



America's Black Forum Episode Synopsis

Episode Number: 26-08
Week of August 17, 2026

This week on **America's Black Forum**:

Equality Dream Team

The numbers speak loud and clear. Did you know that in Chicago—more than 85 percent of Black teens, ages 16 to 19, are out of work? Nearly half of young adults, between 20 and 24, face the same uphill battle and it's not just about jobs. What's missing? Access to job training - to mentorship - to internships and networks. **Chris Augmon, a Chicago designer and business executive**, is stepping in—with a bold solution.

ij Design Studio

Not only is **Janeen Harrell of ij Design Studio** an architect and interior designer, but she's a Black woman in an industry where less than one percent of architects look like her. She is responsible for the design, management, and successful completion of a broad range of projects across the country.

Dr. Carol Adams

Dr. Carol Adams is someone you should know. She has a long history of stellar accomplishments in education, government, the arts, and community development. She serves as an advisor for the Obama Presidential Library, she's the former director of the DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center, and she recently published a book – a lifelong dream of hers.