Mission

Our mission is to encourage Black Indigenous and People Of Colour (BIPOC) to enter outdoors activities by breaking accessibility barriers. Colour the Trails is hoping to show that being outdoors is good for our souls, that we all do have the right to recreate responsibly, treating all lives with respect.

We help BIPOC to try skiing for the first time, or learn setting up a tent, or face a fear of heights while climbing, or show how kayaking is soothing. Our mission is to create a space that is welcoming to everyone. We recognize that diversity is not just based on race, but also gender, age, body-size, and ability. Diversity has always been here, it is inclusivity that we need to work on. We want to ignite passion for recreation and adventure by organizing events that allow folks to try something different.

While there are a lot of programs for kids and youth, we choose to help adults to try new activities. Through that they are engaging their families and friends, creating communities.

When we see people that look like us doing amazing things, it helps us change our perspective of what we can do; our role models help us to define what’s possible.
Founder
Judith Kasiama (aka Juju Milay)
Vancouver, Canada

Judy is a community activist who resides on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded Indigenous territories of the ʷməθkwę̱y̑əm (Musqueam), skwxwú7mesh (Squamish), and sel̓íl̓witulh (Tsleil-Waututh) First Nations.

Through adventures and travel, Judy highlights her experience as a black woman that skis, hikes, camps, climbs, and explores. A former refugee from the Democratic Republic of Congo, she was raised in South Africa, Australia, The United States and Canada. Judy’s unique upbringing allows her to draw from diverse experiences and cultures.

Judy’s active participation in the outdoors brings to light the importance of representation. Through conversation and grace her work draws attentions to underrepresented minorities by changing the narrative that people of colour are not active participants in the outdoors.

Judy is the fellow at the Royal Canadian Geographical Society. Judy believes nature is for everyone.
What we are doing

- Organizing events
- Maintaining gear library
- Subsidizing mentorship and educational programs
- Hiring BIPOC creatives for content creation
- Spreading lots of joy
Ways to get us funding

- Sponsor our events (one, five, hundred)
- Create a fundraiser (proceeds from sales)
- Help us to create and sell merchandise
- Hire us to create content
- Hire us for consulting services
- Donate gear
- Offer discounts to members
WHO WE ARE
CHANGING THE NARRATIVE THROUGH ADVENTURE
ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT
REIMAGINE OUR PLACE HERE
HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK
KNOW IT.
LOVE IT.
PROTECT IT.

WHERE TO FIND US

Website:
browngirloutdoorworld.com

Instagram:
browngirloutdoorworld.com

Twitter:
Outdoor Brown
The Journey

Ambika Tenneti
Beginnings

- Impacted by annual floods
- Learning community-based natural management from village forest committees
The Journey Continues in Canada

- Learning about urban forestry at the University of Toronto
- Walking - Community engagement
- Stewarding - Ecological restoration
- Listening - Trust and Relationship building
- Learning - Different ways of knowing and being in nature
Thank you.

- E: ambika.tenneti@mail.utoronto.ca
- Twitter: @ambika_tenneti
- LinkedIn: Ambika Tenneti
Black Outdoors: The perception of the wilderness in the Black Canadian imagination
Race, Place and Nature

Canadian myths - The Great Outdoors, the Great White North, We the North
Wilderness – natural or manmade?
Who is present and who is absent from national and provincial parks?
Black people – seen as out of place in nature and outdoor recreation
Nature – coded as a White space for White people
Covid-19 – increased the number of people of colour visiting nature spaces
Toronto population – 53% are Black and other people of colour.
Inspiration for Black Outdoors
Twitter: @BlackOutdoors1
Blog: Black outdoors.wordpress.com
What you should know about Black birders – The Conversation
Swimming while Black – The Conversation
Trees, race and Black history – Greenbelt Foundation
Black Canada Hike duo talk about how to make outdoor space more inclusive - CBC TV, Player’s Own Voice.
Books: 50 Places, a Black history travel guide of London; Sailing on a Half Moon; Heartbeats in Africa, a memoir of travel and love.