



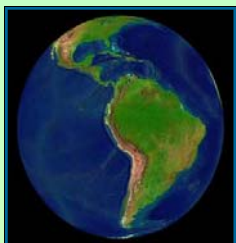
African American Studies & Research Center and  
Latin American & Latino Studies  
Present:

27th Annual Symposium on African American  
Culture & Philosophy



*“Afro-Latin America:  
Rethinking Identity, Politics &  
Culture”*

December 1—3, 2011  
Purdue University  
Stewart Center, 3rd Floor  
West Lafayette, Indiana 47907



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*“Afro-Latin America:  
Rethinking Identity, Politics & Culture”  
December 1—3, 2011*

**Thursday**

**1:00—2:30**

**Concurrent Panels**

**1. Broad Strokes: Introductions to Transnational Juxtapositions Room 322**

*Chair: Alexandra Gelbard, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI*

Elizabeth Canela, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
New Portrayals of Black Identity in the Dominican Republic and Haiti and Their Consequences  
for Collective International Activism

Arthur Banton, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN  
A Chameleon of Color: Zoe Saldana and the Redefining of Roles for Women of Color through  
Afro-Latina Hybridity.

**2. Immigration, Settlement, & the Dynamics of Trans-generational Identity  
in the United States Room 320**

*Chair: Reynaldo Ortiz Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton*

Monika Gosin, Duke University, Durham, NC  
The Blackness of Invisibility: Afro-Cuban Immigrants Negotiating Race in the United States

Elías Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison, NJ  
Converging Paths: Ideology, History, and the Recovery of Afro-Latino/a Identity in the Young Lords

David Irwin, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN  
Evolving Radical Thought: Politics, Culture, and Black Transnational Space in the Twentieth Century

**3. The Convergence of African Diasporic Communities in the United States:  
Ideas and Practices Room 318**

*Chair: Donald R. Culverson, Governor State University, Chicago, IL*

Anthony Conley, Ivy Tech Community College, Indianapolis, IN  
Booker T. Washington and U.S. Imperialism, 1898-1902

Heather Abdelnur, Augusta State University, Augusta, GA  
Broken Glass to Beheading: Women and Crime in Spanish Louisiana





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**Thursday**

**2:45—4:15  
Concurrent Panels**

**4. Racinations & Taxonomies in Early Colonial Mexico, Central America,  
Jamaica, and Brazil Room 322**

**Chair: Joseph Dorsey, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Valérie Benoist, Grinnell College, Grinnell, IA  
The Life of a Black Nun in Colonial Mexico: Juana Esperanza de San Alberto

Ann Marie Adams, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ  
The African Presence in Colonial Mexico: *Linkages* to Mestizos in Central America and Spanish Jamaica

**5. Eclectic Bigotry in South Atlantic Societies: Racism, Hybridity, and Their  
Complexities over Time Room 320**

**Chair: Cornelius Bynum, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Hélène Rompré, Université de Montréal, Montreal, Canada  
The Child in the Slave: Hidden Histories of Mulatto Children in Colonial Ecuador, 1790-1820

Layla Brown, Duke University, Durham, NC  
Afro-Venezuelans: A Test Case for the Promise of the Bolivarian Revolution

**6. History & the Arts: Audiovisual Economies of Blackness in South America  
and the Caribbean Room 318**

**Chair: David Rollock, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

David Jamison, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN  
Carving New Lives in Suriname: Design Motifs in the Maroon Arts

Kimberly Cleveland, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA  
Pedro Figari: Painting African Influences in Nineteenth-Century Montevideo





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**December 1, 2011  
7:00 PM  
Stewart Center, Room 322**

**"Latinizing Race, Racializing Latinidad: The Shifting  
Terrains of Blackness"**

**Symposium Keynote & W.E.B. Du Bois Speaker  
Dr. Kim D. Butler  
Associate Professor, Rutgers University**



Dr. Kim D. Butler is a historian specializing in African Diaspora studies with a focus on Brazil and Latin America/Caribbean. Her first book, *Freedoms Given, Freedoms Won: Afro-Brazilians in Post-Abolition São Paulo and Salvador*, won the American Historical Association's Wesley-Logan Prize and the Association of Black Women Historians' Letitia Woods Brown Prize. Dr. Butler received her PhD from Johns Hopkins University and is currently an Associate Professor of History in the Department of Africana Studies and the Director of the Association for the Study of the Worldwide African Diaspora (ASWAD).



