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# Mission and Purpose

The Center for Black Diaspora supports the production of scholastic, collaborative, cultural and creative work related to the experiences of peoples of African descent worldwide. The Center provides space for scholars from diverse disciplines to share their expressive and intellectual work and also to critically examine issues.

We encourage the study of the Black diaspora, as well as comparative perspectives to illuminate the particular experiences of African people both on the continent and in the diaspora.

# Message from the Director

Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman

I spent my second year as director developing and planning initiatives that achieve the Center for Black Diaspora's mission to promote and support the production of scholarly, cultural and creative work related to the experiences of peoples of African descent throughout the world. All of this was done remotely because the 2020-2021 academic year continued to be a tumultuous one plagued by a pandemic, by attacks on Blacks, Latinx, Asians, immigrants, LGBTQ and trans women, and on voting rights, and democracy, as we know it.

I did not want the pandemic, which quarantined us, to limit the Center's engagement with our DePaul, Chicago, national, and global communities. Therefore, I developed and supported a number of virtual initiatives.

## 2020-2021 CBD Initiatives:

I took a multi-prong approach to achieving the Center's goals this year by developing several initiatives. The first group of initiatives addressed the intellectual development of current students and alumni.

The DePaul Diversity Connections Program and Students of Color Program were two important collaborative initiatives that the Center helped to develop, organize, and deliver. Young scholars accepted to DePaul were impacted by a pandemic that limited their opportunity to visit campus and learn about the resources available to them. Recognizing this, these two programs were developed by a collaborative group that included: the Center for Black



Diaspora Studies; the Center for Latino Research; the Dean's Office in Liberal Arts and Social Sciences (LAS); the Admissions Office; Chairs and Center directors from the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies (ABD), Latino and Latin American Studies (LST), and Global Asian Studies (AAS). Two virtual events were held on July 31 and August 8, 2020 to introduce students of color admitted to the College of LAS to the college, faculty, current students, and alumni of color as well as to the Financial Aid office and the Office of Multicultural Student Success. The Center for Black Diaspora collaborated with the Center for Latino Research a third time to hold a virtual event on March 12, 2021 for students admitted to DePaul College of LAS.

The Racial Equity Graduate Student Research Fellowship was another initiative developed. The Center for Black Diaspora and the Steans Center teamed up to provide Black graduate students with fellowship opportunities meant to produce scholarship that advocates for racial equality, to find solutions to police violence, and to create policies to counter systematic racism. I collaborated with Barbara Smith Weaver and Howard Rosing from the Steans Center on developing the Steans/CBD Racial Equity Fellowship. We chose Laronda Wilson and Kimberly Fair as the 2020-2021 fellows.

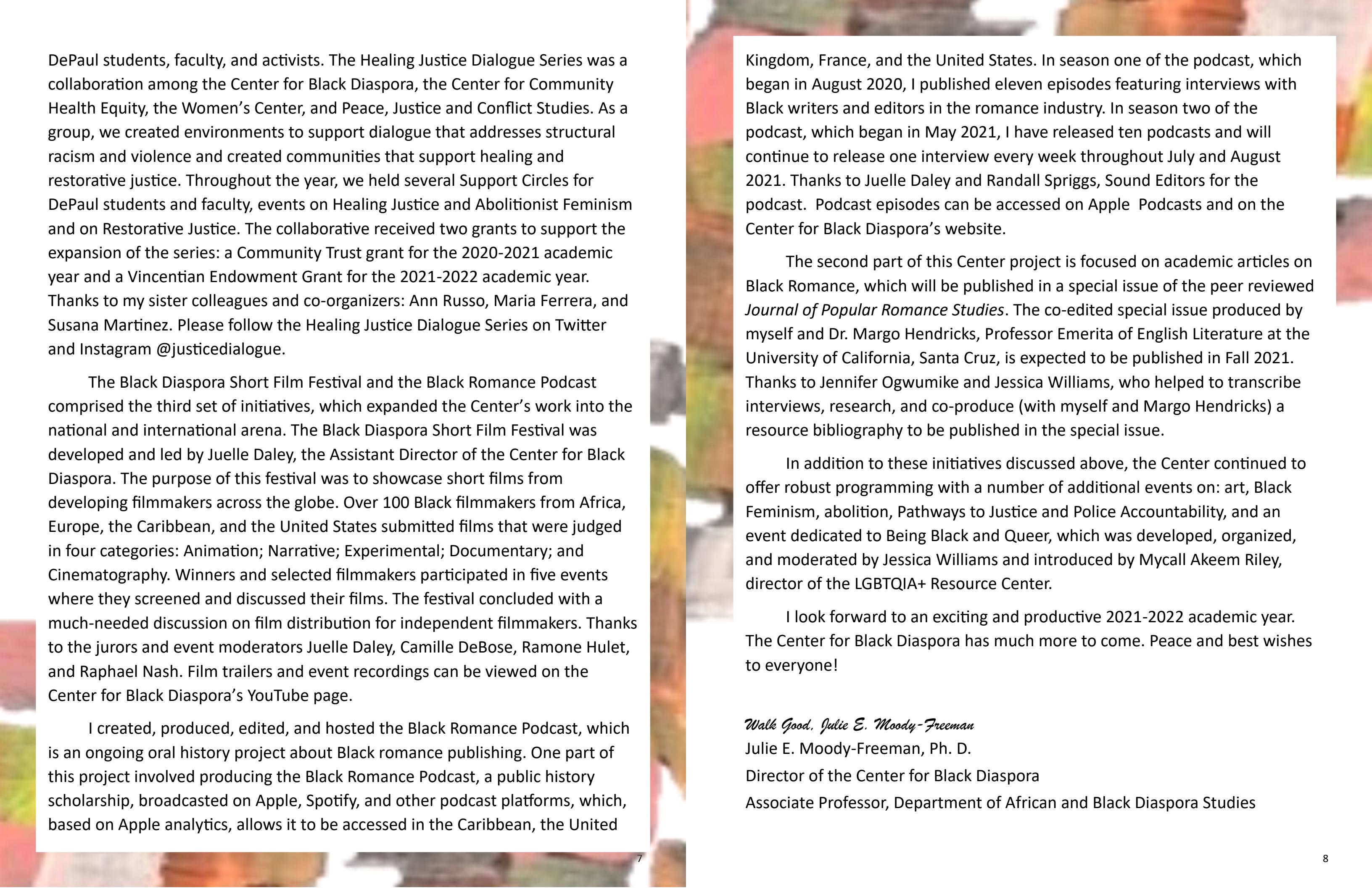
The Emerging Scholars and Creative Series was developed to provide a forum for DePaul graduate students and alumni as well as scholars and creatives in graduate programs across the United States to showcase their academic research, film, and art. The Center for Black Diaspora, the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, and the Women's Center collaborated on this new series, which debuted in Spring 2021. Five scholars, artists, and filmmakers presented in the series: Sara Scriven, DePaul alumni and graduate student at the University of Maryland, Jennifer Gardner, DePaul alumni and graduate student at Temple University, Maiya Sinclair, DePaul alumni, Zakkiyyah Najeebah Dumas-O'Neal, graduate student at the University of Chicago, and Ifejie Akinyela, graduate student at UCLA.

The Healing Justice Dialogue Series was the second group of initiatives. It was developed to support the intellectual, spiritual, and health development of

DePaul students, faculty, and activists. The Healing Justice Dialogue Series was a collaboration among the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Community Health Equity, the Women's Center, and Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies. As a group, we created environments to support dialogue that addresses structural racism and violence and created communities that support healing and restorative justice. Throughout the year, we held several Support Circles for DePaul students and faculty, events on Healing Justice and Abolitionist Feminism and on Restorative Justice. The collaborative received two grants to support the expansion of the series: a Community Trust grant for the 2020-2021 academic year and a Vincentian Endowment Grant for the 2021-2022 academic year. Thanks to my sister colleagues and co-organizers: Ann Russo, Maria Ferrera, and Susana Martinez. Please follow the Healing Justice Dialogue Series on Twitter and Instagram @justicedialogue.

The Black Diaspora Short Film Festival and the Black Romance Podcast comprised the third set of initiatives, which expanded the Center's work into the national and international arena. The Black Diaspora Short Film Festival was developed and led by Juelle Daley, the Assistant Director of the Center for Black Diaspora. The purpose of this festival was to showcase short films from developing filmmakers across the globe. Over 100 Black filmmakers from Africa, Europe, the Caribbean, and the United States submitted films that were judged in four categories: Animation; Narrative; Experimental; Documentary; and Cinematography. Winners and selected filmmakers participated in five events where they screened and discussed their films. The festival concluded with a much-needed discussion on film distribution for independent filmmakers. Thanks to the jurors and event moderators Juelle Daley, Camille DeBose, Ramone Hulet, and Raphael Nash. Film trailers and event recordings can be viewed on the Center for Black Diaspora's YouTube page.

I created, produced, edited, and hosted the Black Romance Podcast, which is an ongoing oral history project about Black romance publishing. One part of this project involved producing the Black Romance Podcast, a public history scholarship, broadcasted on Apple, Spotify, and other podcast platforms, which, based on Apple analytics, allows it to be accessed in the Caribbean, the United



Kingdom, France, and the United States. In season one of the podcast, which began in August 2020, I published eleven episodes featuring interviews with Black writers and editors in the romance industry. In season two of the podcast, which began in May 2021, I have released ten podcasts and will continue to release one interview every week throughout July and August 2021. Thanks to Juelle Daley and Randall Spriggs, Sound Editors for the podcast. Podcast episodes can be accessed on Apple Podcasts and on the Center for Black Diaspora's website.

The second part of this Center project is focused on academic articles on Black Romance, which will be published in a special issue of the peer reviewed *Journal of Popular Romance Studies*. The co-edited special issue produced by myself and Dr. Margo Hendricks, Professor Emerita of English Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz, is expected to be published in Fall 2021. Thanks to Jennifer Ogwumike and Jessica Williams, who helped to transcribe interviews, research, and co-produce (with myself and Margo Hendricks) a resource bibliography to be published in the special issue.

In addition to these initiatives discussed above, the Center continued to offer robust programming with a number of additional events on: art, Black Feminism, abolition, Pathways to Justice and Police Accountability, and an event dedicated to Being Black and Queer, which was developed, organized, and moderated by Jessica Williams and introduced by Mycall Akeem Riley, director of the LGBTQIA+ Resource Center.

I look forward to an exciting and productive 2021-2022 academic year. The Center for Black Diaspora has much more to come. Peace and best wishes to everyone!

*Walk Good. Julie E. Moody-Freeman*

Julie E. Moody-Freeman, Ph. D.

Director of the Center for Black Diaspora

Associate Professor, Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

# Message from the Assistant Director

Juelle Daley



This marks my thirteenth year as Assistant Director at the Center for Black Diaspora at DePaul University and it has been an enriching experience to work with my DePaul colleagues to mentor students and to fulfill our mission to cultivate scholarship and to diffuse knowledge about the Black experience in the United States and around the globe.

2020 and the onslaught of the pandemic, COVID-19, had an indelible impact on a planetary level and demanded that we too, needed to adapt and to remain resilient. The Center for Black Diaspora prides itself in developing in-person public programming for students, faculty, staff and the general Chicagoland community. However, this year, the Center quickly pivoted from its modus operandi towards an entirely virtual programming format. Still, the pandemic provided new opportunities and an urgency to collectively reflect more intently on what we most valued and in what way our actions could have lasting impact on the university community and most importantly on our students at DePaul.

The first change born during the pandemic was a new capacity to reach audiences beyond Chicago and to engage directly with event attendees nationally and internationally. As a result, the Center for Black Diaspora experienced increased visibility and attendance as many tuned-in via Zoom. As with many

cultural institutions during the pandemic, we hope to retain this 'expansiveness' long after the pandemic.

Second, this period allowed for innovation and new initiatives and as such, I spearheaded the creation of a virtual film festival, the Black Diaspora Short Film Festival to spotlight the Center's rich film collection on Black Cinema housed at the Center at our Lincoln Park campus. In doing so, we were able to celebrate, discover and expose emerging Black filmmakers. We hosted film screenings in the categories of Cinematography, Narrative, Experimental, Animation and Documentary and a panel on Black Film Distribution.

Lastly, the Center was able to co-organize events with Chicagoland cultural stakeholders like the Chicago Artists Coalition in an attempt to intensify ties to cultural institutions in the city. I am grateful to have played a role in this regard as well as other initiatives birthed this year like the Black Romance Podcast produced by Center Director, Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman where I function as sound designer and editor for the podcast.

The pandemic has forced us all to shift, adapt, grow and to thrive this last academic year and I've been honored to be a part of the Center's dynamic staff team during this tumultuous time. I look forward to the continued growth and diversity of initiatives undertaken to provide support to our DePaul community.

Sincerely,  
Juelle Daley

Assistant Director of the Center for Black Diaspora

# Center Staff



**Kathryn Douglas**  
Office Assistant



**Jessica Williams**  
Student Assistant



**Jennifer Ogwumike**  
Student Assistant

# Advisory Board



**Cory Barnes**, Coordinator - Black Cultural Center

Mr. Barnes joined DePaul University in October 2017 as coordinator of the Black Cultural Center in the Office of Multicultural Student Success. In his role he is the primary resource for information, referrals and advocacy to address the needs of all, while directly supporting Black students. Cory received a BA in sociology and an MS in education in counseling, adult and higher education from Northern Illinois University. He is pursuing a PhD. in higher education administration at Illinois State University.



**Dani Blackwell**, Administrative Assistant - New Student and Family Engagement

Dani Blackwell has been a part of the DePaul family for over 15 years and also an alumna. She joined the board almost 2 years ago and has also served on DPUBLIC, Staff Council as the Chair of the Diversity, Mission and Inclusion committee and the Human Resources committee within the Division of Student Affairs. She is dedicated to the growth of our students and staff at DePaul University.



