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CBD



Center *for* *Black* *Diaspora*

Annual Report 2021-2022

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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

In the 2021-2022 academic year, we continued to experience an ongoing pandemic and assaults on Black, Asian, Latinx, and LGBTQ folk. Given the state of our world, the Center for Black Diaspora (CBD) sought to continue its collaborative work with several partners across DePaul and other institutions to create initiatives to work with and provide opportunities for students and scholars who engage in work that dismantles these forms of oppression. Simultaneously, CBD

continued to develop initiatives that explore issues related to the culture and history of the Black Diaspora.



One of CBD's major initiatives this year is the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC). STRC is a collaboration among several units: the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, the Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies and Latin American and Latino Studies, Global Asian Studies, Critical Ethnic Studies, and the Dean's Office in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences. Based on a proposal written collaboratively by all of these units, STRC was awarded a three-year grant amounting to almost two million dollars by the Mellon Foundation. STRC provides initiatives through which undergraduates and graduate students, faculty, and the larger community will explore pressing issues and questions related to the histories and cultures of people of color, both in the United States and around the world.

The Center for Black Diaspora and the Center for Latino Research co-directed all of STRC's proposed initiatives, which resulted in the following outcomes.

Outcomes for year one:

Faculty Fellowships

- 1) Two full year paid leave Faculty research fellowships: Dr. Chernoh Sesay, Religious Studies, and Dr. Susana Martinez, Modern Languages.
- 2) Two Faculty development fellowships: Dr. Lori Pierce, African and Black Diaspora Studies, and Dr. Lourdes Torres, Latin American and Latino Studies.

Post-Doctoral Fellowships

- 1) Selection of one Post Doc fellow in Latin American and Latino Studies: Dr. Meloddye Carpio Ríos.
- 2) Selection of one Post Doc fellow in African and Black Diaspora Studies: Dr. Saturnio Nino Rodriguez

Graduate Fellowships

Four graduate summer and fall fellowships:
Keish Lozano, Women's and Gender Studies
Shameem Razack, Women's and Gender Studies
Rumi Rivera-Lovato, Women's and Gender Studies and Social Work
Paul Mireles, Critical Ethnic Studies

2022 Summer Institute for New Students

- 1) Two lead faculty to teach at the STRC Summer Institute: Dr. Juan Mora Torres, History, and Dr. Monica Reyes, Writing, Rhetoric, and Discourse.
- 2) Several online information sessions for Community College partners, undergrads, and transfer students.
- 3) Selected twenty-six incoming Freshmen and Transfer students out of 70 applicants.

4) Coordination between STRC and DePaul's Admissions Office to create the Summer Institute application and to coordinate efforts to recruit students.

4) Developed four "Getting to Know DePaul" panels to acquaint students with important Student Affairs and Academic Affairs offices at DePaul.

5) Hired Summer Institute support staff: Overnight Peer Leaders (2), Daytime Peer Leaders (2), Peer Mentors (3) to assist us with the Institute scheduled for 7-24-22 to 7-29-22.

STRC staff coordinator

1) Hired the STRC coordinator Alejandra Delgadillo.

2) Hired two student assistants.

In addition to co-directing STRC, the Center for Black Diaspora developed other initiatives for 2021-2022. This included the following:

Black Romance Podcast

This year I continued to create, produce, edit, and host the Black Romance Podcast, which is an ongoing oral history project about Black romance publishing. The Black Romance Podcast is a public history scholarship project, which can be found on Apple, Spotify, and other podcast platforms. In July and August 2021, I released seven episodes. Thanks to Randall Spriggs, the sound editor for the podcast.

Podcast episodes can be accessed on Apple podcast at

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/black-romance-podcast/id1528266279> and on the Center for Black Diaspora's website at <https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-black-diaspora/series-and-events/black-romance-podcast/Pages/default.aspx>.

Published: Journal Special on Black Romance

Another CBD initiative completed this year was a special issue on Black Romance, which was published in the peer reviewed *Journal of Popular Romance Studies* in May 2022. The special issue, co-edited by myself and Dr. Margo Hendricks, Professor Emerita of English Literature at the University of California, Santa Cruz, contains seven original

blind peer reviewed articles and nine transcribed interviews from season one of the Black Romance podcast. Thanks to Jennifer Ogwumike and Jessica Williams, who helped to transcribe interviews, research, and co-produce (with myself and Dr. Margo Hendricks) a resource bibliography. This issue is open access and can be found at the following link: <https://www.jprstudies.org/issues/volume-11-general-articles-2/special-issue-black-romance/>.

Four-part online series on African and Black Diaspora Romance

CBD collaborated on a three-part online series on African and Black Diaspora Romance. The series explored Black Romance in Africa, Britain, and the United States.

Sponsoring Individuals and Institutions:

Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman, Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University

Dr. Amy Burge, Center for Contemporary Literature and Culture, University of Birmingham

Dr. Eric Selinger, International Association for the Study of Popular Romance (IASPR)

1) The first event held in Fall 2021 was a roundtable on “Black Romance: Past, Present, and Future.” The moderator for this roundtable was Dr. Margo Hendricks. The four panelists included Dr. Piper Huguley, Clark Atlanta University English professor and African American Christian romance writer, Dr. Nicole (Katrina) Jackson, Bowling Green State University history professor and romance writer, Tatianna Richardson, romance writer and podcast creator and co-host of Romance in Colour, and Latoya Smith, editor and co-founder of Art House Literary Agency.

2) CBD and the International Association for the Study of Popular Romance collaborated on two masterclasses led by Dr. Margo Hendricks. In the first masterclass in fall 2021, part one of the master class discussed “Pedagogy and Black Romance” and part two discussed “Scholarship and Black Romance.” The second master class held in winter 2022 was led again by Dr. Margo

Hendricks who offered a pedagogical and scholarly approach to reading and teaching Black Romance fiction, specifically historical Black romance novels. Beverly Jenkins' historical novel *Indigo* was used as the class text for teaching the literariness of the novel, its continuity with the history of the romance genre, and the importance of reassessing the teaching of and writing about Black romance. Finally, the winter class offered readers, scholars, and teachers a critical approach easily adapted to anti-racist pedagogy and scholarly writing about romance.

3) In fall 2021, CBD collaborated with Dr. Amy Burge, from the Center for Contemporary Literature and Culture at the University of Birmingham, on a roundtable on Black British Romance. Panelists included writers Andi Osho, Frances Mensah Williams, and Talia Hibbert.

4) In late fall 2021, the final roundtable addressed Black Romance in Africa. Panelist included scholars and writers Dr. Martina Vitackova, Dr. Lynda Gichanda Spencer, Dr. Doseline Kiguru, Tlalane Manciya, and Sheena Overmeyer.

African Art in Chicago Series

CBD collaborated with Dr. Mark DeLancey, CBD advisory board member and chair of the Department of History of Art and Architecture, to produce a three-part series on African Art in Chicago in fall 2021 and winter and spring 2022. Dr. DeLancey organized and moderated four events in this speaker series. In fall 2021, Dr. Constantine Petridis chair and curator at the Art Institute in Chicago, presented on "Making Objects Speak: Exhibiting the Arts of Africa at the Art Institute of Chicago." In winter 2022, Dr. Kathleen Bickford Berzock, Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs at Northwestern University's Block Museum of Art, presented on "Telling a Story of Medieval Africa: The Caravans of Gold Project." In spring 2022, CBD hosted two speakers. Mariane Ibrahim, owner of the Mariane Ibrahim Gallery in Seattle, Chicago, and Paris, presented on "Chicago and Paris Art Scenes." Dr. Foreman Bandama, Assistant Curator at the Field Museum of Natural History, presented on "Art, black magic or science? Masterpieces of African Metallurgy."

bell hooks Remembrance

Well-known intellectual and cultural critic bell hooks passed away in December 2021. CBD, the Women's Center, and the LGBTQIA+Resource Center collaborated on a program to remember the profound influence of bell hooks. In memory of hooks, DePaul faculty, students, and staff shared published pieces by bell hooks to discuss her impact on our personal and intellectual lives.

CBD collaborated on several additional events with the Women's Center and the Healing Justice Dialogue group to feature DePaul alumni, to support faculty intellectual and emotional development during Covid, and to support those who are currently and formerly incarcerated. CBD and the Women's Center partnered on "An Evening with Sesali Bowen." Sesali Bowen, a graduate of DePaul's Women's and Gender Studies department presented on her 2021 publication *Bad Fat Black Girl: Notes from a Trap Feminist*. CBD and the Women's Center partnered on a two-part "Antiracist Pedagogy Workshop with Whitney Peoples." CBD also collaborated with the Healing Justice Dialogue group members—Dr. Maria Ferrera, Dr. Ann Russo, and Dr. Susana Martinez— on two Healing Circle events to support DePaul faculty. In spring 2022, CBD co-sponsored an event presented by the Women's Center and Love and Protect on "organizing Toward Survival: Survivor Activism Behind and Beyond Bars."

The 2021-2022 academic year ends my first three-year term as Director of CBD, but I will be returning for a second term to lead the center. Thanks to the members of CBD's Advisory Board and to the Dean of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences for their enthusiastic support of my second term. Peace and best wishes to all.

Walk Good, Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Julie E. Moody-Freeman, Ph.D.

Director, Center for Black Diaspora

Co-director, Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC)

Associate Professor, Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

Center Staff



Kathryn Douglas
Office Assistant



Jessica Williams
Student Assistant



Jennifer Ogwumike
Student Assistant

Advisory Board

SEE MORE DETAILED BIOS AT :

[HTTPS://LAS.DEPAUL.EDU/CENTERS-AND-INSTITUTES/CENTER-FOR-BLACK-DIASPORA/ABOUT/PAGES/ADVISORY-BOARD.ASPX](https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-black-diaspora/about/pages/advisory-board.aspx)



Dani Blackwell

Student Retention and
Operations Specialist

New Student and Family
Engagement



Mark DeLancey, PhD.

