

Center for Black Diaspora  
Annual Report 2022-2023



# Center for Black Diaspora

Annual Report **2022-2023**

Editors: Jennifer Gardner and Miya Jefferson  
Copy Editor: Julie E. Moody-Freeman

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# Mission Statement

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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

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In the 2022-2023 academic year, the Center for Black Diaspora (CBD) accomplished several successful initiatives and created development opportunities for DePaul faculty and students. For a second year, as Center Director, I co-directed the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC), which is supported by a Mellon Foundation grant. This initiative provides fellowships and developmental opportunities through which undergraduates and graduate students, faculty, and the larger community explore pressing issues and questions related to the histories and cultures of people of color, both in the United States and around the world.

## Year two Outcomes:

### Faculty Fellowships

- 1) Two full year paid leave Faculty research fellows: Dr. Rocío Ferreira, Modern Languages, and Dr. Juan Mora-Torres, History.
- 2) Two Faculty development fellows: Dr. Maria Ferrera, Social Work, and Dr. Jacqui Lazú, Modern Languages.

### Post-Doctoral Fellowships

- 1) Selection of one Post Doc fellow in African and Black Diaspora Studies: Dr. Taurean Webb.

### Graduate Fellowships

Two graduate students in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences received \$6,000 in stipend to complete an original research project.

- 1) Laura Carvajal, Critical Ethnic Studies
- 2) Shannan Moore, Critical Ethnic Studies

**\*Thanks to Dr. Anne Mitchell, Director, Critical Ethnic Studies and faculty in Women's and Gender Studies, who dedicated her time to mentor Laura and Shannan throughout their 2023 summer research.**



## **Undergraduate Fellowships**

Six undergraduate fellows in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences received \$5,000 in stipend and a tuition free summer course to study research methods and complete an original research project. Congratulations to the recipients:

- 1) Gabriela Córdova, English
- 2) Jael Davis, History, African and Black Diaspora Studies
- 3) Laszlo Katona, Philosophy, History, Environmental Science, German Studies
- 4) Krystal Morgan, African and Black Diaspora Studies, Public Policy
- 5) Lila Nambo, Latin American and Latino Studies, Film Production
- 6) Samara Smith, Political Science, History

**\*Thanks to Dr. Ashley Stone, the Ida B. Wells Barnett Post Doc Fellow in African and Black Diaspora Studies, and Dr. Lisa Poirier, Religious Studies, who co-taught ISP 398, the 2023 Summer research methods course, and who will mentor students through to completion of their projects in fall 2023.**

## **2023 Summer Institute for New Students**

### **Outcomes for the institute include:**

- 1) Two lead faculty to teach at the STRC Summer Institute: Dr. Tara Betts, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, and Dr. Michele Morano, English.
- 2) Online information sessions for undergrads and transfer students.
- 3) Selected twenty incoming Freshmen and Transfer students out of over 80 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 (1), Daytime Peer Leaders (1), Peer Mentors (3) to assist us with the Institute scheduled for 7-16-23 to 7-21-23.

## **October 2022 STRC Hybrid Annual Symposium**

DePaul President Dr. Robert L. Manuel, Provost Dr. Salma Ghanem, and the Dean of the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Dr. Guillermo Vásquez de Velasco were present at a two-day symposium on the Transformative Humanities. Featured keynote speakers were Dr. Duchess Harris, who presented on "Black Feminist Politics from Kennedy to Obama" and Dr. Ramon A. Gutierrez, who discussed "New Mexico's Moses: Reies Lopez Tijerina and the Religious Origins of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement."

The symposium also featured several panel discussions, including Dr. Diane C. Fujino and Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodriguez, who talked about “Asian American Activism: Building Movements for Liberation.” This panel was moderated by Dr. Laura Kina, the Vincent DePaul Professor in the Art School. Additional panels included: a panel with the STRC post doc fellows, a second panel with the STRC graduate fellows, and a third featuring the 2022 STRC Summer Institute Students.

### **STRC Professional Development Opportunities**

Each Post Doc fellow was paired with a faculty mentor who met bi-weekly with them. In addition, we offered two developmental opportunities for fellows. In the fall, Post docs as well as other DePaul faculty attended the first event which addressed pedagogy. In winter 2023, the second professional development event addressed “How to Publish Your Book.” Thanks to Dr. Carolina Sternberg, Chair, Latin American and Latino Studies, for organizing and for moderating this panel. Thanks also to Dr. Francesca Royster, English Department, and Dr. Lourdes Torres, Latin American and Latino Studies Department, who presented at this event.

In addition to STRC initiatives, the Center for Black Diaspora produced other initiatives and events for 2022-2023. This included the following:

#### **The *Black Romance Podcast***

This year I created, produced, edited and co-hosted Season three of 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. I developed, taped, and released nine episodes between December 2022 and June 2023. Thanks to Randall Spriggs, the sound editor for the podcast.

Podcast episodes can be accessed on Apple podcast on the Center for Black Diaspora’s website and at

<https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/black-romance-podcast/id1528266279>

## **Featured Center events in 2022-2023 included:**

### **Black Romance and Historical Spaces**

Black Romance authors Katrina Jackson (Bowling Green State University history professor Dr. Nicole Jackson) and Elysabeth Grace (University of California Santa Cruz Professor Emerita Dr. Margo Hendricks) discussed writing Black historical romance. The authors engaged the question of readerly and publishing perceptions about the place of African/African diaspora love in historical spaces. The conversation focused on the role of Black subjectivity (not individualism) as integral to Black historical romance. Finally, the authors encouraged Black romance authors and readers, and the wider romance community to re-imagine their relationship to historical romance in general, and Black historical romance in particular.

"**Beats and Blackness: A Conversation**" featured Dr. Amor Kohli and Dr. Francesca Royster in conversation about their books *A Beat Beyond: Selected Prose of Major Jackson* and *Black Country Music: Listening for Revolutions*.

The **Filmmaker Talk with Dr. Lindsay Gary** screened her documentary *Who Yo' People: A Documentary Film* and gave two presentations.

Members of *The Black Myth Podcast* joined the Center in Spring 2023 to discuss "**The Myth of the Circulating Black Dollar: An Informed Conversation About Black Economies, Community, and Sustainability.**" Thanks to Dr. Symone Johnson, an Assistant Professor in African and Black Diaspora Studies, for developing, organizing, and moderating this hybrid event.

"**The Swiftly Fading Residue of Soon-Forgotten Dreams: On Love and Madness,**" a hybrid event, featured Dr. La Marr Jurelle Bruce, recipient of the MLA Prize for a First Book, discussing his book *How to Go Mad without Losing Your Mind: Madness and Black Radical Creativity*. This event was a collaboration between CBD and American Studies. Thanks to Dr. Allison McCracken, the Chair of American Studies, for collaborating on all aspects of this event with us and for moderating the in-person portion of this event.



Public Historian Michelle Duster closed out our AY 2023 programming with a talk on her great-grandmother Ida B. Wells Barnett titled "**Ida B. Wells Barnett's Legacy: Lessons for Racial and Social Justice.**" Thanks to Dr. Ashley Stone, the Ida B. Wells Barnett Post Doc Fellow in African and Black Diaspora Studies, for organizing and moderating this virtual event.