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**Friday**



**Continental Breakfast 8:00 AM Room 313**

**8:30—10:00  
Concurrent Panels**

**7. History, Literature, and Gendered Essentialism as Praxis:  
Afro-Latin American Women in Late Modernity Room 320**

**Chair: Adrianna Lozano, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Michele Reid-Vázquez, Georgia State University, Atlanta, GA

*Guerrilleras Negras: Slave Women and Free Women of Color in Cuba’s Conspiración de La Escalera*

Elías Ortega-Aponte, Drew University, Madison, NJ

*Mayra Santos-Febres and the Literary Performance of Blackness in the Spanish Caribbean*

Kimberly Simmons, University of South Carolina, Columbia

*Stirring the Sancocho and Seeing Africa: The Roles of Women and the Changing Significance of Blackness in the Dominican Republic*

**8. Late Colonialities and Early Republicanisms: Pluralities of Blackness  
in the Age of Abolition Room 318**

**Chair: Crystal Eddins, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI**

T.J. Obi, Baruch College-CUNY, New York

*Esgriima de Machete: An Afro-Colombian Resource*

Mekala Audain, Rutgers University, New Brunswick, NJ

*Blackness in San Antonio: Fugitive Slaves & Free Blacks Before, During, and After the Texas Revolution*

Erika Edwards, University of North Carolina, Charlotte

*Human Property to Free Individuals: The Gradual Abolition of Slavery in Cordoba, Argentina*

**9. Enlightenment, Reform, and Trans-continental Revolution:  
Background to the Aponte Rebellion of 1812 Room 322**

**Chair: Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton**

Bárbara Danzie, Archivo Nacional de Cuba, Havana

*Gendering the Palenque: Rebel Slave Women in Liberationist Strongholds  
(Resistencia Femenina: Una Mirada de Género a la Historia de los Rebeldes)*

Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University of New York, Binghamton

*Decoding the Transition from Bhoio to Barracon: the Growth and Development of the Plantation Landscapes as Social Space and Disciplinary Discourse, 1759-1868*

Isabel Hernández-Campos, Museo de la Ruta del Esclavo, Matanzas, Cuba

*Cuba The Politics of Memory in Cuba: Slavery, Museum Cultures, and National Memory  
(Memorias Políticas: La Esclavitud, las Culturas del Museo y la Memoria Nacional)*





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**Break 10:00—10:15 Room 313**

**Friday 10:15—11:45  
Concurrent Panels**

**10. “A Luta Continua”: Ongoing Struggles for Racial  
Democracy in the Americas Room 320**

**Chair: Tony Perry, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Jessica Graham, Notre Dame University, Notre Dame, IN  
Brazilian Anticommunism and the Question of Racial Democracy in the 1930s

Melissa Valle, Columbia University, New York, NY  
La Lucha Afro: A Relational Approach to Afro-Colombian Social Movement Organizations

Devyn Spence Benson, Williams College, Williamstown, MA  
“Everybody went to Miami . . . He went to New York” :  
Race, Revolution, and the Afro-Cuban Diaspora, 1959-1963

**11. Music, Letters, and Religion as Performance, Protest, and Protection in  
Colombia, and Cuba Room 318**

**Chair: Jualynne Dodson, Michigan State University, East Lansing**

Michael Quintero, Bowdoin College, Brunswick, ME  
Between Cosmopolitanism and Alterity: The Cultural Politics of Black Music in Western Colombia

Matthew Pettway, Bates College, Lewiston, ME  
Scorning the Negation of Blackness in Burlesque Bodies:  
A Portrait of Afro-Cuban Masculinities in Gabriel de la Concepción Valdés

Sonya Johnson, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI  
Spirits in the Formation of Religious Tradition in Cuba

**12. The Impact of the Aponte Rebellion in Cuba and Elsewhere  
in the Spanish Caribbean Room 322**

**Chair: Harry Targ, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

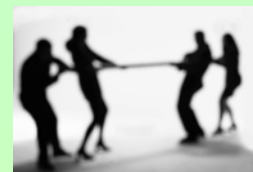
María del Carmen Barcia, Universidad de la Habana  
From Black Catholic Brotherhoods to Neo-African Ethics Systems  
(Del Cabildo de Nación Africana a la Casa de Santo Afrocubano)