Professor and Chair

Teaching areas and Research interests:

- African and Islamic Art
- History of Art and Architecture
- Fulbe art and architecture
- Architecture of Cameroon
- Islamic art
- Architecture in sub-Saharan Africa
- Arts of the book in Mauritania and Mali.



Dana Hall

Professor and Director of Jazz
Studies and of DePaul Jazz
Workshop,
Teaching areas and Research
Interests:

- Jazz Studies
- Musicianship
- Ethnomusicology
- Education



Valerie Johnson, PhD.

Associate Professor

Teaching Areas and Research
Interests:

- Political Science, Grace School of Applied Diplomacy, Critical Ethnic Studies
- Urban politics, African-American politics, urban education



Amor Kohli, PhD.

Associate Professor and Dept. Chair
Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- African and Black Diaspora Studies
- Literatures of the Black Diaspora
- Black musical expression
- The intersection between Black music and other areas of expression (literature, performance, visual art, politics).



Shiera el Malik, PhD.

Associate Professor

Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- International Studies
- Grace School of Applied Diplomacy
- International Political Theory
- Politics of Knowledge
- Anti-colonial/ De-colonial Thought, Empire, Feminism.



Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD.

Associate Professor and Director
of the Center for Black Diaspora
Teaching Areas & Research
Interests:

- African and Black Diaspora Studies, Critical Ethnic Studies
- Black Speculative Fiction
- Black Romance



Ogenga Otunnu, PhD.

Professor

Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- Africa and Black Diaspora studies and history
- Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies
- Causes and consequences of forced migration and displacement
- Refugee camps and containment
- Nationalism and xenophobia against refugees and immigrants
- Human rights
- Humanitarian emergencies and contemporary global issues
- Comparative genocide and comparative slavery
- Conflict resolution and peace-building in post-conflict societies.

Advisory Board

SEE MORE DETAILED BIOS AT :

[HTTPS://LAS.DEPAUL.EDU/CENTERS-AND-INSTITUTES/CENTER-FOR-BLACK-DIASPORA/ABOUT/PAGES/ADVISORY-BOARD.ASPX](https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-black-diaspora/about/pages/advisory-board.aspx)



Lori Pierce, PhD.

Associate Professor

Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- African and Black Diaspora Studies
- Global Asian Studies
- Race and ethnic studies
- America in the Jim Crow era
- History of Hawai'i
- African American history and racial formation theory.



Francesca Royster, PhD.

Professor

Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- English
- Critical Ethnic Studies, Critical Race Theory
- Shakespeare and early modern drama
- Popular Culture
- African American Music
- Performance Studies
- Gender and Sexuality Studies
- Feminism
- Creative Non-Fiction
- Activism through performance and other forms of art



Chernoh Sesay, PhD.

Associate Professor

Teaching Areas & Research Interests:

- Religious Studies
- Black Atlantic history
- The intersection of religion, black political thought, identity, and community formation.
- Early American History
- African American Intellectual History
- African American Social History
- Religion in the African Diaspora
- Philosophy of History



Dexter Zollicoffer

Administrator and Diversity Advisor
at The Theatre School

- Administration
- Writer, Director, Actor
- Mentorship to students and supporting the school in graduating young artists



John Zeigler

Adjunct faculty in Community
Service Studies and Director of
Egan Office of Urban Education
and Community Partnerships
(UECP)

DePaul Steans Center

Teaching Areas and Research
Interests:

- Advancing DePaul faculty and student engagement with public agencies and community-based organizations and schools.
- Critical social issues
- Education
- Community-driven solutions, effective social networks
- Participation of black community-based organizations in the privatized environment of public schools.
- Asset Based Community Development Institute.

Mellon Foundation Grant

https://resources.depaul.edu/newslane/sections/campus-and-community/Pages/las_mellon_grant.aspx?utm_campaign=Daily_10132021&utm_medium=email&utm_source=EOACKL



DePaul University Newsline > Sections > Campus and Community > LAS humanities collaborative receives nearly \$2 million from the Mellon Foundation

LAS HUMANITIES COLLABORATIVE RECEIVES NEARLY \$2 MILLION FROM THE MELLON FOUNDATION

By Russell Dorn / October 13, 2021 / Posted in: CAMPUS AND COMMUNITY / [Twitter](#) / [Facebook](#)



(DePaul University/Jeff Carrion)



Mellon Foundation Grant

The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation has awarded the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences a grant for nearly \$2 million to support a research collaborative centered on applying the humanities to effecting social change and building new structures of anti-violence and anti-racism. The grant continues DePaul's partnership with the Foundation, which also awarded a \$750,000 grant to the university in 2019 to create the Humanities X Collaborative.

The Social Transformation Research Collaborative was designed by the chairs and directors of the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, the African and Black Diaspora Department, the Latin American and Latino Studies Department, the Global Asian Studies Minor and the Critical Ethnic Studies Program. These LAS programs all focus on the historical trajectories, legacies and cultures of people of color. The collaborative's work begins this month [Fall 2022] and will run through December 2024. In its inaugural year, it will focus its activities around the theme of "influencers for racial and social justice."

"Faculty and students of color have labored for decades. They have given their precious time because they believe in advocating for racial justice. Oftentimes, they do this work quietly, without compensation, and without accolades," says Julie Moody-Freeman, associate professor of African and Black Diaspora Studies, affiliated faculty with Critical Ethnic Studies, director of the Center for Black Diaspora, and co-lead on the collaborative. "This collaborative will address this by providing an infrastructure that will allow students' and faculty's intellectual and humanitarian activities to intersect."

Funding from the Mellon Foundation will allow the Social Transformation Research Collaborative to:

- Provide research fellowships in the humanities to students and faculty working in African and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Global Asian Studies, and Critical Ethnic Studies.



Mellon Foundation Grant

- Establish a weeklong credit-bearing summer institute for incoming students — both freshmen and transfers — to learn about the collaborative’s annual theme with faculty, alumni, current students and peers.
- Sponsor an annual conference focused on the humanities as a source of justice and healing for communities historically shaped by, and continuously facing, racism, violence and dispossession.
- Build a public-facing repository of new scholarship, research and creative work that illuminates cultural resiliency, restoration, anti-violence and healing within communities of color.
- Create two postdoctoral fellowships in comparative race and ethnicity studies to attract new scholars to DePaul.

“We want to build structures that will attract students of color to DePaul; build a greater sense of community for students and faculty; create opportunities for students to discover and pursue original research in the humanities; and find ways to give faculty working in these interdisciplinary fields paid leave to do their research,” says Bill Johnson González, associate professor of English, affiliated faculty member with Latin American and Latino Studies, director of the Center for Latino Research, and co-lead on the collaborative. “Our goals are vast, but we are confident that this collaborative will lead to lasting change at DePaul.”

The collaborative will champion the humanities at a time when they face extraordinary pressures in higher education and are sometimes misperceived as “luxuries” or “irrelevant,” says Margaret Storey, associate dean and professor of history, who shepherded the proposal on behalf of the faculty team and the college.

“We know that the opposite is true,” Storey says. “We urgently need humanistic inquiry into social inequity and racial injustice, and the Mellon Foundation’s transformative generosity allows us to invest in the humanities, our faculty and students at a critical time in higher education.”

Mellon Foundation Grant

Faculty Steering Committee



Amor Kohli

Associate Professor (ABD and CES)
Chair, African and Black Diaspora Studies Dept.



Carolina Sternberg

Associate Professor (LALS)
Chair, Latin American and Latino Studies Dept.



Anne Mitchell

Professional Lecturer (WGS and CES)
Director, Critical Ethnic Studies MA Program



Chernoh Sesay

Associate Professor (REL, ABD, CES)
Interim Chair, ABD (WQ & SQ 21-22)



Delia Cosentino

Associate Professor, (HAA and LALS)
Interim Chair, LALS, AY 2021-22



Li Jin

Associate Professor (MOL and GLAS)
Director, Global Asian Studies Program



Margaret Storey,

Ex Officio Associate Dean, College of LAS
Professor, History

Faculty Leadership



Bill Johnson González

Associate Professor (ENG and LALS)
Director of the Center for Latino Research



Julie Moody-Freeman

Associate Professor (ABD and CES)
Director of the Center for Black Diaspora



Mellon Foundation Grant

2023 Fellowships Cohort Announced

The Social Transformation Research Collaborative is pleased to announce the inaugural round of faculty research and faculty professional development fellowships, funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.



Susana S. Martínez

**Coming of Age(ncy) on the Migrant Trail: Central American And Mexican Adolescent Journeys in Contemporary Young Adult Literature
STRC Faculty Research Fellowship**

Coming of Age(ncy) on the Migrant Trail: Central American And Mexican Adolescent Journeys in Contemporary Young Adult Literature examines youth migration as a transnational social justice issue that brings visibility to characters who are rarely depicted as having agency. As protagonists who come of age on the migrant journey and gain critical awareness of the dangers they face, their stories not only represent real life experiences to a more privileged U.S. readership, but they challenge us to rethink politicized narratives that only portray poverty and violence while erasing the U.S. role in destabilizing the communities they flee. Young Adult (YA) Literature is a booming industry with a growing area of scholarship, but it has largely ignored Latinx voices. This book project thus provides a roadmap for how YA literature and the humanities can engage complex issues such as immigration and youth agency to address the histories and contemporary structures of racism, while filling a gap in the YA field, Latin American, and Latinx Studies by focusing on the representation of undocumented Central American and Mexican migrants. The book will attest to the power of youth agency and storytelling to create empathy across differences which can ultimately lead to healing, restoration, and social transformation.



