Ashanté Reese, Ph.D., is assistant professor of African and African Diaspora Studies at the University of Texas at Austin. Her work examines how anti-Blackness shapes the food system and how urban residents navigate these constraints. Her second book, "Black Food Matters: Racial Justice in the Wake of Food Justice", is co-edited with Hanna Garth and will be published by the University of Minnesota Press in fall 2020.

This talk draws from previous ethnographic research conducted in Washington, D.C., new research on prison agriculture, and lessons learned from community-based organizations to offer insights into how we might imagine equitable food systems. Specifically, the talk explores connections between urban food systems and the prison industrial complex and offers some thoughts for what an abolitionist framework offers food justice efforts.