Aisha Finch, University of California, Los Angeles  
Infrared Insurgencies: The Political Cultures of Cuban Slaves, 1843-44

Joseph Dorsey, Purdue University, West Lafayette IN  
Freed People in Chains: Rebellious Activism among Liberated Africans in Cuba and Puerto Rico,  
1835-1864

Jacqueline Kent, University of Miami, Miami, FL  
Well Dressed After the French Mode: Free People of Color and Public Performance in  
Nineteenth-Century Cuba

**Discussant: Reynaldo Ortiz-Minaya, State University  
of New York, Binghamton**





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**Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall**

"The Atlantic Slave Data Network: a Tool for Comparative Studies of the African Diaspora"



**12:00—2:00PM**

**Plenary Luncheon  
PMU West Faculty Lounge**



Dr. Gwendolyn Midlo Hall is Professor of history at Michigan State University. Dr. Hall received numerous awards for *Africans in Colonial Louisiana: the Development of Afro-Creole Culture in the Eighteenth Century* (1992) including the John Hope Franklin Prize, the Elliott Rudwick Prize, the Willie Lee Rose Prize, and the Theodore Saloutos Memorial Book Award. She is also the author of *Slavery and African Ethnicities in the Americas: Restoring the Links*, (2005); *Louisiana Slave Database and Louisiana Free Database 1819-1820*, Compact Disk Publication (2000); and *Social Control in Slave Plantation Societies: A Comparison of St. Domingue and Cuba* (1971). Dr. Hall is a John Simon Guggenheim Fellow (1996) and a recipient of the Distinguished Service Award from the Organization of American Historians (2004).

**Friday 2:15—3:45  
Concurrent Panels**

**13. Blackness in Motion: The Changing Politics of Racial Belonging in Brazil, Panama, the Caribbean, and the United States Room 320**

**Chair: Su'ad Abdul Khabeer, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Ariana Curtis, American University, Washington, DC  
Zoning Panamanian Blackness

Arvenita Washington-Cherry, University of Maryland, Baltimore County  
Challenging Social Constructs for Black and Latino/a Belonging and Authenticity in a Prince George's County Public Middle School

Calenthia Dowdy, American University, Washington, DC  
Circulations of Blackness: Hip-Hop and Brazil's Black Movement

**14. The Politics of Race, Representation, and the Public Sphere in Contemporary Brazil Room 318**

**Chair: Alpine Jefferson, Randolph-Macon College, Ashland, VA**

Kia Lily Caldwell, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill  
Race and the Politics of Health in Contemporary Brazil

Reighan Gillam, Cornell University, Ithaca, NY  
Resistance Televised: TV da Gente and Racial Politics in Brazil

Lúcio Oliveira, University of California, Los Angeles  
Living in the Racial Domain of Whites





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**15. La Guerrita de Doce: The Impact of the Race War of 1912 in Cuba and Elsewhere in the Spanish Caribbean Room 322**

**Chair: Omar Díaz, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Takkara Brunson, University of Rochester, Rochester, NY  
The *Partido Independiente de Color* through the Lens of Gender

Frank Guridy, University of Texas, Austin  
Hijos de Doce: *Afro-Cubans & Diaspora-raling in the Age of Empire*

Melina Pappademos, University Connecticut, West Hartford  
Rethinking Black Racial Politics in Cuba after the *Partido Independiente de Color*

Tomás Fernández Robaina, Biblioteca Nacional José Martí, Havana, Cuba  
On the Problematic of Race in Cuba: What Yesterday’s Ideas Teach Us Today  
(Ideas del Ayer sobre la Problemática Racial en Cuba que Nos Enseñan que Hacer Hoy)

**Discussant: Agustín Lao-Montes, University of Massachusetts, Amherst**

**Friday 4:00—5:30  
Concurrent Panels**

**16. Brazilian Confrontations with Race, Policy-making, and Globalization Room 320**

**Chair: Niambi Carter, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Tianna Paschel, University of California, Berkeley  
Airing Dirty Laundry: The Impact of the Durban World Conference  
on Brazil’s Shift from Colorblindness to Affirmative Action

Gladys Mitchell, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD  
Black-linked Fate, Prejudice, and Support for Brazilian Racial Policies

**17. Hip-Hop and Black Youth in Latin American Cities: Discourses and Practices vis-à-vis Race, Class, and Gender in Brazil and Argentina Room 318**