In November 2022, Jennifer Gardner joined the Center as Assistant Director. Jennifer earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in African and Black Diaspora Studies from DePaul University and a Master of Arts in Africology and African American Studies from Temple University. I would like to welcome Jennifer to CBD and look forward to working with her as we prepare to celebrate the Center's 30th year at DePaul in AY 2023-2024.

Finally, I would like to thank Kaela "blhue Kaeos" Green for her beautiful cover art that is symbolic of the deep roots of Black women and the contributions they have offered to this world. This cover art also symbolizes the deep roots of the Center, now in its 30th year at DePaul. At the Center, we are currently in the archives studying the profound ways the Center has embodied this institution's mission and how it has provided a space for intellectual work on the peoples, cultures, movements, and ideas of peoples of African descent worldwide. Love and light to all.

Walk Good,

*Julie E. Moody-Freeman, Ph.D.*

**Director, Center for Black Diaspora (CBD)**

**Co-director, Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC)**

**Interim Chair, Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies (ABD)**

**Associate Professor, Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies**



# The Center Staff

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**Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD**  
Director



**Jennifer P. Gardner, M. A.**  
Assistant Director



**Miya Jefferson**  
Content Development & Marketing  
Assistant

# Advisory Board



**Dani Blackwell**  
Student Retention and  
Operations Specialist  
New Student and Family  
Engagement



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



**Dana Hall**  
Professor and Director of  
Jazz Studies and of  
DePaul Jazz Workshop



**Valerie Johnson, PhD.**  
Associate Professor  
and Interim Associate  
Provost of DEI



**Amor Kohli, PhD.**  
Associate Professor and  
Dept. Chair  
African and Black  
Diaspora Studies



**Kristin Lansdown**  
Librarian and Inclusion,  
Diversity, Equity and  
Accessibility Coordinator



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



**Ogenga Otunnu, PhD.**  
Professor  
History



**Lori Pierce**  
Associate Professor  
African and Black  
Diaspora Studies



**Francesca Royster PhD**  
Associate Professor  
English



**Chernoh Sesay Jr., PhD**  
Associate Professor  
Religious Studies



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



**Dexter Zollicoffer**  
Diversity Advisor  
DePaul Theatre School

SEE MORE DETAILED BIOS AT:  
[HTTPS://GO.DEPAUL.EDU/CENTER-FOR-BLACK-DIASPORA/ADVISORY-BOARD.ASPX](https://go.depaul.edu/center-for-black-diaspora/advisory-board.aspx)

# CBD Initiatives

## CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA ✱

The Center promotes collaborative, interdisciplinary and comparative scholarship, expressive cultural and creative works, and programming that primarily focus on Africa, the Americas and the Caribbean. It seeks to establish reciprocal relationships with other academic units, centers, programs and community organizations and their constituents through community outreach. The center's programs are open to faculty, students and staff, and the community at large.

The 2022-2023 theme "We are Deeply Rooted and Connected" will focus on events and collaborative programming within the listed initiatives.

### LOCATION

The Center for Black Diaspora  
2340 N. Kenmore Ave. Suite 551  
Chicago, IL 60604

### ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

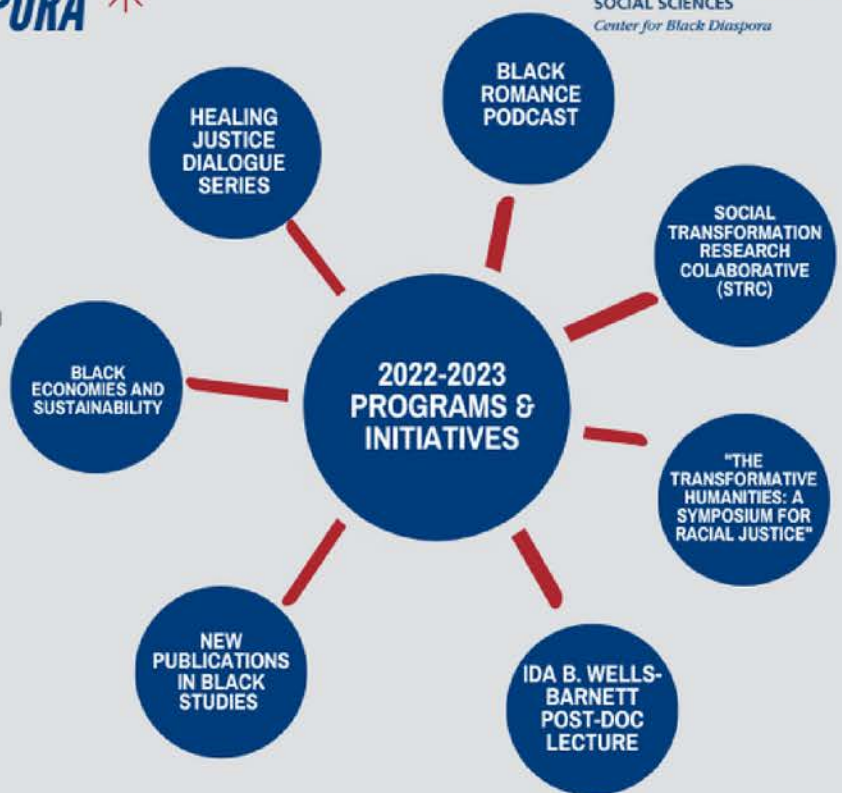
Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD  
Director

Jennifer P. Gardner, M.A.  
Assistant Director

Miya Jefferson  
Content Development and Marketing Assistant



@CBDDEPAUL



DESIGNED BY JENNIFER P. GARDNER, M.A.

# Black Romance Podcast



## Season Three

Available on Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, Spotify, and the Center's website



**December 1, 2022**

Black Romance & Historical Spaces with Katrina Jackson and Elysabeth Grace

**December 8, 2022**

Seressia Glass

**March 21, 2023**

Natalie Dunbar with Barbara Keaton

**March 28, 2023**

DL White

**April 4, 2023**

Jacquelin Thomas & Rochelle Alers

**April 18, 2023**

Jessica Pryde & Christina C. Jones

**May 23, 2023**

Margo Hendricks with Ann Fields and Michelle Ray

**June 6, 2023**

Bette Ford

**June 27, 2023**

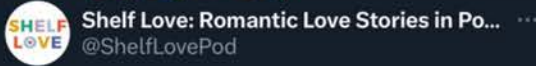
Carole V. Bell and Bolu Babalola

# Black Romance Podcast

Available on Apple Podcast, Google Podcast, Spotify, and the Center's website



## Season Three



Black Romance & Historical Spaces is live!

Featuring: @katrinajax @ElysaBethGrace @blk\_romance @cbddepaul & surprise appearance by @authorMsBev

Apple: [podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/she...](https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/she...)

Spotify: [open.spotify.com/episode/3lAt4d...](https://open.spotify.com/episode/3lAt4d...)

