

# **Fall Newsletter**

**Issue 9, Fall 2015** 

ANNE BRADEN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE RESEARCH

Opened in 2007 in honor of human rights activist Anne Braden, the Braden Institute bridges the gap between academic research and racial and social justice activism

"A new massive thrust toward racial justice will not alone solve all the problems that face us, but I am convinced that unless such a thrust develops—one that is global in its outlook—the other problems will not be solved." --Anne Braden, 1999



Dr. Carol Anderson

# Dr. Carol Anderson to deliver 9th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture

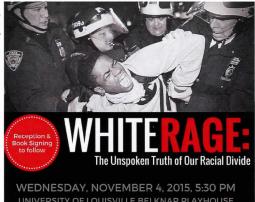
Emory University historian Carol Anderson will deliver the 9th Annual Memorial Lecture "White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide," on November 4th, 2015. The topic of the lecture is inspired by Dr. Anderson's 2014 essay for the Washington Post, "Ferguson isn't about black rage against cops. It's white rage against progress". The essay went viral overnight, spurring heated debates about racial justice across the nation and challenging the country to think about the events in Ferguson in a new way. Anderson is now writing a book on the history and evolution of white rage. The talk will take place at 5:30 pm in the Belknap Playhouse on the University of

Louisville campus with a book signing and reception to follow. Public parking is available at meters along Third Street, Cardinal Blvd. and Brandeis Ave., and in the Speed Museum parking deck. As always, the lecture is open and free to the public.

Carol Anderson is an associate professor of African American Studies and History at Emory University. Her research focuses on the ways in which public policy intersects with issues of race, justice, and equality in the United States. Her first book, Eyes Off the Prize: The United Nations and the African American Struggle for Human Rights, 1944-1955, explored the impact of the Cold War on the Black freedom movement. In her recent book, Bourgeois Radicals: The NAACP and the

Struggle for Colonial Liberation, 1941-1960, Anderson explores the history of the NAACP's fight for the liberation for Africans and Asians. Dr. Anderson has served on a number of working groups that focus on race, minority rights, and criminal justice, including one for the United Nations. She has also been a member of the U.S. State Department's Historical Advisory Committee.

Please spread the word for what is sure to be a dynamic talk. We hope all of you will read, discuss, and share



UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE BELKNAP PLAYHOUSE Free and open to the public

with others Anderson's *Post* piece: find it at http://tinyurl.com/p2rk6be. Promotional materials and additional information are available by contacting us at 502-852-6142 or by visiting http://anne-braden.org/events/

Anne Braden Institute Reading Room
258 Ekstrom Library
Open M T Th 9-5; W 9-6
Fridays, evenings, & weekends by
appointment
Call (502) 852-6142,
visit louisville.edu/braden,
and follow us on Facebook and Twitter



## Fall Events Calendar

- ABI signature event
- Cosponsored event
- October 14 (Wed): "Ask a Mexican About ¡Ask a Mexican!" Public lecture presented by Gustavo Arellano focusing on the history of Arrellano's controversial column, from questions to methodology to lightning round; Shumaker Research Building, Room 139, 2-3 PM.
- October 14 (Wed): 14th Annual LALS Heritage Lecture. "El Sur Shall Rise Again: How Latino Immigrants are Saving the South" presented by Gustavo Arellano; Chao Auditorium, Ekstrom Library; 4:30-5:30 PM.
- October 23 (Fri): Milton Rogovin and the Photography of Conscience conference. Schneider Hall Galleries, Hite Art Institute; 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM. For more info 502-852-2361.
- October 26 (Mon): Opening the Door to the Future of Fair Housing. Campus panel discussion. Brandeis School of Law Room 175; 4:15-6:00 PM.
- October 27 (Tues): Opening the Door to the Future of Fair Housing. Panel discussion. LFPL Main Library, 301 York St, Centennial Room; 5:30-7:30 PM.
- November 4 (Wed): The 9th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture. Carol Anderson, Associate Professor of African American Studies at Emory University, presents "White Rage: The Unspoken Truth of Our Racial Divide." Reception and book signing to follow. Belknap Playhouse, University of Louisville; 5:30
- November 5 (Thurs): Research Meets Activism Breakfast "The Limits of a Civil Rights Framework in Today's Movements for Racial and Social Justice." Panel of local scholars/activists in conversation with Carol Anderson. Yearlings Club, 4309 W Broadway; 9:00 AM. Limited seating, registration required 502.852.6142.

