

the
black women
in science
network

Winter may be coming to a close, but the energy within our Network is just getting started. This season is bringing a dynamic lineup of podcast episodes alongside more networking and educational opportunities.

From the Network

Less than one Week to go until Brunch Talks LIVE!

Brunch Talks LIVE! Returns this year! We are ready to celebrate International Women's Day 2026 in the idyllic scenes of Cambridge for our fourth instalment of this event. We're excited to bring you a brunch session filled with inspiring conversation, where you can immerse yourself in a vibrant atmosphere and meet like-minded individuals and Black women peers who are passionate about science. The event is almost upon us and we have a limited number of spaces, so [register your spot now](#).

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PRESENTS

BRUNCH TALKS LIVE! CAMBRIDGE

Join us for a casual and fun-filled gathering of
Black women over refreshments!

Yusuf Hamied Chemistry Department,
University of Cambridge,
Lensfield Road, Cambridge CB2 1EW

Saturday
7th March 2026
10:30am - 2:00pm
Refreshments
provided

Sponsored by
UNIVERSITY OF
CAMBRIDGE

Free Registration via Eventbrite

There is no need to worry about refreshments or bubbly (non-alcoholic ones too!) as all will be provided. Don't miss out on this unique opportunity to expand your network, gain valuable knowledge, and be embraced by likeminded members of the BWiS Network.

We are thankful to this year's sponsors: the Yusuf Hamied Chemistry Department, University of Cambridge.

Black Women in Science Podcast

Fresh from the press are two new podcast episodes with Miss Afiya Romain-Bains and Dr Yolanda Ohene. With our podcast host Tulela, both Dr Ohene and Miss Romain-Bains share with us their love of physics and how they apply their passion in their respective fields of [teaching](#) and [neuroimaging](#). We're glad that we are not only able to shed light on science fields not commonly pursued by black women but are also able to platform the important work and perspectives that impacts our community! Keep an eye on this space as we'll be back this year with more episodes.

For any organisations that would be interested in sponsoring a future podcast episode, be sure to contact admin@bwisnetwork.com.

Black Women in Science Network Blog

Have a read over our most recent blog post, [Black Communities and AI: Helpful or harmful?](#). In this post, Vanessa Ankude provides insight into the AI ventures that impact Black communities and offers guidance on how to utilise AI tools positively. You can read this interesting blog post [here](#).

Also on our blog, we have shared numerous other posts on the not-so-hidden costs that Western recycling programmes have on developing countries, as well as a recap of our 2025 as a community. Do have a read and be sure to leave a comment letting us know what you think.

Brunch Talks with BWiS (and Off the Clock)

We'll be back meeting with members from next month on both weekends with Brunch Talks with BWiS, and during the week with Off the Clock. Brunch Talks with BWiS is our monthly safe space for Black women in science to come together, share experiences, and support one another in an open and affirming environment. Our evening sessions offer the same thing, just on a weekday! We're excited to be introducing new hosts to our sessions – so keep an eye out for this.

Our next three online sessions will:

- Saturday 21st March, 10:00 – 11:00
- Thursday 26th March, 19:00 – 20:00
- Saturday 18th March, 10:00 – 11:00

Details about how to join these meetings are sent directly to Members' inboxes. If you have any questions, please send them to admin@bwisnetwork.com.

If you are ever unsure about when we have events coming up, you can check out our Events Calendar.



Sign up as a member

Don't forget that it is still completely free to become a member of the Black Women in Science Network. If you self-identify as a Black woman working in or studying science (in any field or at any stage), we'd love to welcome you into our space. As a member, you'll gain access to our monthly Brunch Talks, exclusive event invites, opportunities, resources, and the chance to connect with a growing network of like-minded peers. Just [fill out this short form](#) to join us – we're excited to have you!

Share your BWiS Story

We're inviting members to take part in a short questionnaire to help us understand how BWiS has supported and impacted your journey in science. Your voice will help shape the future of the network. If you'd like to take part, please contact admin@bwisnetwork.com. We'd love to hear from you!

From the Wider Community

Join us at Minoritised Life Scientists Future Forum 2026

Meet us in person at the upcoming Minoritised Life Scientists Future Forum (MLSFF): Europe's first large-scale conference dedicated to championing minoritised voices across the life sciences. Taking place from the 23rd to the 25th March 2026 at the Edinburgh International Conference Centre, the Minoritised Life Scientists Future Forum 2026 will bring together students, researchers, industry professionals and advocates committed to shaping a more equitable future for STEM. In addition to keynote speakers, career development workshops and research talks, MLSFF also provides dedicated networking opportunities and a powerful space to connect, collaborate and be seen. We will have a table and will be looking forward to attending and seeing some members in person. Spots are still available, so [register soon](#).

4th Black in Biomedical Science Undergraduate Conference

The fourth annual Black in Biomedical Science Undergraduate Conference is being held on Wednesday the 4th March 2026. They are really looking forward to hosting a day (11:30am - 5pm) at the University of West London that is focused on Reframing the Picture. Find out more [here](#), and be sure to [register your place](#) soon as there are a few tickets left!

Birkbeck University's African Diaspora Research Initiative Seminar Series

We are also delighted to announce that Tomi will be speaking at Birkbeck University's African Diaspora Research Initiative Seminar Series is being held on Tuesday the 3th March 2026. They aim to bring together black early career researchers who are committed to addressing issues affecting the health and well-being of Black communities and this session will be held online at 1-2pm. Find out more [here](#), and be sure to register your place.

Relaunch of MSc Motorsport Scholarship

The Royal Academy of Engineering and Sir Lewis Hamilton's charity Mission 44 are joining forces again to relaunch the MSc Motorsport Scholarship programme. This groundbreaking scheme aims to increase diverse representation in motorsport, by providing up to £43,000 in funding, support and unique opportunities to help remove barriers to entry.

Up to 12 scholarships are available, with expanded eligibility criteria to include students who are:

- Black or mixed-Black; and/or
- Women and/or
- Are from a less advantaged socio-economic background

If you or someone you know meets the above criteria, more information can be found [here](#). Applications close on 6th May.

That's all for now! We hope you enjoyed hearing about all the upcoming events welcoming the arrival of spring both within and outside of the Network. We're grateful for all your continued support and engagement across all our platforms and we look forward to sharing more events, opportunities, and stories with you over the course of the year.

**Here's to marking the end of February and the entry of a new season of
growth,**

The Black Women in Science Network