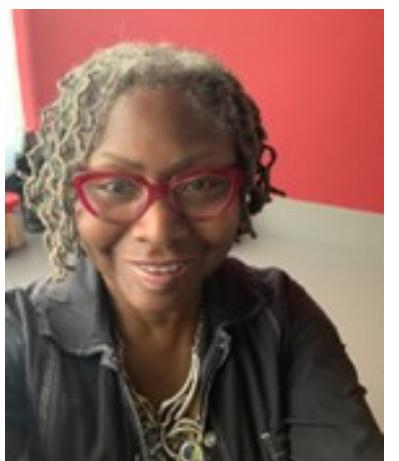
**Mark DeLancey, PhD.**, Professor - History of Art and Architecture Department

Dr. DeLancey is professor and chair of the Department of History of Art and Architecture where he teaches courses in African and Islamic art with specialties in Islamic Africa and African architecture. He received his Ph.D. from Harvard University in 2004, and his BA from Oberlin College in 1995. He is the author of *Conquest and Construction: Palace Architecture in Northern Cameroon* (Leiden: Brill, 2016) and co-author of multiple editions of *Historical Dictionary of the Republic of Cameroon* (Lanham, MD: Scarecrow Press, 5th ed. 2019/4th ed. 2010/3rd ed. 2000). He has published in *African Arts*, *Journal of the Society of Architectural Historians*, *Islamic Africa*, and *Cahiers d'études africaines*. Current research interests include calligraphy, manuscripts, and contemporary art in Mauritania.



**Dana Hall**, Associate Professor - Music School

Born in Brooklyn, New York, drummer Dana Hall has been an important musician on the international music scene since 1992. After completing his education in aerospace engineering at Iowa State University, he received his Bachelor of Music degree from William Paterson College in Wayne, New Jersey and, in 1999, his Masters degree in composition and arranging from DePaul University in Chicago, Illinois. He is presently a distinguished Special Trustees Fellow completing his PhD. in ethnomusicology at the University of Chicago.



### **Valerie Johnson, PhD., Associate Professor- Political Science**

Dr. Johnson received her Ph.D. from the University of Maryland, College Park, and is associate professor and chair of the Political Science Department at DePaul University in Chicago. She is the author of *Black Power in the Suburbs: The Myth or Reality of African American Suburban Political Incorporation* (2002), and co-editor of *Power in the City* (2008). Her current book project is entitled *At the Water's Edge: The Unfinished Business of Black Equality*. Her research and teaching interests include African American politics, urban politics, and education policy.



### **Amor Kohli, PhD., Associate Professor -African and Black Diaspora Studies**

Dr. Kohli is associate professor and director of the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies at DePaul. He received his PhD. in English at Tufts University and taught at Tufts, Middlebury College, and the University of Vermont before coming to DePaul in 2003, the first year of the African and Black Diaspora Studies Department's existence.



### **Shiera el Malik, PhD., Associate Professor - International Studies**

Dr. el-Malik is an associate professor in the Department of International Studies at DePaul University in Chicago. She teaches and writes on themes of coloniality, politics, and theory. Her research is guided by an interest in the intersection of politics of knowledge and lived experience. Her work is published in the *Review of International Studies*, *African Identities*, *Journal of Contemporary African Studies*, *Irish Studies of International Affairs*, *Critical Studies on Security*, *African and Black Diaspora*, *Contexto* and *Journal of Narrative Politics*, amongst other journals and edited volumes. She co-edited (with Isaac Kamola) *Politics of African Anticolonial Archive*.



### **Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD., Associate Professor - African and Black Diaspora Studies**

Julie E. Moody-Freeman is an associate professor in African and Black Diaspora Studies. She received her Ph.D. in Literature and Cultural Studies at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Her teaching and research interests include studies in Black Feminist Theory, the Rhetoric of Colonialism and Post-Colonialism, African American popular romance fiction, and Black Speculative fiction.



### **Ogenga Otunnu, PhD., Associate Professor - History**

Dr. Otunnu (PhD, York University) is a professor of History. He teaches the causes and consequences of forced migration in Africa, humanitarian emergencies, comparative genocide, refugee camps and containment, contemporary global issues, African history, comparative slavery, and Africa and Black Diaspora studies. He is the co-founder of the Center for Forced Migration Studies at Northwestern University. He has lectured at the summer program on refugees and forced migration at the Centre for Refugee Studies at York University for 15 years.



### **Francesca Royster, PhD., Professor - English**

Dr. Royster is a professor of English at DePaul University, where she teaches courses in Shakespeare Studies, Performance Studies, Critical Race theory, Gender and Queer Theory and African American Literature. She received her PhD. in English from University of California, Berkeley in 1995. She is the author of *Becoming Cleopatra: The Shifting Image of an Icon* (Palgrave/MacMillan in 2003) and *Sounding Like a No-No: Queer Sounds and Outrageous Acts in the Post-Soul Era* (University of Michigan, 2013).



### **Chernoh Sesay, PhD., Associate Professor - Religious Studies**

Dr. Sesay, Jr. is an associate professor in the Religious Studies Department, where in 2018, he received an Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences. An historian of North American and the Atlantic World, he has authored book chapters and has had articles appear in *The New England Quarterly* and the *Journal of African American Studies*. He has also written book reviews for the *Journal of American History*, the *Journal of Africana Religions*, and the *Journal of Women's History*.



### **John Zeigler, Director - Egan Office of Urban Education and Community Partnerships**

John Zeigler Jr. is director of the Egan Office of Urban Education and Community Partnerships (UECP) and adjunct faculty in Community Service Studies. He provides guidance in the Steans Center's goal of advancing DePaul faculty and student engagement with public agencies and community-based organizations and schools. John focuses UECP on critical social issues through innovative scholarship, technical assistance and educational programming in schools and communities.



### **Dexter Zollicoffer, Diversity Advisor - DePaul Theatre School**

Mr. Zollicoffer serves as the Diversity Advisor at The Theatre School and is a recipient of the 2011-2012 Spirit of DePaul award. Along with administrative duties, other activities include mentorship to students and supporting the school in graduating young artists who will be prepared and inspired to enter an ever-evolving multi-cultural society. Dexter also partners with other offices at DePaul University that advocate for DePaul's Diversity mission. He serves as the writer/director for DePaul's Mile Walker summer acting troupe in partnership with the Office of Diversity Education.

## DePaul Diversity Connections Program Co-organized with the Center for Latino Research

**Event Dates: July 31 , August 8 2020 and  
March 12**

The **DePaul Diversity Connections Program** aimed at students of color who have declared their interest in majoring in the humanities and social sciences. This welcoming gesture was intended to help encourage students of color commit to DePaul by introducing them to important resources and communities on campus, including: students of color who are already at DePaul, faculty and staff of color, and other resources, such as the Multicultural Student Centers. The goal was to provide new students information about key resources and sources of support at DePaul, to help them navigate the sometimes challenging and alienating environment, but also to connect with students of color directly and let them know that there is a welcoming, vibrant community waiting for them at DePaul, filled with people who are deeply committed to their success.

"When you're a freshman, it's all very intimidating. That's why we wanted to reach out that hand to say, 'This is a good place for you. We're going to be here with support and resources,' says co-faculty sponsor Bill Johnson González, director of the Center for Latino Research and an associate professor of English.

The sessions put a focus on LAS academic programs in the Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, and Global Asian Studies, as well as resources from the Office of Multicultural Student Success, CBD and CLR. Incoming students got to meet and hear from current students and faculty. They also saw inspiring short videos from alumni who talked about life after DePaul

An informative "how to pay for it" session covered everything from financial aid and scholarship opportunities to a personal account of overcoming financial struggles. Breakout sessions gave incoming students a chance to ask questions and mingle. Pre-recorded messages from alumni and faculty were showcased throughout the programs.

**-Insights LAS Dean's Office, Fall 2020**

"We hope this welcoming gesture may encourage students of color to commit to DePaul by introducing them to important resources such as multicultural student centers and diverse communities of faculty, staff and students who can help them thrive and get the most from their DePaul experience," says co-faculty sponsor Julie E. Moody-Freeman, director of the Center for Black Diaspora and an associate professor of African and Black diaspora studies.

A similar program was also created for incoming graduate students . "Like undergraduates, graduate students can find it difficult to make connections with other students across disciplines," says Associate Dean Margaret Storey. "We wanted to create a way to facilitate those connections before classes begin, so that graduate students are given a head start on building the networks that will enrich their time at DePaul."

**-Insights LAS Dean's Office, Fall 2020**

*Thanks to the following individuals who made this event possible:*

Co-Organizers: Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman and Dr. Billy Gonzalez  
LAS Deans, Chairs, and Faculty: Dean Guillermo Vásquez de Velasco;  
Associate Dean Margaret Storey; Dr. Amor Kohli; Dr. Francesca Royster; Dr. Chernoh Sesay; Dr. Valerie Johnson; Dr. Mark Delancey; Dr. Christina Rivers; Dr. Carolina Sternberg; Dr. Li Jin; Dr. Laura Kina  
Staff: Juelle Daley; Rebecca Hernandez; Michael Riley; Christopher Rone; Yessenia Mejia; Vanessa Martinez  
Student and alumni participants: Ashli Funches; Jennifer Gardner; Maici Williams; Mari Oliver; Georgina Quintana; Kekoa Erber; Alyssa Isberto; Karla Velasco; Claudia Peralta; Kevin Quin



Image: *Insights LAS Dean's Office, Fall 2020*

# CBD

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## INITIATIVES



## Black Romance Podcast



The Black Romance Podcast features conversations with Black writers, editors, and scholars of historical and contemporary popular romance fiction. This series builds a rich, complex, multilayered oral history of Black romance that provides insight into Black writers' cross-generational approaches to representing race, gender, and sexuality, to representing Black history, Black uplift, Black feminism, and to writing romance and Black love.

Guests talk about a range of topics including but not limited to romance publishers' marginalization of Black writers in the 1970s and 1980s, the founding of the Romance Writers of America, Vivian Stephens' development and implementation of formula romance at Dell publishing, the advantages and disadvantages of traditional vs self-publishing, the importance of representation in Black queer romance fiction, and the importance of Black representation and owning film rights to books. These intergenerational voices of writers featured in this podcast are beginning



*Black Romance  
Podcast*

Though a fairly new podcast, Julie Moody-Freeman hit the ground running with a jaw-dropping interview with romance legend Sandra Kitt, and since then, has brought out guests who have been trailblazers in the romance genre. Julie is a stellar interviewer, which results in sincere, fun and enlightening conversations. I can't wait to see who she brings in next.

*-BookTrib review*

to build a much-needed archive on the production and publication of Black Romance.

The Center published eleven episodes with the following guests: Sandra Kitt, Brenda Jackson (two episodes), Beverly Jenkins, Vivian Stephens (two episodes), Alyssa Cole, Rebekah Weatherspoon, Gwyneth Bolton/Gwendolyn Pough, Rochelle Alers, and Elysabeth Grace/ Margo Hendricks.

Listen to this podcast on...

Apple  
Spotify  
CBD website

# Publicity for the Black Romance Podcast

## SHELF LOVE

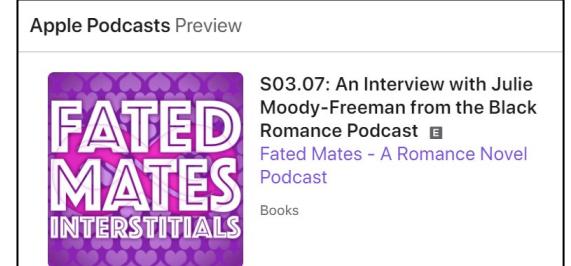
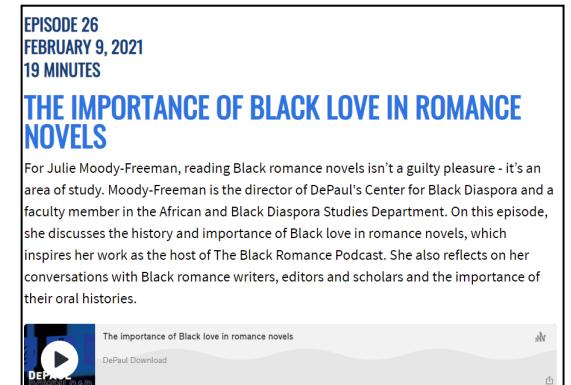
### PODCAST

“Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman, host of Black Romance Podcast, uses a multi-modal cultural studies perspective to engage students in critical engagement with Black romance texts to ‘liberate learners from the mimicry of the powerful.’” -*Shelf Love*



## CHICAGO TRIBUNE

“DePaul professor Julie Moody-Freeman creates a podcast examining Black romance novels as scholarship” - *Chicago Tribune*

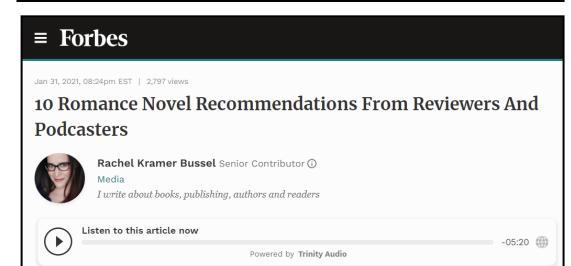


## DEPAUL DOWNLOAD

## FATED MATES

### PODCAST

## FORBES



# CBD

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## INITIATIVES



### Episodes 2021

May 11

Donna Hill

May 18

Shirley Hailstock

May 25

Reese Ryan

June 2

LaQuette

June 8

Kennedy Ryan

June 15

Piper Huguley

June 22

Katrina Jackson

June 29

Adriana Herrera

July 6

Celeste Norfleet

## Black Romance Podcast Season 2



### Twitter & Instagram: @blk\_romance

 LaQuette (Pre-order A... · 6/2/21 · I'm so honored to be a guest on @blk\_romance. It was amazing to be included in the necessary work Julie Moody-Freeman is doing as she chronicles and explores Black Romance. Take a listen. [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/blk-romance)

 Black Romance Podcast · 6/2/21 Best-selling writer LaQuette discusses how she came to write and publish romance, her role as the current President of the Romance Writers of America, her publishing

 Frederick Smith (he/him) · 5/20/21 · The @blk\_romance podcast is excellent. All about the Black romance authors who opened up doors in the 80s and 90s for today's authors. Download & listen. [https://twitter.com/blk\\_romance/status/1395111111111111111](https://twitter.com/blk_romance/status/1395111111111111111) #BlackRomance #romance #writingcommunity #blackauthors

 Elysabeth Grace aka Dr.... · 6/15/21 · Images of the author and book covers. I love this Podcast. If you have listened, you're missing some fabulously awesome interviews. [https://twitter.com/blk\\_romance/status/1395111111111111111](https://twitter.com/blk_romance/status/1395111111111111111)

 Black Romance Podcast · 6/15/21 Best-selling writer Piper Huguley talks about publishing historical romance with African American Christian characters, novels from her "Home to Millford College Series," A Virtuous Ruby, Sweet Tea, and By design: The Story of Ann Lowe [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/blk-romance) [Show this thread](https://twitter.com/blk_romance/status/1395111111111111111)



Steve Ammidown is takin... · 5/20/21 · One of the great things about this episode is Shirley talking about her time working through RWA to end some of Harlequin's more egregious policies towards authors. This is an important moment in genre history.