All links + transcript: [linktr.ee/shelflovepodca...](https://linktr.ee/shelflovepodca...)



podcasts.apple.com  
Shelf Love: Romantic Love Stories in Pop Culture:  
Black Romance and Historical Spaces on Apple...

11:58 AM · 12/1/22



Uzu Maki  
@UzumakiRebel

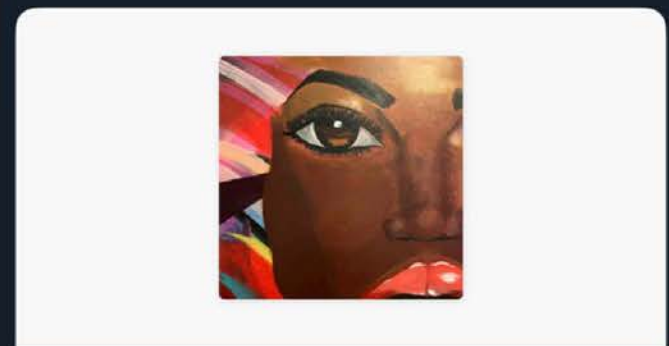
I love listening to @RomanceNColour & @blk\_romance podcasts. I sit here imagining how I would answer the questions as if I were the guest all the time! 😊

1:36 PM · 4/8/23 · 18 Views



Frederick Smith (he/him)  
@fsmith827

Great @blk\_romance episode with author @beingmrsjones and editor/podcaster @jessisreading discussing Black romance with Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman of @cbddepaul. Insightful & fun conversation. 🙌🎧📖  
#BlackRomance #Romance  
#WritingCommunity #AuthorLife



podcasts.apple.com  
Black Romance Podcast: Christina C. Jones and  
Jessica P. Pryde on Apple Podcasts

5:25 PM · 4/19/23 · 279 Views



Journal of Popular Romance Studies  
@JPRStudies

My DePaul colleague Julie Moody-Freeman (@blk\_romance) offers a first response, based in part on her research and in part on her classroom experience: [jprstudies.org/2022/11/respon...](https://jprstudies.org/2022/11/respon...)

9:30 AM · 11/9/22

# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

The Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) was established and designed in 2021 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, the Critical Ethnic Studies Program, and by Dr. Margaret Storey in the Dean's Office in the College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences.





# Social Transformation Research Collaborative Leadership



**Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD**  
Co-Director



**Billy Gonzalez-Johnson, PhD**  
Co-Director



**Alejandra Delgadillo**  
STRC Coordinator

## Steering Committee



**Margaret Storey, PhD**  
Ex Officio Associate Dean,  
College of LAS  
Professor, History



**Anne Mitchell, PhD**  
Professional Lecturer (WGS and CES)  
Director, Critical Ethnic Studies MA  
Program



**Carolina Sternberg, PhD**  
Associate Professor (LALS)  
Chair, Latin American and  
Latino Studies Dept.



**Li Jin, PhD**  
Associate Professor  
(MOL and GLAS)  
Director, Global Asian  
Studies Program



# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## STRC FOUNDED UNITS:

African & Black Diaspora Studies  
 Center for Black Diaspora  
 Center for Latino Research  
 Critical Ethnic Studies  
 Global Asian Studies  
 Latin America and Latino Studies  
 LAS Dean's Office



1

### SUMMER INSTITUTE

- 44 incoming DePaul freshmen and transfer students
- Four (4) Lead Faculty & Ten (10) Peer Mentors
- Student support meetings
- Weekly drop-ins & STRC Promotional Film

2

### FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

- Four (4) full-year paid leave Fellows
- Four (4) Faculty Development Fellows

3

### STUDENT FELLOWSHIPS

- Six (6) undergraduate and six (6) graduate Fellows
- Student support meetings
- Seven (7) Faculty Mentors

4

### POST-DOCS

- Three (3) Post Doc. Fellows
- Three (3) Faculty Mentors
- Writing retreats and Syllabus clinics
- Professional Development Series

5

### STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Bi-weekly planning meeting with Assoc. Dean and STRC Founding Units

6

### ANNUAL STRC SYMPOSIUM

- Two-day Keynotes and Panels on the Transformative Humanities

7

### WRITING RETREAT

- Friday writing with Faculty & Graduate fellows, Post Docs, and faculty from STRC founding units

8

### STRC SCOOP: A NEWSLETTER

- STRC SI student publication

## STRC CO-DIRECTORS

DR. BILLY JOHNSON-GONZALEZ  
 DR. JULIE E. MOODY-FREEMAN



STRC students during 2022 Summer Institute



# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## Summer Institute



DePaul's Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) supports research in the humanities as a source of justice and healing for communities historically shaped by, and continuously facing, racism, violence, and dispossession.

Selected newly admitted DePaul undergraduates took part in the Collaborative's one-week Summer Institute where they joined a dynamic group of faculty, staff, current and past DePaul students, and special guests to explore various modes, genres, and forms of stories and storytelling that connect with the Institute's yearly theme.



# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## Fall Symposium

### THE TRANSFORMATIVE HUMANITIES A SYMPOSIUM ON RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20

4:30pm - Dr. Ramón A. Gutiérrez, *New Mexico's Moses: Reyes López Tijerina and the Religious Origins of the Mexican American Civil Rights Movement*

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21

10:30am - Presentation by film producer Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez about her documentary film, *Jurakán: Nation in Resistance*

1:15pm - Virtual panel with Dr. Diane C. Fujino and Dr. Robyn Magalit Rodríguez, *Asian American Activism: Building Movements for Liberation*

5:30pm - Dr. Duchess Harris, *Black Feminist Politics from Kennedy to Obama*

In addition, roundtable sessions will feature STRC Post-Doctoral Fellows Melodye Carpio Ríos (LALS) and Saturnino Rodríguez (ABD), Graduate Student Fellows Keish Lozano, Paul Mireles, Shameem Razack, and Rumi Rivera-Lovato, and Summer Institute undergraduates sharing their research and collaborations.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 4:30-6:00PM  
FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21, 9:00AM - 7:00PM

2320 N KENMORE AVE, LEVAN 100  
TO REGISTER, SCAN QR CODE OR GO TO  
[HTTPS://STRC2022.EVENTBRITE.COM](https://strc2022.eventbrite.com)  
(VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE OPTION AVAILABLE)



The [Social Transformation Research Collaborative](https://www.strc2022.com) is composed of the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, the Department of Latin American and Latino Studies, the Global Asian Studies Program, and the Critical Ethnic Studies Program at DePaul University. It is made possible thanks to a generous contribution from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation.

