

Black Issues Conference 2021 Schedule

Bowling Green State University

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2021 Black Issues Conference Schedule

(Please note: Session Titles in Blue Text are hyperlinks to Zoom meeting rooms. You may need to press Control + Click to follow the link.)

Schedule at a Glance

9:30am – 9:45am	Meeting Opens
9:45am – 10am	Welcome/Conference Opening
10 am – 11am	Black Alumni Council: Black at BGSU
11am – 11:10am	BREAK
11:10am – 12pm	Concurrent Sessions I
12pm – 12:15pm	BREAK
12:15pm – 1:30pm	Keynote
1:30pm – 1:45pm	BREAK
1:45pm – 2:35pm	Concurrent Sessions II
2:35pm – 2:45pm	BREAK
2:45pm – 3:35pm	Concurrent Sessions III
3:35pm – 3:45pm	BREAK
3:45pm – 4pm	Wrap-Up/Thank You/Raffle

Schedule Detail

Opening Session

09:45am – 11:00am Welcome/Opening Session

Facilitated by Members of BGSU Black Alumni Council, *Moderated by* Carol E. Ware, '78

Normèa S. Banner '02	Michael Rhoades '79
Chloe Cox '23	Tiffany R. Smith '13
Sharonda A. Glover '06	Arto Woodley '88,'90

Although commonalities exist within the Black student experience, there have been many changes since the first Black student attended BGSU. Through dialogue, this panel will provide an historical overview of the challenges and successes over the decades.

Concurrent Sessions

11:10am – 12:00pm Concurrent Sessions I

An Introduction to the Music of Florence Price

Facilitated by Dr. Cole Burger, Faculty, BGSU

Florence Price was the first Black woman to have her music performed by the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. Despite the successes she achieved in her lifetime, Price and her music are still underappreciated and underplayed 70 years after her death. This lecture-recital will intersperse important information about Price and the struggles she faced as a Black woman getting respect (and her music published) with performances of two pieces of hers discovered in 2009 and published in 2016.

Talking through the Cycle of Oppression

Facilitated by Clare Sunderman and Javana Joyce, Undergraduate Students, BGSU

Do you understand the difference between prejudice and discrimination? Did you even know there IS a difference? In this session, the presenters, Undergraduate Student Leadership Assistants from the Marvin Center for Student Leadership, will give you foundational knowledge about the Cycle of Oppression, including an extensive look at each of the 5 steps in the Cycle of Oppression and how it impacts marginalized populations today.

Couldn't but Can Now: Conversations about Black and Queer Identities

Facilitated by Shayauna Newsom, Graduate Student, and Shevonne Nelson Dillingham, Staff, BGSU

Historically, Black Queer individuals often must choose which community they want to connect and engage with more closely. This choice requires a sacrifice of self because they are often not affirmed in their wholeness. In this presentation, we will explore the history of pop culture and historical icons who held/hold Black and Queer identities and will facilitate small group discussions around dismantling systems and rebuilding them in a way that makes space for the multiplicity of Black Queer individuals.

12pm – 1:30pm Keynote Speaker

Nicole Robinson is a Marketing Specialist, Florida Woman, and Author of the forthcoming ‘Chris Jamal Evans’ book based on her widely popular viral Blog. She specializes in Integrated Marketing Strategy, Web Design, Script, and Copywriting. She’s a certified CPACC by the International Association of Accessibility Professionals (IAAP) and consults for Web Accessibility for businesses and influencers alike. She has led statewide marketing campaigns for Florida Hospice & Palliative Care Association to make end-of-life care more accessible to Floridians. TNT and WGN America have selected her for social media partnerships, video production, and engagement strategy. Nicole has advocated for Human Rights domestically and abroad, participating in the UN Human Rights Council Periodic Review of the United States in 2014 in a working group highlighting *Stand Your Ground Laws* in Geneva, Switzerland. From end-of-life care to Marvel Memes, bringing joy, education, and awareness to audiences on digital platforms is her specialty.

1:45pm – 2:35pm Concurrent Sessions II

Collective Relevance: Curating Black Art & History Through Independent Archival Praxis

Facilitated by kYmberly Keeton, Art Librarian & Curator, ART | Library Deco

Interested in African American art? Not sure where to start? This presentation will introduce you to the online African American virtual art library, archiving the visual experience of art, literature, and history through the eyes of artists and institutions in the United States and abroad. The digital art library stores exhibitions, collections, events, and curates art news, and includes the online ART LibGuide, a comprehensive digital reference bibliophile for scholarly African American research. All participants that sign up for this presentation will receive a complimentary (6) month membership to the library.