 Black Romance Podc... · 5/18/21

Best-selling and award-winning novelist Shirley Hailstock joins Julie to talk about her writing & publishing career, and they deep dive into her novels Whispers of Love (Under the Sheets) and Love in Logan Beach. [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/blk-romance)



Steve Ammidown is takin... · 5/20/21 · Just catching up- this was such a great episode! I've said this before, but it's hard to overstate the importance of this oral history that Dr. Moody-Freeman is compiling. A must-listen!

 Black Romance Podcast · 5/11/21

Best-selling writer Donna Hill joins Julie for the first episode of Season 2. They discuss Hill's experiences writing and publishing romance, and they deep dive into three of her novels: Rooms of the Heart, Chances Are, and Confessions in B Flat. [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/blk-romance)



## Racial Equity Graduate Student Research Fellowship

Partnership between Steans Center  
and Center for Black Diaspora



The Research Fellowship is for an African American graduate student and talented racial justice advocate interested in conducting community-based research on efforts to promote racial equity in Chicago. The research will be focused on one or more of the following areas in partnership with a community organization:

- solutions to police violence targeting Black Lives
- policies that counter systemic racism
- and efforts to positively transform institutions that condone white supremacy.

*The Fellow is expected to become a knowledge expert who can contribute to research and practice to advance social change strategies and anti-racism campaigns locally.*

*Recipients of the inaugural Racial Equity Graduate Research Fellowship*



### Laronda Wilson

Laronda is a graduate student pursuing a Master's of Arts in Public Policy, focused on the intersection of policy and law. Her professional goal is to become a Civil Rights Attorney. She strives to enhance social issues such as poverty, crime, social inequality, employment, education, economic justice, political corruption, and many more. She is a passionate racial justice advocate in the African American community, dedicated to making a change in our economy and society for everyone. She is interested in research focused on solutions to police violence targeting Black Lives, policies that counter systemic racism, and efforts to positively transform institutions that condone white supremacy. She aims to become a knowledgeable expert who can contribute to research and practice to advance social change through strategies and anti-racism campaigns locally.

*"The fight is not just being able to keep breathing. The fight is actually to be able to walk down the street with your head held high — and feel like I belong here, or I deserve to be here, or I just have [a] right to have a level of dignity."*

*—Alicia Garza, civil rights activist, co-founder of Black Lives Matter movement, 2015*



### Kimberly Fair

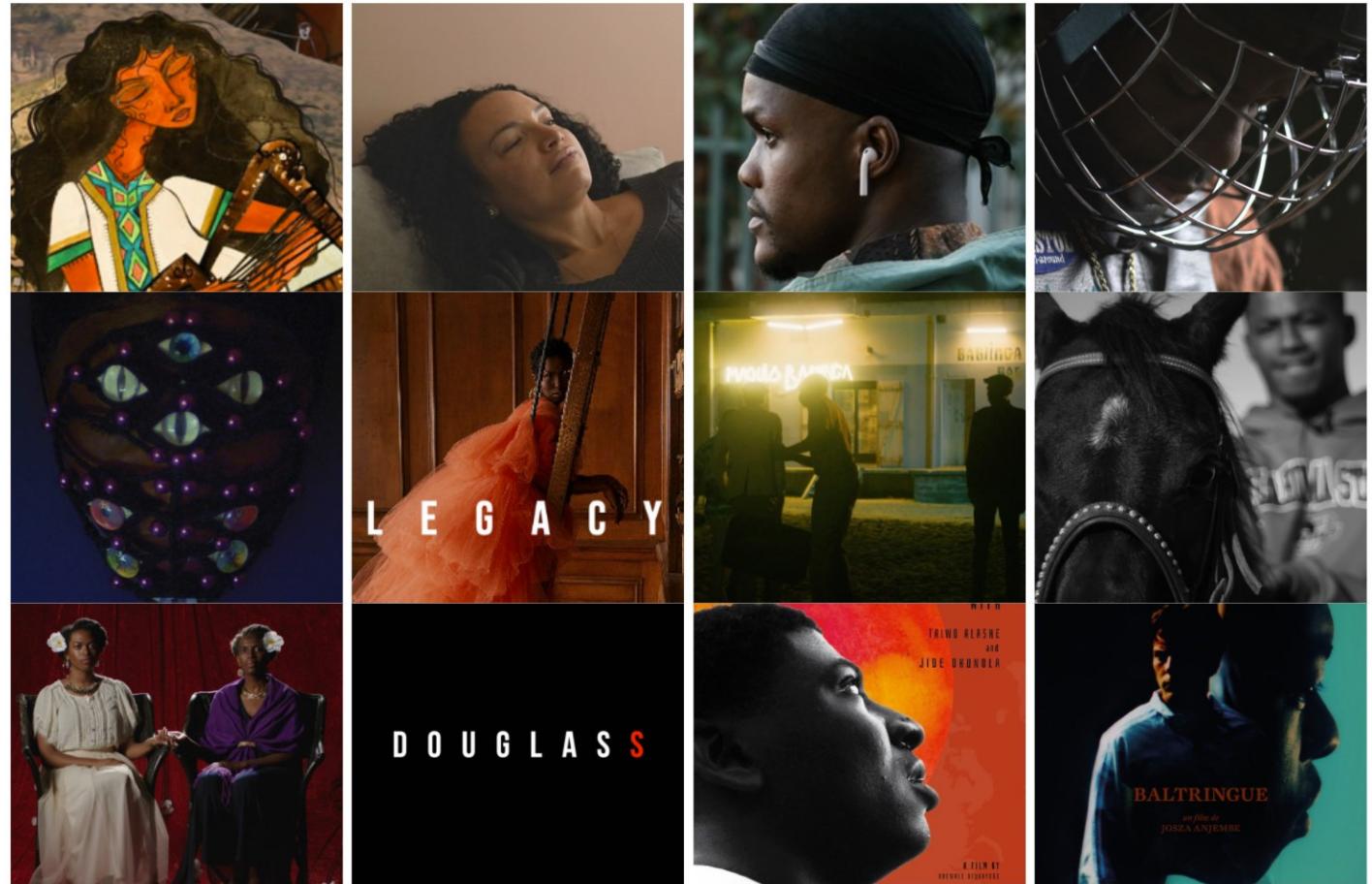
Kimberly Fair is a Public Policy graduate student and Winter 2021 Chaddick Scholar. She has a deep passion for economic policy and how it can be used to tackle poverty in the US. Her area of interest is developing policy programs at the state and municipal level to alleviate poverty for distressed black communities. She has a genuine love for helping others and wants to dedicate her life's work to eliminating poverty. In addition to her academic life, she is a wife, mother, and avid swimmer. Kimberly's research seeks to evaluate fellowship and mentoring programs success at combating systemic racism through economic mobility and empowerment in 18–30-year-old black men.

# CBD INITIATIVES



## Black Diaspora Short Film Festival

Co-Sponsored by The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Department of International Studies



The Black Diaspora Short Film Festival's mission is to discover and showcase talented emerging Black filmmakers who tell stories reflecting the diversity and complexity of the Black experience in the United States and around the world. This inaugural virtual festival is sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora at DePaul University and grown from its extensive film collection of Black Cinema.

In this festival, we seek to reinforce the importance of archiving, watching, and creating black stories. As such, we plan to uplift, promote and nurture the creativity of independent Black filmmakers by providing this forum to exhibit their work in short form cinema. Well-crafted films with poignant stories and themes were selected by jurors. Each film will be followed by a Q & A discussion.

**Animation, Feb 25:** Gabrielle Tesfaye "My Love, Ethiopia"

**Narrative, Feb 26:** Fabien Dao "Bablinga," Tebogo Malebogo "Mthunzi," Adewale Olukayode "Home."

**Documentary, Mar 3:** Brandon Haynes "Legacy Haynes," Cai Thomas "Douglass," Ifeyinwa Arinze "Holding Space"

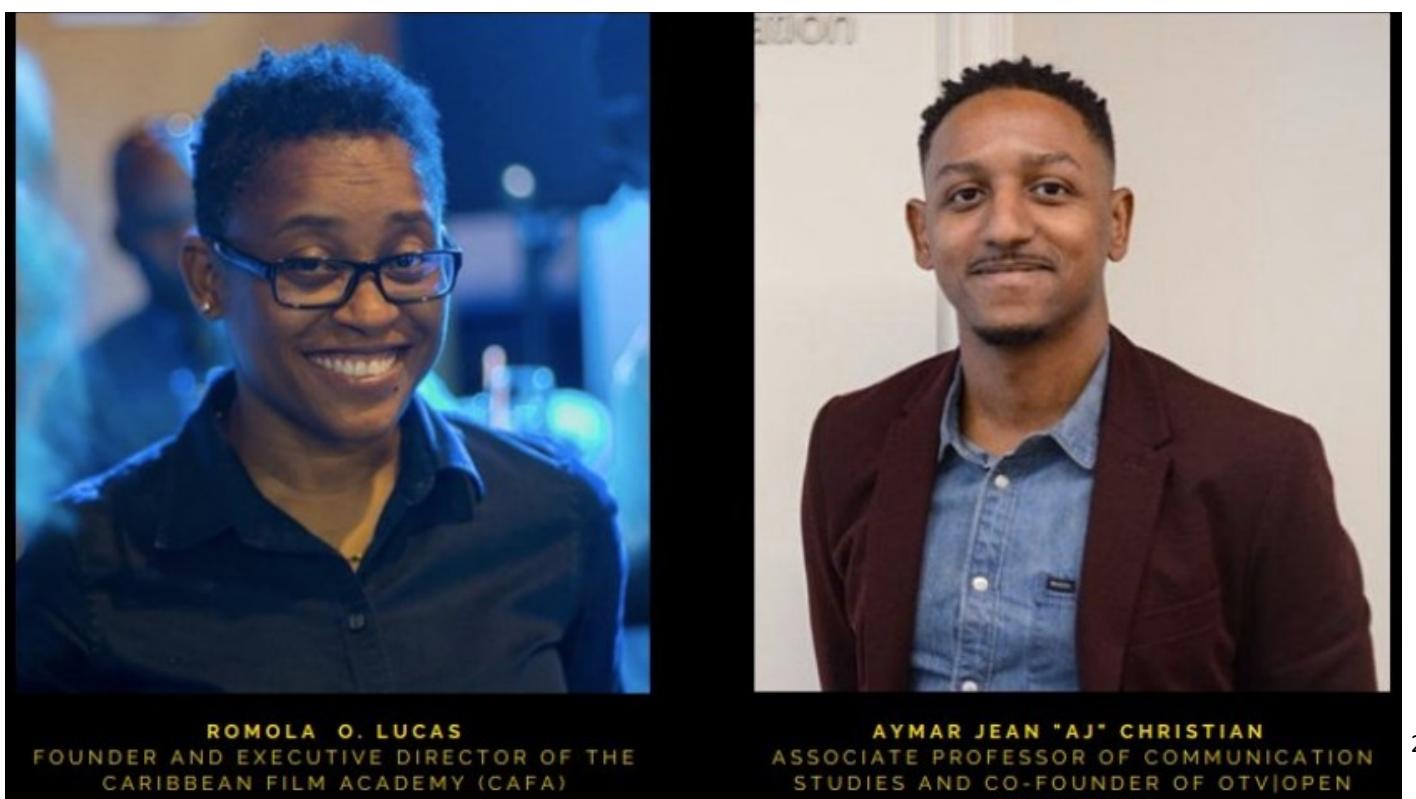
**Experimental, Mar 4:** Baloji "Never Look at the Sun," Zeke Walker Rainge and Gabby Henderson "Raisin"

**Cinematography, Mar 5:** Darius Dawson "A Rodeo Film," Melinda James "Oklahoma is Black," Josza Anjembe, "Freed"

Contest Jurors: Juelle Daley, Camille Debose, Ramone Hulet, Raphael Nash

### Black Diaspora film Distribution Panel , March 11

The panel serves to engage us in a robust dialogue on the state of Black film distribution, barriers to entry and ways to exhibit one's film. Aymar Jean "AJ" Christian (Associate Professor of Communication studies at Co-Founder of OTV | Open Television) and Romola O. Lucas (founder and executive director of the Caribbean film Academy) will share their wisdom and expertise on Black creatives and spaces where filmmakers can distribute and exhibit their films as well as their respective efforts to do so.



