

# CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA Annual Report

30TH ANNIVERSARY EDITION



2023 -  
2024

# CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA

Annual Report 2023 - 2024

Editors: Jennifer Gardner, Miya Jefferson, Aliyah Philip

# Table of Contents

Message from our Director

Mission Statement

Center Staff

Advisory Board

CBD Initiatives

30TH Anniversary

STRC: Social Transformative Research  
Collaborative

STRC Symposium & Recap

Autumn Events 2023

Winter Events 2024

Spring Events 2024

Reading Room

Contacts

# MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

In 2023-2024 the Center for Black Diaspora (CBD) celebrated its 30th anniversary at DePaul. Therefore, we spent some time this year looking backward in time and researching the archives. We uncovered the profound impact of this Center: on embodying this institution's mission and providing spaces for intellectual work on the peoples, cultures, movements, and ideas of peoples of African descent worldwide.

This year the onslaught against Black Studies, Critical Race Theory, and Gender and Sexuality Studies have been codified into law in several states. Some of our colleagues in certain states, who are invested in teaching diverse college curricula on race, sexuality, and gender, have been seriously impacted by legislative bans. This reminds us how crucial it is to participate in telling our own history and stories. Our initiatives this year focused on the transformative power of Black Studies and on the "Right to Story" in this age of banned books. In addition, we looked backward with an eye to our present and future. We focused on how Black writers, activists, scholars, and community healers have positively impacted Black Studies and Black communities and how they have engaged with the lessons they offer us for moving forward despite the current assaults against Black Studies and Black lives.

To celebrate CBD's thirty years at DePaul, we curated a photo and document exhibition for the entire academic year showcasing this history. The exhibition featured founding documents and a host of other photographs and documentary evidence highlighting the Center's rich intellectual history, the publications, and collaborative relationship it has had with so many units across this university. Each of the photographic images throughout the exhibit was foregrounded by newspaper clippings used to symbolically represent the steadfast, continued, uninterrupted intellectual and creative work and community building that the Center has fostered for thirty years despite sometimes hostile local and national political and cultural climates.

# MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR

I would like to thank the following individuals who made the 30th anniversary exhibition possible. The journey started in 2022-2023 with Jennifer Ogwumike and Jessica Williams who began designing what became part of our 30th anniversary watermark and who researched and began compiling the 30th anniversary booklet which documents the Center's Annual Reports since 1995.

I'd also like to thank Jennifer Gardner, CBD's Assistant Director, Miya Jefferson, CBD's Content Development and Marketing Assistant, Arianna O'Donohue, CBD's archivist student assistant for summer 2023, and Dr. Lori Pierce, Associate Director for African and Black Diaspora Studies, for all the work they did to make this exhibit possible.

Thanks to Kristen Lansdown, who connected us to the library and made suggestions for how we could make sure that the centers work is archived. Thanks to Morgen MacIntosh Hodgetts, Margaret Grumeretz, and Elenor Mollman in the Richardson library archives for their tremendous work in making sure that they captured all necessary documents pertaining to the history of the center at DePaul. In addition to this, they have created a guide that can be found online so that if you would like to research the rich history of the center from its founding to present day, you can access documents that will direct you to the correct resources. Here is a link to the archive:

<https://archives.depaul.edu/repositories/2/resources/249>

This year we accomplished several successful initiatives and created development opportunities for DePaul faculty and students. For a third 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 Three Outcomes for the STRC:**

### Faculty Fellowships

Three DePaul faculty were awarded a six-month Faculty Professional Development Fellowship. They are as follows:

Dr. Kalyani Menon, Religious Studies, "Making Hindus Right: Hindu Supremacy in the Diaspora"

Dr. Sanjukta Mukherjee, Women and Gender Studies, "Pedagogies of care: An oral history of service workers at DePaul University"

Dr. Carolina Sternberg, Latin American and Latino Studies, "Inclusiveness and Equity in Chicago? An Analysis of Lori Lightfoot's and Brandon Johnson's Rhetoric and Policies"











## MESSAGE FROM DIRECTOR


Jennifer Gardner, CBD's Assistant Director, wrote a proposal and was awarded a Vincentian Fellowship grant to take DePaul students to the National Council for Black Studies' 48th Annual Conference in San Jose, California. On March 7th, 2024, Jennifer moderated a panel of three DePaul scholars. Whitley Baggett's paper, "Black Identity & Colonized Minds" opened the panel by examining Black identity and colonized minds as a subject that Black people continue to struggle with. She argued that understanding this is crucial to any Pan-African efforts that seek to ameliorate Black people's condition. Her paper encouraged Black people to understand their identity outside the gaze of white supremacy. Danielle Chat Nickaf's essay, "Taking to the Streets for Good: An African Organization Builds Human Capital Resilience Across the Continent," explored how the Sub-Saharan African organization, Street Business School, addresses poverty through empowering women. Samara Smith, the final panelist, presented on "Disrupting the Gender Script: How Beyonce's 'Lemonade' Reimagines a Black Queer Feminine." In this talk, she discussed how Beyonce's Lemonade draws connections between popularized African American culture, Haitian spiritual practices, and Black Feminist theory. She illustrated how forms of the Haitian Vodou Lwa Ezili appear visually in Lemonade to problematize feminine constructions.

This spring I began to research and record episodes for Season four 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 and Dr. Carole CV Bell, this season's co-host, developed, taped, and will release nine episodes between June and September 2024. 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>.

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)  
Associate Professor, Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies





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.

# CENTER



Julie Moody-Freeman, PhD  
**DIRECTOR**

Jennifer P. Gardner, M. A.  
**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR**





Miya Jefferson

**CONTENT  
DEVELOPMENT  
& MARKETING  
ASSISTANT**



Aliyah Philip

**DEPARTMENT  
ASSISTANT**

# STAFF

# ADVISORY

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



**Dexter Zollicoffer**  
Diversity Advisor  
DePaul Theatre School



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



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



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



**Francesca  
Royster PhD**  
Associate Professor  
English



**Ogenga Ottunu  
PhD**  
Professor  
History



# BOARD



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



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



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



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



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



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



**Symone Johnson, PhD.**  
Assistant Professor,  
African and Black Diaspora  
Studies

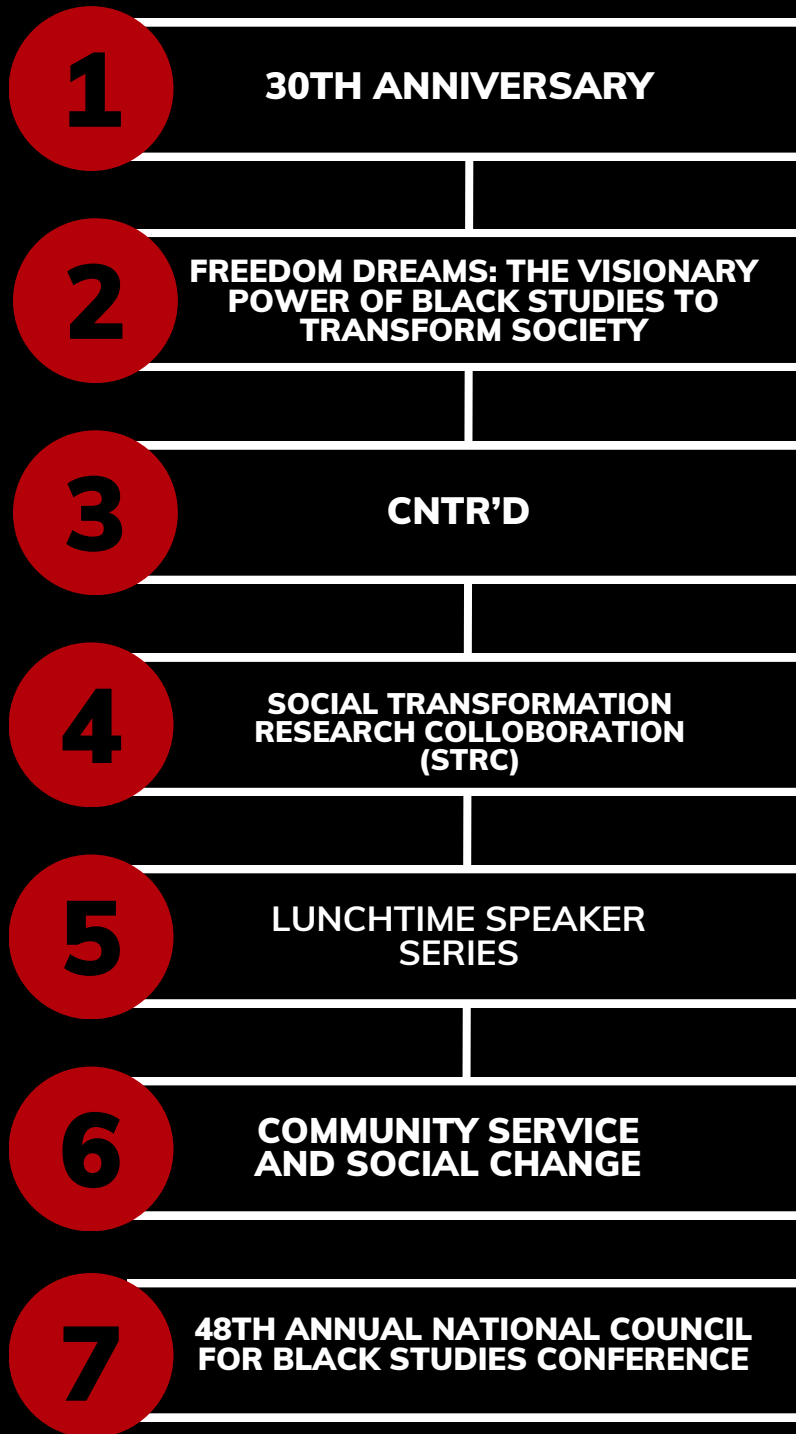
**DETAILED  
BIOS HERE:**

[HTTPS://GO.DEPAUL.ED  
U/CENTER-FOR-BLACK-  
DIASPORA/ADVISORY-  
BOARD.ASPX](https://go.depaul.edu/U/CENTER-FOR-BLACK-DIASPORA/ADVISORY-BOARD.ASPX)





# CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA



# INITIATIVES



**W E L C O M E T O T H E  
2 0 2 3 - 2 0 2 4  
A N N U A L R E P O R T**

---

**CENTER FOR**  
**BLACK DIASPORA**

**30<sup>th</sup>**  
*Anniversary*



The Center for Black Diaspora was founded in 1993 as the Center for African American Research. The proposal and mission statement outlined three primary purposes: to encourage and support research on African American life and culture, to disseminate information and knowledge about African American issues to enhance DePaul's academic mission, and to establish relationships with African American community organizations. Faculty and staff from across the university were involved in the founding of the Center including several departments in LAS, the College of Law, the School of New Learning, the School of Education and the Theatre School.