## The Transformative Humanities: A Symposium on Racial and Social Justice

20 October 2022, 4:30 PM &  
21 October 2022, 9:00 AM

*Presented by the Social Transformation Research Collaborative which is comprised of the following units: the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, the Department of Latin American and Latin Studies, the Global Asian Studies Program, Critical Ethnic Studies, and the College of LAS.*

### THE TRANSFORMATIVE HUMANITIES A SYMPOSIUM ON RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 21st, 2022 | 5:30PM CT



DR. DUCHESS HARRIS

*Black Feminist Politics from Kennedy to Obama*

American Studies and Political Science Professor Duchess Harris is the recipient of the 2022 Macalester College Trustee's Award. This award is given to faculty whose scholarship and collaborative spirit inspire students to love learning. She is an interdisciplinary scholar of contemporary African American history and political theory. Dr. Harris' work has focused on events of Black political importance that have largely been ignored or neglected. She has authored, co-authored, or edited five academic books and numerous peer-reviewed articles and book chapters. Prof. Harris is particularly proud of her work on The Duchess Harris Collection, a series of 120 books for students in grades 4-12 that address issues of race, gender, and class in America. Off-campus, Prof. Harris has served on many boards, including the Friends of St. Paul Libraries, The Minnesota Governor's Council on Public Defense, Penumbra Theater, Minnesota Women's Foundation, and the Region's Hospital Foundation Board. She's also likely the only Macalester faculty member who has thrown out the first pitch at a Minnesota Twins game.



Center for Black Diaspora  
Center for Latino Research  
Dept. of African and Black Diaspora Studies  
Dept. of Latin American and Latino Studies  
Global Asian Studies Program  
Critical Ethnic Studies Program

[bit.ly/strc2022](https://bit.ly/strc2022)



### THE TRANSFORMATIVE HUMANITIES A SYMPOSIUM ON RACIAL AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

#### FILM STREAMING: JURAKÁN: NATION IN RESISTANCE



*Jurakán* argues that Puerto Rico's relationship with the United States is based on coercion and domination, and brings into question if the current political and economic crisis is a symptom of this colonial relationship. Featuring a wide range of interviewees including civil rights activist Rafael Cancel Miranda, film producer Blanca Eró, ex-governor of Puerto Rico Pedro Rosselló, Casa Pueblo's Alexis Massol, and many more, *Jurakán* moves from the education system to the gag law to the struggle of Vieques against the US Navy with beautiful photography and a cavalcade of facts to back up its thesis on the dehumanization of Puerto Ricans. While sobering in its recontextualization of Puerto Rico's relationship with the United States, *Jurakán* remains hopeful in acknowledging Puerto Ricans' pride and strength in their fight for equality under intolerable conditions.

FREE STREAMING AVAILABLE OCTOBER 17TH - 28TH, 2022

Join us for a presentation by film producer  
Rosa Emmanuelli Gutiérrez  
Friday, October 21st, 2022, 10:00am CT

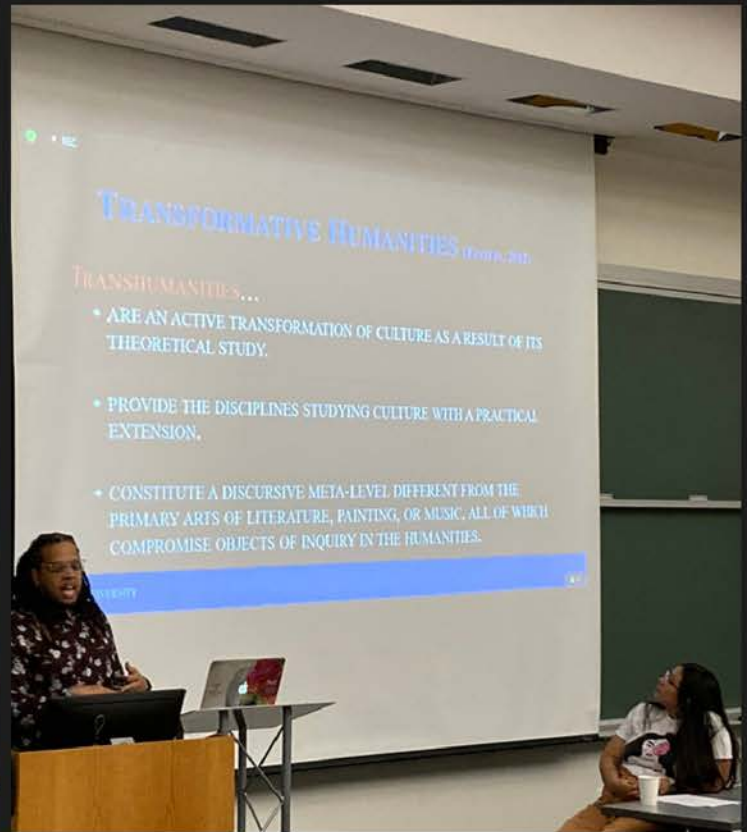
Register at <https://strc2022.eventbrite.com>  
or scan QR code (virtual attendance option  
available) to receive streaming and event links



# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## Fall Symposium

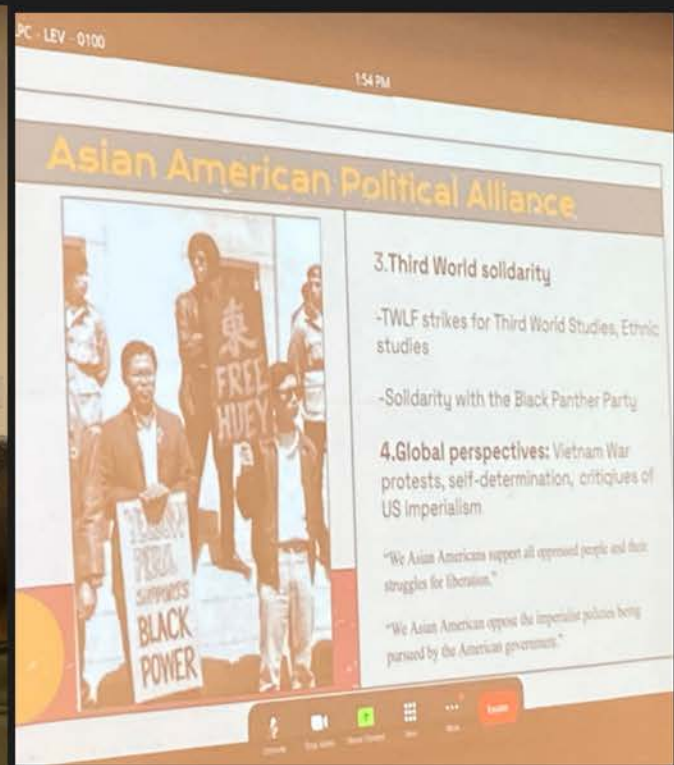
## Recap in photos



# Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## Fall Symposium

## Recap in photos





# Faculty Opportunities

## Faculty Research Fellowship

The Collaborative offers two, twelve-month-long scholarly or community-engaged Research Fellowships for untenured or mid-career tenure-line faculty in the humanities for whom extended paid leave and research assistance would provide time to make progress toward publication prior to tenure and/or promotion. Fellowships will begin in July 2023 and continue through June 2024.

## Faculty Professional Development Fellowship

The Collaborative offers two, six-month-long Professional Development Fellowships for tenure-line faculty who are working on subjects related to populations of color and who need time and space to learn new methods, content, and approaches outside their discipline to bolster the interdisciplinary reach of their scholarship and teaching. Fellowships will begin in July 2023 and continue through December 2023.