Chernoh Sesay, Jr.

**Black Boston and the Making of African-American Freemasonry: Leadership, Religion, and Fraternalism in Early America
STRC Faculty Research Fellowship**

This book project, "Black Boston and the Making of African-American Freemasonry: Leadership, Religion, and Fraternalism in Early America," examines the social, political, and religious contexts that shaped and were shaped by the first two generations of African-American Freemasons in Boston, Massachusetts. This investigation addresses an interpretive problem intrinsic to understanding both early Black Freemasonry and the transition of African-Americans from slavery to emancipation in the northern states during and just after the American Revolutionary Era. Did Black Freemasons successfully demand freedom and independence, or did they adopt a naïve political and cultural strategy of respectability and assimilation? This project reconciles and moves beyond this analytical impasse by showing how organized Black abolitionism coalesced earlier than previous studies have shown, and that it framed and mirrored four major historical contexts: the politics of northern emancipation, the rise of free Black leadership, the spread of African-American Christianity, and an emergent tradition of public Black writers. Examining early Black Freemasonry speaks to scholars in African-American history, Africana Religious Studies and Early American History. It explores the significance of events like the American Revolution; it brings new evidence and insight to the intersection of mobility, religion, class, politics, and gender within Black politics; and it provides new analysis of Black abolition from the late eighteenth century to the early nineteenth century. The understudied history of early Black Freemasonry brings to light a vital component of understanding how Black people shaped democracy and made America. These early Black leaders were unequivocal influencers for social justice, and their story must be told.

Mellon Foundation Grant

2023 Fellowships Cohort Announced (cont.)



Lori Pierce
DNA Forensics and Genealogy
STRC Professional Development Fellowship

Dr. Pierce, a historian of race and racial thinking, will use the six-month professional development fellowship to deepen and broaden her understanding of the science of race in the post-genomic era, reaching beyond her training as a historian to the sciences (biology) and social sciences (anthropology) to understand current approaches to racial delineation. Her guiding question for her fellowship will be, "How can scholars in the humanities use the modern science of DNA as an anti-racist tool that challenges racial essentialism?" During her fellowship, she will explore two subjects that illustrate the legacy of race in the age of genetics: the use of DNA in forensic analysis in the criminal justice system and direct to consumer (DTC) DNA ancestry testing. In each case, DNA has been used to support liberatory projects for African Americans. But each case also reveals how racism based on biological essentialism is being recapitulated. For example, the Innocence Project has used DNA evidence to exonerate 365 people who were wrongfully convicted. But DNA has also been used as a form of surveillance. Direct-to-consumer (DTC) DNA testing presents a similar dilemma. Companies such as 23andMe used DNA samples to provide customers with a calibration of their ancestry. But the results are based on broad generalizations about populations and statistical estimates that compare the consumer to a likely reference group. The estimates, presented as objective statements of fact, can reinforce racial essentialism. But DTC DNA testing is also a powerful tool in genealogical work done by families, communities and scholars.



Lourdes Torres
Toward a History of LLEGÓ
STRC Professional Development Fellowship

This six-month professional development fellowship will allow Dr. Torres, a sociolinguist, to delve into archival historical research to support a new project that will document the history and significance of the first national LGBT organization for Latino/as, the National Latino/a Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Organization (LLEGÓ). LLEGÓ ran for almost twenty years and folded in 2002, and though it had a huge impact on Latino/a LGBT organizing, there is currently no scholarly monograph attesting to its rich history, its many contributions, and its ultimate demise. Histories of racial and ethnic gay and lesbian communities and activist organizations are necessary to expand the gay and lesbian historiography by explicitly articulating how race and ethnicity shape this vibrant history. The project addresses this gap in the literature by documenting the history of LLEGÓ and explaining its significance as the first and only national organization LGBT organization advocating for Latino/as. A major focus of the project involves telling the story of an inspiring group of gay, lesbian, and transgender Latino/a activists who recognized that their community's needs were being ignored and rallied to impact that reality (at a time of LLEGÓ's founding in the 1980s, HIV/AIDS were ravishing poor and queer people of color).



Mellon Foundation Grant

Summer Institute Leaders

It is our pleasure to announce the Co-Lead Faculty for the 2022 Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) Summer Institute for New Students. The STRC Summer Institute will bring together 20 newly admitted students, including transfer students, for a week-long, on-campus intensive immersion experience that will introduce students to important resources, faculty, and peers. The Co-Lead Faculty, who will be teaching a course as part of the institute, are:



Dr. Juan Mora-Torres,
Associate Professor,
Department of History



Dr. Monica Reyes,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Writing, Rhetoric, and
Discourse

Funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, the STRC represents a community of faculty and students whose scholarship explores how the humanities can serve as a source of justice and healing for communities historically shaped by, and continuously facing, racism, violence, and dispossession.

STRC Graduate Fellowships: <https://las.depaul.edu/about/initiatives/social-transformation-research-collaborative/for-current-students/Pages/strc-graduate-research-fellowship.aspx>

Summer Institute for New Students: <https://las.depaul.edu/about/initiatives/social-transformation-research-collaborative/summer-institute-for-new-students/Pages/default.aspx>

2022 Grad Fellows Abstracts



Keish Lozano

Juana Hernández y las Mujeres Tejiendo Sueños y Sabores de Paz: Afro-Colombian Quilting Tradition as Activism and Healing

This project focuses on the activist Juana Ruíz Hernández as part of the organization Mujeres Tejiendo Sueños y Sabores de Paz (ASVIDAS) of the Afro-Colombian community in Mampuján, Bolívar. This women's collective formed following the displacement of the community as a result of a three-year period of violent warfare between the AUC and the FARC as they fought for control of the territory between the years of 1997 to 2000. By following founding member Juana Ruíz Hernández's work, the project will document ASVIDAS' collective actions as advocates and activists for the displaced people of Mampuján in the years following this violence and carrying through to their impact in the present day. The project seeks to frame the collective quilting practices of ASVIDAS as a specific Afro-Colombian, feminist, community-based response to violence, while also demonstrating how this form of activism can be referenced as an alternate mode of healing and storytelling for Latinx and Afro-Latinx peoples. The research will culminate in two parts: a paper documenting and analyzing Juana Ruíz Hernández and ASVIDAS' work, expanding into an examination of the process and purpose of quilting as a tool to rewrite narratives and respond to violence; and a hand stitched quilt in the Mampuján tradition, created as an ongoing community project at DePaul.



Shameem Razack

Dr. Betty Shabazz and Clara Muhammad's Intellectual Contributions to the Black Freedom Movement

This digital archive research project will expand on scholarship regarding the role of Black women and Black American Islam within the Black Freedom Movement in the United States. Through a comparative analysis of Dr. Betty Shabazz and Clara Muhammad, both Muslim women active as leaders in the Black Freedom Movement, the project will explore how Black Muslim women's intellectual contributions were influential and foundational within the Black Freedom Movement. In analyzing Shabazz and Muhammad's activism and retelling their narratives, the project articulates their political investments towards liberation as challenging anti-Blackness and anti-Muslim racism. The research project will engage the primary questions: 1.) How did Dr. Betty Shabazz and Clara Muhammad utilize education as a vehicle of social change? 2.) How are the intellectual contributions of Dr. Betty Shabazz and Clara Muhammad influential to the Black Freedom Movement and contemporary social movements? 3.) How are both women's intellectual contributions as educators and caregivers broadly connected to a legacy of Black Feminist praxis?



Rumi Rivera-Lovato

Unsettling Graduate Social Work Education at DePaul University

This project uses student narratives to explore how graduate students in the Department of Social Work at DePaul University learn about settler colonialism. Settler colonialism refers to the structure through which Native peoples are removed in order to facilitate outsiders' access to territory. Therefore, settler colonialism is a driving force perpetuating white supremacy that targets Native peoples for discrimination and genocide. The Council on Social Work Education enforces nine Social Work competencies in their accreditation process, including "Engaging Diversity and Difference in Practice" and "Advance Human Rights in Social, Economic, and Environmental Justice." This project therefore argues that it is essential that the Department of Social Work at DePaul University include education around settler colonialism. Through a series of group interviews, approximately six currently enrolled students in the Department of Social Work discuss how the Masters of Social Work program includes settler colonialism in curricula. Based on these narratives, potential strengths and gaps are identified in assessing the nature and scope of the Department's approach to education in this regard. Recommendations for change in curricula will be articulated. The primary researcher may, thereafter, advocate that the findings of this project be considered as the Department prepares to renew their accreditation through the Council on Social Work Education in 2023.



Paul Mireles

We Keep Us Safe: A Dialogue on the Extent to which Gang Culture and Revolutionary Groups Culture Must Go to Protect Marginalized Folks.

The focus of this project is to understand the connection between civil rights movements in Chicago and Chicago street gangs in both the Brown and Black communities. Civil rights activism and street gangs may seem to be worlds apart, having no common ground, but they have a deep and rich history within Chicago. During the late 50's and 60's, street gangs in Chicago began to develop in Brown and Black urban communities throughout Chicago the city as a result of systemic issues, police brutality and racism. At the same time, civil rights movements in these communities were fighting the same struggle in different ways. During the 60's a Puerto Rican street gang known as the Young Lord's went from a turf gang to a political movement, during the same time that Chairman Fred Hampton, Sr., of the Chicago Black Panthers was working with gangs in his community to form a political movement. While many people looked down on Brown and Black street gangs, leaders such as Josée "Cha Cha" Jiménez, Chairman of the Young Lord's Organization and Fred Hampton Sr. realized that gangs were a direct response to the systemic failings of the American government.



Summer Institute Will Connect New Students With Cultural Programs

DePaul's new Social Transformation Research Collaborative, housed in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, will welcome freshly enrolled undergraduates to participate in a Summer Institute for New Students this July 25-29.

