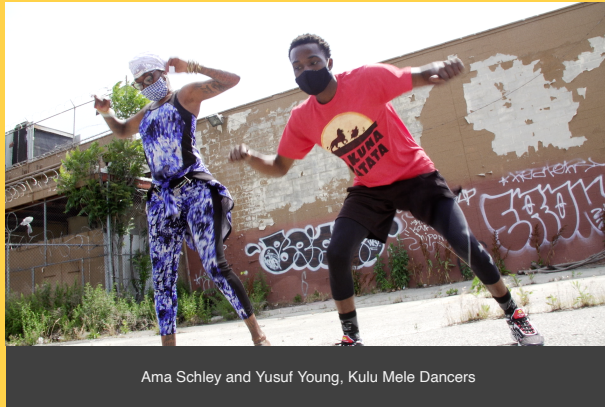




July 3, 2020

"We're Coming Out"



Ama Schley and Yusuf Young, Kulu Mele Dancers

Dear Kulu Mele Community,

The twin pandemics of COVID-19 and systemic racism inspire a brand new Kulu Mele video: "[We're Coming Out](#)." Kulu Mele performers came together to show what we have on our minds right now, and what we have in our repertoire and history to draw on. Filmmaker Aidan Un catches us at a transformative moment. The video is a reflection, a portal. What do you think? What do you feel? What are your survival strategies?

Kulu Mele's work in Philadelphia over 50+ years represents a legacy that we are opening further to public view. "[We're Coming Out](#)" launches a new Kulu Mele project to virtually share the culture. There is more to come. Next month, we'll invite you back to (re)experience last year's major production, *Ogun & the People*. For now, watch [videos](#). Explore [resources](#). Visit the [store](#) for publications. We aim to move forward together, carrying the torch for culture.*

We invite you to dance. Virtual dance classes are back on Wednesdays in July (5:15-6:15 PM). Ama Schley is teaching [Afro-Cuban dance](#). The orishas represent forces of nature and the Yoruba pantheon. Learn some of their movements and rhythms. Open to all ages and skill levels. [Register](#) now.

Please keep us going: Support Kulu Mele's [KM+50 campaign](#) fundraising campaign! Now is a crucial moment to invest in community-based African-centered cultural work. Kulu Mele has been here for 51 years. Your [donation](#) helps us carry the torch for culture, develop new work, and look forward in perilous times. Please spread the word. And thank you.

*Peace, safety and resilience.
Ashe.*

Fasina Wilkie
Interim Executive Director
Kulu Mele African Dance & Drum Ensemble

*This project has been supported, in part, by the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, the Federal-State Partner of the National Endowment for the Humanities. We are grateful!



Kulu Mele job opening!

Are you (or someone you know) going to be Kulu Mele's next Managing Director? Read about our [transition effort](#), check out the [job description](#), and apply by July 31.