## Undergraduate Research Fellowship Seminar

Full-time, LAS faculty will 1) co-teach this 5-week course in interdisciplinary humanities research methods for six STRC Undergraduate Research Fellows during Summer Session I 2023; and 2) oversee the completion of the projects of three fellows each over the subsequent Autumn Quarter and early December 2023.

## STRC Summer Institute

Full time faculty from LAS will join the leadership team of the 2023 Summer Institute for newly admitted undergraduate students (July 17-21, 2023). The Summer Institute focuses on Stories for Racial Justice and Healing. The two Lead Faculty are experts in the subject matter and theme of the Institute, are deeply conversant with the humanities, and have a desire to connect with and mentor students.



# 2022 Student Fellowship Recipients

## Undergraduate Student Research Fellowship

- **Krystal Morgan**, Major: African and Black Diaspora Studies
- **Gabriela Cordova**, Major: English
- **Jael Davis**, Major: History; Minor: African and Black Diaspora Studies
- **Lazlo Katona**, Major: Philosophy; Minor: History, Environmental Science, and German Studies
- **Lila Nambo**, Major: Latin American and Latino Studies; Minor: Film Production
- **Samara Smith**, Major: Political Science; Minor: History

## Graduate Student Research Fellowship

**Laura Carvajal**, Critical Ethnical Studies and Political Science  
"Escaping anti-Haitinismo: What It Means to be 'Black' in Dominican Republic"

**Shannan Moore**, Critical Ethnical Studies  
"Connections Between Maroon Communities in the Americas and the Black Digital Community"



# 2022 Faculty Fellowship Recipients

## Undergraduate Research Fellowship Recipients (SURF)



**Dr. Ashley Stone**

Congratulations to **Dr. Ashley Stone** (Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies) and **Dr. Lisa Poirier** (Department of Religious Studies) as the first STRC Undergraduate Research Fellowship Faculty! Dr. Stone and Dr. Poirier will teach STRC students from June 12th through July 16th and mentor students through the remaining summer and fall 2023.



**Dr. Lisa Poirier**

## Summer Institute Faculty



**Dr. Michele Morano**

Congratulations to **Dr. Michele Morano** (Department of English) and **Dr. Tara Betts** (Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies) who will co-teach a week-long Summer Institute for incoming DePaul students from June 12th through July 16th.



**Dr. Tara Betts**

**Congratulations to all of the STRC 2023-2024 recipients!**





This year we wanted to give the Center for Black Diaspora a better synergy across our branding and marketing with the goal of bringing more attention to the center and increasing engagement amongst our audience. We created a central theme for the Center that includes a set of colors, fonts, new watermarks, etc., all to be seen across our digital and print media. We have a lot of exciting events this upcoming year, and we are excited to showcase everything we have been working on!

***Miya Jefferson***  
***Content Development and Marketing Assistant***

When I was first interviewed for this research position I was filled with excitement with the prospect of spending my summer discovering just how rich the history of the Center is. I am so privileged to have gotten to immerse myself in the Center's marrow. From discovering the Center's founding documents to reading the research papers sponsored by the Center and produced by students, it's become clear that its impact is as inclusive as it is expansive. Over the past 3 decades, the Center has created a space for culture, scholarship, and community in SAC 551 and beyond. This is shown through the numerous transformative speakers hosted by the Center to present to our students including Angela Davis, Michelle Duster, and Julian Bond. Another way this dedication has manifested is through the Center's reading room, which contains a collection of approximately 2500 books and 250 films related to the African diaspora, readily available for student use. The Center has devoted its resources to further students' academic and creative pursuits. This research has produced a wealth of artifacts that will now be able to be displayed together for the first time, honoring the Center's 30 years of progress. While handling these documents for the past 3 months my admiration for the Center of Black Diaspora has deepened. I hope that the exhibit this year will incite the same ardent sentiment in each visitor and to the researcher cataloging our next milestone, hello from a friend linked through history and time.

***Airianna O'Donohue***  
***Summer Lead Research Assistant***

**AUTUMN**

# Black Romance & Historical Spaces: Black Romance Authors Conversation

5 November 2022, 9 AM CST



Sponsored by the Center for Black  
Diaspora

[View on YouTube](#)

November 5, 2022  
9 A.M CST/10 A.M EST

## Black Romance & Historical Spaces

BLACK ROMANCE AUTHORS  
CONVERSATION




Join Black Romance authors Katrina Jackson and Elysabeth Grace as they discuss writing Black historical romance. The authors will engage the question of readerly and publishing perceptions about the place of African/African diaspora love in historical spaces.

Elysabeth Grace

Katrina Jackson

For Black romance authors, what does it entail to represent Black love within historical romance? Questions of colorism, sexuality, class, and gender affect perceptions of historical romance fiction, is historical fiction or women's fiction the only way to write Black love? Can a genealogy and reading practice for Black historical romance emerge? A genealogy that encourages writers and readers (including agents, publishers, reviewers) to consider different frames of reading the idea of authenticity?

The conversation attempts to move beyond the Eurocentric/American focus to look at the role of Black subjectivity (not individualism) as integral to Black historical romance. Finally, the authors seek to encourage Black romance authors and readers, and the wider romance community to re-imagine their relationship to historical romance in general, and Black historical romance in particular.



Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, DePaul University



WE DESERVE MORE  
THAN REALITY TV.

A  
**RASHAYLA MARIE BROWN**  
FILM



## REALITY IS NOT GOOD ENOUGH

A JENNIFER REEDER PRODUCTION

STARRING ANN-MARIE HAMMOND ABRINA MARIE MATTHEWS  
PARKER MARIE WILLIAMS BAILEY MARIE BROWN AND  
ANGELL MARIE BROWN EXECUTIVE PRODUCERS CHANEL AND LES CONEY  
MONIQUE MELOCHE EVAN BORIS EDITED BY JASON BOULWARE AND  
STEFANI SAINTONGE MUSIC BY TOMEKA REID © 2022 RMB STUDIOS



OCT 8

## On Collaboration:

Krista Franklin & Cauleen Smith in Conversation  
at DePaul Art Museum, 3:00–5:00pm



## Rashayla Marie Brown's 'Reality is Not Good Enough' (2021): A Screening and Conversation (In-personn)

17 September 2022, 6:00 PM

Co-Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora  
and DePaul Art Museum



## Octavia E. Butler Tarot Deck: A Conversation with adrienne maree brown and Krista Franklin, moderated by Julie E. Moody-Freeman (Online)

28 September 2022, 6:00 PM

Co-Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora and DePaul Art  
Museum



## On Collabration: Krista Franklin & Cauleen Smith in Conversation

8 October 2022, 3:00 PM

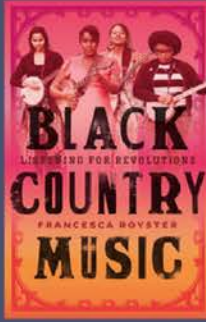
Co-Sponsored by: Center for Black Diaspora and DePaul Art  
Museum

# AUTUMN

**WINTER**

# BEATS AND BLACKNESS:

A Conversation with...