Twenty-six students selected for the program will experience a weeklong course focused on topics of racial and social justice. The course will be paired with immersion activities that introduce participants to DePaul's cultural programs, including those within the Center for Black Diaspora and the Center for Latino Research.

"The students this summer will establish friendships, have access to mentors and learn about the resources that DePaul and Chicago can offer them," says Juan Mora-Torres, associate professor of history and a faculty member for the institute. "I hope the network and teaching that begin at the Summer Institute will initiate their path to becoming informed students of DePaul and concerned citizens of the world."

Students will explore the connection between historical influencers of color and the structures of anti-racism by analyzing art and humanistic expression from intellectuals, activists and community leaders. Additionally, the program's content will focus on subjects surrounding multi-racial alliances, cultural erasure and housing disparities within Chicago.

"DePaul's Vincentian question—"What must be done?"—will help students begin to explore solutions toward cultural resiliency, anti-racism, anti-violence and healing within the academy and communities of color," says Monica Reyes, assistant professor of writing, rhetoric and discourse and faculty member for the institute.

Participants will experience Chicago as their classroom, as faculty combine seminars, lectures and analysis of primary documents with field trips around the city. The aim is for new students to encounter Chicago as a site of learning about the world. Trips to neighborhoods spanning Little Village and Pilsen to Chinatown are planned for the program.

"Visiting different neighborhoods will allow for in-depth, first-hand discussions of segregation, boundaries, gentrification, inequality and resistance head-on," Mora-Torres adds.

The Social Transformation Research Collaborative aims to explore the history, legacies and current cultures of people of color through academic teachings. The program is led by Julie Moody-Freeman and Bill Johnson González, LAS faculty members. The leaders expect the Summer Institute to prepare the newest DePaul students for success and comfort in an open, diverse environment.

"We hope the program's teachings will build awareness and lead students to use today's social media technologies to raise awareness for past and present societal problems and inequalities," González says.

STRC is launching its inaugural theme, "Influencers for Racial and Social Justice," this summer.

Students were selected to participate in the institute through an application process, and the program is offered at no cost to students. Both the collaborative and institute were created thanks to a grant from the Mellon Foundation and are part of the Center for Black Diaspora and the Center for Latino Research.

"With this program, we are helping attract a diverse group of students to DePaul; we hope that the institute will create a welcoming environment that will aid them in finding a community to support their success," Moody-Freeman says.



Episodes 2021

(Available on Apple, Spotify, and the CBD Website)



Black Romance Podcast Season 2

July 1

Eboni Snoe

July 20

Veronica Mixon

July 27

Chilufiya Safaa

August 3

Barbara Keaton

August 17

Farrah Rochon

August 24

***Frederick Smith
and Chaz L Cruz***

August 31

Patricia Vaughn

cbd initiatives

Black Romance Podcast Season 2



Steve Ammidown @stegan · Aug 5

This is a really interesting interview! Starlight files under the radar for most scholars because they can be hard to find or identify. But for several years, they were the primary publishers of Black romance authors, and Veronica was why!

Black Romance Podcast @blk_romance · Jul 20

Veronica Mixon, past editor at Doubleday, recounts her experiences creating Starlight Romances, working with many writers, including Barbara Stephens, Millie Ragosta, and Rochelle Alers, and building relationships with other Black editors in the 1980's. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...



Breasted Boobily @Author_DLWhite · Aug 17

Tryna gobble down this epi before my 8AM meeting! SQUEEE.

Happy release day @FarrahRochon

Black Romance Podcast @blk_romance · Aug 17

Best-selling writer Farrah Rochon and I talk about her newest release The Dating Playbook as well as The Boyfriend Project, Deliver Me, and the New York Sabers Football Series. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...

[Show this thread](#)



Chaz Cruz control @chzcruz · Aug 24

Had a great time speaking with @blk_romance podcast! Take a listen and share!

Did y'all know I read @fsmith827 first two novels as a teenager and became a fan?! Now look at us, writing together!

Black Romance Podcast @blk_romance · Aug 24

Frederick Smith and Chaz L Cruz discuss In Case You Forgot and their recent release Busy Ain't The Half Of It, the importance of publishing love stories between Black queer characters, and their path to becoming co-authors. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...

[Show this thread](#)



Frederick Smith (he/him) @fsmith827 · Aug 31

Enjoying the latest @blk_romance podcast this morning. Always nice to hear the narratives of Black romance authors and their road to publication. 📖💜📖 #BlackRomance #Romance #PodInColor #PodNation

Black Romance Podcast @blk_romance · Aug 31

Patricia Vaughn talks about her historical novels. She discusses how her agent Vivian Stephens helped her to publish her first historical novel Murmur of Rain with Pocket Books in 1996 and also discusses her second book Shadows on the Bayou. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...



Big Gay Fiction Podcast 🏳️‍🌈📖 @BigGayFiction · Sep 5

Need a weekend listen? Check out @fsmith827 and @chzcruz on Black Romance Podcast as they talk about their latest book "Busy Ain't the Half of It." It's a great conversation!

Black Romance Podcast @blk_romance · Aug 24

Frederick Smith and Chaz L Cruz discuss In Case You Forgot and their recent release Busy Ain't The Half Of It, the importance of publishing love stories between Black queer characters, and their path to becoming co-authors. podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/bla...

[Show this thread](#)



Journal of Popular Romance Studies

Special Issue: Black Romance

Introduction

Introduction to the Special Issue on Black Romance

Margo Hendricks and Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Research Articles

Vivian Lorraine Stephens: Romance Pioneer

Rita B. Dandridge

Her Bodyguard: Sandra Kitt's *The Color of Love* as a foundational text for BWWM romance

Piper Huguley, Ph.D.

Black Romance Authors and Community Cultural Wealth: A Case Study of Brenda Jackson's Career

Natalie T. J. Tindall, Ph.D., APR

Against Odds: Beverly Jenkins' *Indigo* and Black Historical Romance

Margo Hendricks

Freedom's Epilogue: Love as Freedom in Alyssa Cole's Historical Novellas

Nicole M. Jackson

Reading the Black Romance: Exploring Black Sexual Politics in the Romance Fiction of Rebekah Weatherspoon

Jamee N. Pritchard

Romance, Hip-Hop Feminism, and Black Love: From Theory to Praxis

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Black Romance Interviews with Writers

Producer and Editor: Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Sound Editor: Juelle Daley

Transcriptions: Jennifer Ogwumike and Jessica Williams

Conversation with Sandra Kitt

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Brenda Jackson

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Beverly Jenkins

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

'Dance Between Raindrops': A Conversation with Vivian Stephens

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Alyssa Cole

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Rebekah Weatherspoon

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Gwendolyn Pough/Gwyneth Bolton

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Rochelle Alers

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Conversation with Margo Hendricks/Elysabeth Grace

Julie E. Moody-Freeman

Black Romance Resource Bibliography

Black Romance Bibliography

Margo Hendricks and Julie E. Moody-Freeman, Jessica Williams, and Jennifer Ogwumike

AUTUMN

CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA EVENTS

2021



DR. MARGO HENDRICKS



SESALI BOWEN



DR. WHITNEY PEOPLES

BLACK ROMANCE: PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE

DATE: SEPTEMBER 17TH, 2021

TIME: 1:00 P.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZERS:

CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE

BLACK ROMANCE MASTERCLASS LED BY DR. MARGO HENDRICKS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18TH, 2021

TIME: 10:00 A.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZERS:

CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM
INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE

NAMING & DISRUPTING CULTURES & PRACTICES OF WHITENESS: TRANSFORMING OUR TEACHING & LEARNING CONTEXTS

DATE: SEPTEMBER 30TH, 2021

TIME: 4:30 P.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZER: THE WOMEN'S CENTER

MAKING OBJECTS SPEAK: EXHIBITING THE ARTS OF AFRICA AND THE ART INSTITUTE

DATE: OCTOBER 5TH, 2021

TIME: 5:00 P.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZER:

THE DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY OF ART AND ARCHITECTURE

BAD FAT BLACK GIRL: NOTES FROM A TRAP FEMINIST WITH SESALI BOWEN

DATE: OCTOBER 19TH, 2021

TIME: 5:00 P.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZERS:

THE WOMEN'S CENTER

CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA

HEALING JUSTICE DIALOGUE GROUP

BLACK BRITISH ROMANCE ROUNDTABLE

DATE: OCTOBER 20TH, 2021

TIME: 10:00 A.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZERS: CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE

DR. WHITNEY PEOPLES. AN INTRODUCTION TO THE PRINCIPLES & PRACTICES OF ANTI-RACIST PEDAGOGY

DATE: NOVEMBER 4TH, 2021

TIME: 4:30 P.M. CT

CO-ORGANIZER: THE WOMEN'S CENTER

BLACK ROMANCE IN AFRICA

DATE: TBA

TIME: TBA



CONTACT: CENTERFORBLACKDIASPORA@DEPAUL.EDU



African & Black Diaspora Romance Fall 2021 International Series

Roundtable "Black Romance: Past, Present, and Future"

17 September 2021, 1 PM CST, 2 PM EST

Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University; Center for Contemporary Literature and Culture, University of Birmingham; International Association for the Study of Popular Romance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nTWrNhYZKqU>

**African & Black
Diaspora**

Romance

FALL 2021 INTERNATIONAL ONLINE SERIES

Friday, September 17
**Roundtable "Black Romance: Past,
Present, and Future"**
1 PM CST/2 PM EST



