

## Black Issues Conference 2020 Schedule

Bowling Green State University

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# Black Issues Conference Schedule

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Thursday, February 27, 2020

10 a.m. – 5 p.m. | Bowen-Thompson Student Union

9 a.m. Registration and Check-in | BTSU Lobby

10 – 11:20 a.m. High School Student Workshop | Room 201A

College Student Workshop | Room 206

Faculty-Staff-General Public Roundtable | Room 207

11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. Luncheon with Bobby Seale | BTSU 202

1:30 – 5 p.m. Jerome Library Exhibit | Room 306

1:30 – 5 p.m. Concurrent Sessions | Various Locations

5 p.m. Closing Remarks | BTSU 202

## Schedule of Concurrent Sessions

### 1:30-2:15 p.m.

#### **Ramonda Kindle: We Passed, Ran, and Jumped Our Way Into Activism: Exploration of Black Student-Athletes and Black Athletes Activism**

Session I | BTSU 206

In this session, the presenter will explore the impact of the recruitment process and athletic culture on Black student athletes and their activism. This session includes a look at student athletes' social identities, historical context of Black athlete activism, and a discussion of how to support student -athlete activists.

#### **Michael Oshindoro: Woke Cops, Woke Dancer: A Revision of Blackness in Ossie Davis' Cotton Comes to Harlem (1970)**

Session I | BTSU 207

Using Ossie Davis' film Cotton Comes to Harlem, this session explores gender disparity in the historical formation of social affective cords and social struggles in the work of social healing among the Black community and the implications on the collective Black experience in the United States.

#### **Thomas James: B.E.A.T the ODDS (Black Educated And Tested)**

Session I | BTSU 315

Using the presenter's autobiographical experience, this session explores environmental psychology, underlines the determining factors and deterrents that create barriers for African American men's college graduation rates, and highlights the inherent power to change the narrative and improve the world around us.

#### **Panel: Fearless Writers Take On Youth Gun Violence and Hate Crimes**

Session I | BTSU 316

This session present the writings of youth researchers on the topics of youth gun violence, media representation of inner city experiences with the police, hate crimes, and media coverage of hate crimes. These autoethnographic studies are a result of a two and a half year collaboration between the University of Toledo Social Work Program and Rogers High School AVID Program.

#### **Rene Ayala: Agents of Change (2016) and the Legacy of Black Student Activism**

Session I | BTSU 201A

This session explores the legacy of Black student activism from the 1960s to the present using the 2016 documentary "Agents of Change." By looking at the successful [and not-so-successful] tactics of an earlier generation, this session examines the messages of the film and the use of the 1960s to inspire and connect to present day activists.

#### **Mikayla Mueller: Acknowledging My White Privilege**

Session I | BTSU 201B

In this session, the presenter discusses their journey of self-discovery relating to race, power, and privilege, research into racial biases in governmental assistance programs for mental health, self work around allyship, and the steps being taken toward building cultural competence and demonstrating support for intercommunity solidarity.

### 2:25 - 3:10 p.m.

#### **Emma Calow: Social Protest and Sport: The Past in the Present**

## Session II | BTSU 207

This session is an exploration of the complicated history of race, activism, politics, and athletes in the United States. Using powerful examples such as Tommie Smith and John Carlos, Muhammad Ali, Ariyana Smith, and Colin Kaepernick, the session will highlight how and why protests by athletes helps to create powerful meaning-making in conversations about race and racism.

### **Panel: Are We Welcomed: How Microaggressions Affect Black College Students/How do Sexual Stereotypes and Microaggressions Impact College Students of Color at a Primarily White Institution?**

## Session II | BTSU 315

This session provides two separate looks at the impact of racial microaggressions on African American students at BGSU at both the systemical and environmental macro-levels and at the individual level, particularly relating to sexually based stereotypes. The results of these studies, which will be shared in the session, are a digital campaign and amplification of the student voice.

### **Dr. Robert E. Braylock: Jesus & Justice: Judaic & Christian Scripture's Influence on Blacktivism**

## Session II | BTSU 201A

In this session, the presenter will discuss the history of social justice instances in the Bible, the way in which African Americans harnessed those passages in their work for freedom, and the connection from the distant past to the recent past (such as the work of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.) and the present.

