15th Annual Grassroots EJ Conference

"Defending Environmental Safeguards while Pushing for a Clean Energy Future"

Pre-Registration is Required
Registration Deadline is October 9th
Click this link to register
sc.org/MemphisConf

Saturday, October 14, 2017
9:00 am to 2:30 pm

University of Memphis
University Center - 3rd Floor

Co-Sponsors:
Sierra Club Environmental Justice
Sierra Club Tennessee Chapter
Sierra Club Chickasaw Group
University of Memphis:
Department of Anthropology
Marcus Orr Center for the Humanities
Keynote Speaker: Mustafa Santiago Ali

Mustafa Santiago Ali is the Senior Vice President of Climate, Environmental Justice & Community Revitalization for the Hip Hop Caucus. The Hip Hop Caucus is a national, non-profit and non-partisan organization. It connects the Hip Hop community to the civic process to build power and create positive change. As HHC Senior Vice President, he leads the strategic direction, expansion and operation of the Hip Hop Caucus’ portfolio on Climate, Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization. He has worked with over 500 domestic and international communities to secure environmental, health and economic justice.

Mustafa Ali joined the Hip Hop Caucus, after working 24 years at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. At the EPA, he served as the Assistant Associate Administrator for Environmental Justice and Senior Advisor for Environmental Justice and Community Revitalization. Mustafa elevated environmental justice issues and worked across federal agencies to strengthen environmental justice policies, programs and initiatives. At the EPA, Mustafa led the Interagency Working Group on Environmental Justice (EJIWG), which was comprised of 17 federal agencies and White House offices focused on implementing holistic strategies to address the issues facing vulnerable communities. In 2010, Mr. Ali also served as the Environmental Justice Lead for the BP Deepwater Horizon oil spill.

Mustafa Ali was a Brookings Institution Congressional Fellow in the Office of Congressman John Conyers from 2007 through 2008. His portfolio as a Legislative Assistant focused on Foreign Policy in Africa and South America, Homeland Security, Health Care, Veterans Affairs, Appropriations and Environmental Justice.

Mustafa Ali has been a Guest Lecturer at Harvard and Yale University, George Washington University, Georgetown University, Spelman College, Albany Law School and Howard University School of Law. Mustafa is a former instructor at West Virginia University and Stanford University in Washington,

The Sierra Club’s Environmental Justice Program in Memphis is committed to raising awareness and increasing public participation through activism to gain better environmental protection, better community services, and safer, healthier communities.
15th Annual Sierra Club Environmental Conference

THEME: “Defending Environmental Safeguards while Pushing for Clean Energy Future” – October 14, 2017

Registration & Coffee 8:30 am
Opening Session 9:00 am

Session #1

1) Addressing Lead Poisoning & Prevention thru Collaborative Problem Solving – Chet Kibble and Evan Comeaux, Shelby County Lead Safe Collaborative

2) Climate Change Starts Here: Fracking, Coal Mining & Pipelines – Bill Price, Senior Organizing Rep., Sierra Club Beyond Coal Campaign, West VA

3) Protecting our Pristine Drinking Water – Scott Banbury, Sierra Club TN Chapter; Ward Archer, Protect Our Aquifer; Angela Garrone, SACE

4) Intersection of Labor Unions and Environmental Justice - Pedro Cruz, Senior Rep., Sierra Club Labor Program, Washington, DC; Jayanni Webster, UCW Union (Panel)

5) Transportation is a Social Justice Issue – Dennis Lynch, Sierra Club Chickasaw Group Chair; and Suzanne Carlson, Transportation & Mobility Project, Innovate Memphis

6) Fishing Advisories & Fish Consumption in Shelby County - Larry Smith, Former Toxics Coordinator at MSPJC

7) Designing with GREEN in Mind: Restoring the Universal Life Building - Mario Walker, Lead Designer & Project Manager, Self-Tucker Architects

Session # 2

8) EJ and Storm Impacts in Shelby County - Shelby Ward, TN Clean Water Network Knoxville, TN; and Mary Wilder, Sustainability Advocate & Vollintine Evergreen Neighborhood Association

9) Navigating the Roadblocks to Clean Energy, Sandeep Pednekar, CEO & Innovator, Renewable Energies

10) Nuclear Issues Across Tennessee – Don Safer, Sierra Club’s Know Nuclear Committee, and TN Environmental Council Board (Panel presentation)

11) Monitoring for Combustion Related Air Toxics in the Memphis Area – Dr. Chunrong Jia, Ph.D, M.S., University of Memphis School of Public Health; and Larry Smith, Asst. Manager, Memphis & Shelby County Pollution Control

12) Examining the Flint, MI Water Crisis: A Case Study – Rhonda Anderson, Senior Environmental Justice Organizing Representative, Sierra Club, Detroit, MI

13) Environmental Exposures and Children’s Health – Dr. Leslie Rubin, Professor in Department of Pediatrics, Morehouse School of Medicine, Atlanta, GA

14) Sustainability: Vulnerable Communities & Future Generations – Christina Freidlaender, Dept. of Philosophy, University of Memphis

Register at: sc.org/MemphisConf
THINGS TO KNOW

This conference is open to the public – all are welcome.

Parking is free if you use the highrise parking garage on Zach Curlin Drive. Zach Curlin can be easily accessed from Central Avenue.

There is a crosswalk from the garage to the University Center. All conference activities will be on the 3rd floor of the University Center.

A hot lunch will be served at no charge to registered participants.

Overview of the Day
8:30 am - Registration and Coffee
9:00 am – 10:00 am Opening Plenary Session
10:00 am – 10:15 am BREAK
10:15 am – 11:15 am Concurrent Workshops
11:15 am – 11:30 am BREAK
11:30 am - 12:30 pm Concurrent Workshops
12:30 pm - HOT LUNCH
1:00 pm – 1:40 pm Keynote Speaker: Mustafa Santiago Ali
1:40 pm – 1:50 pm Dick Mochow EJ Award Presentation
1:50 pm - 2:15 pm Acknowledgements – Thanks – Door Prize
2:30 pm - CLOSING

Pre-Registration is Required
Registration Deadline is October 9th
Click this link to register
sc.org/MemphisConf
Phone: (901) 497-5798