**Dr. Margo
Hendricks**
(Moderator)



**Dr. Piper
Huguley**



**Dr. Katrina
(Nicole)
Jackson**



**Tatianna
Richardson**



**Dr. Yakini
Etheridge**



**Latoya C.
Smith**

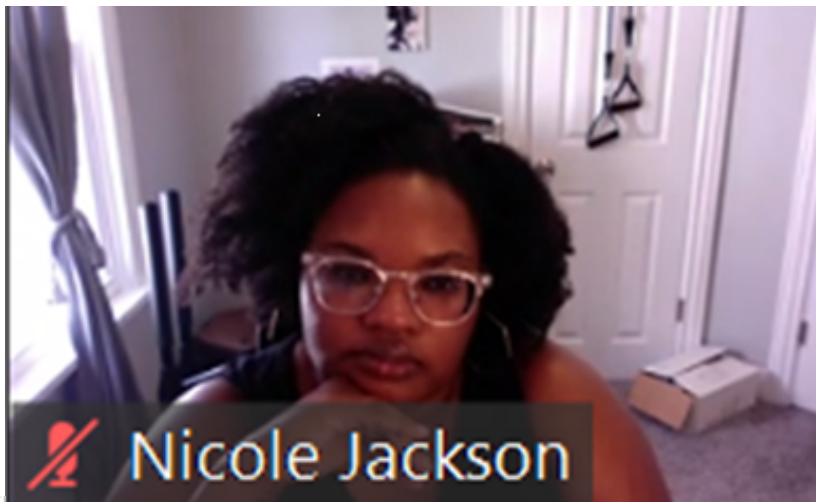
SPONSORED BY: CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY; CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND



autumn



Margo Hendricks



Nicole Jackson



Latoya C. Smith



Piper Huguley



Elysabeth Grace aka Dr. Margo J Hendricks
@Elysabethgrace

#ThankYou @piperhuguley , @katrinajax
@GlamEditor_Girl, @RomanceNColour: Y'all amazing
Black women. Thank you @blk_romance, @cbddepaul
@selinger_eric (an academic ally in the best sense of
the word), and to the people who showed up for Black
Romance. 1/

4:32 PM · Sep 17, 2021 · Twitter Web App

6 Retweets 2 Quote Tweets 33 Likes



Elysabeth Grace aka Dr. Margo J Hendricks @Elysabethgr... · Sep 17
Replying to @Elysabethgrace

All of this would not have been possible with Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman
(Center for Black Diaspora Director, DePaul University). She is an acac
Black Empress. Hopefully, the session was as meaningful to everyone
Julie and me. Thank you all.



Lisa_B_Trinidad
@AuthorTrinidad

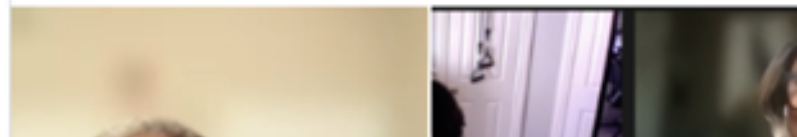
This was excellent!



Center for Black Diaspora DPU @cbddepaul · Sep 17

"Black Romance is not a linear structure. It is not a monolithic structure. It is
multi-layered, multi-faceted, and always rich in the subtleties that Black
Romance can be represented." -Margo Hendricks

Thank you to our panelists and guests for attending our roundtable!



Center for Black Diaspora DPU
@cbddepaul

"Black Romance is not a linear structure. It is not a
monolithic structure. It is multi-layered, multi-faceted,
and always rich in the subtleties that Black Romance
can be represented." -Margo Hendricks

Thank you to our panelists and guests for attending our
roundtable!

African & Black Diaspora Romance Fall 2021 International Series

Black Romance Masterclass led by Dr. Margo Hendricks

18 September 2021, 10 AM CST, 11 AM EST

Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University; Center for Contemporary Literature and Culture, University of Birmingham; International Association for the Study of Popular Romance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4KXT1Clz184>

**African & Black
Diaspora**

Romance

FALL 2021 INTERNATIONAL ONLINE SERIES

Saturday, September 18

10 AM-12 PM CST/11 AM-1 PM EST

**Black Romance Masterclass led by
Dr. Margo Hendricks**



150 open seats!

**10-11 AM CST
11 AM-12 PM EST:
Pedagogy and
Black Romance**

**11AM-12 PM CST
12-1 PM EST:
Scholarship and Black
Romance**


Margo Hendricks

writes romance as Elysabeth Grace.

Her most recent novels appear in the *Daughter of Saria* series. She is the author of numerous academic publications on race, gender, and class in Renaissance and early modern English literature.

SPONSORED BY: CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY; CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM; INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE



 **Lisa_B_Trinidad**
@AuthorTrinidad

The teaching that is going on right now! Whew!

 **Center for Black Diaspora DPU** @cbddepaul · Sep 18
Still more seats left! Register soon before class starts @ 10 am CST.
twitter.com/cbddepaul/stat...

 **Frederick Smith (he/him)** @fsmith827 · Sep 17
A free professional development opportunity to learn from a great Black Romance writer! Saturday, 9/18, via @cbddepaul.

 #BlackRomance #BlackLove #WritingCommunity #Romance

 **Center for Black Diaspora DPU** @cbddepaul · Sep 17
Tomorrow's masterclass (9/18 @ 10 AM CST) was capped at 30 participants, but now has been expanded to allow 150!
Register via the link below!
eventbrite.com/e/black-romanc...



10 AM-12 PM CST / 11 AM-1 PM EST
Black Romance Masterclass led by Dr. Margo Hendricks

150 open seats!

10-11 AM CST
11 AM-12 PM EST:
Pedagogy and Black Romance

11AM-12 PM CST
12-1 PM EST:
Scholarship and Black Romance

 **Beverly Jenkins** ✓
@authorMsBev

Replying to @fsmith827 and @cbddepaul

Amazing!

 **Frederick Smith (he/him)**
@fsmith827


Replying to @cbddepaul

Such a great masterclass this morning by @Elysabethgrace. Love that she mentions Indigo by @authorMsBev as the novel she'd teach in a Black Romance masterclass... for a number of reasons. Thanks @cbddepaul for this opportunity!

11:05 AM · Sep 18, 2021 · Twitter for iPhone

 **Prof Romance, Ph.D.**
@prof_romance

Attending this right now and I feel so lucky. This is a fantastic class. Thanks to the @cbddepaul and Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman as well as @dramyburge for this superb opportunity on improving pedagogy when it comes to Black romance

 **Elysabeth Grace aka Dr. Margo J Hendricks** @Elysabethgrace · Sep 17
Come see what I'm really like at 8am on a Saturday morning and let's talk Black romance. twitter.com/blk_romance/st...

 **Bridget Kies**
@BridgetKies

We are ten minutes in this Black Romance master class with @Elysabethgrace at @cbddepaul, and I'm already mindblown.

 **Elysabeth Grace aka Dr. Margo J Hendricks** @Elysabethgr... · Sep 18
#BlackRomanceMasterClass First, let me thank all who showed up for being there. This is my kind of literary "pedagogy" conversation. To those who wished we could have made it a "real class" (open talk/convo among all), we couldn't change the settings. 1/

2 2 24

 **Frederick Smith (he/him)**
@fsmith827

Replying to @Elysabethgrace

It was a great class this morning. Thank you! And thanks to @cbddepaul as well!

1:51 PM · Sep 18, 2021 · Twitter Web App

African & Black Diaspora Romance Fall 2021 International Series

Roundtable "Black British Romance"

20 October 2021, 10:30 AM CST, 11:30 AM EST

Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University; Center for Contemporary Literature and Culture, University of Birmingham; International Association for the Study of Popular Romance



African & Black Diaspora Romance

FALL 2021 INTERNATIONAL ONLINE SERIES

Wednesday, October 20

Roundtable "Black British Romance"

4:30 PM UK Time/10:30 AM US Central Time/11:30 AM US Eastern Time

Talia Hibbert

Andi Osho

Frances Mensah Williams

SPONSORED BY: CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY; CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM; INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE



Autumn

Antiracist Pedagogy Workshops with Dr. Whitney Peoples

30 September & 4 November 2021, 4:30 PM CST

Co-organized by the Women's Center and the Center for Black Diaspora. Co-sponsored by the Center for Community Health Equity; Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program; Center for Latino Research, Community Service Studies Program; First-Year Writing Program; and Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, and Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse, and the Global Asian Studies Program.

Antiracist Pedagogy Workshops with Dr. Whitney Peoples



Director of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in School of Public Health,
University of Michigan

Organized by the Women's Center and Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Community Health Equity, Center for Latino Research, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program, Community Service Studies Program, First-Year Writing Program, and Departments of African and Black Diaspora Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, Writing Rhetoric and Discourse,

Session One:

Naming & Disrupting Cultures & Practices of Whiteness: Transforming Our Teaching & Learning Contexts

This interactive workshop will introduce the critical race framework of whiteness and its relevance for both broader curricular and individual course development and design. The session is designed to help inform current and future anti-racist efforts and is a precursor to the session on anti-racist pedagogy.

**September 30th
4:30-6:00pm
Central Standard Time**

Register here!

Session Two:

An Introduction to the Principles & Practices of Anti-Racist Pedagogy

This interactive workshop will introduce anti-racist pedagogy as an effective framework for instructors across a range of disciplinary and teaching contexts. Participants in this workshop will be introduced to the history, goals, and fundamental principles of anti-racist pedagogy. Participants will also have the opportunity to learn about and collectively reflect on strategies for employing an anti-racist pedagogy in their course design and classroom practice.

**November 4th
4:30-6:00 pm
Central Standard Time**

Register here!

Separate registrations required.

**These workshops are
for DePaul Faculty only.**

For accommodations or questions,
please contact womenscenterdepaul@gmail.com.

