



## YOUNG ACTIVISTS MENTORED BY CHRIS MAKE THEIR VOICES HEARD



**Opinion: Righting systemic racism in Louisville should focus on Black school children**

[courier-journal.com](http://courier-journal.com)

Throughout the months of unrest in Louisville, Chris has been a presence at demonstrations, meeting young activists and encouraging non-violence while showing support for their calls for racial justice. His focus on helping children resonated with two young protesters, Tytianna Wells and Christie Welch who, as ambassadors for Christopher 2X Game Changers, authored an op-ed in The Courier-Journal calling for the righting of systemic racism to focus on the education of Black children. Wells, CEO and founder of Honey Tree Publishing and the author of eight books, is a Ph.D. candidate in curriculum and instruction at the University of Louisville. Welch owns Through the Stone crystal jewelry line and is a 2019 Cum Laude graduate of the University of Louisville with majors in Pan African Studies and Humanities and minors in philosophy and religious studies.

# IN TROUBLING TIMES, CHRIS RECEIVED A BLESSING - A PRESIDENTIAL PARDON



## President Trump grants pardon for Louisville activist Christopher 2X

[courier-journal.com](http://courier-journal.com)

Chris' work for justice and non-violence over two decades was recognized in a presidential pardon during the holiday season.

The White House release said Chris is "widely credited as a trusted voice of reason and peace in Louisville that both sides turn to if tensions arise between the police and local community."

Chris released a statement of gratitude and promised to continue his work for non-violence with a focus on children, which he said is needed more than ever.

The outpouring of support was overwhelming from the community and in the media including a front-page story in the Courier-Journal highlighting Chris' activism as a "calming presence in the middle of many storms."

The Washington Post asked Chris to write an op-ed expressing his thoughts on the pardon and how it relates to criminal justice reform.

His piece, authored with New York activist Topeka Sam, who was also pardoned, was prominently featured by The Washington Post online and was published in the printed edition on Sat., Dec. 26.

**The Washington Post**  
**Opinion:** Trump pardoned us. But pardons don't replace criminal justice reform.

Opinion by **Christopher 2X** and **Topeka K. Sam**

December 24 at 7:36 PM ET



# A NEW PLAN FOR CURBING GUN VIOLENCE IN THE MOST VIOLENT YEAR ON RECORD



## Louisville Leaders Reflect On This Year's Record Number Of Homicides

[wfpl.org](http://wfpl.org)

Tragically, Louisville shattered gun violence records in 2020 with 173 homicides – more than twice the number of the previous two years combined - and another 586 wounded by gunfire.

Chris helped and comforted many of the families who lost loved ones as he also tracked monthly homicide and non-fatal shootings to draw attention to this mounting public challenge.

He was the authoritative media source each month as the violence continued, expressing concern over the growing numbers of youth involved, and women victims. His focus on helping children impacted by the violence remained a centerpiece of his activism.

Chris is a leading supporter of Group Violence Intervention, a new approach to address gun violence funded largely through private donations. He placed an op-ed in The Courier-Journal encouraging the mayor and the city's new police chief to get behind the effort.

Chris has been asked to connect family members of gun violence victims to young at-risk adults in the program as part of the focus on helping them turn away from violence. The program, which has had success in other cities, is headed by David M. Kennedy, director of the National Network for Safe Communities of the John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York, and partners with police, community leaders, social service providers and others. While members of groups engaged in violence are offered help, they are also held responsible for any criminal activity, under the program.

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### Opinion: Louisville mayor, next police chief need to champion an end to gun violence

CHRISTOPHER 2X | CONTRIBUTING COLUMNIST | 8:23 am EST November 12, 2020

# CHRIS HELPS GRAND JURORS AND BRINGS TOGETHER ACTIVISTS AND LAW ENFORCEMENT



Chris was sought out by grand jurors in the Breonna Taylor case who wanted to speak publicly about their experience, and he helped them find a way.

After a judge gave permission for them to speak, Chris collaborated with Gayle King, anchor of CBS This Morning, and accompanied two grand jurors and their attorney, Kevin Glogower, to New York City for her national broadcast interview with them.

They revealed their disagreement with how the proceedings and outcome were presented to the public. Later, a third grand juror also approached Chris and told his story through the media.



**Breonna Taylor grand jurors, Louisville medical students discuss case, social justi...**

[courier-journal.com](https://www.courier-journal.com)

Chris was a reliable spokesperson in special reports about the Taylor case on CNN and on ABC's 2020 special report and worked behind the scenes to provide background and connect them to others who were interviewed.

Chris also continued connecting FBI leadership with community activists and others to help build understanding about the FBI federal investigation into possible civil rights violations in the Taylor case. Most recently, 16 University of Louisville medical students and grand jurors, along with Chris, talked with officers of the FBI.

**Recipe for Peace**  
 INTERFAITH PATHS TO PEACE  
 10th Annual Fundraiser & Award Celebration

<b>Lifetime Achievement in Peacemaking</b>  CHRISTOPHER 2X	<b>Young Peacemaker</b>  FERNANDA SCHASTENGLER	<b>Innovative Peacemaker</b>  THE LEE INITIATIVE
<b>Healthcare Peacemaker</b>  STEPHANIE BARNETT	<b>Racial Justice Peacemaker</b>  RICHARD WHITLOCK	<b>IPP Special Peacemaker Recognition</b>  FRED GROSS

**MUSICAL PERFORMANCE**  
  
 Harry Pickens

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 VIRTUAL EVENT  
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 \*\* VIP Reception & Event Ticket \$100\*\*  
 Private VIP Reception with Awardees & Sponsors at 6:00 PM

Sponsorship Opportunities Available  
 Contact [rabbina@paths2peace.org](mailto:rabbina@paths2peace.org)  
 \*Scholarship tickets available

# CHRIS RECEIVES LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT FOR PEACEMAKING AWARD

Chris was honored to receive the 2020 Lifetime Achievement for Peacemaking Award from the non-profit Interfaith Paths to Peace, which works to build peace and compassion in our community by uniting people of diverse faiths and culture.

# MASKS FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN WITH UOFL MEDICAL SCHOOL DOCTORS, STUDENTS



In partnership with the UofL Medical School doctors and students, Chris is leading an effort to ensure kids wear face masks so they and everyone they encounter stay safe as possible in what we hope are the final months of the pandemic. Donated face masks for kids will be provided to Jefferson County Public Schools, the Chestnut Street YMCA Child Development Center, and other locations. The campaign will also include fun, educational videos, and social media.