#### Director's Note



Terrible acts have taken place across our nation since last fall. Yet the rise of the Black Lives Matter movement, despite poor representation by mass media, also gives new bold new hope to the quest for racial and social justice. In the wake of the racial violence laid bare in communities from Ferguson to Baltimore to Charleston, there is also a moment of opening in American culture. Soon after the atrocious racist massacre of nine worshippers at Emanuel AME Church in Charleston, and on the heels of Bree

Newsome's courageous act of civil disobedience to remove the Confederate flag from the SC State House, longtime Confederate symbols came down all over the South. While on the one hand a Gallup poll in August found a dimmer view of race relations and of police fairness (http://www.gallup.com/poll/184484/americans-views-black-white-relations-deteriorate.aspx), that poll also suggests that, for the first time in decades, not only African Americans but whites too have acquired a wider understanding of the need for racial change as well as for real policies to reduce structural racism. Body cameras on police are not nearly enough, but today at least a majority of Americans believe they are needed.

These dynamics make all the more compelling the purpose of our work at the Anne Braden Institute to promote a stronger engagement with the powerful history, the unfinished business, and now the emerging new generation of the African American freedom movement. If you are not already 1 of the 800+ of subscribers to our weekly listserv, please be in touch with us. Visit our reading room, send us your ideas, attend this fall's lecture, and help us find new ways to keep history in the conversation about how to support BLM and how to move our society forward toward racial equity as a crucial first step toward greater justice for all.

-- Cate Fosl



#### **Meet Our Students**



Nia Holt is a new Graduate Assistant who is completing Master's degrees in Public Administration and Urban Planning. She

received her Bachelor's degree in Political Science and a Nonprofit & Community Leadership Graduate Certificate from the University of Dayton. After graduation, she intends to pursue a career in urban planning and community development. "Even when a bird's feathers are plucked, it does not stop flying. And a broken string does not stop the music. And waking up does not mean that one stops dreaming." — *The Painter of the Wind* 



Mallie Feltner is a continuing Graduate Assistant in the Anne Braden Institute and a second-year Master's student in Women's

and Gender Studies. She has a
Bachelor's degree in Politics and
Government from Illinois State
University and her research interests
are in feminist theory, transnational
feminism, power, and structural
inequalities. She plans to pursue a job
in public policy and community
organizing after graduation in the
spring. "Radical simply means grasping
things at the root." — Angela Davis



Leon Bates is a secondyear M.A. student in Pan African Studies and a first-year ABI Graduate Assistant. He graduated from

Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) where he was a non-traditional student and earned a B.A. in Africana Studies and U.S. History. His research interest area is post-Reconstruction through the First World War. "Those who cannot remember the past are condemned to repeat it." — George Santayana, Reason in Common Sense

#### **Meet Our Students**



Cayenne Campbell has been a work-study student at the ABI since February 2014. The Lexington, Ky., native

is a senior at UoL majoring in Public Health Education. "Feminism isn't simply about being a woman in a position of power. It's battling systemic inequities; it's a social justice movement that believes sexism, racism and classism exist and interconnect, and that they should be consistently challenged."

— Jessica Valenti



Taylor Little is a senior at duPont Manual High School in the Journalism and Communications magnet and the ABI's first high school intern.

She is the founder of the Black History Matters campaign and a board member of her school's Black Student Union. She is planning to double major in accounting and political economy and minor in Spanish when she begins college next year.

The University of Louisville is an equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate against persons on the basis of race, age, religion, sex, disability, color, sexual orientation, national origin, or veteran status.

## Meet our new Program Coordinator

We welcome Dionne C. Griffiths as our new program coordinator as of late September 2015. She has been an administrator with a variety of nonprofits as well as an advocate for racial justice, gender equity, and economic justice, primarily through the arts. Dionne was a Fulbright Fellow to Trinidad (2006-2007) and she researched dance and choreographed for the Metamorphosis Dance Company. She earned her M.A. in Choreography from the University of North Carolina-Greensboro and graduated Magna Cum Laude and Phi Beta Kappa from Spelman College with a B.A. in Comparative Women's Studies. A former grantee of the



Kentucky Foundation for Women, Dionne has performed, choreographed, and taught dance nationally and internationally with dance research that focuses on African American identity, social justice, and womanhood. In 2014, from Kentucky state government, she earned her Certificate of Management Fundamentals and was awarded the Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign Rookie of the Year. Dionne is a 2014 Focus Louisville graduate and a member of the Louisville Chapter of the National Alumnae Association of Spelman College. Her community engagement has included the Louisville Metro Healing Possible Quorum, Louisville YMCA Black Achievers, and the Louisville Urban League. Our whole team is excited to welcome Dionne to the ABI, and we hope you will come by soon and meet her!