Black Sportswomen and Activism in 1950s, 60s, and 70s: The Stories Untold

Facilitated by Emma Calow, Graduate Student, BGSU

In the late 1950s, 60s, and 70s, the Civil Rights Movement gained significant traction, but who do we think of when we think of athlete activism? This presentation will discuss the activist efforts of Eroseanna “Rose” Robinson, Wyomia Tyus, and Brown University cheerleading team, their erasure (and that of Black sportswomen in general) due to intersectional oppression of racism and sexism and center the voices and stories of those who were most impacted by the issues we are still talking about today.

Bisa Butler: Sewing a New Narrative

Facilitated by Onnolee Brown, Undergraduate Student, University of Toledo

In her awe-encompassing life-sized quilted portraits, sewn in the rich color of Dutch wax fabrics, Bisa Butler stitches the stories (from photographs) of African Americans who have been forgotten throughout U.S. History. This paper presentation explores the art quilt movement and the importance of African American women in it, the AfriCOBRA Movement, and how Butler's quilts are adding the legacy of the women who came before her.

Home Improvement: How to better ourselves and our community

Facilitated by Darwins Olcima and Shayauna Newsom, Graduate Students, BGSU

This roundtable discussing will focus on some of the areas inequity within the Black community, topics such as colorism, homophobia, and transphobia to begin uniting and working together to tackle these issues. The conversation will include large and small group discussions defining equity and inclusion and exploring what they look like in the Black community, talking about personal challenges, finding support, sharing ideas, and talking about how we can take personal responsibility in bettering our community.

2:45pm – 3:35pm Concurrent Sessions III

Fashion and Black American Identity Through the Lens of Afrofuturism

Facilitated by Sienna Saldana, Undergraduate Student, BGSU

Interest in Afrofuturism is growing. According to curator Ingrid LaFleur, afrofuturism is “a way of imagining possible futures through a black cultural lens” and requires immersion in the traditions of the African Diaspora. Drawing from Janelle Monáe's work, particularly her album *Dirty Computer* and from the movie *Black Panther*, this paper presentation explores Afrofuturism, particularly its history, the concept of recontextualization, and the exploration of fashion and design as a driver.

Transnational Generational Trauma: From Jamaican Slave Protests and Pantomimes in the 1800s to the George Floyd Protests in 2020

Facilitated by Dr. Khani Begum, Faculty, BGSU

The violence of slavery and colonization is enacted not only on physical bodies but on the psyches as well. This presentation discusses how the global protests erupting in the wake of George Floyd's brutal murder can be perceived in light of Black Protest activities engaged in by Jamaican slaves in the early 1800s, as documented in Sylvia Wynter's play *Masquerade*, and connects the indirect expression of protest then (pantomimes, dances and parades created during Christmas time) to the spontaneous communal dance and theatricality during various activities in our present-day George Floyd era.

The Discourses of Disruption

Facilitated by Jon-Jama Scott, Graduate Student, and Dr. Robert L. Perry and Dr. John S. Scott, Distinguished Professors Emeritus, BGSU

The BGSU Department of Ethnic Studies emerged at the end of the 1960s and was borne out of demands for the university to seriously address national issues of race and ethnicity. This panel engages Department founders Robert Perry and John Scott in conversation about the formation of the department, Eurocentric interpretations that further misunderstandings and marginalization of non-white groups, honoring the past in a way that challenges racist stereotypes about Black leadership and diversity programming, and helping campuses and communities to progress through unpredictable times by understanding and expressing “experience” and analyzing and activating “knowledge”.

College Credit Plus: Students of Color Voices Revealed

Facilitated by Dr. Tracy L. Davis, Staff, University of Cincinnati

This presentation will use stories and voices from African American students to understand why some African American students tend not to participate in dual enrollment programs (and therefore may not be sharing the same benefits and outcomes) at rates similar to their White counterparts. These stories will shed light implicit biases among counselors and teachers, lack of care and support of educational goals and dreams, and lack of social capital, and will also identify practical ways to increase the access and enrollment of African American students into the CCP program from the students' perspective.

3:45pm – 4:30pm Wrap Up

Wrap-Up/Thank You/Raffle

Closing ceremony. Please join us for a little “Thank you” wrap up of this year’s BIC and participate in the raffle.