**FRANCESCA T. ROYSTER,**  
*Black Country Music: Listening for Revolutions*

AND

**AMOR KOHLI,** editor of  
*A Beat Beyond: Selected Prose of Major Jackson*



**THURSDAY, 1/26/23**  
**4:00-5:30 PM**



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

26 January 2023, 4:00 PM CST

## Beats and Blackness

Co-Organized by the Center for Black Diaspora, the Women's Center, English department, and American Studies

[View on YouTube](#)





## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT: HOW TO PUBLISH YOUR BOOK

Join us for a panel with Dr. Francesca Royster, Dr. Carolina Sternberg, and Dr. Lourdes Torres where they will share their experiences publishing their books. Topics will include:

- When is the right time to write a book proposal?
- Finding a press and/or agent
- Choosing a copy editor, line editor or developmental editor
- Preparing the manuscript for first submission

**WHEN:** Thursday, January 19th, 2023, 4:30-6:00pm  
**WHERE:** Arts and Letters, Room 101 (in-person only)  
*Light refreshments will be served*

For more information, contact [a.delgadillo@depaul.edu](mailto:a.delgadillo@depaul.edu)

19 January 2023, 4:30PM CST

# Professional Development: How to Publish Your Book

*Organized by the Social Transformation Research Collaborative*



# Black Trans Feminism is, *Literally*, for Everyone

Wed. February 1st  
(Virtual) 6:00 PM

with Marquis Bey



Dr. Marquis Bey will provide an overview of what black trans feminism is, a definition that will depart from simply defining it as something for black trans women, as often assumed. Instead, they will argue that black trans feminism is something open to all willing to take up its demanding task.

*Marquis Bey is Assistant Professor of African American Studies and English, and core faculty in Gender & Sexuality Studies and Critical Theory, at Northwestern University. Bey is the author, most recently, of Black Trans Feminism as well as Cistem Failure: Essays on Blackness and Cisgender, both published by Duke University Press in 2022.*



Learn more  
and register here

Organized by the Women's Center and cosponsored by the American Studies program, the Center for Black Diaspora, Critical Ethnic Studies, LGBTQ Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.

[For questions or accommodations, contact womenscenterdepaul@gmail.com](mailto:womenscenterdepaul@gmail.com)

1 February 2023, 6:00PM CST

## Black Trans Feminism is, Literally, for Everyone with Marquis Bey

*Organized by the Women's Center and co-sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, the American Studies program, Critical Ethnic Studies, LGBTQ Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies*



# Feminist Transnational Movement: A Politics of Possibility and Hope with Professor Emerita Margo Okazawa Rey

15 February 2023, 4:30PM CST

*Organized by the Women's Center and the Center for Black Diaspora. Co-sponsored by Global Asian Studies, International Studies, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies*

## FEMINIST TRANSNATIONAL MOVEMENT: A POLITICS OF POSSIBILITY AND HOPE

with Professor Emerita Margo Okazawa-Rey

Given the political and moral bankruptcy of existing states, political parties, ideological perspectives, and the limitations of our own thinking as progressives, how could a feminist transnational non-aligned movement help us think about this moment? How could organizing to create a true culture of life help us generate a vision and guiding principles that could create possibilities for generating the kinds of changes needed to save the planet and ourselves?

Wednesday, February 15, 2023  
6:00-7:30 pm (Virtual)  
More info and Register here:



Margo Okazawa-Rey, is a social justice activist and educator working on issues of militarism, armed conflict, and violence against women. She was a founding member of the Combahee River Collective, and a founding member of the International Women's Network against Militarism, and Women for Genuine Security, the US group.

Organized by the Women's Center and the Center for Black Diaspora, co-sponsored by Global Asian Studies, International Studies, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies

## ARISING

Grassroots Women of Color Taking Political Power

Recent years have seen a wave of Black, Latina, and Asian women arising from grassroots and radical activism – rather than through conventional political party circles – and creating historic legislation and policy for greater equity and social justice. Join us for a discussion about the changing political landscape, race, class, and gender, and what this means for the future of politics.



DELIA RAMIREZ, Congresswoman for the 3rd District of Illinois, a Guatemalan American and the first Latina to represent the Midwest in Congress



LAKESIA COLLINS, Illinois State Representative for the 9th District, representing North Lawndale, the Near West Side, and Old Town



JOSINA MORITA, Cook County Commissioner for the 18th District, the first Asian American woman on the Cook County Board



LILIAN JIMENEZ, Illinois State Representative for the 4th District, a Puerto Rican and Mexican woman representing Humboldt Park and the Near Northwest Side



6-7:30PM THURSDAY  
FEBRUARY 16TH  
McGowan South Room 108  
1110 West Belden  
DePaul University

Discussants: Yareli Cortez & Claudia Peralta-Acevedo

This event is free & open to the public, food will be provided

Questions? [starr38@depaul.edu](mailto:starr38@depaul.edu)

Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, Critical Ethnic Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Peace, Justice and Conflict Studies, Women & Gender Studies, and Political Science.

## Arising: Grassroots Women of Color Taking Political Power

16 February 2023, 6:00PM CST

*Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora, the Center for Latino Research, Critical Ethnic Studies, Latin American and Latino Studies, Peace, Justice, and Conflict Studies, and Political Science*

## Filmmaker Talk with Dr. Lindsay Gary

Thursday, February 16, 2023

5:00 PM to 6:30 PM

Levan, Rm 100



Please join documentary filmmaker, Dr. Lindsay Gary, for a discussion on "Who Yo' People?" "Who Yo' People" is a documentary film that explores the African heritage of Louisiana. It takes the audience on a journey through the vibrant history and culture of the peoples who would become known as Louisiana Creoles, while interrogating ideas of identity.

Dr. Lindsay Gary PhD, MFA, MA, MPA is a professor-scholar, conceptual diasporArtist, and Afrocentric entrepreneur whose mission is to educate, connect, and empower the African Diaspora.

She was born and raised on Karankawa, Akoksha, and Atakapa-Ishak lands (Houston, Texas), and is an Afro-Louisianian of Mandinka, Fula, Balanta, Fembe, Houma, Malagasy, Yoruba, Akba, Koba, Kongo, Fox, and Muskogee (Creek) heritage. She conducts much of her work in her neighborhood of Third Ward, in South Louisiana (her recent ancestral roots), in Philadelphia, and throughout Africa and the African Diaspora. She has traveled to 37 countries.



Free and open to the DePaul community



## Filmmaker Talk with Dr. Lindsay Gary: A Discussion of Who Yo People?: A Documentary Film

16 February 2023, 4:30PM CST

Co-Organized by the Center for Black Diaspora, the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, and the Black Cultural Center



[View on Youtube](#)

# Making Livable Worlds: Afro-Puerto Rican Women Building Environmental Justice (2019)

with **Dr. Hilda Lloréns**



In *Making Livable Worlds*, Dr. Lloréns lifts up how Afro-Puerto Rican women have drawn from their cultural knowledge to engage in daily improvisations that enable their communities to survive and thrive in the midst of ongoing economic and environmental crises.