**Chair: Paul Dixon, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Ana Lúcia Silva Souza, Universidade Federal da Bahia, Brazil  
Literacies of Re-existence: Cultures and Identities in the Hip-Hop Movement

Janaína Damasceno Gomes, Universidade de São Paulo, Brazil  
African and Latin American Diasporas in the Black Argentinian Movement

Jaqueline Lima, Universidade Estadual de São Paulo, Brazil  
Perforated Passages from Quilombos to Other Peripheries: The New History of Hip-Hop Beats





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**Roundtable**

**18. Agency in the African Diaspora: Refractions across the Americas Room 322**

**Moderator: Leonard Harris, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Fannie Theresa Rushing, Benedictine University, Lisle, IL

In the post-emancipation period throughout the Americas, the expansion of agro-industrial capital forced the migration of thousands of people of African descent creating a second African Diaspora in which the Caribbean replaced the Atlantic as a carrier of cultures, ideas and resistance. It was a period that saw an increase in terror and violence unleashed against communities of African descent with new state projects for exploiting their labor and new, violent mechanisms of social control designed to inhibit their movements and instill terror within their communities. In response to the call for African Americans to enlist in World War I in order to “make the world safe for democracy”, the African American social activist, A. Philip Randolph, responded rather than fighting in a racist, class war for “democracy”, “Negros, should not enlist in a war for which the prize was the acquisition of colonies in Asia and Africa. Instead, they should fight “to make Georgia safe for the Negro”. This presentation explores the ways in which in the post-emancipation period peoples of African descent in moving through the Diaspora came into contact, sometimes in conflict or concert, with peoples of African descent from the former, Spanish, French and English colonies, and became aware of the necessity for continuing their fight against attempts to marginalize or obliterate their presence and create spaces safe for Blackness.

**Respondent #1: William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo**



## RECEPTION



### MEMORIAL UNION, WEST FACULTY LOUNGE

**5:45—6:45 PM**

**Social Hour**

**Black Cultural Center Presents:**

**Cultural Arts Festival**

**Friday, December 2, 2011**

**Loeb Playhouse, Stewart Center**

**7:00 PM**

The festival is a culmination of the BCC’s semester-long exploration of Afro-Latin culture and the Diaspora featuring the BCC Performing Arts Ensembles.

Admission:

General Public \$7, Purdue Students \$5



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**Continental Breakfast  
8:00 am  
Room 313**

**Saturday 8:30—10:00  
Concurrent Panels**

**20. ¿Qué Quiere Decir Negro? Ethnographic Explorations  
of Blackness in Latin America Room 322**

**Chair: Ariel de la Fuente, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

Giles Harrison-Conwill, Duke University, Durham, NC  
The Work of Blackness: Race, National, and Musical Performance in Venezuela

Judith Anderson, University of Florida, Gainesville  
Whom Are You Calling Negro? Peronism and Blackness in Argentina

**21. Race and Social Movements in Latin America and the Caribbean Room 320**

**Chair: Ronald Stephens, Ohio University, Athens**

Meredith Main, University of Florida, Gainesville  
Navigating the Challenges of Afro-Ecuadorian Activism in Quito

Amanda Concha-Holmes, University of Florida, Gainesville  
Decolonizing Image-ing: An Afro-Cuban Cabildo and Grassroots Social Movements

William Santiago-Valles, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo  
Methods to Dismantle Racialized Exploitation and State Violence through Transnational Networks: Four Latin American Cases

**22 . Performing Race Room 318**

**Chair: Patrice Rankine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN**

José de Paiva dos Santos, Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Belo Horizonte, Brazil  
Rethinking Brazil's Foundation: Maria Firmina dos Reis and Conceição Evaristo

Dana Linda, University of California, Los Angeles  
White Noise, Black Masks: Recapturing Race in Hispanic Caribbean Prison Narratives



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College of Liberal Arts § The Graduate School § Black Culture Center  
Diversity Resource Office § Department of Anthropology  
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Department of Political Science § Department of Philosophy

## SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR SYMPOSIUM COMMITTEE

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AISHA FINCH, UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES  
FANNIE THERESA RUSHING, BENEDICTINE UNIVERSITY, LISLE, IL

## 28<sup>TH</sup> AASRC ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

“CELEBRATING OUR PAST & LOOKING INTO OUR FUTURE”  
November 15—17, 2012

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