

## **CUNY Board of Trustees Statement on Racial Injustice**

June 2, 2020

The City University of New York was founded on the principle of equal access and opportunity. CUNY's commitment to protecting and supporting our students has not wavered throughout our 170-year existence and we will not waver now as we watch recent, senseless acts of violence against George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and Ahmaud Arbery. Unfortunately, their deaths are not isolated incidents but rather they lay bare the deep structural and institutional inequality, prejudice and racism the Black community has endured for generations.

We can no longer accept the deep and unconscionable inequalities that exist in our nation. The CUNY Board of Trustees stands with our city and country in denouncing hate and demanding change. We stand united against racism and racial injustice.

In the words of James Baldwin, "Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced." We will face these challenges with the power of education and the confidence that the strength and resolve of the CUNY community will continue to move our city and country forward towards a more just and equal society.

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