



Dear Lineage Community,

As the newly elected Chair of Lineage Project's Board of Directors, it is my great honor to share with you—in my first message to this community in this position—the new role and appointment of [Jessica Mingus](#) as Lineage's Co-Executive Director.

Over the last four years, Jessica and Co-Executive Director Gabrielle Prisco have developed a deep partnership that has shifted the culture and praxis of Lineage in unprecedented and meaningful ways. This transition represents a natural evolution for Lineage.

In the last few years, Lineage has been learning and applying new ways of “practicing what we preach” in all dimensions of our work—internally, as a staff and board, and externally, in relationship with our wider community. The vision and ethic Jessica brings to this dimension of our work has been transformational.

Before accepting this promotion to Co-Executive Director, Jessica served as Lineage's first full-time Director of Programs for four years, joining our team in 2017. Throughout her work, Jessica has embodied and applied an antiracist framework—grounded in somatic abolitionism—and has prioritized culture- and relationship-building in carrying out our programmatic work.

Jessica has cultivated programs that honor the constant interplay between what's happening inside of our students, their day-to-day realities inside of the systems where we work, and society at large—all with the intention of creating a felt sense of resource and connection, room and recognition within a wellness sector that persistently disregards them.

In tandem, Jessica and our stellar team of teachers have vastly expanded our professional development work with the adult staff who work with our students, ultimately helping transform business as usual inside NYC systems.

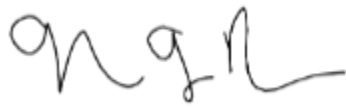
Jessica has stewarded more than 75 programs across New York; led the design of our new Community Program; enriched our mentorship program for training new Lineage teachers;

deepened our individual and collective knowledge around the impacts of trauma; and so much more.

Jessica, working shoulder-to-shoulder with Gabrielle, will undoubtedly continue to align Lineage with its values of mindfulness and antiracism, and lead us in achieving our goals sustainably and with care and integrity.

With the utmost support of the entire board, please join me in celebrating Jessica's new appointment and this transition. This is just the beginning.

With thanks,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'gn', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Gabby Napolitano