In 1997, the Center was renamed the Center for Culture and History of Black Diaspora, reflecting a desire to situate the work of the Center "within contemporary discourses which examine the interrelatedness of African American experiences and those of Black people throughout the world." In 2002, the Center underwent a third and final change to "The Center for Black Diaspora." The name change deepened and enriched the mission of the Center, moving from a singular focus on the African American experience to a more expansive understanding of diaspora as a defining feature of the modern experience of people of African descent.



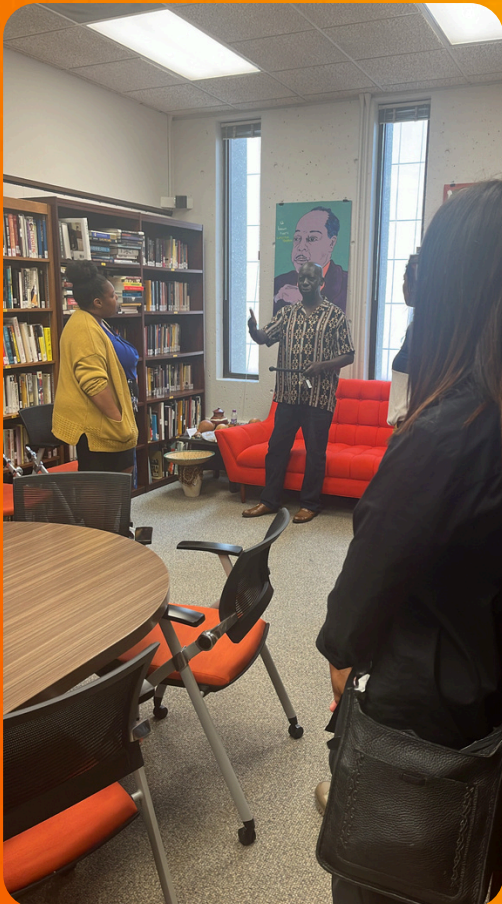
30th Anniversary table display



Students and staff visit the Reading Room



[L to R: Miya Jefferson, Jennifer Gardner and Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman]



Dr. Ogenga Ottunu offer libations



Students view Anniversary collage exhibit



Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman and Dr. Mark DeLancey greet graduate students



Faculty and staff members visit the Reading Room [Dr. Amor Kohli, Dr. Taurean Webb, Dr. Billy Johnson-Gonzalez, Kristen Lansdown, Samuel Morgan, and, Stephanie Baugh, Dr. Valerie Johnson, and Ava Francis]



[L to R: Dr Valerie Johnson, Dr. Amor Kohli, and Dr. Ogenga Ottunu]



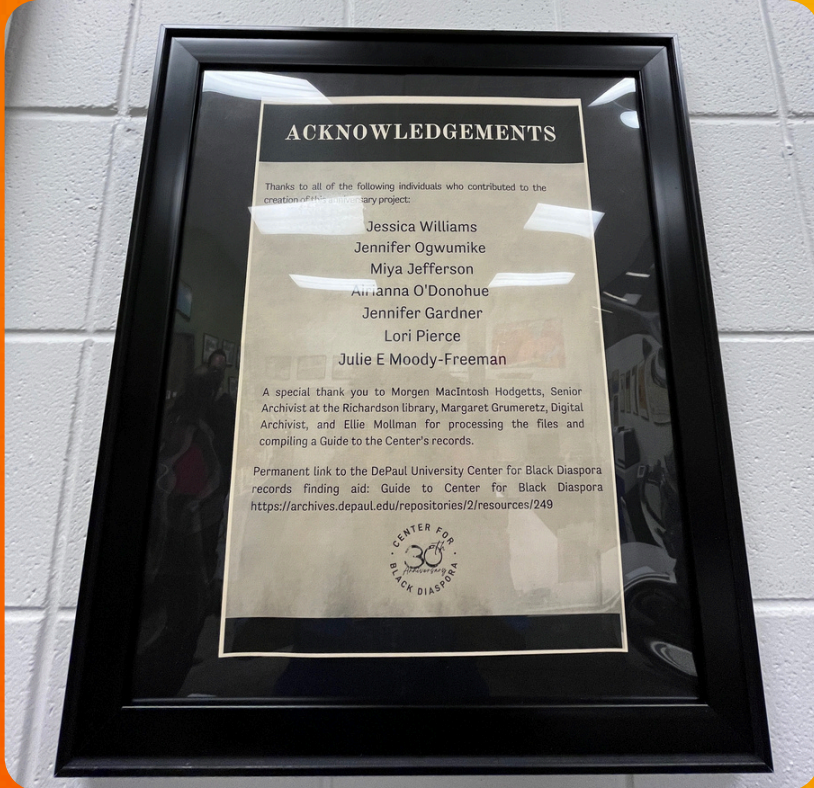
"30 years of engaging campus with flyers"



Miranda Quinn views the archived flyers



[L to R: Dr. Valerie Johnson, Dr. Ogenga Ottunu ]



Acknowledgements for the 30th Anniversary archival project



Graduate student views table display

# ST RC



S o c i a l

T r a n s f o r m a t i o n

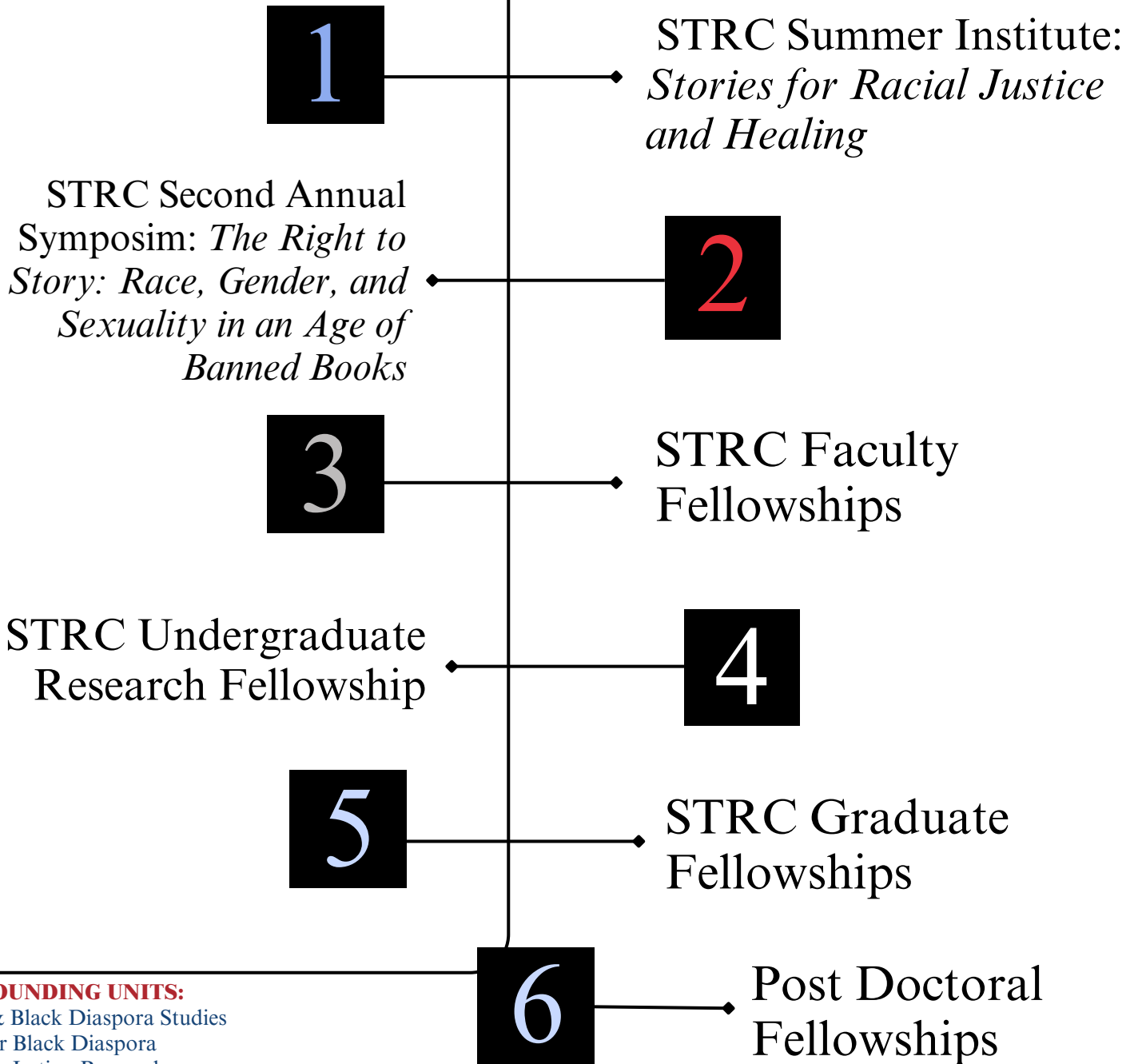
R e s e a r c h

C o l l a b o r a t i v e





# INITIATIVES



**STRC FOUNDING 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

# STRC LEADERSHIP



**Julie Moody-Freeman**  
Co-Director



**Billy Gonzalez-Johnson**  
Co-Director



**Alejandra Delgadillo**  
Coordinator

# STEERING COMMITTEE



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



**Amor Kohli PhD**, Associate Professor and Department Chair African and Black Diaspora Studies Faculty



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



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



**Lourdes Torres, PhD**, Professor, Vincent de Paul Professor Latin American and Latino Studies, Director, Critical Ethnic Studies Faculty

**1**

## **SUMMER INSTITUTE**

- 66 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**

## **UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS**

- 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



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.

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. Through interdisciplinary research in literature and language, history and culture, the STRC demonstrates how the humanities deepen our understanding of ourselves and our society, and empower us to act, ethically and responsibly, to counter racism, dismantle violence, and build a more just and equitable society.

Our 2023 theme Stories for Racial Justice and Healing will provide a focal point for STRC activities in 2023, including a Summer Institute for incoming DePaul students, quarterly convenings, and a fall conference. The STRC is generously funded by a three-year grant from The Mellon Foundation.

# STRC SUMMER INSTITUTE

DePaul's Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC) examines and celebrates the cultural forms and traditions that people of color have created to survive historical and structural violence. Our stories, art, food, music, history, poetry, and religious practices have been, and are, sources of resilience, rebuilding, and intellectual community.



Summer Institute attends a Boat Tour of Chicago



Guest tours and lecturers



Visiting the Dusable Museum

# STRC SUMMER INSTITUTE



Dr. Francesa Royster reading from her memoir: *Choosing family; A Queer Memoir on Motherhood*



# UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWS

These students were mentored and taught research methods in a course co-taught by Dr. Ashley Stone, the 2022-2024 Ida B Wells Barnett Teaching Fellow and Dr. Lisa Poirer, Religious Studies. Both professors saw students' individual research to completion and mentored them to present their findings at the 2023 Annual Symposium held on October 19, 2023.

