



**March 7, 2016  
For Immediate Release**

**KCTS 9, Seattle Channel, Seattle CityClub and Town Hall to Host Discussion on *Race, Justice and Democracy: Where do we stand?***

**SEATTLE**— KCTS 9 and Seattle Channel, in partnership with Seattle CityClub and Town Hall, will host a panel discussion **March 22, 2016 at 7:30 pm** at Town Hall, 1119 8<sup>th</sup> Ave., about one of the most difficult and important conversations facing our country right now: ***Race, Justice and Democracy: Where do we stand?*** The distinguished panel will include Nikkita Oliver, lawyer, poet, and Seattle Black Lives Matter activist; Steven González, Washington Supreme Court justice; Marcus Green, executive director of the South Seattle Emerald and Ed Murray, mayor of Seattle. The conversation will be moderated by KCTS 9's Enrique Cerna.

Seattle has a reputation as a progressive city, but when it comes to matters of race and justice how progressive is it? How do we view the activist voices of Black Lives Matter? As the Seattle Police Department operates under a Justice Department consent decree, is there progress being made in building trust with communities of color? What kind of leadership do we need to break down the barriers of institutional racism? The discussion will tackle these and other questions with our panel and the audience.

"Race matters, and this is part of a continuing conversation that we need to have," said Enrique Cerna, KCTS 9's Director of Community Partnerships. "Issues regarding the trust, or lack thereof, between communities of color and the police are still there. But we'll be dealing with much more, because we have many institutionalized issues—from our schools to our criminal justice system to public health—that need to be addressed."

The public can join the online conversation by tagging @KCTS9 and/or using the hashtag #RaceMatters. Viewers will have the opportunity to ask the panel questions through social media, KCTS 9's [web form](#) or during the night's event as an audience member. The [event](#) is free and open to the public but registration is required.

**KCTS 9 will live stream the March 22 event and will broadcast the discussion on Tuesday, April 5, 2016 at 7:00 p.m.**

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**About KCTS 9**

KCTS 9 brings quality public media programming to the public when and where they need it—on the air, online, and in our communities—serving more than 2.2 million viewers each week in Western and Central Washington State, British Columbia and across Canada. To learn more about our programs and initiatives, visit [KCTS9.org](http://KCTS9.org).

On Facebook: [facebook.com/KCTS9](https://www.facebook.com/KCTS9)

On Twitter: [@KCTS9](https://twitter.com/KCTS9).

**About Seattle Channel**

Seattle Channel is a local TV station that reflects, informs and inspires the community it serves. Seattle Channel presents programs on cable television – channel 21 on Comcast (321 HD) and Wave (721 HD) – and via the Internet ([www.seattlechannel.org](http://www.seattlechannel.org)) to help residents connect with their city. Programming includes series and special features highlighting Seattle's diverse civic and cultural landscape.

**About Seattle CityClub**

Seattle CityClub is a non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to informing, connecting and engaging the public to strengthen the civic health of our region. Since its first program in 1981, CityClub has sponsored thousands of dialogues, discussions and candidate forums featuring local, regional and national experts and leaders.

**About Town Hall**

A vibrant gathering place in an historic building in the heart of downtown, Town Hall Seattle fosters cultural expression and the exchange of ideas through arts, education, humanities, and civic programs. We exist to reflect and inspire this region's best impulses—toward creativity, empathy, expansive thinking, and an ever-widening conception of community.

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