



## **INDIVISIBLE**

By: Dr. Sonny Kelly

In this **engaging and interactive** presentation, scholar and playwright Dr. Sonny Kelly will use the tools of **storytelling, lecture, poetry, and dramatic interpretation** to grapple with the **painful and persistent** legacies of racism and oppression in American history. Drawing a thread of continuity from the colonial era through to our present moment and homing in on critical figures like Crispus Attucks, Fredrick Douglas, and Fred Hampton, Dr. Kelly will dig into the roots of violence and division in American history to ask, “How did we get where we are today?” This presentation will trace a too-often forgotten American story **that has defiantly transcended oppression** with hope, resilience, and unity – a story that can inspire us to take up the baton from past leaders and work to make America ever more indivisible.

### **Objectives:**

- To connect to audiences in a visceral way that will bring history to life through the use of dramatic interpretation.
- To enrich audience members' perspectives, inciting action toward more just, equitable, and honest conversations about our past and our present.
- To reflect on America's history in a holistic, honorable, and honest manner.

*\*With this work, Sonny invites audience members to continue the work towards social justice that has already been started.*

**Presentations are modular and highly flexible. They can be produced on main stages and in smaller venues. To book a performance in your community email, visit [www.legacyheirsproductions.com](http://www.legacyheirsproductions.com) and click on the "Contact Us" link.**

# INDIVISIBLE

## THE CAST



**Sonny Kelly** Sonny Kelly is a scholar, performer, story teller, motivator, speaker, and comedian. Dr. Kelly earned his PhD in Communication at UNC Chapel Hill. He is also a graduate of Currently, his research is focused on seeking performance centered practices to name and address the issues that divide Americans. Sonny has served as a U.S. Air Force officer, a non-profit organization director, university admissions counselor, award winning pharmaceutical salesman, college communications instructor, and a church youth pastor. He teaches courses in Public Speaking and Intercultural/ Interpersonal Communication at Fayetteville Technical Community College. Sonny has also acted professionally on stage and television for over 20 years. Sonny is currently performing his original one-man shows *The Talk* and *HAUNTED* that grapple with the talks that parents of color must have with their children, and that we must begin to have as Americans about surviving and thriving in a divided America. Sonny's dissertation, *Pipelines to Pathways: Reframing and Reclaiming Black Youth Identity through Performance*, mobilizes performance-centered pedagogy, ethnography, and participatory action research toward hope, unity, equity, and inclusion. empowering others is unmistakable! Learn more at [www.legacyheirsproductions.com](http://www.legacyheirsproductions.com).

*Legacy Heirs Productions Inc* has conducted performances, lectures, and workshops for hundreds of satisfied clients like: **GlaxoSmithKline, QIAGEN, The Association of Community Health Workers, Association of Maternal & Child Health Programs, HMA Community Strategies, RTI, Sentara Health, The USO, The Junior League, Cumberland County Arts Council, Duke University, Syracuse University, UNC Chapel Hill, UNC Greensboro, Fayetteville State University, Georgia Tech University, St. Andrews University,**



Fayetteville Technical Community College, Sandhills Community College, Durham Technical Community College, The Levin Jewish Community Center as well as numerous churches, community organizations, and K-12 schools across the nation.

### **What *INDIVISIBLE* offers audiences:**

- Depth of inquiry, that links un(der)told history, personal narratives, and performance ethnography with our contemporary questions on race and representation in the US.
- Combines interactive theater with vibrant storytelling and exquisite character acting for an overwhelmingly engaging experience.
- Profound emotional and physical resonance as a live performance piece, based in rigorous research, as well as critical ethnography and autoethnography, that is mindfully, respectfully, and artfully done.
- Exposure to classic and contemporary poetry and narratives by Sonny Kelly, Langston Hughes, Frederick Douglass, Ida B. Wells, Maya Angelou, John Adams, and more.
- Expands our notions of equity, justice, The American Dream and community through embodied memory, for the sake of personal connection.
- Reverent reflection on U.S. history and contemporary race relations, with special attention paid to abiding challenges that disproportionately affect marginalized peoples.
- A candid community conversation like the one we had at the Arts Center in Carrboro, NC on March 27, 2021. Watch it here:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FE5Loxvyhyc&t=93s>

### **References:**

- Renée A. Price, Commissioner/Vice-Chair, Orange County Board of County Commissioners, 200 South Cameron Street, Hillsborough, NC 27278; 919-593-1904
- Katie Murray, Director, Orange County Arts Commission, 200 S. Cameron St., Hillsborough, NC 27278, 919-245-2335
- Joseph Megel, Artist in Residence, UNC Chapel Hill Communication Department, Phone: (919)843-7067; E-mail: megel@email.unc.edu
- Dr. Lloyd Kramer, Director of Carolina Public Humanities Phone: (919) 962-5553; E-mail: lkramer@email.unc.edu

By Sonny Kelly

## **RIDER**

- 1 Tall table (4 feet high, 3 ft by 3 ft)
- 1 solid chair
- 1 large projector screen
- 1 projector that can project a PowerPoint slideshow
- Audio system that allows for sound cues to be projected in the performance area (all sound files are MP3 files) \*This show can be run with one technician if the audio and visual equipment can be collocated.

## **TIMING**

Run time: 90 minutes without Q & A. Can be adjusted according to needs.

## **SPACE**

Minimum of 10ft X 6ft playing space, preferably on an elevated stage.

## **COST**

\$7,500 + travel and lodging costs for one full performance, followed by an optional additional hour of Discussion and Q & A.

\*Additional cost of \$500 per performance + travel if technicians are not provided.

\$2,500 + travel and lodging costs for excerpts of the performance and the facilitation of interactive community discussions and workshops for up to three hours. (\$500 per additional hour)

\$1,500 for the rental of an online video version of the full performance.

\*Prices for additional performances in the same area during the same visit are negotiable.

***INDIVISIBLE is currently available for booking!***

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