# Publicity for the Black Diaspora Short Film Festival

DEPAUL

NEWSLINE

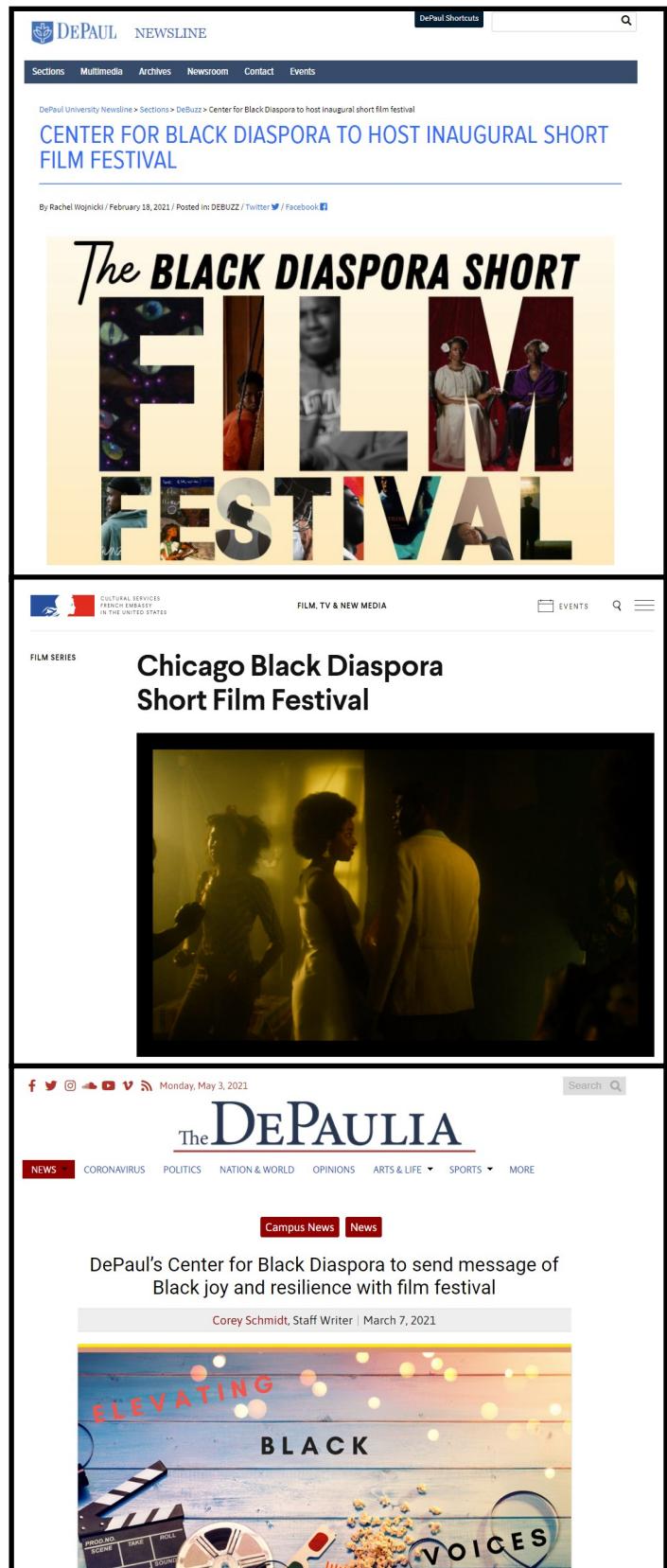
THE CULTURAL

SERVICES OF

THE FRENCH

EMBASSY

THE DEPAULIA



DEPAUL NEWSLINE

CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA TO HOST INAUGURAL SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

By Rachel Wojnicki / February 18, 2021 / Posted in: DEBUZZ / Twitter / Facebook

The BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

FILM, TV & NEW MEDIA

Chicago Black Diaspora Short Film Festival

MONDAY, MAY 3, 2021

DePAULIA

CORONAVIRUS POLITICS NATION & WORLD OPINIONS ARTS & LIFE SPORTS MORE

Campus News News

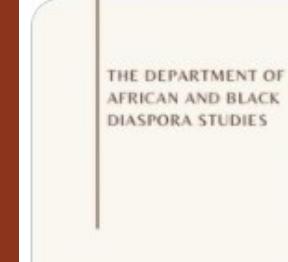
DePaul's Center for Black Diaspora to send message of Black joy and resilience with film festival

Corey Schmidt, Staff Writer | March 7, 2021

ELEVATING BLACK VOICES



Get into the Center For Black Diaspora's Short Film Festival. The first event in February 25, 2021!!!!



Brandon Haynes @bhaynesphoto

Amazing news! "Legacy" was just selected by Center for Black Diaspora Short Film Festival via FilmFreeway.com

Film Festivals, Screenplay Contests, Submissions Enter the world's best film festivals and screenplay contests. FilmFreeway makes it easy to discover, submit and get ticket... [filmfreeway.com](https://filmfreeway.com)

angela tate (still flâneuse en quarantine) @theglamacademic

The Black Diaspora Short Film Festival, Feb 25-Mar 11, 2021 by @cbddepaul [las.depaul.edu/centers-and-in...](https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-in...)

3:20 PM · Feb 17, 2021 · Twitter Web App

DePaul University @DePaul

.@cbddepaul kicks off its inaugural Black Diaspora Short Film Festival on Thurs., Feb. 25, with a screening of "My Love, Ethiopia" and filmmaker Q&A. Free and open to the public; registration is required. More info and film lineup: [las.depaul.edu/centers-and-in...](https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-in...)

5:55 PM · Feb 22, 2021 · Hootsuite Inc.

DePaul Humanities Center @DPU\_Hum\_Ctr

This year's Black Diaspora Short Film Festival will take place from February 25 to March 11, celebrating the Black experience in all its richness and complexity with short films from the United States and around the globe. For more info, see @cbddepaul

4:01 PM · Feb 11, 2021 · Twitter Web App

THE BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL

ANIMATION

FEBRUARY 25, 5:30 PM CST

My Love Ethiopia

14 min 49 sec | United States

Set during the time of the Red Terror war in 1970s in Ethiopia, the country's political tyranny has created huge population of refugees searching for an escape. Based on a true story, Yene Birra, Ethiopia, meaning "My Love, Ethiopia", follows the turbulent and mysterious journey of a young girl searching for freedom after being separated from her family. As she embarks on a perilous migration through the stretching desert, magical guardian angels are sent to allay her fears and protect her. With the presence of her angels, and the power of her magical star, she discovers hidden powers within herself she was unaware of before.

Director: Gabrielle Testaye

Moderator: Camille Debose

REGISTER FOR THE FIRST FILM SCREENING: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/my-love-ethiopia-by-gabrielle-testaye-tickets-141062496725>

Hosted by the Center for Black Diaspora at DePaul University. Dr. Michael Goines, Director of the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Department of International Studies

Center for Black Diaspora DPU Retweeted

Brandon Haynes @bhaynesphoto

Holding down the first Q/A film screening for #Legacy tomorrow! Excited about it! Big thanks to @cbddepaul and the #blackdiasporashortfilmfestival

Center for Black Diaspora DPU @cbddepaul · Feb 27

The DOCUMENTARY SHORTS PROGRAM on March 3, 2021 at 5:30 p.m:

- Holding Space by Ifeyinwa Arinze @ifyarinzee
- Legacy by Brandon Haynes @bhaynesphoto
- Douglass by Cai Thomas @aspire4gr8ness

Moderated by Camille Debose @csdebose

Registration: [eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspo...](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspo...)

UPCOMING EVENT

This series features young black intellectuals, creatives, and artists on the topic of ***Black Feminisms***.

Sarah Scriven's talk focused on the life and legacy of Reverend Doctor Pauli Murray through an examination of two events: Murray's 1935 arrest for picketing the New York Amsterdam News and Murray's 1940 arrest for defying bus segregation laws in Virginia.

Zakkiyyah Najeebah Dumas-O'neal's presentation, a line into infinity, spoke to the trajectory of her work and its exploration of Black women's cultural contributions and private and public selfhood through photo, found images, video, and text. Most important is how she navigates ways of being and feeling beyond the systems we inhabit as an artist at this time.

Ifejie Akinyele's talk, #RealBlackGirls: An examination of Hip Hop and Black Womanism, explored the ways in which black feminism theory and Hip Hop intersect, with emphasis on Black Womanism, resistance, and power. Jennifer Gardner talk, If not for the pleasure, then at least for the principle: Championing Pleasure in Contemporary Hip-Hop, delved into how black women explore pleasure and ownership in music.

Maiya Sinclair's *Black Feminist* is a feature length documentary film surrounding the double-edged sword of racial and gender oppression that black women face in America. This documentary is told through interviews from scholars, lecturers, writers, business owners, veterans, comedians and authors.

## Emerging Scholars & Creatives Series

Co-Organized by the Women's Center, The Center for Black Diaspora, The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies



CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA

SPRING 2021

## Emerging Scholars & Creatives Series: Black Feminisms

April 20, 6:00 -7:30 PM

"The Arrests of Pauli Murray" by Sarah Scriven, Graduate Student, The Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Maryland.

May 6, 6:00 -7:30 PM

An Evening with artist, zakkiyyah najeebah dumas-o'neal, with a talk on "a line into infinity."

May 18, 6:00 -7:30 PM

Panelist : Jennifer Gardner, Graduate Student, Temple University.

Talk Title: "If not for the pleasure, then at least for the principle: Championing Pleasure in Contemporary Hip-Hop."

Panelist: Ifejie Akinyele, Graduate Student, UCLA

Talk Title: "#RealBlackGirls: An examination of Hip Hop and Black Womanism."

May 25, 6:00 -7:30 PM

Film Screening of the documentary, "Black Feminist" and discussion and its Relevance to Theory, Culture and Art with Maiya Sinclair (co-producer, resident critical race analyst)

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Center for Black Diaspora and the Women's Center



# Healing Justice Dialogue Series

Sponsored and organized by the Women's Center, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora and The Center for Community Health Equity.



We are in the midst of a health and human rights crisis.

We are outraged and horrified by the murder of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and countless others whose names must be acknowledged within the long history of racial injustice and police brutality. We stand in solidarity with the Black Lives Matter movement, communities of color, and other communities who are profoundly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

We believe increased dialogue is necessary to assist in the healing many of our communities need amidst the anguish, rage, violence, illness, trauma, and loss they have and continue to experience on so many levels.

*Taken from [Transformharm.org](http://Transformharm.org):*

According to [Cara Page](#), Healing Justice is a framework that identifies how we can holistically respond to and intervene on generational trauma and violence and to bring collective practices that can impact and transform the consequences of oppression on our bodies, hearts and minds. Through this framework we continue to build political and philosophical convergences of healing inside of liberation movements and organizations.

*Healing Justice means we all deserve to heal on our terms and we confront oppressive systems that get in our way. We honor the trauma and resilience of generations that came before us and use interactive, daily practices that anyone can do. Healing Justice is a reminder to social movements that the concept of action should be expanded to support the self-determination, interdependence, resilience & resistance of those most impacted by oppression. Healing Justice is revolutionary in confronting the capitalist, colonial, individualistic paradigms that tell us we are alone when we seek out healing.*

*– Young Women's Empowerment Project and the Chicago Healing Justice Learning Circle*

Through the **Healing Justice Dialogue Series**, we aim to facilitate dialogue within and outside of DePaul that:

- increases our understanding and consciousness around structural racism and violence
- raises our awareness about the historical trauma and oppression communities experience, and how this impacts individual and community wellness
- helps us to learn from the resilience of diverse and indigenous communities
- examines and experiences nontraditional ways of healing
- creates a community of healing and restorative justice
- heightens awareness and community activism

We invite others to contribute to this collaborative initiative and welcome other departments to help identify and co-sponsor speakers. We value the work we can accomplish collectively.

## Events

**September 30:** Healing Justice, Mutual Aid, and Abolitionist Feminism with Tanuja Jagernauth and Sangeetha Ravichandran

**November 9:** Race, Restorative Justice, and Healing with Fania Davis

**February 18:** An Evening with African American Zen Priest, Rev angel Kyodo williams

**April 30:** Circle of Support for LAS Faculty with Sandra Sosa

**June 2:** Healing Journeys: Turning to Grief in Community with Misty DeBerry

**June 22:** Restorative Justice in Education with Annalise Buth, Yolineth Sandoval, and Samantha Arechiga

**June 29:** Circle of Support for LAS Faculty with Sandra Sosa



# FALL events 2020

*Cultivating  
Wholeness*

Co-Organized by the Center  
for Black Diaspora

- Healing Justice, Mutual Aid and Abolitionist Feminism [Healing Justice Dialogue Series]
- #Social Bridging: Letter writing as Freedom Work [ The Women's Center]
- Black Feminism and Abolition [The Women's Center]
- Fania Davis, Author of The Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice: Black Lives, Healing, and US Social Transformation (2019) [Healing Justice Dialogue Series]

# Healing Justice, Mutual Aid, and Abolitionist Feminism

With Tanuja Jagernauth and Sangeetha Ravichandran



30 September 2020 | 6-7:30 PM

CT

Co-organized with DePaul Women's Center, Center for Community Health Equity & Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, The Department of Social Work

Sangeetha Ravichandran and Tanuja Jagernauth are healing activists whose work focuses on conflict resolution and transformative justice.

In Healing Justice, Mutual Aid, and Abolition Feminism, Ravichandran and Jagernauth eloquently expressed the importance of transforming oppression to heal the body, heart, and mind. Jagernauth started the conversation by sharing her history of supporting those who struggle with addiction and using theater as an outlet to alleviate injustices. Ravichandran followed – reminding the audience of the significance of story-telling, holding values, and living in the moment. There is much work to be done to figure out what mutual aid and transformative justice look like, but Jagernauth and Ravichandran are present in the struggle, and they are motivating others to do the same.

Center for Black Diaspora DPU  
@cbddepaul

Thank you to our speakers for discussing tools and questions about healing liberation and mutual aid. And thank you to our guests for coming to the first event of the Healing Justice Dialogue series (@justicedialogue)!

8:56 PM · Sep 30, 2020 · Twitter Web App

Center for Black Diaspora DPU @cbddepaul · Sep 30  
Replying to @cbddepaul

"Healing is not linear...We have to sit in the mess and wade through it together.

We all do harm, we've all been harmed. Can we give one another a chance to do better?

In moments of grief and contraction, there is a seed of expansion. Be open to that seed."

-Tanjua Jagernauth



Center for Black Diaspora DPU @cbddepaul · Sep 30  
"Abolition is not some isolated incident when we've reached utopia. It's daily practices.

Liberation work is not a popularity contest. If we center ourselves, which is what white supremacist culture does, then we are continuing to do oppressive work."