---

## **STRC Graduate Research Fellowship**

**Laura Carvajal, *Critical Ethnic Studies***

"Rescuing anti-Haitinismo: What it Means to be 'Black' in Dominican"

**Shannan Moore, *Critical Ethnic Studies***

"Black Digital Spaces: Theorizing Resistance in the Wake of Racist Technology"

## **STRC Undergraduate Research Fellowship**

**Gabriela Córdova, *English***

"Calladita No Te Ves Más Bonita: Cultural Practices within Latina Women's Advocacy"

**Laszlo Katona, *Philosophy, History, Environmental Science, German Studies***

"Writing The Wake: Archives, Absence, and Aesthetics in Black Historiographical Critique"

**Jael Davis, *History, African and Black Diaspora Studies***

"She Was There Too: Enslaved Black Women, Agency, and Community"

**Krystal Morgan, *African and Black Diaspora Studies, Public Policy***

"Hidden in Plain Sight: A Qualitative Analysis of The U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study and Contemporary Issues of latophobia in Black Women"

**Lila Nambo, *Latin American and Latino Studies, Film Production***

"The Bracero Program's Legacy on its Participants: Positive or Negative?"

**Samara Smith, *Political Science, History***

"Imagining The Black Queer Feminine Through Lemonade: Art Production as a Mode of Knowledge Production"





# Undergraduate Fellows

**Amigas Latinas**

**MUJERES LATINAS EN ACCIÓN**

## CALLADITA NO TE VES MÁS BONITA: Cultural Practices within Latina Women's Advocacy

Gabriela Cordova, TEACH: English BS + MED, DePaul University

Historically, Latinx women-led advocacy groups have faced severe underrepresentation in academia, resulting in their experiences and contributions being largely overlooked. This research focuses on two Chicago-based groups, Amigas Latinas and Mujeres Latinas En Acción, using Anita Tijerina Revilla's Muxerista framework. Through textual analysis of material and non-material culture, it uncovers key themes and provides insights for future movements, recognizing Latina women's significant role as agents of change.

### RESEARCH QUESTIONS

- (1) How did Latina women in Chicago incorporate cultural practices into advocacy initiatives from the mid-20th century to the present?
- (2) To what extent were these cultural practices employed or manipulated in their advocacy efforts?
- (3) In what ways did these cultural practices contribute to collective action within their respective communities?

### ANITA TIJERINA REVILLA'S MUXERISTA FRAMEWORK

- Comprehensive and culturally sensitive approach, incorporating Critical Race Theory, Latina/o Critical Theory, and Chicana/Latina/Queer feminist thought
- Addresses community needs in a thorough manner, acknowledging and analyzing intersectionality and individual experiences
- Establishes connections between personal narratives and scholarly research, rejecting hierarchical structures that perpetuate systemic inequalities

**YOUTH INVOLVEMENT**  
Amiguitas  
• First youth group in Chicago for LGBTQ+ Latina adolescents and individuals  
• Means to welcome Latinas of various backgrounds and identities, much like the older plática group

**COMMUNITY-BASED EVENTS**  
Creation of "Latina-Only Spaces"  
• Members of Amigas experienced varying degrees of cultural isolation, family rejection, and incomplete acceptance due to the societal stigma against homosexuality  
• Amigas' events fostered a sense of belonging and cultural connection, addressing these challenges

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**  
From Pláticas, Parades, to Fundraising  
• Public and private events, like identity-focused rallies and monthly pláticas, showcase Amigas' civic involvement, both deliberate and inadvertent  
• Promoted the visibility of intersectional identities within social movements, thereby challenging reductionist narratives

REFERENCES AND VIDEO EXPLANATIONS (ENGLISH/SPANISH)

**Gabriela Córdoba,  
English**

"Calladita No Te Ves Más Bonita: Cultural Practices within Latina Women's Advocacy"

## A Qualitative Analysis of The U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study and Contemporary Issues of Latrophobia in Black Women

Krystal Morgan

### On the Margins: Invisible In Plain Sight

**Introduction**  
The purpose of this analysis is to explore how the experience of the female descendants of The U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study (USPHSS), commonly known as the Tuskegee Syphilis Study helps us understand contemporary issues of latrophobia in Black women.

**Method**

- Analyzed and critiqued oral and written interviews.
- Contextualized the history of healthcare towards Black women in the United States.

**Findings**  
For contemporary Black women, the intentional erasure and lack of concern for the health of the Tuskegee wives and their descendants, directly underscores:

- Health disparities
- Life outcomes
- Latrophobia

**Abstract**  
The U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study (USPHSS) is the nation's most infamous example of biomedical misconduct in the United States. However, the women and children are missing from the conversation. This project examines and conceptualizes how the lack of healthcare access and secondhand healthcare the wives and descendants received has had a cumulative impact on Black women and contemporary latrophobia.

- From 2017 to 2019 Black women were 2.8 times as likely to die during pregnancy than white women.
- In 2020 Black women were 15.3 times as likely to die from HIV/AIDS than white women.
- In 2021 babies born to Black mothers had congenital syphilis at 21.6 times the rate of babies born to white mothers.

**Please scan for contact information and to read final analysis:**

A man is tested for syphilis in 1935. © Arthur Rothstein, Corbis

The Black children and wife are seated front row looking on as the male participant is attended to. The women and children were there within sight, but their health and wellbeing were literally ignored and far from the minds of the physicians and officials presiding over the study.

**Krystal Morgan, African and Black Diaspora Studies, Public Policy**

"Hidden in Plain Sight: A Qualitative Analysis of The U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study and Contemporary Issues of latrophobia in Black Women"

# Undergraduate Fellows

**Disrupting the Gender Script: How Beyoncé's Lemonade Reimagines a Black Queer Feminine**

By: Samara Smith

**01 Objective**

The goal of this study is the visual representation of Black women. These are the most people of interest for this project. I will be looking critically about what is being represented and how. Second I will investigate how images function to shape meaning and experience.

**02 Review of Literature**

Contending Images: These research gaps are a series of arguments that aim to reevaluate the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**03 Methodology**

Empirical Framework: Another main idea is to use a series of images that are used to represent the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**04 Findings**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**05 Analysis**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**06 Final Thoughts**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**Definitions**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**Findings**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.

**Final Thoughts**

Key Findings: I will be looking at the visual representation of Black women in the contemporary representation of women with their representation on the visual.


**Jael Davis, History, African and Black Diaspora Studies**

**"She Was There Too: Enslaved Black Women, Agency, and Community"**

**She Was There Too: Enslaved Black Women, Community, and Agency**

Jael Davis  
Undergraduate STRC Research Fellow

The presence of a community of enslaved women determined how a woman could respond to sexual violence perpetrated by white men, punishments for her response, and the means by which moral codes around sexuality and reproduction were constructed.



A group of women with their infants in front of a row of slave cabins on a plantation in the Beaufort Area, SC 1865  
From the Penn School Collection

**Context and Contribution:**

- Contemporary historiography does not acknowledge the agency Black women created in the face of sexual violence from white men.
- This research intervenes by acknowledging their agency and use of community to create agency in a system that granted them none.

**Case Studies:**

- Harriet Jacobs, 1813-1897, North Carolina
- Celia, 1835-1855, Missouri
- Lucy, 1855, Georgia
- Rose Williams, 1848, Texas
- Mary Reynolds, 1847, Louisiana
- Delicia Patterson, 1845, Missouri
- Mrs. M.S. Fayman, 1850, Louisiana

**Framework:**

- Research is done using a Black feminist theoretical framework in order to prioritize the voices of Black women and emphasize the importance of relationships with other Black women in fighting oppressive systems.

**Methodology:**

- A phenomenological methodology is utilized to approach this research. The purpose of this is to draw attention to the agency that Black women exhibited in response to sexual violence as a phenomenon rather than an aberration.

**Units of Analysis:**

- The research conducted relies primarily on texts. As a result, a thematic textual content analysis is the most appropriate for focusing on the themes that are most prevalent in the texts.

**Bibliography**

**Samara Smith, Political Science, History**

**"Imagining The Black Queer Feminine Through Lemonade: Art Production as a Mode of Knowledge Production"**

# GRADUATE FELLOWS

DESIGNED TO SUPPORT GRADUATE FELLOWS AS THEY CONDUCT  
INDEPENDENT INTERDISCIPLINARY RESEARCH IN THE HUMANITIES



## Laura Carvajal

“Escaping Anti-Haitinismo:  
Analyzing Anti-Haitianismo in Popular  
Culture and Its Societal Impact”

Escaping anti-Haitinismo is the first chapter of my master’s thesis: *Coloring the Colorist*. This first chapter expands on scholarship regarding the role of anti-Haitinismo in Latinx and Caribbean countries. Through an ethnographic research analysis, I bridge the gap between anti-Haitinismo and Latinx/Caribbean countries through education, communal resistance, and liberation. This chapter aims to uncover what being Black in the Dominican Republic means.



## Shannan Moore

“Black Digital Spaces:  
Theorizing Resistance in the  
Wake of Racist Technology”

This project explores the connections between marron communities in the Americas and the Black digital community — which in turn will be a part of a larger master’s thesis on identity formation, communal resistance, and collective liberation. Drawing from critical Internet studies, Black Diaspora studies, Black feminisms, and media studies, I explore the ways new technologies and digital algorithms perpetuate racism, while also serving as tools for community building and resistance for the Black Diaspora in digital landscapes.

# TAUREAN J. WEBB

## 2023-2024

### Post Doctoral Fellowship



Taurean J. Webb, Ph.D. is the Humanities Postdoctoral Fellow in Comparative Race and Ethnicity Studies in the Social Transformation Research Collaborative and the Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies at DePaul University. A race studies scholar, religionist, and mixed-methods historian of ideas, Webb's research and teaching interests are in Black internationalism, Afro-Arab transnationalism, African American religious history, Black Renaissance-era visual arts, and visual arts and religious metaphor within contemporary transnational social movements. His published writing can be found in the *Journal for Palestine Studies*, *Journal of Middle Eastern Politics and Policy*, *Jadaliyya*, and *Black Perspectives*—the award-winning blog of the African American Intellectual History Society.



# FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

## FULL YEAR PAID LEAVE FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWS:



**Dr. Rocío Ferreira**  
*Modern Languages*

This book project traces the diverse ways in which contemporary Peruvian culture has resisted silencing, oblivion, and indifference, and has constructed alternative approaches to the understanding of traumatic realities through innovative reflections on the transmission of social memory through women's gazes. Drawing from Benjamin, Agamben, Caruth, Richard, Sarlo, Butler, Quijano and other theorists who work on trauma, memory, gender and decolonization, this project analyses the intrinsic relationship between postdictatorial mournful memory work in cultural representations of the Peruvian Internal Armed Conflict (PIAC) and allegory as the trope that voices mourning. By identifying and filling in some critical shortcomings of existing research, this project offers an interdisciplinary approach that can illuminate and improve our understanding of the PIAC. My book aims to transmit social knowledge and memory, to preserve mournful memory and provide access to the heretofore unknown cultural responses to politics produced by women writers, playwrights, and film directors. Moreover, it strengthens the relevance of the humanities to the understanding of recent Peruvian, Amazonian and Andean histories and cultures, thus illuminating cultural resiliency, restoration, and healing.

# FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

## FULL YEAR PAID LEAVE FACULTY RESEARCH FELLOWS:



**Dr. Juan Mora-Torres**  
*History*

Mexicans in Babylon: Barrio Making in Chicago's West Side, 1917-1983 explores how industrialization and deindustrialization (1960s-1980s), urban renewal, segregation, and mass immigration from Mexico shaped the different phases that formed the Mexican community in Chicago's West Side. This book project examines three phases of community building: the colonia (1917-1964) of the Near West Side, barrio making in Pilsen and Little Village (1960s-1970s), and the early years of "Little Mexico," the name I use to make the claim that in the 1980s a Mexican metropolis emerged in Chicago, made up of contiguous working-class barrios. In all three phases the community, as a social space, served as the main location for the making and reproduction of culture (Mexican-based) and class (working class). Grounded in a variety of primary sources found in different collections, as well as oral histories, *Mexicans in Babylon* will be the first in-depth history that chronicles a Latino community in Chicago over a long period of time. Despite their visible presence in postwar Chicago, Latinos have largely been invisible in the historical, sociological, and urban studies literature. This book aims to challenge the dominant black-white binary framework by placing Latinos, as historical agents, at the center of the ethnic transformation of the city's landscape from 1945 to 1983, a period in which Chicago changed from 86% white to an African American and Latino majority.

# FACULTY FELLOWSHIPS

## FACULTY DEVELOPMENT FELLOWS:



**Dr. Maria Ferrera**  
*Social Work*

Dr. Ferrera, a social work practitioner and scholar, will use this six-month professional development fellowship to delve into the art of documentary filmmaking as a medium to promote human rights. Building on her work as a HumanitiesX Collaborative Fellow, her project brings attention to a humanitarian crisis on the southern border. With nearly 1.6 million people in the US seeking asylum, close to 40% are children under the age of 17. This project aims to humanize the experiences of asylees and increase understanding around the need for legal representation and advocacy, health and mental health resources, and a community of care for asylees and their families



**Dr. Jacqui Lazú**  
*Modern Languages.*

As an STRC Professional Development Fellow, Dr. Lazú will be building technical skills in archival collection development and management to reinforce her work on community archival projects. In particular, she will study the processes by which historical materials or materials of enduring value are selected and acquired by archives, and preservation training, which includes creating outreach programs and developing bibliographies and workshops.



**THE RIGHT TO STORY:  
RACE, GENDER, AND SEXUALITY  
IN AN AGE OF BANNED BOOKS**

**OCTOBER 19, 2023 | DEPAUL UNIVERSITY**



8:30am Continental breakfast

9:00am Welcome from STRC leadership team

Dr. Billy Johnson González, STRC Co-Director, *Department of English*

Dr. Julie Moody-Freeman, STRC Co-Director, *Department of African and Black Diaspora Studies*

9:15am Welcome from Dr. Margaret Storey, Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

9:20am **KEYNOTE SPEAKER**

Introduction: Dr. Amor Kohli, Chair, *African and Black Diaspora Studies*, DePaul University

**Dr. Roderick Ferguson**, *Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies*, Yale University

"'Enter Thou into This Company': The Imperiled Mysteries of Critical Literacies"

Roderick A. Ferguson is the William Robertson Coe Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and American Studies at Yale University. He is the author of *One-Dimensional Queer* (Polity, 2019), *We Demand: The University and Student Protests* (University of California, 2017), *The Reorder of Things: The University and Its Pedagogies of Minority Difference* (University of Minnesota, 2012), and *Aberrations in Black: Toward a Queer of Color Critique* (University of Minnesota, 2004). He is the co-editor with Grace Hong of the anthology *Strange Affinities: The Gender and Sexual Politics of Comparative Racialization* (Duke University, 2011). He is also co-editor with Erica Edwards and Jeffrey Ogbar of *Keywords of African American Studies* (NYU, 2018). He is the 2020 recipient of the Kessler Award from the Center for LGBTQ Studies (CLAGS).

10:45am **2022-2023 STRC FACULTY FELLOWS: 12-MONTH RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

Introduction: Dr. Amor Kohli, Chair, *African and Black Diaspora Studies*, DePaul University

**Dr. Susana Martínez**, *Modern Languages*, DePaul University

"Coming of Age(ncy) on the Migrant Trail: Central American and Mexican Adolescent Journeys in Contemporary Young Adult Literature"

**Dr. Chernoh Sesay, Jr.**, *Religious Studies*, DePaul University

"Black Boston and the Making of African American Freemasonry: Leadership, Religion, and Fraternalism in Early America"

**2022 STRC FACULTY FELLOWS: 6-MONTH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FELLOWSHIP**

**Dr. Lori Pierce**, *African and Black Diaspora Studies*, DePaul University

"DNA Forensics and Genealogy"

**Dr. Lourdes Torres**, *Latin American and Latino Studies*, DePaul University

"Toward a History of LLEGÓ"

11:45am A message from Dr. Valerie Johnson, Associate Provost for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

11:50am Lunch | Bookfair | **SUMMER UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH FELLOWS**

Introduction: Dr. Lisa Poirier, *Religious Studies*, DePaul University

**Gabriela Carvajal**, *English*, DePaul University

"*Calladita no te ves más bonita*: Cultural Practices within Latina Women's Advocacy"

**Jael Davis**, *History*, DePaul University

"She Was There Too: Enslaved Black Women, Community, and Agency"

**Laszlo Katona**, *Philosophy*, DePaul University

"Writing the Wake: Archives, Absence, and Aesthetics in Black Counter-Historical Thought"

**Krystal Morgan**, *African and Black Diaspora Studies*, DePaul University

"A Qualitative Analysis of the U.S. Public Health Service Syphilis Study and Contemporary Issues of Latrophobia in Black Women"

**Lila Nambo**, *Latin American and Latino Studies*, DePaul University

"The Bracero Program's Legacy on Its Participants"

**Samara Smith**, *Political Science*, DePaul University

"Disrupting the Gender Script: How Beyoncé's *Lemonade* Reimagines a Black Queer Feminine"

1:00pm **2023 STRC GRADUATE STUDENT FELLOWS**

Introduction: Dr. Carolina Sternberg, Chair, *Latin American and Latino Studies*, DePaul University

**Laura Carvajal**, *Critical Ethnic Studies*, DePaul University

"Escaping anti-Haitinismo: What It Means to be 'Black' in Dominican Republic"

**Shannan Moore**, *Critical Ethnic Studies*, DePaul University

"Black Digital Spaces: Theorizing Resistance in the Wake of Racist Technology"

1:35pm **2023 STRC SUMMER INSTITUTE STUDENT PANEL**

Introduction: Grecia Gabriela García Camacho, College of Education

Shafeeqa Aiman Syeda, Kellstadt Graduate School of Business

**Diamond Burks**, Driehaus College of Business

**Karmen Johnson**, College of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences

**Nicole Silva**, Driehaus College of Business

**Taylor Simon**, College of Science and Health

2:15pm **ARTISTS AND WRITERS ROUNDTABLE**

Introduction: Dr. Billy Johnson González, *English*, DePaul University

**Darius Dennis**, Visual Artist

**Vashon Jordan, Jr.**, Visual Artist

**Diana Solís**, Photographer and Multidisciplinary Artist (virtual)

**Maggie Tokuda-Hall**, Author (virtual)

3:45pm Closing remarks from Dr. Salma Ghanem, Provost, DePaul University

Hors d'Oeuvres | Closing Reception

# STRC SYMPOSIUM



2023 STRC Symposium book fair



Lincoln Park Barnes & Nobles provided book titles for the Fair. Thanks, Sam!



Keynote Speaker, Dr. Rodrick A. Ferguson



STRC Summer Institute Panel. [L to R: Diamond Burks, Karmen Johnson, Taylor Simon, Nicole Silva]

# STRC SYMPOSIUM



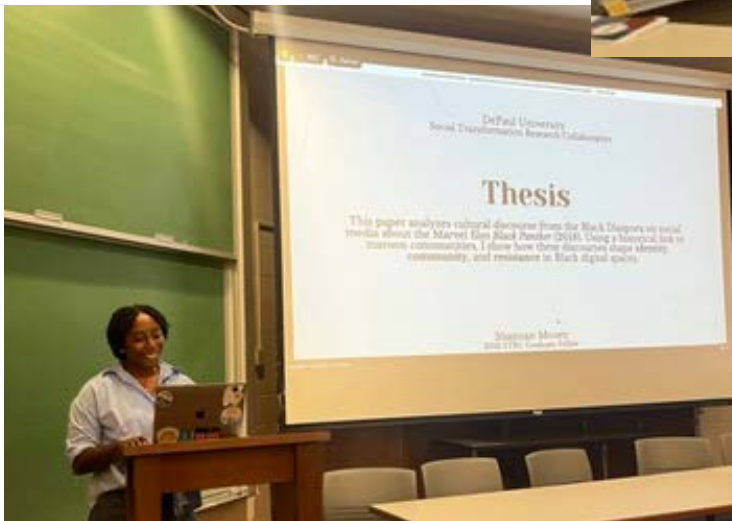
STRC Faculty Research Fellow Discussion. [L to R: Dr. Amor Kohli Dr. Susana Martinez, Dr. Lordes Torres, Dr. Chernoh Sesay]



# STRC SYMPOSIUM



Graduate Fellow, Laura Carvajal, presents her paper “Escaping Anti-Haitinismo: Analyzing Anti-Haitianismo in Popular Culture and Its Societal Impact”