Their life-affirming practices, developed and passed down through generations, offer powerful modes of resistance to gendered and racialized exploitation, ecological ruination, and deepening capitalist extraction. Through solidarity, reciprocity, and an ethics of care, these women create restorative alternatives to dispossession to produce good, meaningful lives for their communities.

**Wed March 1st, 6-7:15PM (Virtual)**



*Organized by the Women's Center with the Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Latino Research, and the Departments of Anthropology, Environmental Science and Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies.*

## Making Livable Worlds: Afro-Puerto Rican Women Building Environmental Justice (2019) with Dr. Hilda Llorens

1 March 2023, 6:00 PM CST

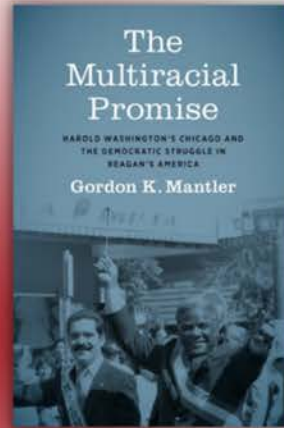
*Organized by the Women's Center with the Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Latino Research, and the Departments of Anthropology, Environmental Science and Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, and Women's and Gender Studies*

**SPRING**

# 40th Anniversary of the Harold Washington Election

Please join us for a lecture by Dr. Gordon Mantler, Associate Professor of Writing and of History at George Washington University. Mantler will be discussing his book, *The Multiracial Promise: Harold Washington's Chicago and the Democratic Struggle in Reagan's America* (Univ. of North Carolina Press, 2023).

Drawing on a rich array of archives and oral history interviews, Mantler offers a bold reexamination of the movement that elected Harold Washington mayor in 1983. Mantler argues that the election bolstered hope among Democrats that the party could win elections by pulling together multiracial urban voters around progressive causes. However, Mantler also discusses how white supremacy, deindustrialization, dysfunction, and voters' own contradictory expectations stubbornly impeded many of Washington's proposed reforms.



**Thursday, April 13th @ 5 PM**

**Location - Levan 100**

**DMC**

DePaul  
Migration  
Collaborative

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Department of History

**CENTER  
for LATINO  
RESEARCH**

DEPAUL UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES

social transformation  
**STRC**  
Research Collaborative

Questions? Please email [storre38@depaul.edu](mailto:storre38@depaul.edu)

Co-sponsored by African and Black Diaspora Dept., Center for Black Diaspora, the Dept. of History, the Social Transformation Collaborative & the DePaul Migration Collaborative

## 40th Anniversary of the Harold Washington Election

**13 April 2023, 5:00 PM CST**

*Co-Sponsored by the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, the Center for Black Diaspora, the Department of History, the Social Transformation Research Collaborative and the DePaul Migration Collaborative*

# Reading & Q+A with Professor Royster



TUESDAY APRIL 25  
ALH 103 @ 6:00 PM

*choosing  
family*  
A Memoir  
of Queer  
Motherhood  
and Black  
Resistance

FRANCESCA ROYSTER

This event is presented by the English  
Department and co-hosted by the Women's  
Center and the Center for Black Diaspora.

## Reading & Q+A with Professor Royster

25 April 2023, 6:00PM CST

*Presented by the English Department and co-hosted by the Women's Center and  
the Center for Black Diaspora*

# Confronting Our History

RSVP



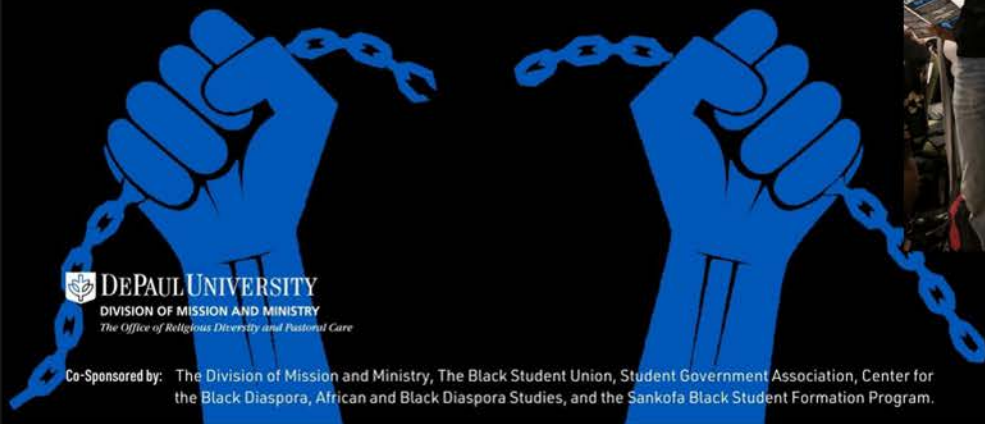
[bit.ly/confrontinghistory](https://bit.ly/confrontinghistory)

## Vincentian Slaveholding, and Apology and Commitment to Atone

DePaul University's Task Force to Address the Vincentian's Relationship with slavery presents this ceremony for our community to acknowledge the enslavement of Black people by Vincentians, receive a public apology and commitment to atone from the Congregation of the Mission – Western Province for their forerunner's slaving holding, and honor the peoples of the Black Diaspora.

**Date:** Monday, May 1, 2023 at 5:00 PM

**Location:** Lincoln Park Student Center, Room 120AB



**DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**  
DIVISION OF MISSION AND MINISTRY  
*The Office of Religious Diversity and Pastoral Care*

Co-Sponsored by: The Division of Mission and Ministry, The Black Student Union, Student Government Association, Center for the Black Diaspora, African and Black Diaspora Studies, and the Sankofa Black Student Formation Program.

## Confronting Our History

1 May 2023, 5:00PM

*Co-Sponsored by the Division of Mission and Ministry, the Black Student Union, Student Government Association, Center for Black Diaspora, African & Black Diaspora Studies, and the Sankofa Black Student Formation Program*

# THE MYTH OF THE CIRCULATING BLACK DOLLAR:

An Informed Conversation About Black Economies, Community, and Sustainability

Too Black



Terrell



Ryan



Kam



DEPAUL UNIVERSITY  
COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS AND  
SOCIAL SCIENCES  
Center for Black Diaspora

May 4, 2023  
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM  
SAC 154

Free & open to  
the public!



Registration required!

Co-presented by The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies, The Center for Black Diaspora, The Black Cultural Center, and the Social Transformation Research Collaborative

## The Myth of the Circulating Black Dollar: An Informed Conversation about Black Economies, Community, and Sustainability

4 May 2023, 5:30 PM CST

Co-Presented by the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, the Center for Black Diaspora, the Black Cultural Center and the Social Transformation Research Collaborative

[View on Youtube](#)

# SPRING






**THE SWIFTLY FADING RESIDUE OF SOON-FORGOTTEN DREAMS: ON LOVE AND MADNESS**

With **LA MARR JURELLE BRUCE, PHD**

**May 11, 2023**

5:00pm - 7:00 pm

Schmitt Academic Center  
(SAC) Room 154



La Marr Jurelle Bruce (B.A. Columbia, Ph.D. Yale) is a philosopher, fever dreamer, interdisciplinary humanities scholar, Black/black studies devotee, first-generation college graduate, and Associate Professor of American Studies at the University of Maryland, College Park. His debut book, *How to Go Mad without Losing Your Mind: Madness and Black Radical Creativity*, earned the Modern Language Association's 2022 Prize for a First Book. Now he's in the thick of a study of—and experiment in—convergences of love and madness.