### **Sherrel McLafferty: Desegregating Pedagogy: Integrating the New Negro Movement into the Modern Era**

## Session II | BTSU 201B

In this session, the presenter will share their research on the current teaching practices of Black texts, focusing on Modern Literature. This examination will include when and how the texts are taught, as well as potential practices to be more inclusive by queering teaching structures.

**3:20 - 4:05 p.m.**

### **Sandra Rivers-Gill: "A Letter to Langston" - A Dramatic Monologue**

## Session III | BTSU 207

This performance is a dramatic monologue based upon the real life friendship between Harlem Renaissance giants Zora Neale Hurston and Langston Hughes as seen through Hurston's eyes. Providing a narrative over the course of a letter that also spans almost a lifetime, this monologue digs deeper into the complex relationship and ultimate rift between Hurston and Hughes.

### **Kyle Thompson: Methodology of Nonprofit Advocacy for Black People in Columbus**

## Session III | BTSU 315

Using the disparate incarceration rates of Blacks as a framework, this session explores advocacy by the nonprofit sector for Black people in Columbus, OH. Theories of social integration in nonprofit organizations, methods used, and implementation into criminal justice reform will also be explored.

### **Joshua Boston: Presidential Rhetoric and Bureaucratic Enforcement: The Clinton Administration and Civil Rights**

## Session III | BTSU 316

Based on a published paper, this session focuses on how a President [Bill Clinton] used public rhetoric/discourse in exercising political power on the civil rights issue of housing discrimination and fair housing enforcement and the missed opportunity to translate rhetoric into action on this issue.

### **James Perrine: Urban Farming: Community Action Against Environmental Racism**

## Session III | BTSU 201A

This session explores food deserts and their status as indirect pollutants in environmental racism, the effectiveness of urban farming as a way to combat the effects of food deserts, the potential of urban farming to restore wealth and power back to urban communities, and the importance of the buy-your-block movement as a first step of action on systemic oppression.

### **Rosalyn C. Whickum: "If we knew better, we'd do better" Intellectuals in the Public: Pushing Perseverance through Inclusive Intellectualism**

## Session III | BTSU 201B

This session takes an in-depth look at the concept of the "Talented Tenth" and the division it has caused in the Black community, examines navigating away from academia, explores the benefits of widespread public intellectualism, and explains how inclusive intellectualism creates empowerment and solidarity within the community.

**4:15 - 5:00 pm**

### **T. DeWayne Moore: Telling the Story of Charley Patton: Shared Authority and the Blues**

## Session IV | BTSU 207

Reclaiming our stories as a form of activism, this session focuses on the work done by the Mt. Zion Memorial Fund, preserving the gravesite of "Father of the Delta Blues"

Charley Patton, and telling his true story by including family narrative and previously unknown documents, dispelling myths and stereotypes, and providing the proper context for his narrative to connect the Jim Crow past to the present.

### **Alexis Lankford: Self-Advocacy 101**

**Session IV | BTSU 315**

This session will explore the art of self-advocacy for students, including an outline of why, when, and how a student should advocate for themselves. It will also provide the chance to see what self-advocacy looks like, and provide participants with an opportunity to practice self-advocacy.

### **Nathaniel Stewart: Black Education: Moving Beyond Understandings of Political Acts and Moving Toward Historical Understandings of Resistance**

**Session IV | BTSU 316**

In this session, the presenter explores the history of Black education in the US, including its inception as radical opposition to racial oppression, its threat to expose the brutal horrors of colonialism, why it should be viewed as more than a political act, and implications of understanding Black education in this manner.

### **Meghan McKinley: Intersectional Allyship: Sharing “Lemonade”**

**Session IV | BTSU 201A**

Using Beyoncé’s visual album “Lemonade” as a pedagogical framework for building solidarity between Asian women and Black women, this highly interactive presentation will examine shared oppression, the importance of decentering Whiteness in allyship, the process of building intersectional allyship, and provide suggestions for putting theory into practice.

### **Panel: Legacies Unearthed: The Impact of the African Grove Theatre on Contemporary Black Theatrical Works/Not Your...**

**Session IV | BTSU 201B**

This session provides two unique looks at negative stereotypes and ways the Black community works to combat them. The first is an exploration of first free Black theatre in the US, the African Grove Theatre, and its impact on contemporary Black theatre. The second delves into the “fashion-forward” White appropriation of Black hairstyles while ignoring the cultural erasure and negative connotations experienced by Black women when they wear natural and braided styles.

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