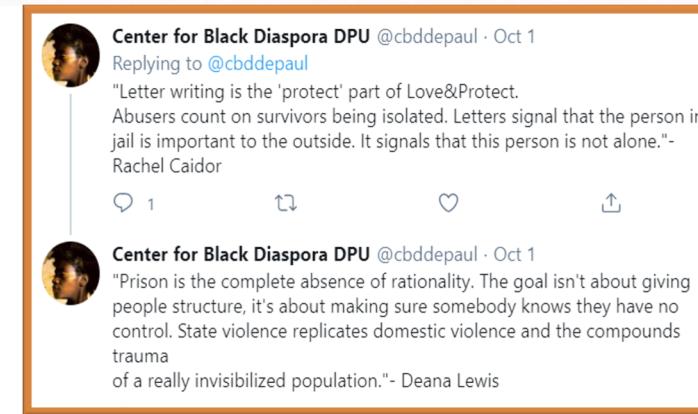
-Sangi Ravichandran





## Love & Protect's Support Model

- Survivor-centered
- Importance of collaboration
- Legal needs
  - Pretrial
  - Post-conviction
- Material needs
- Safety needs
- Emotional support
- Contextualize personal experiences
- Letter writing as abolitionist praxis



## #Social Bridging: Letter Writing as Freedom Work

1 October 2020 | 4:30-6:00 pm

Co-organized by The Women's Center

Members of Love and Protect, Deana Lewis and Rachel Caidor, told us how letter writing can be a powerful practice of abolition and freedom. They first illustrated

how institutions perpetuate violence criminalizing survivors of domestic/ interpersonal violence. The state (with unconcerned communities) replicates abusive relationships and patterns by taking away control, compounding trauma, and rendering people invisible. They also addressed how lockdowns endanger and isolate people in jail and domestic violence situations. The work of Love & Protect is to dismantle criminal systems, building up the capacity for people to address harm and keep each other safe-- especially trans and gender non-conforming folks of color. Caidor and Lewis said that letter writing is the "protect" part of Love & Protect. Letters are community building, allowing people to still feel connected and cared for, and disturb the isolation of prison. Participants could ask and answer questions about domestic violence and were able to give experiences about communicating with incarcerated people. Then, after learning of the transformative power letter writing, everyone contributed to a collective letter to an incarcerated organizer and survivor, Tewkunzi Green.



Image by Sarah-Ji Rhee, <http://www.loveandstrugglephotos.com/>

## Black Feminism & Abolition

with **Rachel Caidor, Mariame Kaba, Deana Lewis, and Beth Richie**

21 October 2020 | 6-7:30 pm

Co-organized by Center for Black Diaspora Studies, and the Women's Center

Co-Sponsored by the Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Critical Ethnic Studies, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, American Studies

Mariame Kaba, Rachel Caidor, Beth Richie, and Deana Lewis discussed how they have been central to organizing in Chicago and beyond. Kaba started the event by welcoming the ancestors to the virtual space. As the guests poured in, the song Lullaby by Tasha played to create a warm atmosphere. Veronica, a guest speaker, amazed people with her spoken word, which demonstrated the importance of ending oppression on Black women's bodies. Consequently, Kaba, Caidor, Richie, and Lewis clarified the significance of abolition to Black feminism. For them, it is essential to take care of the next generation of Black feminist abolitionists. Questions such as "Who am I fighting for?" and "What drives it?" were used to guide the conversation and reflect on the speakers' experiences with building abolitionist campaigns to help incarcerated survivors get justice. According to Kaba, "We can't free ourselves by ourselves." By loving and caring for one another, we can protect and advocate for those wrongfully incarcerated.

#ByeAnita #LoveandProtect, #FreeBreshaMeadows



| Fania Davis

# Race, Restorative Justice, and Healing

with Fania Davis

9 November 2020 | 6-7 pm CT

Co-organized by Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, and the Women's Center.

Co-Sponsored by American Studies, Community Service Studies, Critical Ethnic Studies, African and Black Diaspora Studies, Master's in Social Work, and the Women's and Gender Studies

*"Restorative justice is a healing justice, rather than a harming justice."*

Fania Davis is a scholar, activist, and the author of *The Little Book of Race and Restorative Justice: Black Lives, Healing, and US Social Transformation*. Her conversation on restorative justice, moderated by Tomas Ramirez, began with collective breathing, honoring ancestors and lost lives.

She used the recent 2020 election results (and our mixed reactions of skepticism and relief) to analyze the divisions in our country. She asserted that individuals, elected politicians, and parties cannot amend white supremacy, genocide, or racial capitalism. Rather, LGBTQIA, environmental justice, restorative justice, and racial justice movements will bring about new futures.

Radical systemic issues must be met with radical systemic solutions. Institutions can become healing, empathetic, and conscious when they share power with communities, give ownership and leadership to communities, instead of replicating hierachal

 Healing Justice Dialogue S...  
@justicedialogue ...

"Let's always celebrate our victories. But this is no time to rest. The work of organizing must continue."

"We need to be both warriors and healers. It's important for us to heal ourselves, families, communities, as well as fight with all we have against systems of oppression."

7:19 PM · Nov 9, 2020 · Twitter Web App

dominating structures. Finally, Davis said that healing starts with hyper-awareness, dismantling internal carceral systems, and transforming the self to transform the world.



Center for Black Diaspora DPU @cbddepaul · Nov 9

Fania Davis told us about the inner and outer work that must be done. Transforming the world requires the transformation of ourselves.



Healing Justice Dialogue Series @justicedialogue · Nov 9

Fania Davis gave us several words of wisdom. Thank you to her, and to all in attendance!

[Show this thread](#)



# FALL events 2020

*Cultivating  
Wholeness*



Co-sponsored by the  
Center of Black Diaspora

- . Otto Frank
- . The Latinx Vote in 2020: Getting Out the Vote
- . Reparations and Reconciliation: Lessons for the U.S. from Post-Apartheid South Africa
- . A Conversation with Jaquira Diaz, author of Ordinary Girls

# Otto Frank

Performed by actor, writer, director Roger Guenveur with original score by Marc Anthony Smith

21 September 2020 | 7 PM CT

Co-sponsored by Center for Black Diaspora and Jewish Life

Organized by The DePaul Theatre School

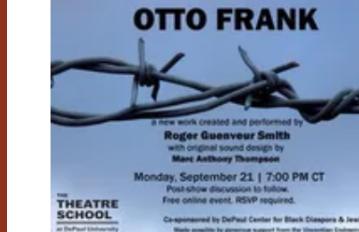
Roger Guenveur Smith performed a brilliant monologue. Smith opened his captivating performance sitting at a rough-hewn table moving only his head and soundbox. His narrative of the brutal experiences the Frank's faced at the hands of Nazis was interwoven with images of oppression face by immigrants of all races, Blacks in the United States, and Jewish peoples. He captivated audiences through blending narratives of horrific events from the past and present with the recognition



that comes with the acknowledgment that we didn't imagine these things. Marc Anthony Thompson's sound and lighting design took this performance to another level. He used subtle and harsh sound and lighting that only someone with both gifted artistic and technological expertise can use to elicit feelings of recognition, horror, sadness, and empowerment all at once.

broadwayworld.com

by BWW News Desk Sep. 17, 2020



Back by popular demand, Obie award-winning actor and writer **Roger Guenveur Smith** (Do The Right Thing) returns to the stage-- virtually -- with his new solo performance, **OTTO FRANK**, a historical account of the father of Anne Frank. The performance is in collaboration with The Theatre School at DePaul University and made possible by DePaul Center for Black Diaspora & Jewish Life. The virtual event will take place via Zoom on Monday, September 21, 2020 at 7:00pm CST, with a live post-show discussion to follow.

[Facebook](#) [Twitter](#)

"Rodney King introduced me to **Otto Frank**. I was invited to perform Rodney King in Amsterdam and it was there that I was able to visit the Anne Frank House. I imagined her father there, after the war, having lost his wife and their two daughters. In silence. And resolve. As my anonymous narrator had pursued an impossible conversation with Rodney King, my **Otto Frank**, the custodian of his daughter's legacy, speaks to her from far beyond her time and his own, interrogating the crisis of our present moment from a not-so-distant past," says **Roger Guenveur Smith**. "I'm excited to perform **OTTO FRANK** virtually as it allows us to reach a wider audience and safely. I'm grateful for the support from DePaul Center for Black Diaspora & Jewish Life and to be working with DePaul University."

-Broadway World

**"Roger Guenveur Smith Returns to the Stage Virtually With OTTO FRANK "** 17 Sept 2020



## The Latinx Vote in 2020: Getting Out the Vote

1 October, 2020 | 4:30-5:30 PM

Hosted by The Center for Latino Research, the Departments of Political Science, Latin American and Latino Studies, African and Black Diaspora Studies, and History, and the Critical Ethnic Studies Program

This panel was the first installment of The Latino Vote in 2020, a two-part symposium dedicated to the significance of Latinxs on the Presidential Election on November 3rd.

The conversation between political scientist Melissa R. Michelson, LULAC Iowa State Director Nick Salazar, and DePaul professor Joe R. Tafoya (Political Science, Latin American and Latino Studies) explored the importance of Latino voting, best practices on getting Latinxs out to vote, and opportunities in the Midwest.



## Reparations and Reconciliation: Lessons for the U.S. from Post-Apartheid South Africa

with Dr. Martin L. Boston



15 October, 2020 | 5 PM

Presented by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

Co-sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora



Academic discussion by the newest Ida B. Wells-Barnett Postdoctoral fellow at DePaul, Dr. Martin L. Boston. The restorative-justice public hearings of The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) aided the fall of apartheid in South Africa. The hearings allowed for victims of apartheid to give statements about their experiences on record. Perpetrators of the violence of apartheid to give testimonies of their wrongdoing and requested amnesty from both criminal and civil prosecution. The Black majority of the country continues to face wealth gaps and education disparities, but South Africa's confrontation with its racist past could serve as a example of restorative justice for the United States. As we are challenging anti-Blackness in institutions and corporations, the TRC provides an important model for us to consider the differences between self-interested statements of solidarity and systemic repair.  
(Information from Eventbrite)

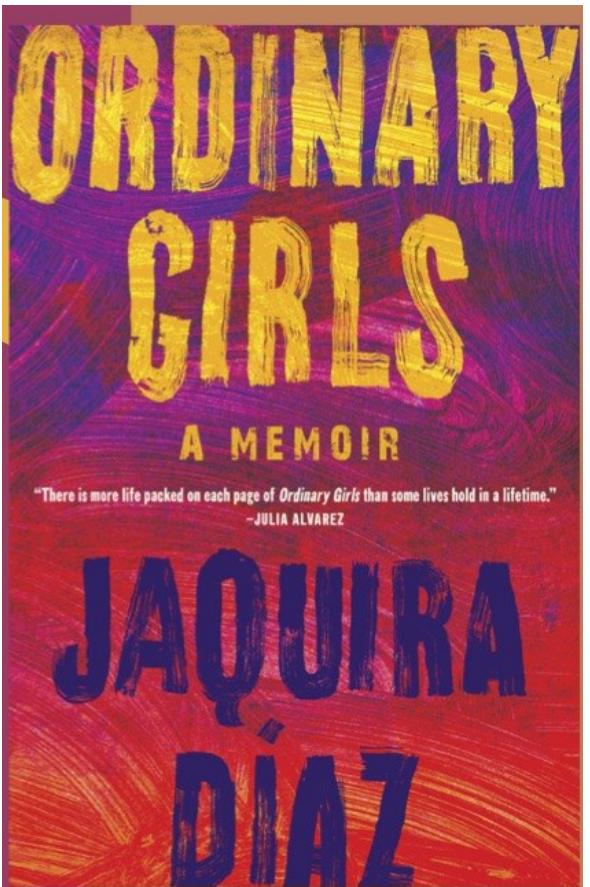
# A Conversation with Jaquira Diaz, author of *Ordinary Girls*

27 October 2020 | 12-1 pm

Presented by LGBTQ Studies Program and Latin American And Latino Studies Department

Co-Sponsored by Center for Black Diaspora, The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Critical Ethnic Studies, the Center for Latino Research, the Department of English and the MFA/MA in Writing and Publishing, the Latinx Cultural Center, LGBTQ Faculty Staff Network, *Slag Glass City-A Journal of the Urban Essay Arts*, Women and Gender Studies, The Women's Center.

Author Erika L. Sanchez interviewed Jaquira Diaz, author of memoir *Ordinary Girls*. Diaz first read an excerpt from her book, and then answered questions. She discussed how she was able to take care of herself while revisiting difficult moments of her memoir. Diaz wrote the book for her teenage self, because she realized how important it was to see herself in books. The memoir was a way of making sense of her past while looking towards the future and realizing how stigmatized elements of her girlhood (her struggles with depression, violence, and queerness) connected to her womanhood. She thinks of her memoir as a conversation about systems of oppression, a conversation which includes the stories of Latina, queer, women of color in American



Literature. *Ordinary Girls* shows how joy and violence live together in the world. Diaz believes a lot of incredible writers will result from this tumultuous time period.