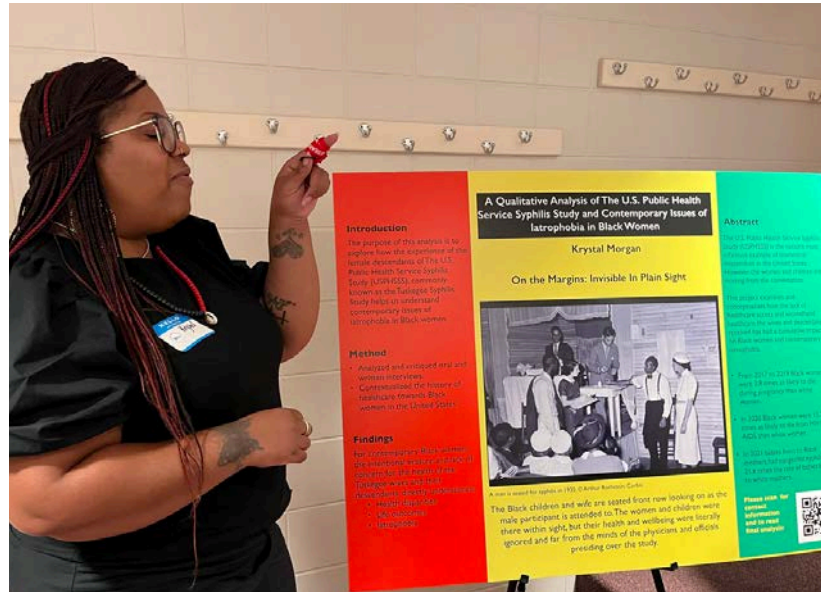


Graduate Fellow, Shannan Moore, presents her paper “Black Digital Spaces: Theorizing Resistance in the Wake of Racist Technology”

# STRC SYMPOSIUM



2024 STRC Undergraduate Research Fellows [L to R: Krystal Morgan, Samara Smith, Jael Davis, Laszlo Katona, Gabriela Carvajal



Undergraduate Fellows, Laszlo Katona and Krystal Morgan explain their research

Samara Smith speaks with Faculty Member about her research



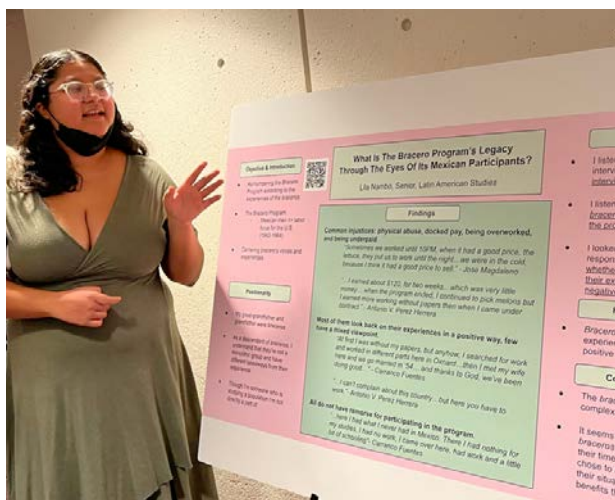
# STRC SYMPOSIUM



Jael Davis



Dr. Valerie Johnson listens to student presentations



Lila Nambo



Audience views Undergraduate Research Fellow poster board presentations



Samara Smith

# FREEDOM DREAMS

*The Transformative Power of Black Studies*

## FALL EVENTS

### SEPTEMBER

The Center's 30 Years in Photos & Documents | 12 PM - 3 PM, SAC 551 **28**

### OCTOBER

The Center for Black Diaspora and the Department of African & Black Diaspora Studies' Fall Open House | 12 PM - 3 PM, SAC 551 **10**

Meet Black DePaul: Black Cultural Center | 12 PM - 1 PM, Levan 200 **17**

STRC Symposium | The Right to Story: Race, Gender, and Sexuality in an Age of Banned Books | 9 am - 4:45 PM **19**

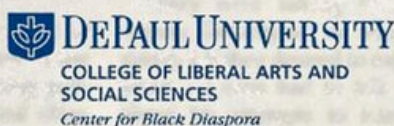
### NOVEMBER

CNTR'D: The Renaissance | 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM, SAC 551 **02**



@cbdddepaul

Centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu





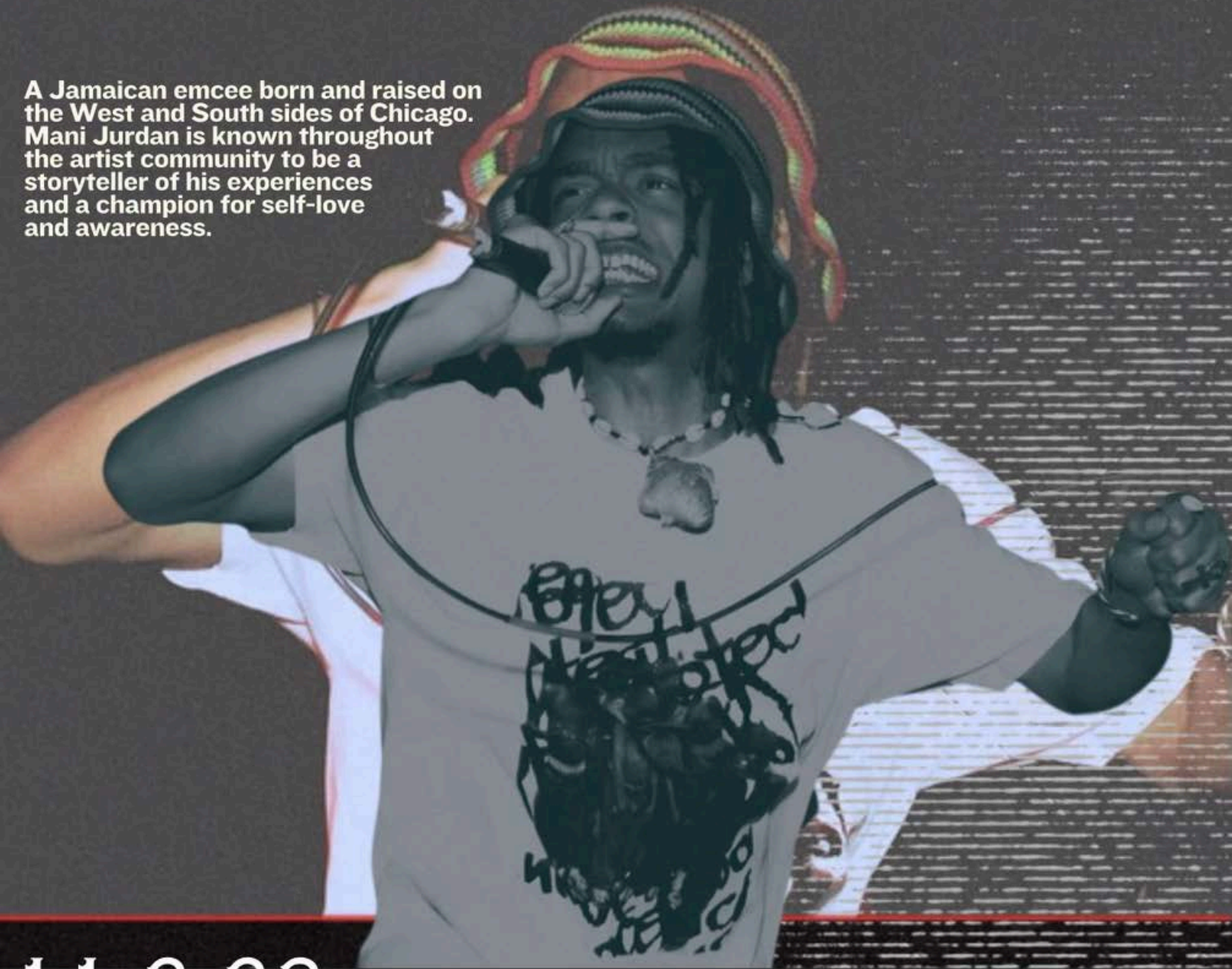
The Center for Black Diaspora presents:

ONTRD  
THE RENAISSANCE

# Mani Jurdan

PERFORMANCE & CONVERSATION

A Jamaican emcee born and raised on the West and South sides of Chicago. Mani Jurdan is known throughout the artist community to be a storyteller of his experiences and a champion for self-love and awareness.



11.2.23

4:30-6PM

SAC 551 | 2320 N KENMORE AVE. CHICAGO, IL

@CENTERFORBLACKDIASPORA@DEPAUL.EDU



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

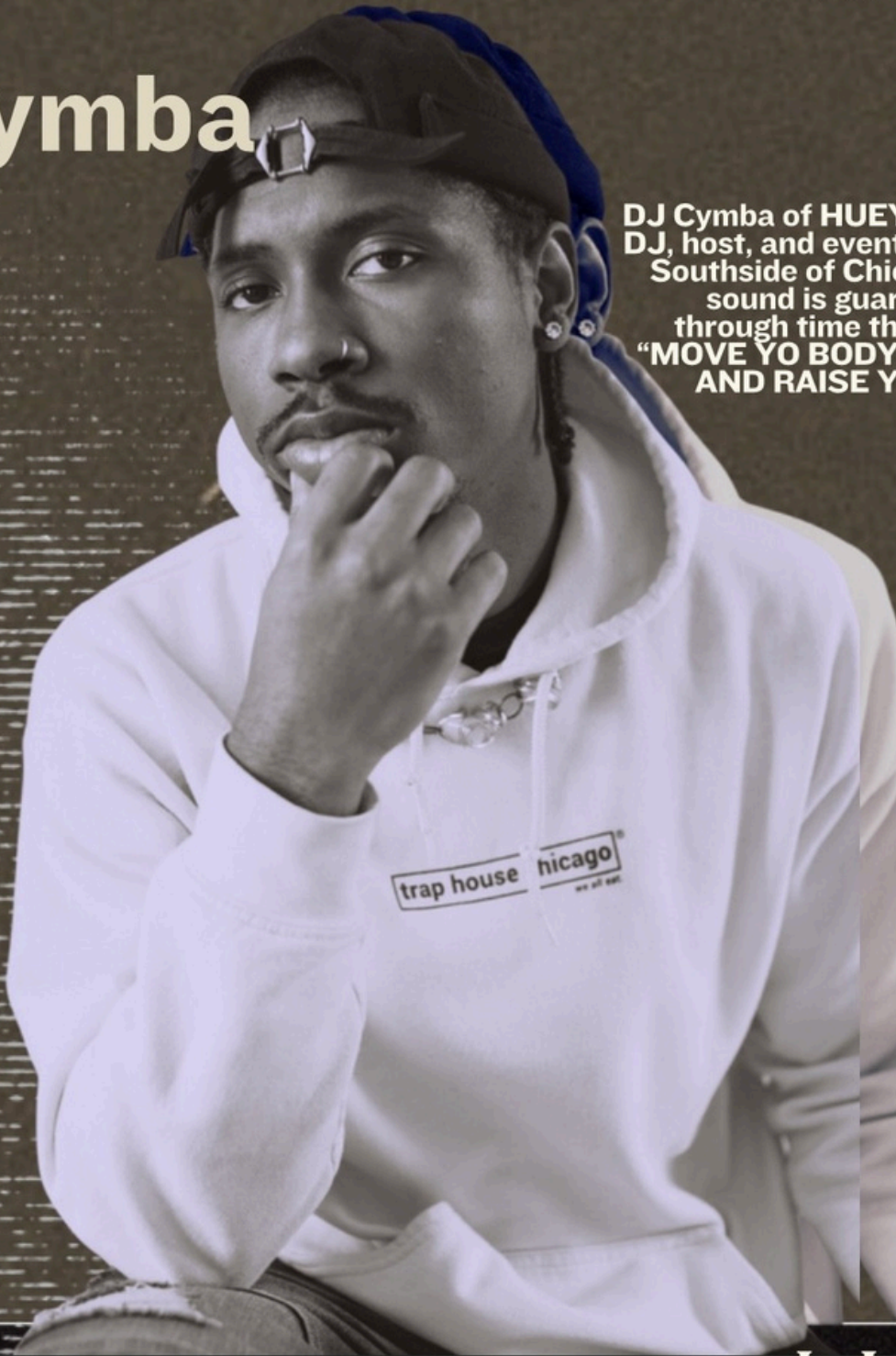
The Center for Black Diaspora presents:

**ONTRD**  
THE RENAISSANCE

SOUNDS BY:

**DJ Cymba**

DJ Cymba of HUEY, is a well-known DJ, host, and event curator from the Southside of Chicago. DJ Cymba's sound is guaranteed to take us through time through the mantra "MOVE YO BODY, LOVE YO SELF, AND RAISE YO VIBRATIONS."



