

Dear YSD/YRT Community,

We are writing to amplify President Salovey's message below regarding the conclusion of the Derek Chauvin trial, and to share in a moment of reflection.

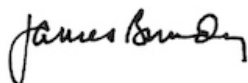
George Floyd should be alive today. While the verdict provides a critical measure of accountability for one police officer, we know there is much work to be done to achieve true justice. We take this moment to reflect and share our collective relief, pain, frustration, and profound sadness. We recognize that members of our community who are Black, Indigenous, and People of Color have faced a tremendous burden this past year and that the trauma of reliving the murder of George Floyd throughout the trial, has intensified with the recent killings of Daunte Wright, Adam Toledo, and Ma'Khia Bryant.

These tragedies are further compounded by the horrific rise in anti-Asian violence in this country, shameful anti-transgender legislation, almost daily mass shootings in the U.S., families separated and detained at our borders, and the inequities laid bare by the context of a global pandemic. All of these events have a physical and psychological impact on us as a community, and disproportionately take a toll on the many vulnerable populations among us.

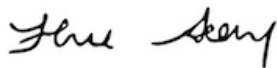
Every day we are reminded of the urgent need to dismantle white supremacy and all oppressive systems within our own culture and structures at the School and at Yale Rep. We remain steadfast in our commitment to model anti-racist and anti-oppressive practices and taking the time we need to develop a robust, community-wide sense of accountability in this work.

In this time of heightened anxiety and exhaustion, we encourage you to seek support and flexibility as you need it, and to offer the same to your community as you are able. Below we are including some university resources and upcoming events for processing and discussion.

Sincerely,



James Bundy
Dean



Florie Seery
Associate Dean



Chantal Rodriguez
Associate Dean



Kelvin Dinkins, Jr.
Assistant Dean