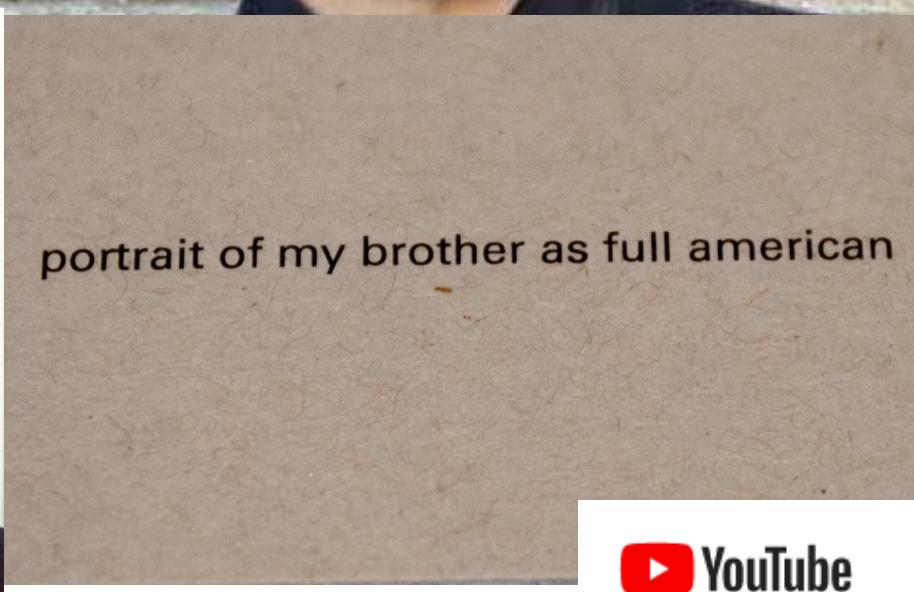


# WINTER events 2021

*Cultivating  
Wholeness*

**Presented, Co-Organized,  
and Co-Sponsored by the  
Center for Black Diaspora**

- A Conversation with artists Katie Chung & Unyimeabasi Udoeh
- An Evening with rev angel Kyodo williams [Healing Justice Dialogue Series]
- Transnational Feminist Genealogies: Revisiting This Bridge Called My Back [Women and Gender Studies and The Women Center]
- Black Diaspora Short Film Festival



# A Conversation with artists Katie Chung & Unyimeabasi Udo

with Chicago Artists Coalition, Juelle Daley,  
and Richard "Dingo" Dingwall

13 January 2021 | 5:30-7:00 PM CT

Chung and Udo's works are in the show, "Excavating Memory" at the Chicago Artist Coalition and curated by Juelle Daley. The event featured poet Richard "Dingo" Dingwall, author of *A Window to Let the Light Out*.

"Excavating Memory" is a journey into the world of archiving, memorializing and reclaiming cultural erasure. Using photography, drawing, sculptural objects and mix-media installations, Katie Chung and Unyimeabasi Udo resurrect memories that communicate the subtleties and multiple layers of self with the freeing statement, "I define me."

Throughout the evening, the artists discussed how they grappled with their unseen and disconnected histories. They expressed through their art a reverence for the past, and a shared sense of loss or separation from their lineages and countries. They also discussed the role of museums, the presentation of art, in their identities and cultural histories. Dingwall performed poetry related to the themes of the artists' work, making a point about official history and memory, official language, and "unofficial" Jamaican patois.





# An Evening with African American Zen Priest, Rev angel Kyodo williams

18 February 2021 | 6:00-7:00 PM CST

Co-organized with the Women's Center, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace Justice and Conflict Studies



**Center for Black Diaspora DPU** @cbddepaul · Feb 18

"How do you transform race? Start where there is love. Let people be where they are, and connect with the love within yourself." 🙏 ❤️



**Healing Justice Dialogue Series** @justicedialogue · Feb 18

"We don't tolerate the intolerable unless we are disconnected from ourselves. My wish is that the idea of going back to sleep, of going back to business as usual, of being disconnected, will be intolerable." A GREAT thank you to Rev. angel kyodo williams for sharing their wisdom!

angel Kyodo williams is an author, activist, master trainer and founder of Transformative Change. They have been bridging the worlds of transformation and justice since their critically-acclaimed book, *Being Black: Zen and the Art of Living With Fearlessness and Grace* was hailed as "an act of love" by Pulitzer Prize winner Alice Walker, and "a classic" by Buddhist pioneer Jack Kornfield.

These days, almost all of their time is devoted to advancing the work ignited by their co-authored book, *Radical Dharma: Talking Race, Love & Liberation*: to have the conversations necessary to become more awake and aware of what hinders liberation of self and society. The Connections, Circles and Conversations that have emerged from Radical Dharma confront head on the most formidable and critical impediment to justice and social transformation of our time. They have initiated profound healing and deepened commitment to dismantling oppression across lines of race, class, sexual orientation and other divides.

Their work has been widely covered by such publications as New York Times, Boston Globe, Ms., Essence, Buddhadharma, and on On Being with Krista Tippett.

# Black Diaspora Short Film Festival

Co-sponsored by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Department of International Studies

25 February– 11 March 2021

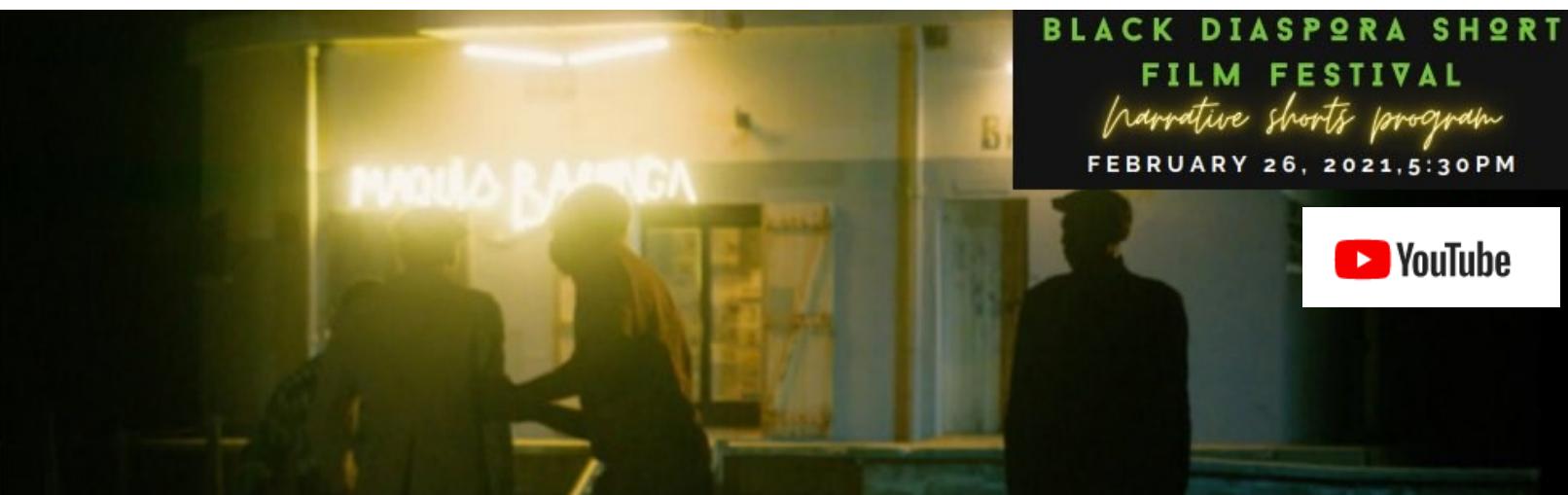


BLACK DIASPORA SHORT  
FILM FESTIVAL  
*Animation shorts program*  
FEBRUARY 25, 2021, 5:30 PM



JOIN US FOR THE FILM SCREENING OF THE SHORT AND Q&A WITH THE FILMMAKER

REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/my-love-ethiopia-by-gabrielle-tesfaye-tickets-141062496725>



BLACK DIASPORA SHORT  
FILM FESTIVAL  
*Narrative shorts program*  
FEBRUARY 26, 2021, 5:30 PM



JOIN US FOR THE FILM SCREENING OF THREE SHORTS AND Q&A WITH THE FILMMAKERS

REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspora-short-film-festival-narrative-shorts-program-tickets-141573087917>



MY LOVE ETHIOPIA  
14:49 MINS  
GABRIELLE TESFAYE (JURY PRIZE WINNER)



MODERATOR  
CAMILLE DEBOSE



MTHUNZI  
8: 35 MINS  
TEBOGO MALEBOGO



HOME  
12:46 MINS  
ADEWALE OLUKAYODE



BABLINGA  
14:30 MINS  
FABIEN DAO (JURY PRIZE  
WINNER)



MODERATOR  
JUELLE DALEY

**BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**  
Documentary shorts program  
MARCH 3, 2021, 5:30PM



JOIN US FOR THE FILM SCREENINGS OF THREE SHORTS AND Q&A WITH THE FILMMAKERS  
REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspora-short-film-festival-documentary-shorts-program-tickets-142137947427>




LEGACY 5 MINS  
BRANDON HAYNES & PARKER FOSTER (JURY PRIZE WINNER)

HOLDING SPACE 5:26 MINS  
IFEYINWA ARINZE

DOUGLASS 3:51 MINS  
CAI THOMAS

MODERATOR CAMILLE DEBOSE

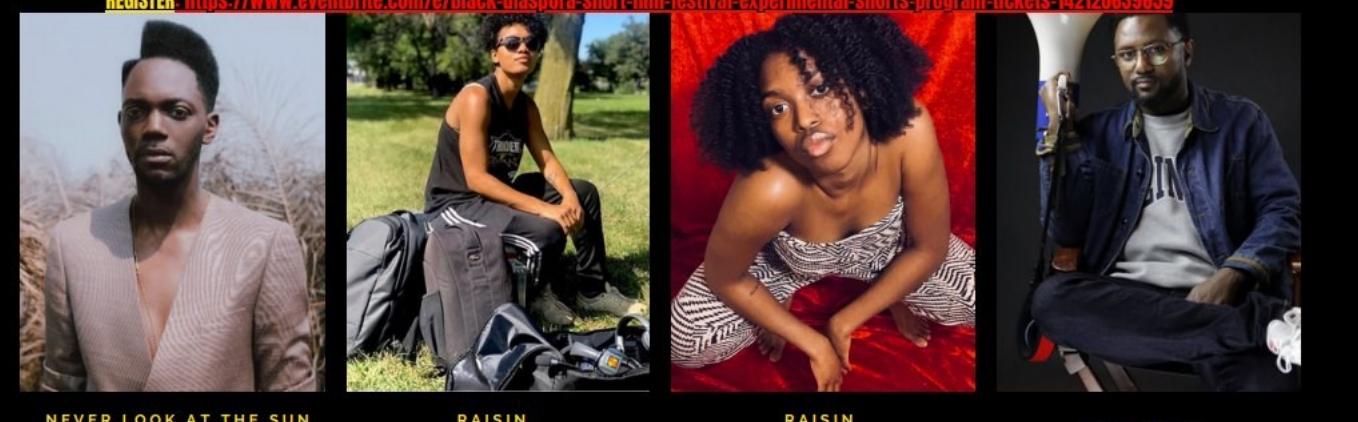
POWERED BY THE CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA AT DEPAUL UNIVERSITY | @CBDEPAUL  
COSPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

**BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**  
Experimental shorts program  
MARCH 4, 2021, 5:30PM





JOIN US FOR THE FILM SCREENINGS OF TWO SHORT FILMS AND Q&A WITH THE FILMMAKERS  
REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspora-short-film-festival-experimental-shorts-program-tickets-142120639659>



NEVER LOOK AT THE SUN 5 MINS  
BAJOLI ( JURY PRIZE WINNER)

RAISIN 6 MINS  
ZEKE WALKER RAINYE (DIRECTOR)

RAISIN 6 MINS  
GABRIELLE HENDERSON (PRODUCER)

MODERATOR RAPHAEL NASH

POWERED BY THE CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA AT DEPAUL UNIVERSITY | @CBDEPAUL  
COSPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

**BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**  
Cinematography shorts program  
MARCH 5, 2021, 5:30PM



JOIN US FOR THE FILM SCREENINGS OF THREE SHORTS AND Q&A WITH THE FILMMAKERS  
REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspora-short-film-festival-cinematography-shorts-program-tickets-142166508855>




OKLAHOMA IS BLACK 3:12 MINS  
MELINDA JAMES

A RODEO FILM 18.24 MINS  
DARIUS DAWSON (JURY PRIZE WINNER)

FREED 20 MINS  
JOSZA ANJEMBE

MODERATOR RAMONE HULET

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COSPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES

**BLACK DIASPORA SHORT FILM FESTIVAL**  
*Black Film Distribution Panel*  
MARCH 11, 2021, 5:30PM

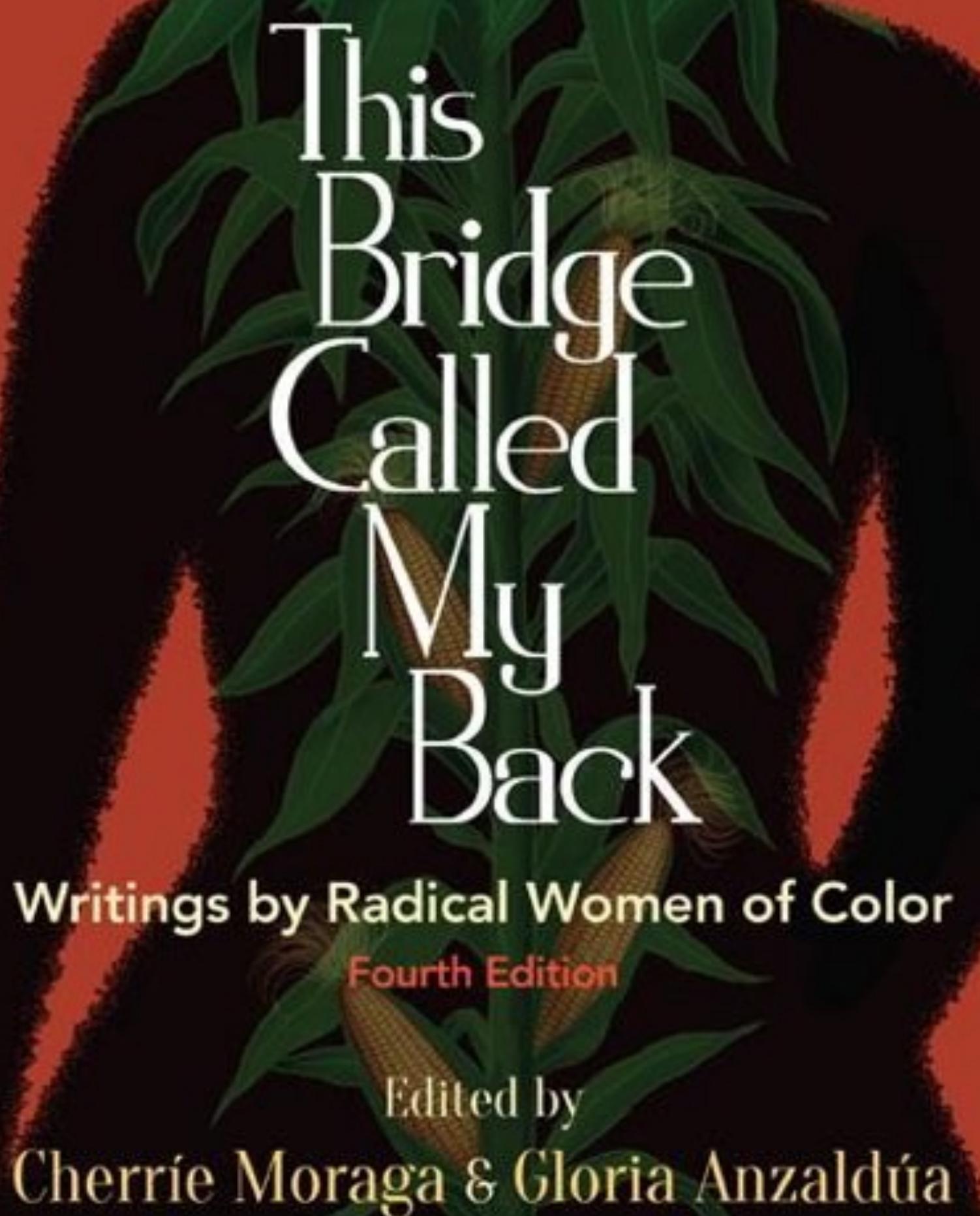
JOIN US FOR THE PANEL ON THE STATE OF BLACK FILM DISTRIBUTION,  
REGISTER: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/black-diaspora-short-film-festival-panel-black-film-distribution-tickets-142179032313>