**11.2.23**

4:30-6PM

SAC 551 | 2320 N KENMORE AVE. CHICAGO, IL

@CENTERFORBLACKDIASPORA@DEPAUL.EDU

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



# CNTR'D THE REINASSANCE

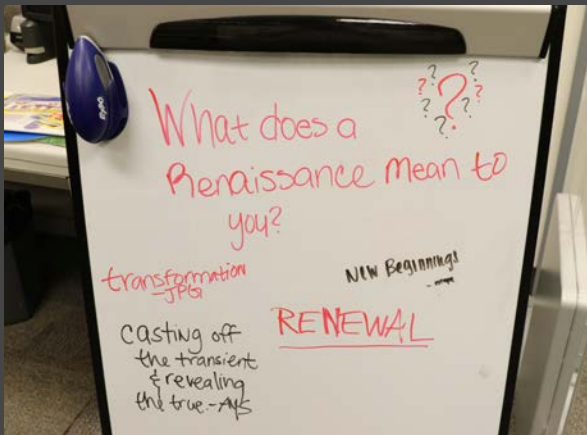
## RECAP IN PHOTOS



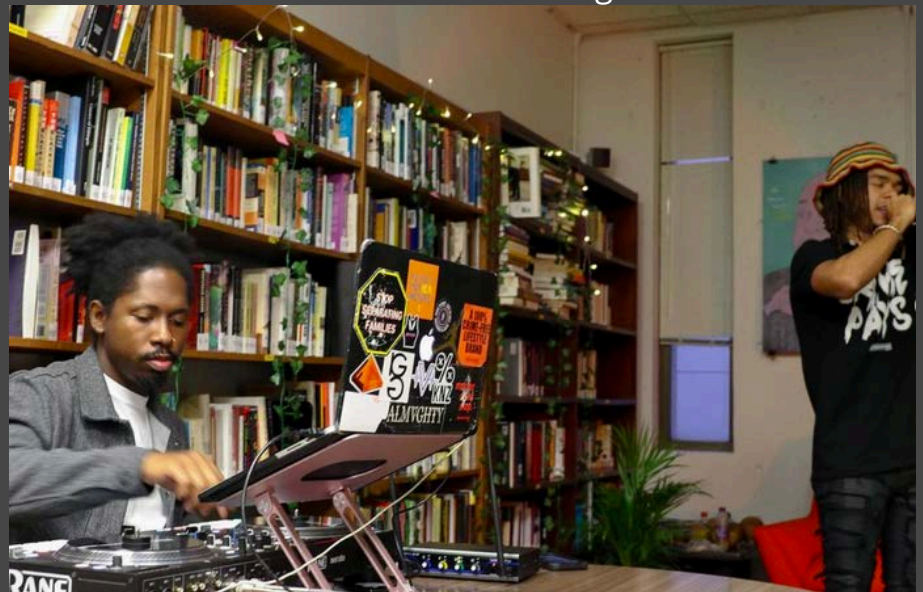
Mani Jurdan performs at the inaugural CNTR'D



Dr Taurean Webb and Alejandra Delgadillo listen in



What does a Renaissance mean to you?



DJ Cymba



# CENTER IN THE NEWS

## The DePaulia

Gallery: Scenes from the 108th Indy 500

May 28

Indy 500 displays resilience of drivers and fans in wild finish

May 27

Photo Gallery: Latino pride stands strong at the Sueño

[News](#) ▾ [Arts & Life](#) ▾ [Sports](#) ▾ [Opinions](#) [La DePaulia](#) ▾ [Multimedia](#) [Print Issues](#) [Staff](#) [Special Issues](#) ▾ [About](#) ▾

Focus

Showcase

## A Renaissance in the Center for Black Diaspora

[Safia Poindexter](#), Contributing Writer • November 5, 2023



[Erin Henze](#)

DJ Cymba, a host and event curator from the South Side of Chicago, plays music for those in attendance at the event.

READ THE FULL ARTICLE



# A Renaissance in the Center for Black Diaspora

Safia Poindexter, Contributing Writer • November 5, 2023



Erin Henze

DJ Cymba, a host and event curator from the South Side of Chicago, plays music for those in attendance at the event.

DePaul's Center for Black Diaspora hosted its own version of "Tiny Desk" – a series by NPR where different artists do a mini performance in a small space – in the Schmitt Academic Center.

Similar to the series, the center located in SAC hosted a small performance in their office and library, surrounded by books, art and decorative lighting. Normally in the NPR series, there is no audience, but the center had a table and couches for attendees to sit at so they could take in the experience. The focus of the event was the topic of "renaissance" and what that means to the Black community. Renaissance, both to the center and Black history as a whole, means a surge in the development of arts. This includes Black literature, music and art, ranging from poetry to novels, jazz to rap trap music and painting to digital art.

For sophomore Toritseju Blagooee, the term renaissance means, "a new beginning for a lot of people, especially within the Black community, coming from the ashes and building us a new and beautiful community that we can learn to love and learn to create with."

On a whiteboard outside of the performance, words like "change, revolution and community" came up when visitors were asked what they thought about the Renaissance. Students enjoyed the music they felt that reflected identities, history and current events which highlighted community.

"There's more voice for Black artists to express themselves and to have a platform and I think that is creating its own Renaissance in a way where so much is coming out, and new styles and ways of expression are becoming more popular," junior Lucy Njambara said.

The center's assistant director, Jennifer Gardner, encouraged visitors to reflect on their definitions as Chicago Natives while rapper Mani Jurdan and DJ Cymba of HUEY performed. The center displays different pieces of Black work from different decades which complemented the sounds of DJ Cymba.



Kendryck Cotton (left) and Leeann Gladney (right) listen to DJ Cymba during Thursday night's open house. (Erin Henze)

"His sound is guaranteed to take us through time and carry us through unforeseeable emotion in a matter of seconds," Gardner said.

DJ Cymba uses his music to introduce listeners to the different genres and ages of Black music, ranging from house music to hip-hop, 80s to modern, while spreading positive energy and uplifting messages internationally. He took attendees through the different decades and emotions of Black music, and displayed the evolution of the different sounds and talents in Black American culture.

When listening, attendees were invited to analyze the evolution of Black music and observe the cultural messages through the different sounds.

"The DJ was really good, the rapping was really good, the vibes were really good," Blagooee said. "We were able to listen to great music together. ... I've never been in an atmosphere like that before."

As reflected in DJ Cymba's mantra – "move your body, love yourself, and raise your vibrations" – the music encouraged visitors to dance along to the rhythm.

Rapper Mani Jurdan opened his performance with a libation where he and those who wanted to participate called upon the names of their ancestors and notable Black figures to help bring a stronger energy to the performance.

"I'm going to pour water into a plant and I'm going to call my ancestors into this space and I implore you all to do the same," Jurdan said. "You call whoever you want. Somebody you look up to, somebody in your family who you love dearly, or just somebody you admire. Typically you have an elder do this but because I'm performing, I will do it myself."

Names such as Sojourner Truth, Harriet Tubman, Martin Luther King Jr, Marcus Garvey and Elizabeth Taylor were called, followed by the word "Asha," as the rapper poured water into a plant as part of the tradition. After the libation, Jurdan performed several songs with topics ranging from self-image and racism to Black excellence and trauma within the Black community.

"When I represent, I do this for my people," Jurdan said.

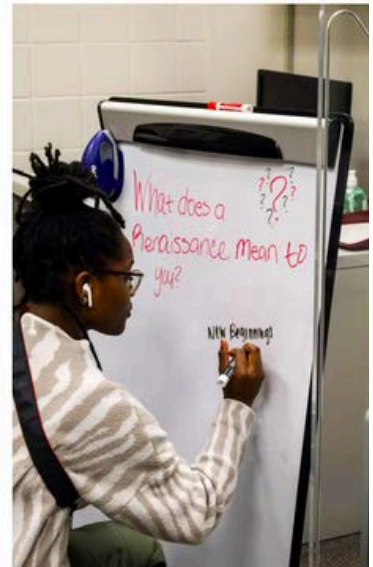
Many of the songs were based on Jurdan's experiences growing up in Chicago, particularly the South and West Sides which resonated with many of the visitors in the room. Jurdan made connections between past and present Black experiences as songs addressed difficult topics and realities that Black people face. They also encouraged listeners to strive for the best and had empowering messages in them that encouraged them to not let the complexities of life hold them back.

"Thinking like I'm Pele, soccer ballin' reachin' all my goals. ... Can't be so low supplying wealth, I'ma need to higher me. ... They hate Black women but it starts with their mama," Jurdan sang.

Attendees seemed to have enjoyed the performance and left with their own thoughts and feelings about what Renaissance means to them today.

"I think now we're living in an age where, especially with social media, these conversations are becoming more at the forefront," Njambara said.

Within the Center for Black Diaspora itself and the guest performances, there was a timeline of Renaissance to be seen with arts consisting of all the subjects that were relevant at their time, from slavery to systemic racism.