Exhibiting African Art in Chicago

Making Objects Speak: Exhibiting the Arts of Africa at the Art Institute of Chicago

5 October 2021, 6 PM CST

Co-organized the Center for Black Diaspora and Department of History of Art and Architecture

EXHIBITING AFRICAN ART IN CHICAGO

An art series : 2021 - 2022

Title: Making Objects Speak: Exhibiting the Arts of Africa at the Art Institute of Chicago
Date : October 5, 2021
Time : 6:00 - 7:30 PM
Eventbrite : <https://tinyurl.com/making-objects-speak>





View of the re-installed African Art Gallery, Art Institute of Chicago



Constantine Petridis, chair and curator of Arts of Africa, joined the Art Institute in 2016. He recently co-curated the 2020 exhibition *Malangatana: Mozambique Modern* with Hendrik Folkerts and Felicia Mings, and in 2019 he oversaw the refresh of the museum's permanent gallery of Arts of Africa. He also serves as a research associate at the Field Museum and is a corresponding member of the Belgian Royal Academy for Overseas Sciences.

Powered by the Center for Black Diaspora
and the Department of History of Art & Architecture

centerforblackdiaspora.depaul.edu

cbbd.depaul.edu

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

An Evening with Sesali Bowen, Author of Memoir/Manifesto *Bad Fat Black Girl: Notes from a Trap Feminist*

19 October 2021, 6 PM CST

Co-organized by the Women's Center and the Center for Black Diaspora. Co-sponsored by African and Black Diaspora Studies; Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies; Women's and Gender Studies; Writing Rhetoric and Discourse; Women's and Gender Studies.



*An Evening with Sesali Bowen,
author of memoir/manifesto
Bad Fat Black Girl: Notes from a Trap Feminist (2021)*

From funny and fearless entertainment journalist Sesali Bowen, *Bad Fat Black Girl* combines rule-breaking feminist theory, witty and insightful personal memoir, and cutting cultural analysis for an unforgettable, genre defining debut.



*Virtual Event
October 19, 2021
6:00-7:30 pm CST*

*Scan QR code
to register:*



Biography

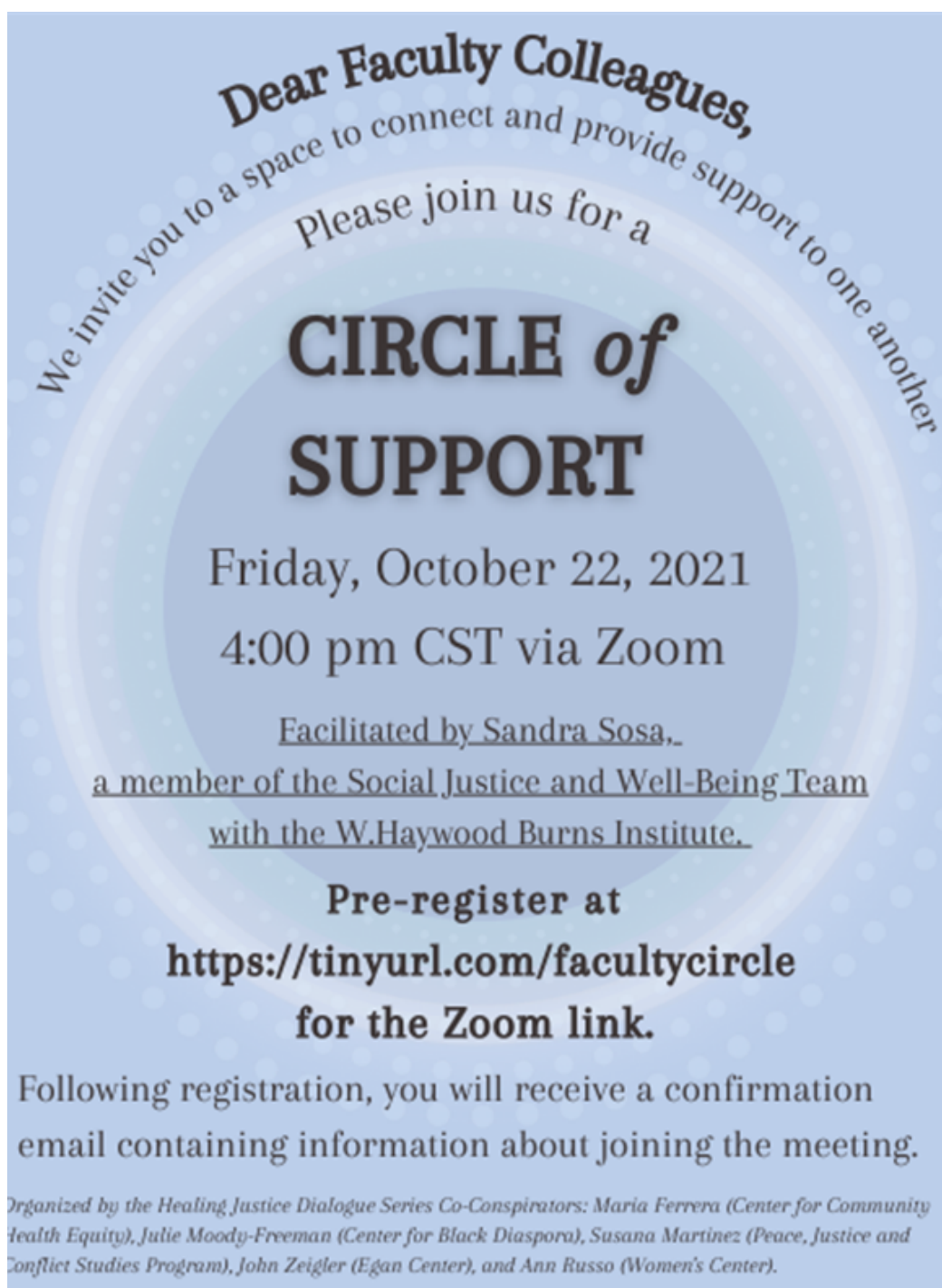
Sesali Bowen is a multifaceted writer, media personality, and cultural commentator. She is currently the creator and host of *Purse First*, the only podcast that focuses exclusively on female and queer rap, the former Senior Entertainment Editor at *NYLON* magazine and one of the architects of *Refinery29's* *Unbothered*. She is a DePaul Alum from Women's and Gender Studies (2012).

Co-organized by the Women's Center and the Center for Black Diaspora, and co-sponsored by African and Black Diaspora Studies, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, Women's and Gender Studies, Writing, Rhetoric and Discourse, Women's and Gender Studies. For accommodations or questions, please contact womenscenterdepaul@gmail.com

Circle of Support Facilitated by Sandra Sosa

22 October 2021, 4 PM CST

Co-organized by the Healing Justice Dialogue Series. Co-sponsored by Maria Ferrera (Center for Community Health Equity), Julie Moody-Freeman (Center for Black Diaspora), Susanna Martinez (Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program), John Zeigler (Egan Center), and Ann Russo (Women's Center)..



Dear Faculty Colleagues,
We invite you to a space to connect and provide support to one another
Please join us for a

**CIRCLE of
SUPPORT**

Friday, October 22, 2021
4:00 pm CST via Zoom

Facilitated by Sandra Sosa,
a member of the Social Justice and Well-Being Team
with the W.Haywood Burns Institute.

Pre-register at
<https://tinyurl.com/facultycircle>
for the Zoom link.

Following registration, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Organized by the Healing Justice Dialogue Series Co-Conspirators: Maria Ferrera (Center for Community Health Equity), Julie Moody-Freeman (Center for Black Diaspora), Susana Martinez (Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program), John Zeigler (Egan Center), and Ann Russo (Women's Center).

autumn

Laying an Initial Foundation for Peace-Making/Talking Circles to Support Healing in Community with Sandra Sosa

27 October 2021, 6 PM CST

Co-organized by the Center for Black Diaspora,; the Center for Community Health Equity; the Egan Center; Peace, Justice, and Conflict studies Program; the Women's Center

Laying
an initial foundation
for peace-making/
talking circles to
support healing
in community
with Sandra Sosa



Wed. Oct. 27th, 6-7:30 PM
Central Time

Register in advance for this meeting

Sandra is a member of the Social Justice and Well-Being Team with the Haywood Burns Institute, and will help participants explore and learn some foundational concepts as principles of peace-making/talking circles.

Sandra brings over 18 years of experience in working to create a safe space for endangered youth in communities to listen, share, learn, and heal together so that they may flourish and thrive. Born and raised in the Little Village Community of Chicago, IL, Sandra Sosa's social justice philosophy and approach to community development weaves ancestral teachings and rites of passage work together with modern youth development practices.

burnsinstitute.org/staff/sandra-sosa

Co-organizers: The Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Community Health Equity, the Egan Center, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies Program, the Women's Center



African & Black Diaspora Romance Fall 2021 International Series

Roundtable on Black Popular Romance in Africa

17 December 2021, 8 AM CST

Co-hosted by the Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University; the Centre for Contemporary Literature and Culture, University of Birmingham; Ghent University; Rhodes University; and the International Association for the Study of Popular Romance.

African & Black Diaspora Romance

FALL 2021 INTERNATIONAL ONLINE SERIES

Friday, December 17

Roundtable on Black Popular Romance in Africa

17:00 EAT/ 16:00 CAT/ 15:00 CET/ 14:00 UK/ 9:00 AM EST/ 8:00 AM CST

Register:
<https://ugent-be.zoom.us/j/9tjAufumhrDgrGNUzX0uwquyx53lrjxqlrrO>

Lynda Gichanda Spencer

Tlalane Manciya

Sheena Overmeyer

Doseline Kiguru

Martina Vitackova

CO-HOSTED BY THE CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY; THE CENTRE FOR CONTEMPORARY LITERATURE AND CULTURE, UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM; GHEENT UNIVERSITY; RHODES UNIVERSITY, AND THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF POPULAR ROMANCE.