ROMOLA O. LUCAS  
FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE CARIBBEAN FILM ACADEMY (CAFA)

AYMAR JEAN "AJ" CHRISTIAN  
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF COMMUNICATION STUDIES AND CO-FOUNDER OF OTV|OPEN TELEVISION

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COSPONSORED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES



# Transnational Feminist Genealogies: Revisiting *This Bridge Called My Back* on its 40 Year Anniversary

with Maiya Sinclair, Darius Parker, Cherrie Moraga and Margo Okazawa-Rey, DePaul faculty and students

9 Mar 2021 | 6:00-8:30 PM  
CST

Co-organized / Sponsored by the Women's Center, Center for Black Diaspora, Critical Ethnic Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies and Center for Latino Research, LGBTQ Studies, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, as well as Building Communities, Ending Violence, and Triota

new technology-enabled social media have brought the proximity of "foreign" nations much closer. Moraga states that "Bridge's original political conception of US women of color...has now evolved into a transnational and increasingly complex movement of women today, whose origins reside in Asia, throughout the global south, and in indigenous North America" (xvi).

In this event, we explored how insights from *This Bridge* offer valuable frames of reference and modes of analysis to build solidarity around issues of gender and racial justice across/in-between borders—how can we build bridges across "all barriers of state-imposed nationality?" In turn, how can contemporary struggles and transnational movements challenging economic inequalities, neocolonial wars, xenophobia, transphobia, immigration and border policing, sexual and racial violence, prison and carceral systems led by marginalized communities within the US and around the world inspire a re-reading and re-engagement with *This Bridge*? What are the continuities and disjunctions between intergenerational feminist struggles, what are the shared and distinct challenges amongst marginalized and dispossessed communities across the globe and how can we learn from each other to truly build a feminism without borders?

During this event, commemorating 40 years of the publication of the ground-breaking book *This Bridge Called My Back* edited by Cherrie Moraga and Gloria Anzaldua, we envision discussing its continuing influence in today's transnational world. We hope to trace the historical genealogies and ongoing progression of Transnational Feminism in connection with US women of color and Third World Feminisms.

The event began with a conversation between Cherrie Moraga and Lourdes Torres where they reflected on the origins and history of *This Bridge*. It transitioned to a conversation with Cherrie Moraga, Margo Okazawa Rey, and others, around the historical genealogies and ongoing progression of Transnational Feminism.

In the preface to the fourth edition, Moraga writes "The Egyptian Revolution is my revolution" (xvi) and talks about being inspired by the women protesting in Tahrir Square. Neoliberal globalization and attendant



# SPRING events 2021

● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●  
*Cultivating  
Wholeness*

**Presented and Co-Organized  
by the Center for Black  
Diaspora**

- The Arrests of Pauli Murray by Sarah Scriven, Graduate Student, The Harriet Tubman Department of Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies, University of Maryland
- An Evening with artists, Zakkiyyah Najeebah Dumas-O'neal, with a talk on a line into infinity
- Being Black and Queer: Challenging Misconceptions and Making Room
- A Conversation with Ifejie Akinyela (#RealBlackGirls: An examination of Hip Hop and Black Womanism) & Jennifer Gardner (If not for the pleasure, then at least for the principle: Championing Pleasure in Contemporary Hip-Hop)
- Film Screening of the documentary, *Black Feminist* and discussion and its Relevance to Theory, Culture and Art with Maiya Sinclair
- Our Muses: Art and the Family Archive with Ellen Holtzblatt, Kalen Na'il Roach and Juan Molina Hernandez
- Circle of Support for LAS Faculty with Sandra Sosa

# A Conversation with Sarah Scriven: Arrests of Pauli Murray

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Women's Center

20 April 2021 | 6 PM CST



*Emerging Scholars/Creatives Series:*



a conversation  
with scholar  
**Sarah Scriven:**

**The Arrests of Pauli Murray**

The talk will focus on the life and legacy of Reverend Doctor Pauli Murray through an examination of two events: Murray's 1935 arrest for picketing the New York Amsterdam News and Murray's 1940 arrest for defying bus segregation laws in Virginia.

**Black  
Feminisms**



EMERGING SCHOLARS AND CREATIVE  
SERIES PRESENTS

**Zakkiyyah Najeebah Dumas-O'Neal**

Zakkiyyah's presentation, "a line into infinity" will speak to the trajectory of her work and its exploration of Black women's cultural contributions and private and public selfhood through photo, found images, video, and text. The artist will also share how she navigates ways of being and feeling beyond the systems we inhabit as an artist at this time.

## Zakkiyyah Najeebah Dumas-O'Neal

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Women's Center

6 May 2021 | 6 PM CST



# BEING BLACK AND QUEER: CHALLENGING MISCONCEPTIONS AND MAKING ROOM

THURSDAY, MAY 13TH, 2021  
6 PM~7:30 PM

## PANELISTS



ERMA STANLEY  
THEY/ THEM/ THEIRS



JESSICA SWITZER  
SHE/ HER/ HERS



ANN ROWELL  
SHE/ HER/ HERS

Affinity is a nonprofit organization established in 1995 that focuses on the Black LGBTQ community. This conversation will be centered around community organizing, Black Queer identity, and transformative justice.

INTRODUCTIONS BY: MYCALL RILEY

# Being Black and Queer: Challenging Misconceptions and Making Room

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the LGBTQIA+ Resource Center

13 May 2021 | 6-7:30 PM CST

# A Conversation with Ifejie Akinyela & Jennifer Gardner

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Women's Center

18 May 2021 | 6 PM CST



A conversation with:  
Ifejie Akinyela  
&  
Jennifer Gardner

Ifejie Akinyela: #RealBlackGirls: An examination of Hip Hop and Black Womanism explores the ways in which Black Feminism Theory and Hip Hop intersect, with emphasis on Black Womanism, Resistance, and Power.

May 18th, 2021 06:00 PM Central Time



Jennifer Gardner: "If not for the pleasure, then at least for the principle." Championing Pleasure in Contemporary Hip-Hop" will use an Afrocentric perspective to examine African traditional aesthetics that demonstrates a particular socio-cultural orientation to musical campaigns connected to the Black women physique, relationships, and art that center joy, satisfaction and excitement.



@cbddepaul

centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu

Register via Eventbrite:  
[https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emer  
ging-scholars-creative-series-  
black-feminisms-and-hip-hop-  
tickets-149163476975](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emerging-scholars-creative-series-black-feminisms-and-hip-hop-tickets-149163476975)

Co-organized by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, the Center for Black Diaspora and the Women's Center

# *A Discussion of the Film "Black Feminist" and its Relevance to Theory, Culture and Art*



WITH  
**MAIYA SINCLAIR**

co-producer &  
resident critical  
race analyst

Tuesday, May 25, 2021  
6 P.M. (Central Time)

Maiya Sinclair is a filmmaker, scholar, and speaker based out of Chicago, IL. She is currently working on her Master's in Critical Ethnic Studies, Public Policy and Women and Gendered Studies at DePaul University.

Maiya will share and discuss some of the poignant moments from the film. She will share her experience as a filmmaker and artist, talk about Black feminist filmmaking, and Black feminist aesthetics.



## **A Discussion of the Film *Black Feminist* and its Relevance to Theory, Culture and Art with Maiya Sinclair**

Co-sponsored by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Department of International Studies

**25 May 2021 | 6 PM CST**

The Center for Black Diaspora presents

## **Our Muses: Art and the Family Archive**



Juan Molina Hernandez



Ellen Holtzblatt



Kalen Na'il Roach

Joins us for a conversation with Hatch artists, Ellen Holtzblatt, Juan Molina Hernandez and invited artist Kalen Roach for a discussion on mining the family archive in their art practice. This event is also affiliated with the current exhibit, Translucent Beauty and Other Guardians on view at the Chicago Artist Coalition until June 16, 2021.

**JUNE 3, 2021 at 6:00 PM CST**

Moderator: Juelle Daley, Asst. Director and Independent Curator

Register to obtain Zoomlink: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/our-muses-art-and-the-family-archive-tickets-155857681521>

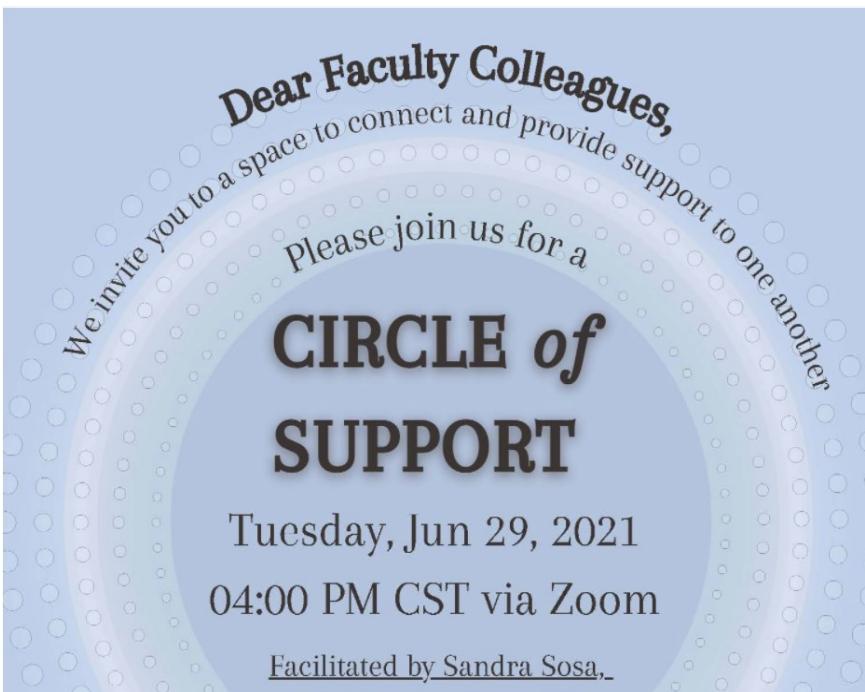
DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR LATINO RESEARCH  
CHICAGO ARTISTS COALITION



## **Our Muses: Art and the Family Archive with Ellen Holtzblatt, Kalen Na'il Roach and Juan Molina Hernandez**

**3 June 2021 | 6 PM CST**



## Circle of Support for LAS Faculty with Sandra Sosa

Co-sponsored by Women's Center, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Community Health Equity, The Egan Office of Urban Education and Community Partnerships

**30 April and 29 June 2021 | 10:30 AM and 4 PM CST**



**Co-Sponsored by the Center  
for Black Diaspora**

# SPRING events 2021



*Cultivating  
Wholeness*

- BlackSpace Manifesto in Action
- In Search of the Color Purple by Salamishah Tillet
- Stop the Violence: Pathways to Justice and Police Accountability in Chicago Communities of Color
- Making the World More Bearable: A reading and conversation with poet Danez Smith
- Black Twitter: Geographies of Care and Resistance
- Healing Journeys: Turning to Grief in Community

# BlackSpace Manifesto in Action

Presented by the Department of International Studies  
Co-sponsored by the Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Geography, and Political Science

7 April 2021 | 4:20 PM CST

THE DEPARTMENT OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES PRESENTS THIS PUBLIC TALK:

## BlackSpace Manifesto in Action

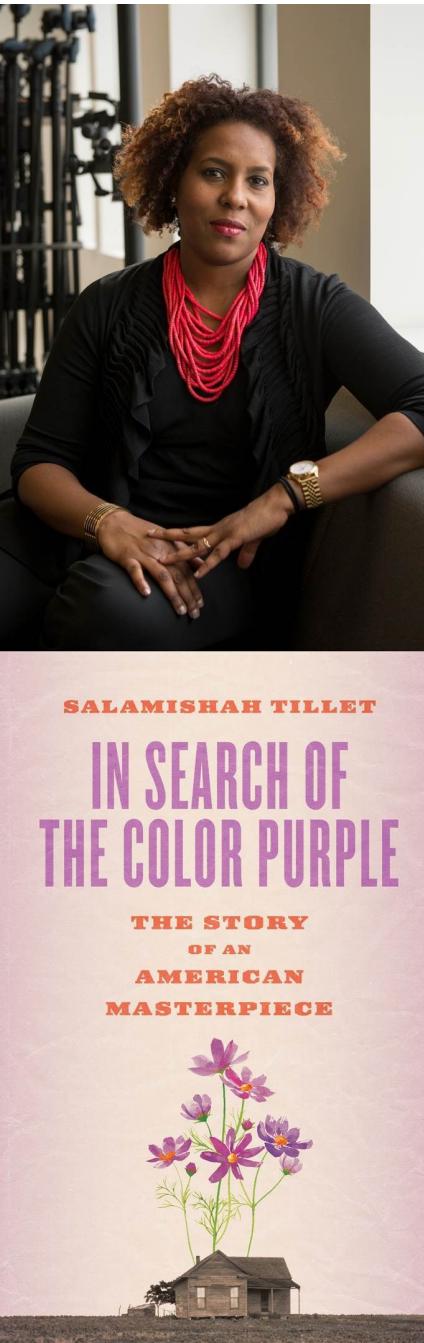
7 April 2021  
4:20 PM CST

Mr. Robinson, architect and one of the co-founders of the Black Space Urbanist Collective, Inc will present the work of the collective. At the end, there will be time to speak with him about his life experiences, his vision for BlackSpace.org, or whatever else may arise from the context of his presentation.