In Fall 2014, our exhibit "Black Freedom, White Allies, Red Scare: Louisville, 1954" marked the 60th anniversary of the Andrew Wade home purchase and the violence it provoked, as well as the resulting sedition trial of Carl Braden. The project was such a success in the Louisville Free Public Library that we are now digitizing it, in collaboration with the original partners. The digital exhibit will launch later in the fall, so stay tuned! (at right: exhibit opening ceremony with young Wade family members, Bob Cunningham, and Cate Fosl)



## Reflection Essay by Alexis Johnson, ABI Graduate Assistant 2013-15

Desmond Tutu, former Archbishop of South Africa, once remarked, "The past refuses to lie down quietly." Dylann Roof reminded Americans and the world of that fact in the most heinous way possible when he murdered nine African Americans on June 17, 2015, in Charleston, South Carolina. The shooting harkened back to a Sunday morning in 1963, weeks after the March on Washington, when white supremacists bombed Sixteenth Street Baptist Church in Birmingham, Alabama, killing four African American girls.

The mission of the Anne Braden Institute, to continue the unfinished business of the Civil Rights Movement, echoes the sentiments of Archbishop Tutu. When I arrived in Louisville in the fall of 2013, I did not have knowledge of the existence of this Institute, nor the remarkable life of Anne Braden. Recently, in May, I completed two enriching years as a graduate assistant representing the Department of Pan-African Studies.

A portion of my time at the ABI centered on assisting with management of projects, including our annual social justice research awards and planning our annual memorial lecture. For my personal project, I created a digital timeline of African American history, with a special focus on Louisville's struggle for racial equality. I was intrigued by Louisville's local movement, a place where, as historian Clarence Lang writes of border cities, "northern and southern social forces that otherwise do not meet" converged to produce a distinctive form of oppression and black resistance (strengthened by the work of white allies such as Anne) to that oppression. With a new civil rights movement underway, sparked by events in fellow border cities Ferguson and Baltimore, it is my hope that the timeline will show how we have arrived at this historical moment, and contribute to the Institute's commitment to ensuring that racial and social justice is achieved locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

On a concluding note, I wish to add that my time in the ABI was augmented by my studies in the Department of Pan-African Studies. Both entities share similar missions—combining academic research and social responsibility. It is also my hope that as each continues to do the necessary work of achieving a more just world, the relationship between the Department and the Institute will strengthen. Racism, sexism, and classism cannot be alleviated without collaborative efforts.

## **ABI Community Advisory Council**

Bob Cunningham
Judi Jennings
Jason Jewell (student rep)
Stephanie Kaufman
Shelton McElroy
Mari Mujica (co-chair)

Sarah Nuñez (staff rep) Mimi Pickering Tytianna Smith Siobhan Smith (faculty rep) Carla Wallace (co-chair)

#### **ABI Affiliated Faculty**

Tomarra Adams, associate professor of Pan-African Studies David Anderson, associate professor of English Rhonda Buchanan, director, Latin American and Latino Studies/professor of Nefertiti Burton, professor and chair of Theatre Arts W. Carson Byrd, assistant professor of Pan-African Studies Ying Kit Chan, professor and chair of Fine Arts Dewey Clayton, professor of Political Science Fannie Cox, associate professor, University Libraries Margaret D'Silva, professor of Communication Joy Hart, professor of Communication, director of University Honors Lauren Heberle, associate professor of Sociology Ricky Jones, professor and chair of Pan-African Studies Tracy K'Meyer, professor and chair of History Avery Kolers, professor of Philosophy Lisa Markowitz, associate professor of Anthropology David Owen, professor and chair of Philosophy Rodger Payne, professor and chair of Political Science Theresa Rajack-Talley, associate professor of Pan-African Studies Susanne Remold, associate professor of Biology Siobhan Smith, assistant professor of Communication Kaila Story, associate professor of Women's & Gender Studies/Pan African Studies, Audre Lorde chair Nancy Theriot, professor and chair of Women's & Gender Studies Shelley Thomas, associate professor of Education, Teaching & Learning Russ Vandenbroucke, professor of Theatre Arts Margath Walker, assistant professor of Geography

Monnica Williams, associate professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences

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