White Supremacy Culture - Still Here: An Evening with Tema Okun

26 January 2022, 6 PM

Co-organized by the DePaul University Women's Center, The Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Community Health Equity, The Community Service Program, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, Healing Justice Dialogue Series, LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, American Studies, and Steans Center



Co-organized by the DePaul University Women's Center, the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Community Health Equity, the Community Service Studies Program, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program, Healing Justice Dialogue Series, LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, American Studies, and Steans Center.

Please email womenscenterdepaul@gmail.com for any questions, concerns, or accommodations



Exhibiting African Art in Chicago

Telling a Story of Medieval Africa: The Caravans of Gold Project

3 February 2022, 6 PM

Powered by the Center for Black Diaspora, Islamic World Studies, and the Department of History of Art & Architecture

EXHIBITING AFRICAN ART IN CHICAGO

An Art Series: 2021-2022

Telling a Story of Medieval Africa: The Caravans of Gold Project



Date: February 3, 2022

Time: 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.




Scan QR code to register



Kathleen Bickford Berzock is Associate Director of Curatorial Affairs at Northwestern University's Block Museum of Art, where she provides artistic leadership of the exhibition, publication, and collection programs in support of the museum's cross-cultural and interdisciplinary mission. She is curator of the award-winning exhibition *Caravans of Gold, Fragments in Time: Art, Culture, and Exchange across Medieval Saharan Africa*, and the editor of its companion publication and multilingual App. Berzock is co-editor with Christa Clarke of *Representing Africa in American Art Museums: A Century of Collecting and Display*. From 1995 – 2013 she was curator of African art at the Art Institute of Chicago. Berzock received her PhD from Indiana University.



Powered by the Center for Black Diaspora, Islamic World Studies, and the Department of History of Art & Architecture

   **@cbddepaul**

Black Romance Master Class led by Dr. Margo Hendricks

"Those purple hands really intrigue me"

26 February 2022, 10 AM

Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora and International Association for the Study of Popular Romance

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JDj8kxPMIKQ>

"Those purple hands really intrigue me": Beverly Jenkins' *Indigo*



Black Romance Master Class

Led by

Dr. Margo Hendricks

February 26, 2022

10 am -12 pm CST

The aim of this master class is to offer a pedagogical and scholarly approach to reading and teaching Black Romance fiction, specially, historical Black romance novels. What this class will offer is a model, using *Indigo* as the class text, for teaching the literariness of the novel, its continuity with the history of the romance genre, and the importance of reassessing the teaching of and writing about Black romance, and the romance genre in general. What the course will offer Black romance readers, scholars, and teachers is a critical approach easily adapted to anti-racist pedagogy and scholarly writing about romance.

Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora and International Association for the Study of Popular Romance

Register via Eventbrite:

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/those-purple-hands-really-intrigues-me-beverly-jenkins-indigo-tickets-223315020237>



Black DePaul History

16 February 2022, 5 PM

Sponsored by the Division of Mission and Ministry, Center for Black Diaspora, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Division of Student Affairs, Special Collections and Archives.

Wednesday, February 16, 2022
LPSC 314AB ♦ 5:00 to 8:00 pm

BLACK DEPAUL HISTORY



DIVISION OF
**Mission +
Ministry**

Sponsored by
Center for Black Diaspora

Register Here



 **DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**
UNIVERSITY LIBRARY
Special Collections and Archives

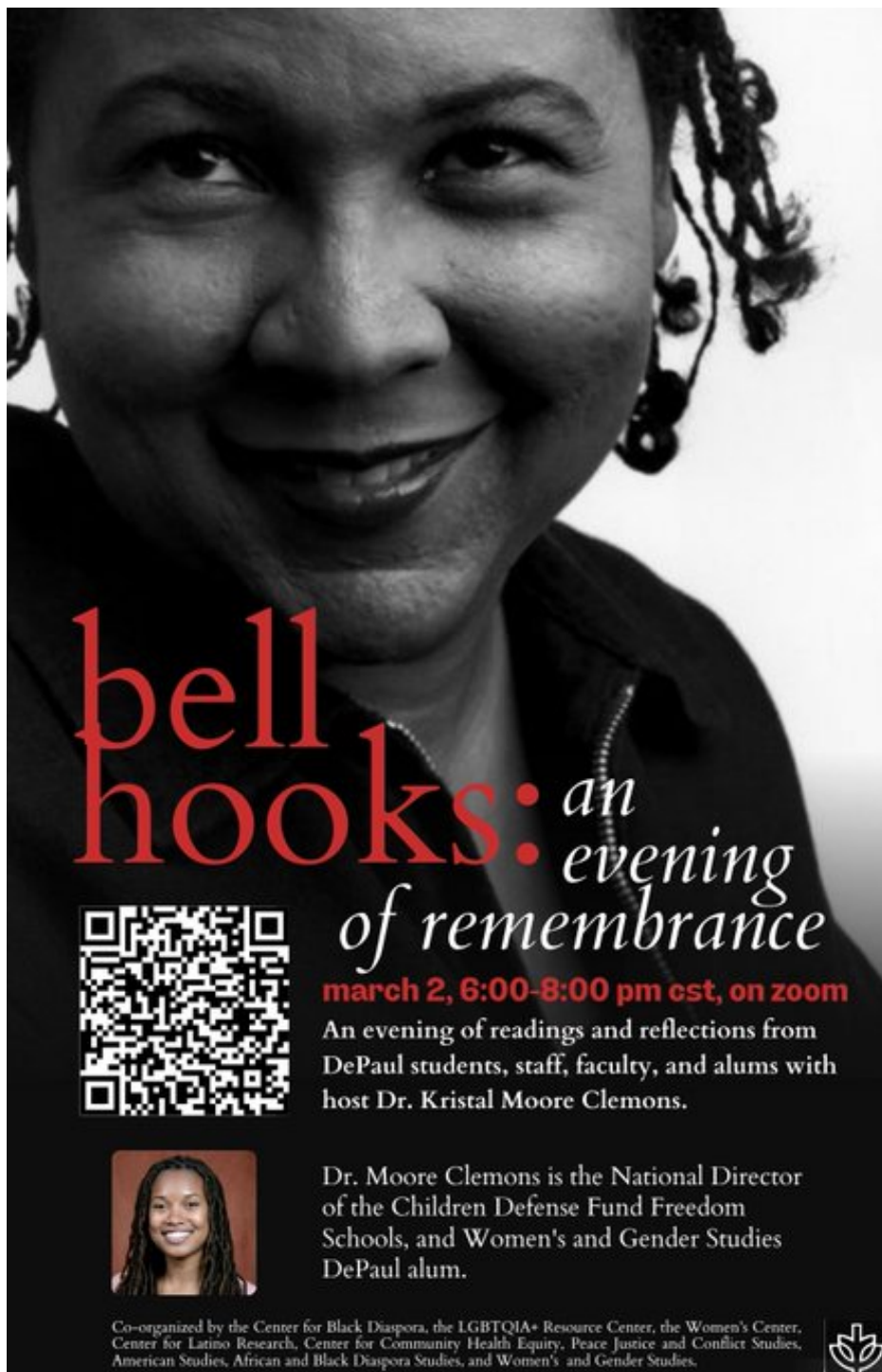
 **DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND
SOCIAL SCIENCES
Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

 **DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**
DIVISION OF STUDENT AFFAIRS


bell hooks: An Evening of Remembrance

2 March 2022, 6 PM


Co-organized by the Center for Black Diaspora, the LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, the Women's Center, Center for Latino Research, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace Justice and Conflict Studies, American Studies, African and Black Diaspora Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.



bell hooks: *an evening of remembrance*




march 2, 6:00-8:00 pm est, on zoom
An evening of readings and reflections from DePaul students, staff, faculty, and alums with host Dr. Kristal Moore Clemons.



Dr. Moore Clemons is the National Director of the Children Defense Fund Freedom Schools, and Women's and Gender Studies DePaul alum.

Co-organized by the Center for Black Diaspora, the LGBTQIA+ Resource Center, the Women's Center, Center for Latino Research, Center for Community Health Equity, Peace Justice and Conflict Studies, American Studies, African and Black Diaspora Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.