Preliminary Resources

- [BlackSpace: About = Manifesto](#)
- [Cornell AAP: Peter Robinson on Building Trust, Black Spaces, and Black Futures in Brooklyn](#)
- [Cornell Chronicle: Peter Robinson creates, protects Black spaces](#)

with Mr. Peter Dwayne Robinson  
Board Member, BlackSpace Urbanist Collective;  
Founding Director, WorkUrban;  
Faculty, The New School | Parsons | School of Constructed Environments;  
Board of Trustees, AIA New York | Center for Architecture



## IN SEARCH OF THE COLOR PURPLE BY SALAMISHAH TILLET APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2021 (6:00-7:00 P.M.)

Co-sponsored by the DePaul Department of English, Women's Center, Center for Black Diaspora and African and Black Diaspora Studies

Alice Walker made history in 1982 when she became the first black woman to win the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award for *The Color Purple*. Almost forty years before the "Me Too" movement, the book received both praise and negative criticism upon publication and for the conversations around race, gender, and sexual violence that it sparked and still continues today. Since then, the powerful and controversial novel has been adapted into an Oscar-nominated film directed by Steven Spielberg and a Broadway musical produced by Oprah Winfrey. *In Search of the Color Purple* by prominent academic and activist Salamishah Tillet combines cultural criticism, history, and memoir to explore Walker's epistolary novel. Tillet examines the groundbreaking novel through archival research, interviews with Alice Walker, Oprah Winfrey, Quincy Jones, and others, and through her own personal experiences with the text. Reading *The Color Purple* at age fifteen was a groundbreaking experience for Tillet that continues to resonate—as a sexual violence survivor, as a teacher of the novel, and as an accomplished writer. Provocative and personal, *In Search of the Color Purple* is a bold and timely work from an important public intellectual that captures this novel's seminal role in reimagining trauma, healing, and justice for generations to come.

### About the Author

Salamishah Tillet is a scholar, cultural critic, and activist. She is currently the Henry Rutgers Professor of African American Studies and Creative Writing at Rutgers University-Newark, the faculty director of New Arts Justice at Express Newark, and a contributing critic-at-large at the *New York Times*. With her sister, Scheherazade Tillet, she founded A Long Walk Home, an art organization that empowers young people to end violence against girls and women.

[REGISTER ON ZOOM](#)

## In Search of the Color Purple by Salamishah Tillet

Co-sponsored by the Department of English, the Women's Center, the Center for Black Diaspora, the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

14 April 2021 | 6-7 PM CST

# Stop the Violence: Pathways to Justice and Police Accountability in Chicago Communities of Color

Co-sponsored by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora, The Center for Latino Research, The Criminology Program, The Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, The Department of Social Work, and Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies Program

5 May 2021 | 5 PM– 6:30 PM CST



The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora, The Center for Latino Research, The Criminology Program, The Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, The Department of Social Work, and The Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program of DePaul University present:

# STOP THE VIOLENCE

Pathways to Justice and Police Accountability in Chicago Communities of Color

THURSDAY, MAY 6, 2021  
5 PM - 6:30 PM  
<https://depaul.zoom.us/j/92614440210>  
(Meeting ID: 926 1444 0210)

PANELISTS

**Vaughn Bryant**  
Executive Director of the Metropolitan Peace Initiatives; adjunct faculty with DePaul's Criminology Program

**Kathryn Bocanegra**  
Assistant Professor, Jane Addams College of Social Work

**Tomás Ramirez**  
Executive Director of Semillas y Raíces; adjunct faculty with DePaul's Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies Program

**Noam Ostrander**  
Associate Professor and Chair, Department of Social Work  
MODERATOR

For more information, email: [criminology@depaul.edu](mailto:criminology@depaul.edu) or [clr@depaul.edu](mailto:clr@depaul.edu)

The DePaul University LGBTQ Studies Program and the Department of English present:

## MAKING THE WORLD MORE BEARABLE: A reading and conversation with poet **Danez Smith.**

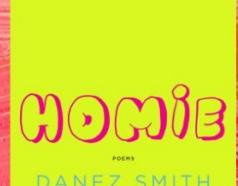


This virtual event is a READING, followed by a PUBLIC INTERVIEW with DePaul students Daryhl Covington and ShellLynn Beasley.

Wednesday, May 19th, 2021  
3PM-4PM CST on Zoom  
REGISTER AT:  
[http://tiny.cc/DanezSmith\\_at\\_DPU](http://tiny.cc/DanezSmith_at_DPU)  
QUESTIONS: [lgbtqstudies@depaul.edu](mailto:lgbtqstudies@depaul.edu)



PRAISE FOR *Don't Call Us Dead*, finalist for a National Book Award: "These poems can't make history vanish, but they can contend against it with the force of a restorative imagination. Smith's work is about that imagination—its role in repairing and sustaining communities, and in making the world more bearable." —The New Yorker.



PRAISE FOR *Homie*: "An electrifying, unabashedly queer ode to friendship and community.... Smith is a visionary polyglot with a fearless voice." —Publishers Weekly, starred review.

## Making the World More Bearable: A reading and conversation with poet Danez Smith

Presented by LGBTQ Studies Program and the Department of English  
Co-sponsored by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, The Women's Center, Critical Ethnic Studies, American Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora, MFA/MA in Creative Writing and Publishing, LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, Women and Gender Studies, LGBTQ Faculty and Staff Network, and Center for Latino Research

19 May 2021 | 3 PM-4 PM CST

# Black Twitter: Geographies of Care and Resistance

Co-sponsored by the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora, the Department of International Studies, the Department Geography

19 May 2021 | 4:20 PM CST

Departments of GEOGRAPHY, AFRICAN & BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES; CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA  
DePaul University's Department of INTERNATIONAL STUDIES presents

## BLACK TWITTER: GEOGRAPHIES OF CARE AND RESISTANCE



**Temitope Famodu** is a DePaul alumnus of the International Studies Department (class of 2014) and a first year PhD student in Global Studies at the University of California, Irvine. Her current research combines Global Studies and Black Geographies to understand and map modes of Black community care and resistance to anti-Blackness. In her talk, Famodu considers how liberatory relational care networks operate digitally, particularly in the context of Black Twitter.

**WEDS. 19 MAY 2021 | 4:20 PM CST**

**REGISTER:** <http://bit.ly/BlackGEOTwitter>

For more information, contact [HNAST@DEPAULE.EDU](mailto:HNAST@DEPAULE.EDU)

**Previous speakers in this seminar series:**  
Peter Robinson, Co-founder BlackSpace.org  
Dr. LaToya Eaves, Founding Chair Black Geographies Specialty Group  
Courtney Berne, PhD student Temple University, Black Horsemen  
Dr. Mabel Wilson, Professor Columbia University

## HEALING JOURNEYS: TURNING TO GRIEF IN COMMUNITY w/ Misty De Berry



Register via our Eventbrite or click [here](#)

How might we cultivate a healing presence with loss and grief? In what ways can we nurture community—turn to one another—along the way?

This workshop opens a space for meditation, storytelling, and support around feelings of grief and loss while navigating the overlapping terrains of personal change and social upheaval.

Sponsored by:   
Co-sponsored by the Healing Justice Dialogue Series organizers (Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program, and the Women's Center).

Misty De Berry is a senior lecturer in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies at Dartmouth College. Both her scholarly and artistic work take up the relationship between Black women, embodiment, and psychic violence.

## Healing Journeys: Turning to Grief in Community with Misty De Berry

Co-sponsored by the Healing Justice Dialogue Series organizers (Center for Black Diaorpora, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace Justice and Conflict Studies Program, and the Women's Center).

2 June 2021 | 6 PM CST

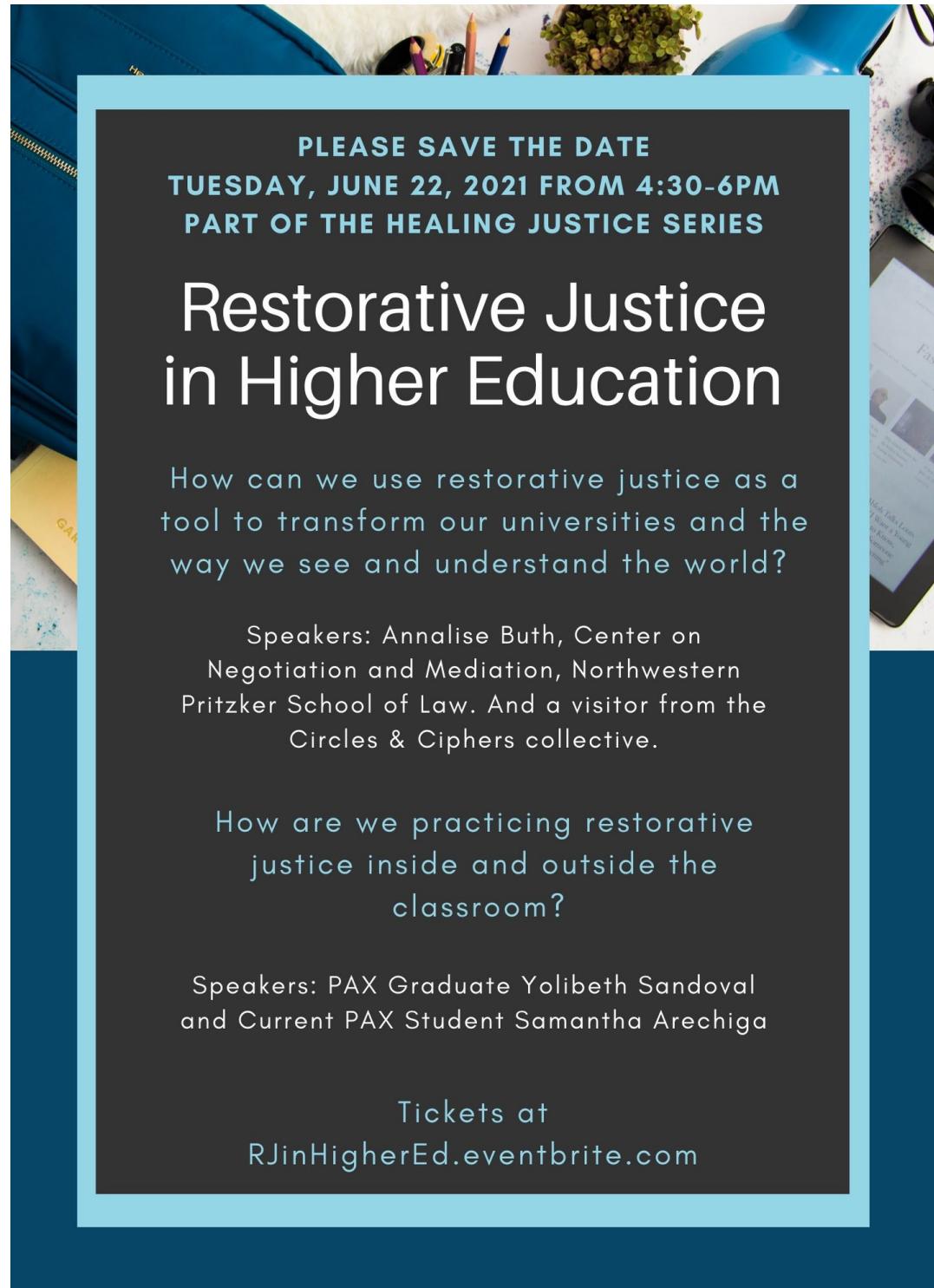


Virtual  
Workshop  
June 2nd  
6-7:30pm

# Restorative Justice in Education with Annalise Buth, Yolineth Sandoval, and Samantha Arechiga

Co-sponsored by Healing Justice Dialogue Series

22 June 2021 | 4:30 PM CST





**The Reading Room** in our center is an immensely valuable resource, housing over 2500 books, 250 films, and music, on Black experiences, art, cultures, politics, scholarship, and ideas. Our collection is commonly visited by campus tours, and incoming-students looking for access to the Black DePaul community. Many of our books are not found in other DePaul libraries, which makes the collection a unique aid for faculty and students.

Since its inception, the Reading Room is ever-growing and is welcoming to new written and artistic works which are displayed on the walls.

Among our newest acquisitions are *Venus Noire; Black Women and Colonial Fantasies in Nineteenth-Century France* by Robin Mitchell, *Becoming* by Michelle Obama, *Everything Inside: Stories* by Edwidge Danticat, and *Us* directed by Jordan Peele.

The space is open for studying, film watching, or relaxing, and can be reserved for meetings, presentations, and small events.\*

The Reading Room is always available online through our catalogue. Our catalog can be accessed at <https://www.librarycat.org/lib/CBDDPU>

\*To reserve the space, please contact the Center staff. The Reading Room is open from 9:30am-5:00pm, Mondays through Fridays. Extended hours may be arranged by request.



**DePaul University/Center for Black Diaspora**

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Phone: (773) 325-7512

Fax: (773) 325-7514

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**Juelle Daley**

Assistant Director

[jdaley1@depaul.edu](mailto:jdaley1@depaul.edu)

**Website**

<https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-black-diaspora/news-and-events/Pages/default.aspx>

**Email**

[centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu](mailto:centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu)

**Facebook**

[CBD DePaul](#)

**YouTube**

[Center for Black Diaspora](#)

**Twitter & Instagram:** @cbddepaul