Presented by The Center for Black Diaspora and American Studies. Thank you to our supporters of this event: The Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, Women & Gender Studies, The Women's Center, The Peace, Justice & Conflict Program, The LGBTQ Minor, The Department of English, The Center for Latino Research, Critical Ethnic Studies and the Social Transformation Research Collaborative.



# The Swiftly Fading Residue of Soon-Forgotten Dreams: On Love and Madness with La Marr Jurelle Bruce, PhD

11 May 2023, 5:00 PM CST

Presented by the Center for Black Diaspora and American Studies. Thank you to our supporters of this event: the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies, The Women's Center, the Department of Women's and Gender Studies, the Peace, Justice & Conflict Studies Program, The LGBTQ Minor, The Department of English, The Center for Latino Research, Critical Ethnic Studies, and the Social Transformation Research Collaborative

The mind is the ultimate time machine



**MAY 20, 2023**  
**DEPAUL UNIVERSITY - LOOP**

JANA SINYOR  
(BEING ERICA)



DR. RON MALLET  
(PROF OF PHYSICS)



CAROLINE M.  
YOACHIM (AUTHOR)



SCAN HERE FOR  
MORE INFO



POPCULTURECONFERENCE.COM

## DePaul Pop Culture Conference: A Celebration of Time Travel

20 May 2023, 4:30 PM CST

Co-Sponsored by the Center for Black Diaspora

# SPRING

# Ida B. Wells- Barnett's Legacy: Lessons for Racial and Social Justice

1 June 2023, 6:00PM CST

Presented by the Center for Black Diaspora and the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies. Co-Sponsored by the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) and the Women's Center

The Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies and the Center for Black Diaspora present:

## Ida B. Wells Barnett's Legacy: Lessons for Racial and Social Justice



Virtual Presentation  
Thursday, June 01, 2023  
6:00-7:30 pm CST

Join us for a virtual talk with author, professor, and public historian Michelle Duster! In her talk, Duster will focus on the remarkable contributions of her great-grandmother, Ida B. Wells-Barnett, and how her legacy is being preserved. Additionally, Duster will discuss how Wells-Barnett's contributions help us address contemporary social issues. This event is free and open to the public!



Co-sponsored by: The Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) & The Women's Center

[View on Youtube](#)

# REFUSING ERASURE:

ONGOING  
STRUGGLE  
FOR  
CRITICAL  
ETHNIC, BLACK,  
QUEER, TRANS,  
WOMEN AND  
GENDER STUDIES

Join this important conversation speaking to the intensified backlash and right-wing attack on education. We will explore the historical roots to these ongoing attacks and we will share ideas and strategies for resisting, disrupting, challenging, shifting, undermining this groundswell of opposition to Critical Ethnic, Black, Queer, Trans, Women and Gender Studies.



**MARQUIS BEY**  
Northwestern University



**JILLIAN HERNANDEZ**  
University of Florida



**KAILA ADIA STORY**  
University of Louisville



**SHIREEN ROSHANRAVAN**  
Northeastern Illinois University



[REGISTER HERE](#)

**TUES, JUNE 6  
//4:30-6PM**

**HYBRID | ARTS &  
LETTERS 312 OR  
ZOOM**

MODERATED BY **HEATHER MONTES-IRELAND** | WGS, DEPAUL UNIVERSITY

Organized by the Women's and Gender Studies and the Women's Center, and cosponsored by African and Black Diaspora Studies, American Studies, Center for Black Diaspora, Center for Latino Research, Global Asian Studies, Latin American/Latino Studies, LGBTQ Studies

# Reading Room

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.

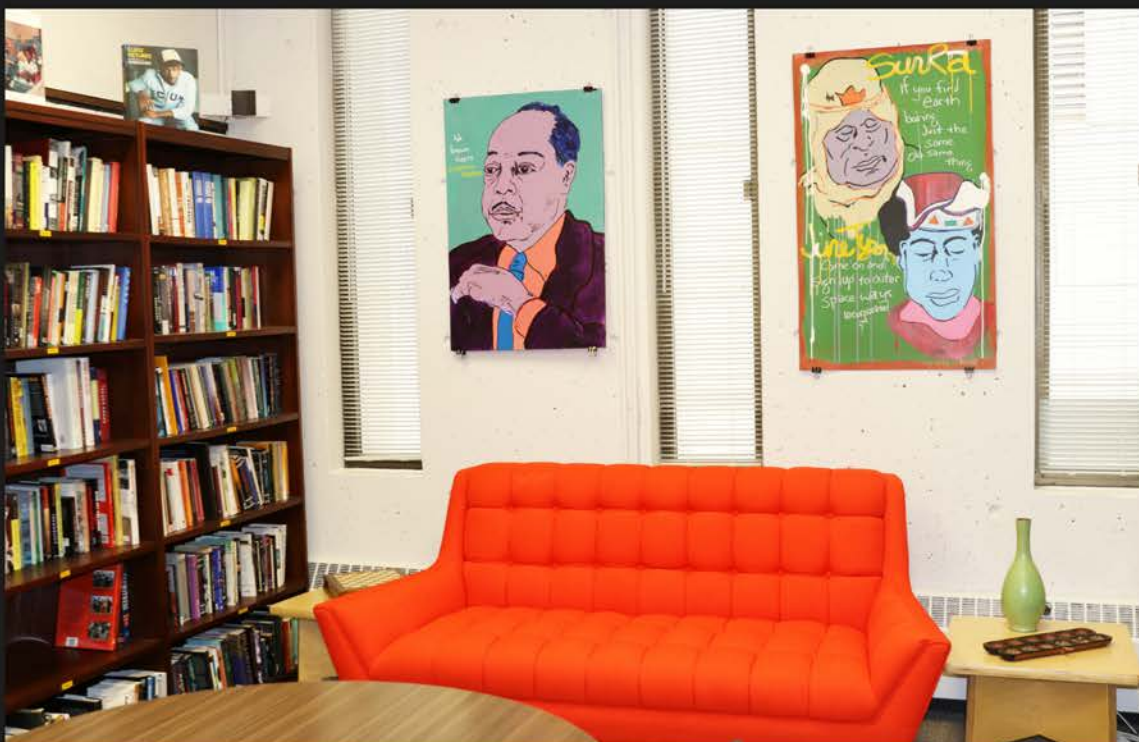
The space is open for studying, film watching, or relaxing, and can be reserved for meetings, presentations, and small events.\* The Reading Room is always available online through our catalogue.

Access our catalog : <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.



# Contacts

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Phone (773) 325-7512

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Facebook: CBD DePaul

YouTube: Center for Black Diaspora

Twitter & Instagram: @cbddepaul

Website: [go.depaul.edu/center-for-black-diaspora](http://go.depaul.edu/center-for-black-diaspora)

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