Miya Jefferson writes an answer to the poll question on the whiteboard that reads: "What does a Renaissance mean to you?" (Erin Henze)



# CEN

## WINTER 2024 EVENTS WINTER 2024 EVENTS WINTER 2024

### **Lunchtime Speaker Series\***

Co-organized with the Center for Black Diaspora, the Healing Justice Dialogue, the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC), Department of Peace, Justice, & Conflict Studies, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, the Women's Center, and the Center for Community Health Equity

#### **January**

#### **Karen M. Rose: Oya Speaks\***

**JAN 25**, HYBRID/JTR RM 103: 11:30AM - 12:30PM

#### **February**

#### **Yirser Ra Hotep: Self-Love using Kemetic Yoga\***

**FEB 8**, HYBRID/JTR RM 103: 11:30AM-12:30PM

#### **Dr. Stephanie Y. Evans: Powerful Leadership and Radical Self-Love\***

**FEB 15**, HYBRID/JTR RM 103: 11:30AM-12:30PM

#### **Dr. Robin Mitchell: Healing us\***

**FEB 22**, HYBRID/JTR RM 103: 11:30AM-12:30PM

#### **March**

#### **Racial Justice and the Legacy of Desegregating Schools with the McDonough Three and Dr. Alicia Fontnette**

**FEB 22**, VIRTUAL: 5PM-6:30PM

#### **NCBS Conference: "The Visionary Power of Black Studies to Transform Society: Perspectives across the African Diaspora"**

**MAR 6-9**, VIRTUAL STREAM

# DIAS

# LUNCHTIME SPEAKER SERIES

## RECAP IN PHOTOS



ABD 100 students participate



Dr. Julie-Moody-Freeman introduces Karen Rose



Yirser Ra Hotep



Dr. Stephanie Y. Evans



Karen Rose



ABD 100 students participate

2024 Winter Quarter

Lunchtime Speaker Series

# Karen M. Rose

Master Herbalist

## OYA Speaks with Empress Karen M. Rose

How is Spiritual Herbalism and integrating Orishas like Oya useful for Black communities and people besieged by violence, state violence, and the new policies, banning books, etc.? **Karen M. Rose** is dedicated to empowering individuals to make informed decisions not only about their health, but their total lifestyle. This conversation will be about Karen's upbringing in Guyana, the significance of Spiritual Herbalism in Black communities, and how communities across the African Diaspora can transform and heal through ancestral medicine.



January 25, 2024

JTR, Room 103

11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

Co-organized with the Center for Black  
Diaspora, the Healing Justice Dialogue, the  
Social Transformation Research  
Collaborative (STRC), Department of Peace,  
Justice, & Conflict Studies, Department of  
Women's and Gender Studies, the Women's  
Center, and the Center for Community  
Health Equity

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



View Lecture Recording:





2024 Winter Quarter

Lunchtime Speaker Series

# Yirser Ra Hotep

Master instructor of yoga and the creator of YogaSkills Method

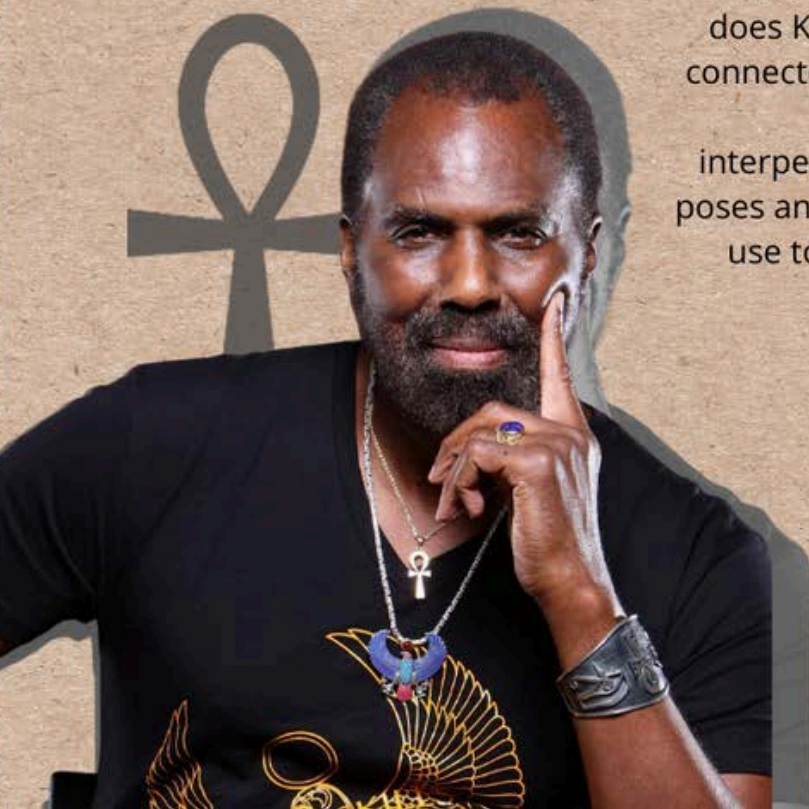
## Self Love using Kemetic Yoga

Breathwork and grounding has traditions in Ancient Egypt, famously acknowledged as Kemet. **Yirser Ra Hotep** is a master instructor of Yoga and the creator of the YogaSkills Method. He is the most senior instructor of Kemetic Yoga in the United States, with over 45 years of experience practicing and teaching.

**February 8, 2024**  
**JTR, Room 103**  
**11:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

This conversation will cover: What is Kemetic Yoga? What does Kemetic mean and to what historical tradition(s) is it connected? How can we apply this to communities that are besieged by the state and other institutional and interpersonal violence? The event will also showcase basic poses and breathing techniques of this practice that we can use to keep us hope-filled in times of stress and trauma.

Co-organized with the Center for Black Diaspora, the Healing Justice Dialogue, the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC), Department of Peace, Justice, & Conflict Studies, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, the Women's Center, and the Center for Community Health Equity



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

View Lecture Recording:



2024 Winter Quarter

Lunchtime Speaker Series

# Dr. Stephanie Y. Evans

Scholar and Healer

## Powerful Leadership & Radical Self Love

February 15, 2024

JTR, Room 103

11:30 AM to 12:30 PM

It can be overlooked how our historical figures in African American history have grounded themselves in radical healing. What practices did historical figures utilize during the most gruesome, violent moments in history? **Dr. Stephanie Y. Evans** is a Professor of Black Women's Studies in the Institute of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies (WGSS) and Affiliate Faculty of Africana Studies (AAS) at Georgia State University.

This event will be a conversation about historical figures and their hope filled, healing self-care practices of meditation, solitary thinking and writing, and Yoga, among others.

Co-organized with the Center for Black Diaspora, the Healing Justice Dialogue, the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC), the Peace, Justice, & Conflict Studies, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, the Women's Center, and the Center for Community Health Equity

[centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu](http://centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu)



2024 Winter Quarter

Lunchtime Speaker Series

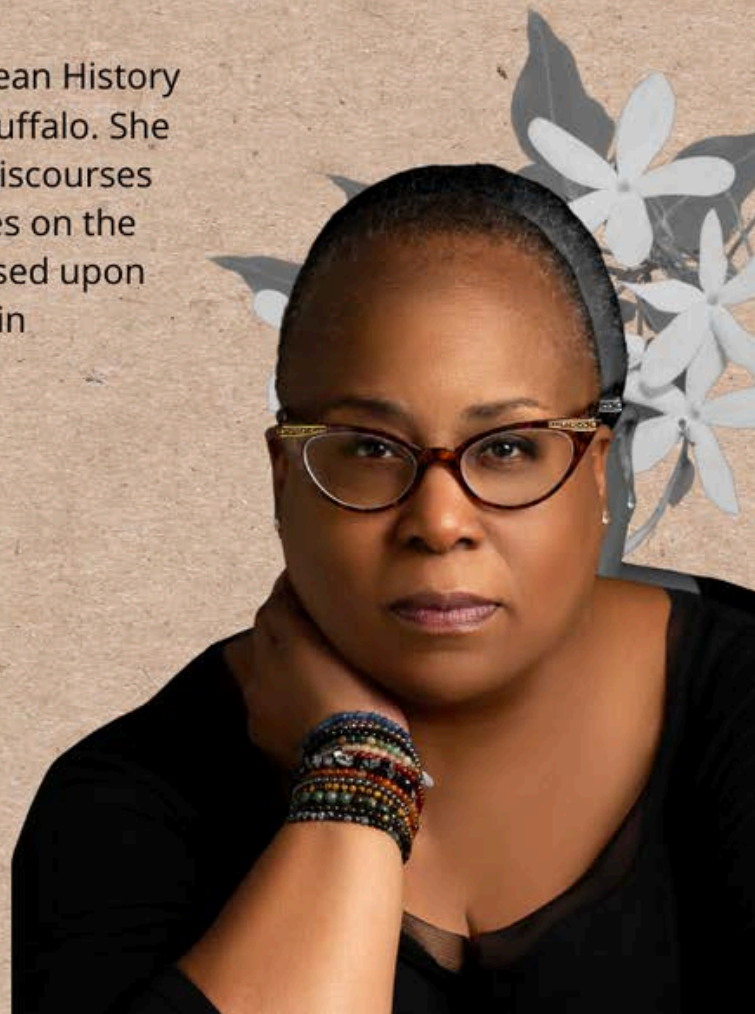
# Robin Mitchell

College of Arts and Sciences Endowed Professor and Associate Professor in the History Department

## Healing Us

In this conversation, Dr. Mitchell will share her past and current research on Black women historical figures in the Francophone world.

**Robin Mitchell** is an Associate Professor of European History in the Department of History at the University at Buffalo. She is a 19th-century French historian, specializing in discourses about race, gender, and sexuality. Her work focuses on the white colonial fantasies, scandals, and crime imposed upon Black women's bodies and voices when they were in metropolitan French spaces.



**February 22, 2024**  
**JTR, Room 103**  
**11:30 AM to 12:30 PM**

Co-organized with the Center for Black Diaspora, the Healing Justice Dialogue, the Social Transformation Research Collaborative (STRC), the Peace, Justice, & Conflict Studies, Department of Women's and Gender Studies, the Women's Center, and the Center for Community Health Equity

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



View Lecture Recording:



# Racial Justice & the Legacy of Desegregating Schools With the McDonogh Three

*Moderated by: Dr. Alicia Fontnette*



**February 22, 2024**  
**5:00-6:30 PM CST**  
**(6:00 PM-7:30 PM EST)**

*Virtual Webinar*

**On November 14, 1960, *Leona Tate, Gail Etienne, and Tessie Prevost* were escorted into McDonogh 19 Elementary School. It was one of the most historic moments in African American history as the three young girls desegregated the city of New Orleans public school, while Ruby Bridges integrated a different school just blocks away.**

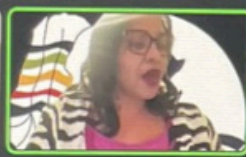


Co-organized with the  
National Council for Black  
Studies Organization



**View Lecture Recording:**





rding... Facebook

A participant has enabled Closed Captioning Who can see this transcript? Recording On X



**SIGN THE PETITION TODAY!**  
CELEBRATE AMERICA'S LITTLE SOLDIER GIRLS

**GAIL & RUBY & TESSIE & LEONA**  
**NOVEMBER 14TH**  
**NEW ORLEANS FOUR DAY**  
**NATIONAL HOLIDAY PETITION**

[NewOrleansLegacyProject.org](http://NewOrleansLegacyProject.org)

SCAN



The Center for Black Diaspora announces

# 48th NCBS Annual Conference

**Conference Theme:**

**“Our AfroFuture in the Crosshairs: Black Studies in the Age of Artificial Intelligence, Big Tech, and the Cultural Wars”**

**March 6th-9th**  
**VIRTUAL STREAM**



**National Council  
for Black Studies**

# NCBS



AFRICAN AND BLACK DIASPORA STUDIES  
& THE CENTER FOR BLACK DIASPORA

# OPEN HOUSE

October 10, 2023 || 12PM-3PM || SAC, 551

COME MEET OUR STUDENTS, FACULTY & STAFF +  
ENJOY SOME FOOD AND REFRESHMENTS

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



@cbddepaul || @abddepaul  
abd@depaul.edu  
centerforblackdiaspora@depaul.edu





# *Nobody Needs to Know: A Memoir*

## A book talk with Pidgeon Pagonis



Read, listen, and meet intersex advocate, filmmaker, photographer, writer, and DePaul WGS Alum, Pidgeon Pagonis! *Nobody Needs to Know* offers a candid and life-affirming true story of identity, lies, family secrets, and the healing power of truth.

