



Houston's Leading Black Information Source

22. Community Engagement_Houston Defender_ Defender Roundtable

In 2024, the Defender team started a powerful program called the Defender Roundtable, where the staff members discuss current local, state, and national issues that are, most of the time, but not always, based on articles they have written. The 15-20-minute program airs every Monday and occasionally on Saturday if the topic is too hot to wait. It resides on YouTube, and the host role rotates among the team. The first program was a reaction to Trump's talk at the NABJ conference, something that disturbed most of the staff. Since the beginning, the program has evolved, as we learn new techniques and smooth out the rough edges.

An internal benefit of the program is that it has created a new synergy among our staff and has given them an outlet to air their opinions and frustrations, reflecting the diversity of Black America's opinions. While this new programming has increased our viewership, of equal importance are the number of comments, meaning people took the time to write a response. The community response and engagement have been phenomenal, based on the number of views, comments, and shares. Here are the top-performing programs of 2024.

Defender Roundtable - Why Black America is Unbothered by Trump's Extreme Agenda

#1: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xrEZiDckjbY>

Black people taking action against the conservative agenda Project 2025

#2 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0JShbOiTsJc>

Defender Round Table - What Has Trump Done For Black People?

#3 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzV_HNP4LoE

Defender Staff (NABJ Members) React to Trump Talk

#4 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x584F7uRpjY>

Defender Roundtable - What Hispanic Americans saw in Trump that Black People Didn't?

#5 <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHq1J2kc6UM>

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