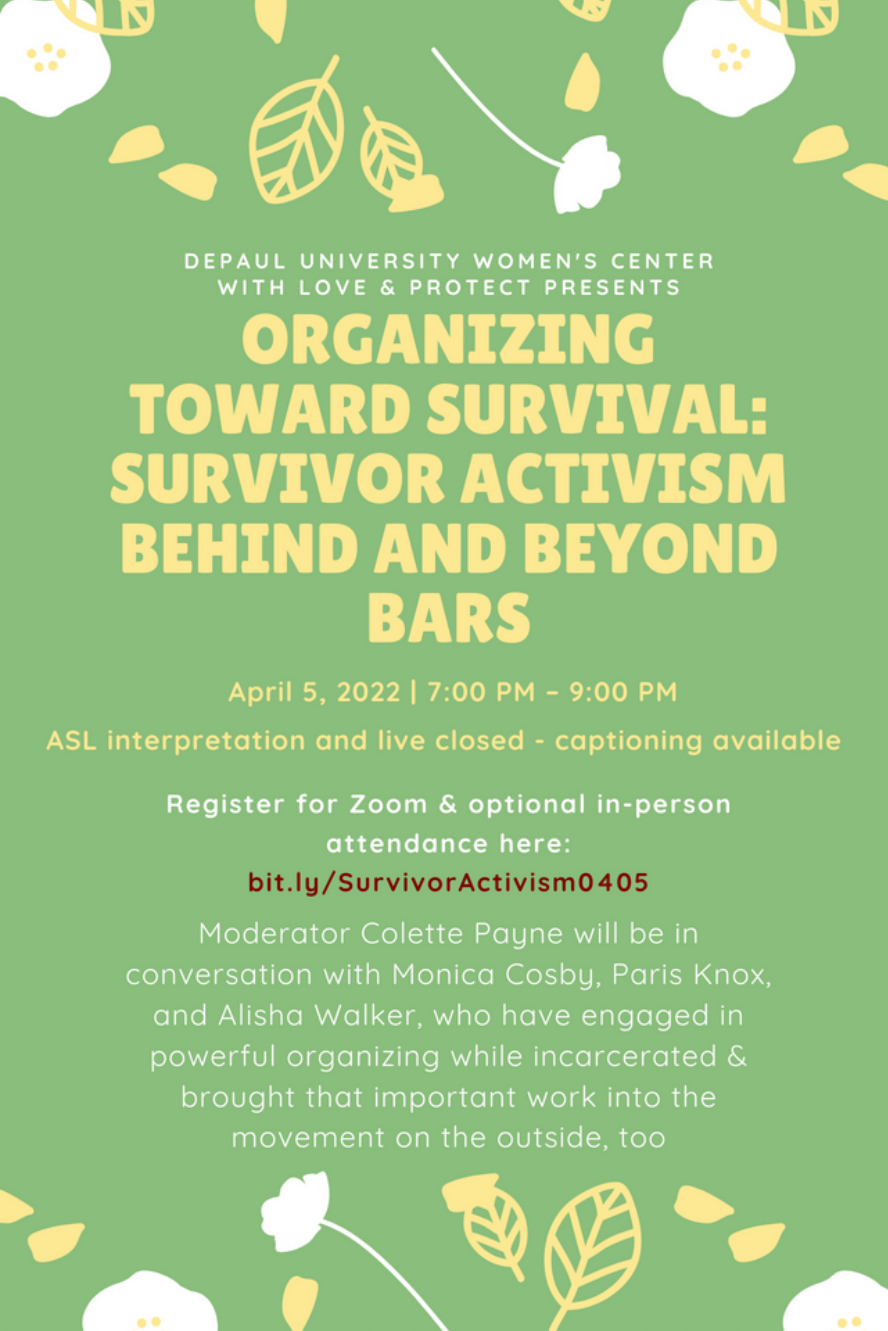


Exhibiting African Art in Chicago

Organizing Toward Survival: Survivor Activism Behind and Beyond Bars

5 April 2022, 7 PM

Co-Organized with Love & Protect, the Prison Neighborhood Arts Project, NEIU's Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Nontraditional Degree Program Office, as well as with DePaul's Women's Center, Center for Black Diaspora, the Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program, and the Egan Office for Urban Education and Community Partnerships.



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY WOMEN'S CENTER
WITH LOVE & PROTECT PRESENTS

ORGANIZING TOWARD SURVIVAL: SURVIVOR ACTIVISM BEHIND AND BEYOND BARS

April 5, 2022 | 7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

ASL interpretation and live closed - captioning available

Register for Zoom & optional in-person
attendance here:
bit.ly/SurvivorActivism0405

Moderator Colette Payne will be in
conversation with Monica Cosby, Paris Knox,
and Alisha Walker, who have engaged in
powerful organizing while incarcerated &
brought that important work into the
movement on the outside, too

The event is organized by Love & Protect, the Prison Neighborhood Arts Project, NEIU's Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, NEIU's Nontraditional Degree Program Office, the DePaul University's Women's Center, the DePaul Center for Black Diaspora, the DePaul Egan Office for Urban Education & Community Partnerships, and Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies Program.

Spring

Exhibiting African Art in Chicago

Mariane Ibrahim on Chicago and Paris Art Scenes

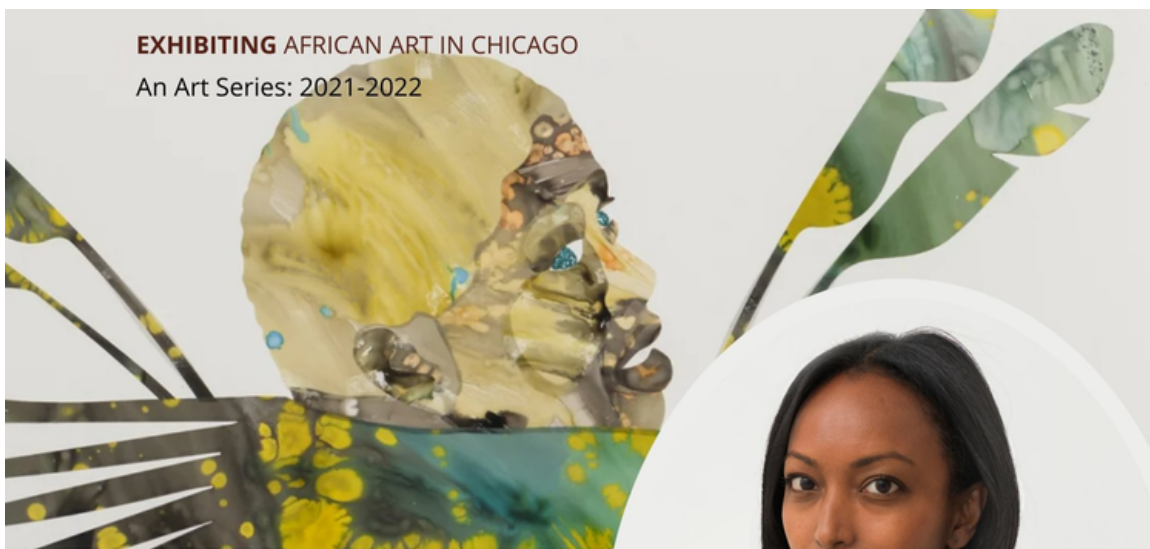
12 April 2022, 6 PM

Co-Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora and the Department of History of Art and Architecture

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zYzipZbylU>

EXHIBITING AFRICAN ART IN CHICAGO

An Art Series: 2021-2022



Mariane Ibrahim on Chicago and Paris Art Scenes

April 12, 2022 6-7:30 pm

Seven years after founding her namesake gallery in Seattle, Ibrahim and her program officially launched their space in Chicago in 2019. The gallery opened their inaugural European space in Paris. Mariane Ibrahim has hosted acclaimed exhibitions from leading and emerging artists including Amoako Boafo, Clotilde Jimenez, Maimouna Guerresi, Ayana V. Jackson and most recently Jerrell Gibbs. The gallery has had an international presence at art fairs with acclaimed and prize-winning presentations.

In 2021 Mariane Ibrahim was awarded The Ordre des Arts et des Lettres (Order of the Arts and the Letters) on behalf of the Ministry of culture in France.



Spring

Exhibiting African Art in Chicago

Art, Black Magic, or Science?

Masterpieces of African Metallurgy

with Foreman Bandama PhD

21 April 2022, 6 PM

Co-Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, Islamic World Studies, and the Department of History of Art and Architecture

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YkiLqCpYZ5o>

EXHIBITING AFRICAN ART IN CHICAGO

An Art Series: 2021-2022

Art, black magic or science? Masterpieces of African Metallurgy

with Foreman Bandama (PhD)

Assistant Curator of African Anthropology at Field Museum of Natural History



April 21, 2022 6-7:30 pm.

After three years at Sol Plaatje University (South Africa), Dr Foreman Bandama took a double appointment at the Field Museum of Natural History (75%) and the University of Illinois Chicago (25%) in August 2021. At the Field Museum, he joins the Negaunee Integrative Research Center as the Assistant Curator of African Anthropology where his role is to manage, organize exhibitions and conduct research on African collections housed in the museum. This is over and above conducting his own independent research. At UIC, Dr Bandama teaches one module per year, while contributing to the academic life of the Anthropology Department. Foreman Bandama is an African Iron Age Archaeologist who specializes in pre-industrial ceramics, glass beads, archaeometallurgy, and heritage studies. His doctoral thesis from the University of Cape Town explored the history, innovation and technology of tin and bronze metallurgy in southern Africa. Dr Bandama's work draws liberally from both African theory and his personal experiences a product of a rural crafting Tsonga family from Zimbabwe. Foreman is particularly interested in African innovations and achievements relating to complex societies and their interactions with the outside world. Among his long-term projects are understanding crafts, class and state formation at Great Zimbabwe and some of the key polities in southern Africa.



Cosponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora and the Department of History of Art and Architecture.



Spring

An Evening of Poetry with Taylor Byas and Jason B. Crawford

25 April 2022, 6 PM

Co-Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, and the
Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies

An Evening of Poetry with Taylor Byas and Jason B. Crawford



Hosted by Ida B. Wells Post-Doctoral Fellow
Dr. Rita Mookerjee

RSVP In-Person



RSVP Virtually



April 25th | 6 P.M.-8 P.M. | Hybrid

2250 N. Sheffield Ave. Depaul University Student Center Rm. 314AB

Join us for a night of poetry and insight from two successful poets on the rise, Taylor Byas, and Jason B. Crawford. Taylor Byas (She/Her), a Chicago Native, currently lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and is an Assistant Features Editor for The Rumpus. She is also the 1st Place Winner of the 2020 Poetry Super Highway Contest, the 2020 Frontier Poetry Award for New Poets, the 2021 Adrienne Rich Poetry Award.

Jason B. Crawford (They/Them) is a writer born in Washington DC, raised in Lansing, MI. Crawford is the co-founder of The Knight's Library Magazine. They are the winner of the Courtney Valentine Prize for Outstanding Work by a Millennial Artist, Vella Chapbook Contest, Variant Lit Chapbook Contest, and the 2021 OutWrite chapbook contest winner in poetry.



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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.

Access our catalog 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.

More information can be found on our website.

Center for Black Diaspora DePaul University

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Twitter & Instagram: @cbddepaul

Website

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