Wednesday

October 11

6:00–7:30 PM

DePaul Art Museum



# BURN IT DOWN

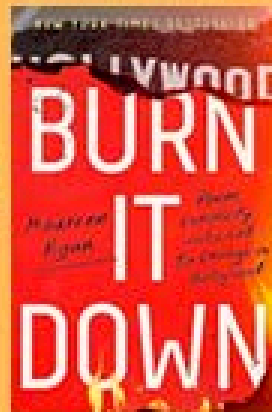
Power, Complicity, and a Call for Change in Hollywood

Maureen Ryan discusses her new  
groundbreaking new book

---



Author Maureen Ryan talks about the reckoning of Hollywood after #MeToo, #OscarsSoWhite, and decades of abuse in the entertainment industry...



Oct 16, 2023

6:30-8:00pm

SAC 154 (LPC)

Virtual and in-person event

Light refreshments served



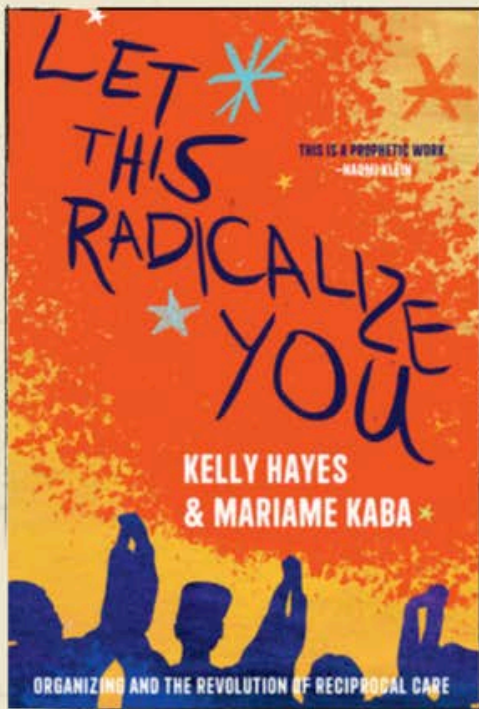
RSVP HERE!

Proudly sponsored by The College of Communication, The Center for Black Diaspora, Women and Gender Studies, The Women's Center, American Studies, The Department of English Visiting Author Series, The School of Cinematic Arts, Media and Popular Culture, and Journalism

# Let this Radicalize You:

**Organizing and the Revolution of Reciprocal Care**

**A book Conversation with Mariame Kaba  
and Kelly Hayes in conversation with  
Tanuja Jagernauth**



What fuels and sustains activism and organizing when it feels like our worlds are collapsing? Join longtime organizers and movement educators Mariame Kaba and Kelly Hayes in a discussion on the book *Let This Radicalize You*. This book is a practical and imaginative resource for activists and organizers building power in an era of destabilization and catastrophe.

**When:**  
Wednesday, October 25, 2023  
6:00 - 7:30 PM

**Where:**  
HYBRID (Zoom or in-person)  
Arts and Letters Room 103

**For Zoom attendees:** The link will be sent 2 hours before the event  
**In Person attendees** are asked to wear a mask.  
Extra masks will be available upon request



THE HISTORY OF ART & ARCHITECTURE PRESENTS

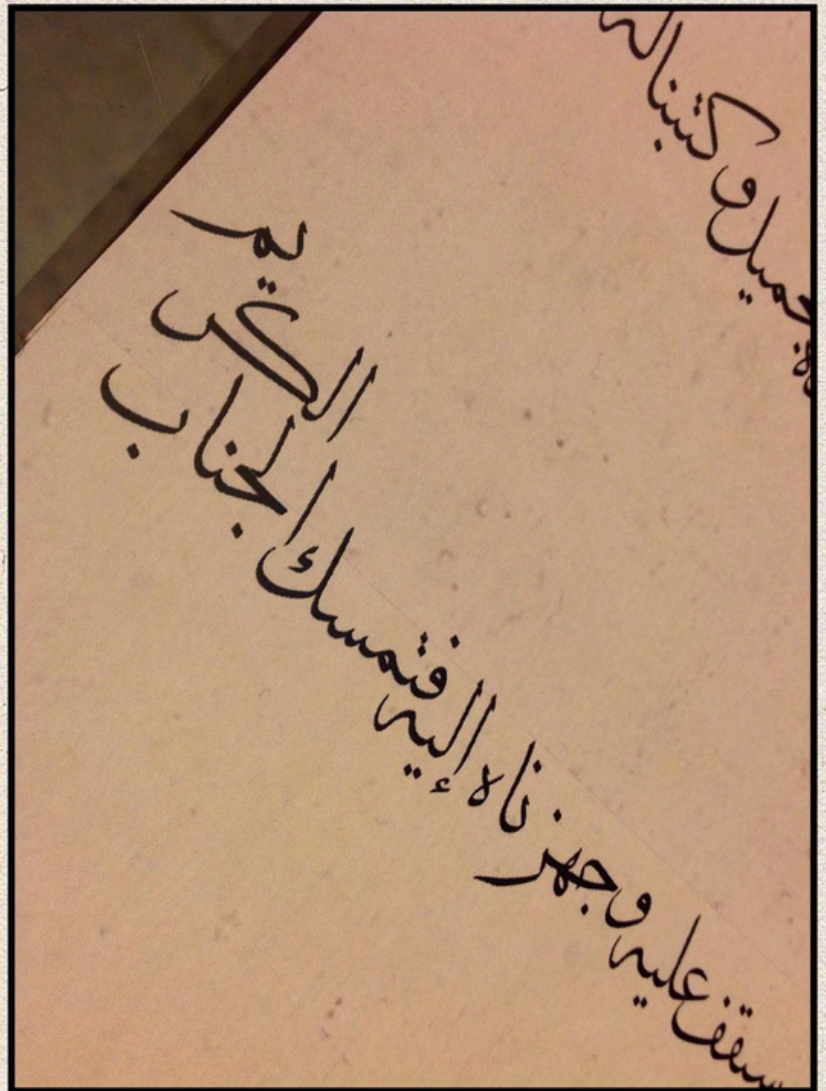
# Recovering a Mamluk letter to the sultan of Mali: Diplomacy, mobility and experimental history

ARTS & LETTERS ROOM 404

FEBRUARY 22, 2024 AT 5:30PM

A lecture by Dr. Rémi Dewiere, Research Fellow  
Northumbria University (Newcastle, UK)

In this talk, I propose to explore the material dimension of medieval trans-Saharan diplomacy, through the reconstruction of a Mamluk letter written to the sultan of Mali, in 1440. From the text to the object, we will see how digital humanities can help us to understand the physicality of diplomacy in the framework of trans-Saharan exchanges, and look at the intersectionality between religion, politics, and environment.



This event is free and open to the public  
For more information, contact Dr. Mark DeLancey at  
[mark.delancey@depaul.edu](mailto:mark.delancey@depaul.edu)

# Meet Black DePaul!

COME MEET AND MINGLE WITH THE BLACK  
STAFF AND FACULTY OF DEPAUL.

LUNCH PROVIDED FOR THE FIRST 10 STUDENTS.

SEP  
12

SANKOFA BLACK  
STUDENT FORMATION

SEP  
19

UNIVERSITY COUNSELING &  
PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES (UCAPS)

SEP  
26

CENTER FOR STUDENTS  
W/DISABILITIES

OCT  
10

CAREER CENTER

OCT  
17

THE CENTER FOR  
BLACK DIASPORA

OCT  
24

UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES



ALL EVENTS ARE 12 PM - 1 PM

# AFTERSHOCK

## A Film Screening and Discussion about Maternal Mortality

Wednesday, February 28, 2024  
6-8:30 pm

DePaul University  
Lincoln Park Campus  
Cortelyou Commons  
2324 N. Fremont St.

### FEATURED PANEL MEMBERS

TONYA LEWIS LEE, DIRECTOR,  
PRODUCER, WRITER

JEANINE VALRIE-LOGAN, MPH, CNM

MODERATOR: TRACEY LEWIS-  
ELLIGAN, ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR,  
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY

**This is an in-person event only with  
limited space! Please register here!**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/aftershock-a-film-screening-and-discussion-about-maternal-mortality-tickets-777822817987?aff=oddtcreator>

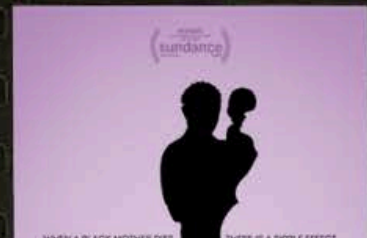
### Event Co-Sponsors

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, MPH Program, The Faculty Scholarship Collaborative, Dept. of Nursing, The Women's Center, Center for Black Diaspora, School of Public Service, The Urban Collaborative, Women's and Gender Studies, The Irwin W. Steans Center

Student Organization Collaborators  
Graduate, Student Council

Light refreshments will be provided

Questions? Email us at  
[centerforcommunityhealthequity@gmail.com](mailto:centerforcommunityhealthequity@gmail.com)



6 3 0 6

P5 PLUS

P5 PLUS

21

20A

20

19A

18A

18

17A

# CONTACTS

2320 N Kenmore Ave, Suite 551  
Chicago, IL 60614

Phone: 773.325.7512

FAX: 773.325.7514

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

Facebook: CBD DePaul

Youtube: Center for Black Diaspora

Instagram & X : @CBDDEPAUL

Website: <https://las.depaul.edu/centers-and-institutes/center-for-black-diaspora>

## SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Annual Report Editors: Dr. Julie Moody Freeman,  
Jennifer Gardner, Miya Jefferson, Aliyah Philip

Cover Art: Aliyah Philip

Thank you to everyone who supported the Center's 30th  
Anniversary programming and events!



CENTER FOR  
30<sup>th</sup>  
Anniversary  
BLACK DIASPORA