THE SUBVERSIVE

ANNE BRADEN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE RESEARCH



IMANI PERRY

16th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecture

We are thrilled to announce Dr. Imani Perry as the 16th Annual Anne Braden Memorial Lecturer. Dr. Perry is the Hughes-Rogers Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University and a faculty associate with the Programs in Law and Public Affairs, Gender and Sexuality Studies and Jazz Studies. Perry's research primarily focuses on the history of Black thought, art, and imagination crafted in response to, and resistance against, the social, political and legal realities of domination in the West. She seeks to understand the processes of retrenchment after moments of social progress, and how freedom dreams are nevertheless sustained.

As Perry demonstrates in South to America: A Journey Below the Mason-Dixon Line to Understand the Soul of a Nation, the foundations, changes, and tensions of the United States can be found when traveling to the American South. In her travels, including a stop in Derby City, Louisville, Kentucky, Perry confronts history in the present through connections with human beings and their stories, inviting Southern identity as a tool of her self-discovery and overall reflections on its importance to the formation of America.

Register <u>here</u> to attend!

Fall Events Calendar

September 20*

The Black Six Panel Discussion Floyd Theatre, 1 PM

September 21*

Healthcare Ethics Virtual Speakers: Dr. Megan Poole (ABI Faculty Affiliate) & Dr. Shavonnie Carthens, 12 PM

October 19*

Healthcare Ethics Virtual Speaker: Zoha Mian, 12 PM (2022 Graduate Winner of the ABI Social Justice Research Paper Awards)

October 26*

Emily Bingham: My Old Kentucky Home Middleton Theatre, 6 PM

November 3**

16th Annual Memorial Lecture Dr. Imani Perry on South to America Middleton Theater, 6 PM

November 7*

Soul Food: Voices & Votes Cultural Center MPR, 3 PM

November 10*

Festival of Faiths Panel Kentucky Center for the Performing Arts, 1:30-3:30 PM

December 7*

Healthcare Ethics Virtual Speaker: Dr. Beth Munich, 12 PM

LOUISVILLE.

ANNE BRADEN INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE RESEARCH

Founded in 2007 in honor of human rights activist Anne Braden, the Braden Institute bridges the gap between academic research and activism for racial and social justice. The institute is part of the College of Arts and Sciences.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Greetings! Here at the ABI, we are excited about the 2022-23 academic year. During these challenging times, our new program coordinator and graduate teaching assistants are doing outstanding work planning relevant and impactful programming for the campus and community. Many of our faculty affiliates are involved in important communityengaged projects that are helping to transform Louisville and the nation. This year, the ABI is partnering with the Chicago-based national organization, Interfaith America, led by former Grawemeyer Religion Award winner, Eboo Patel, for the Vote is Sacred project. We will be creating programming that raises consciousness around the significance and urgency of upcoming elections, securing and expanding access to the ballot, and why voting matters for pressing issues of social, racial, and reproductive justice. Along these lines, we could not be more excited about



Dr. Imani Perry's upcoming ABI lecture, which will address how the future of democracy depends on the American South. As always, we look forward to collaborating with students, staff, faculty, and community members to fulfill our mission of bridging the gap between research and activism.

Peace,

Brandon McCormack

WHAT'S NEW IN SOCIAL JUSTICE RESEARCH?





The ABI is always excited to support faculty and students who produce social justice and community-engaged research. This spring the ABI Research Group released an online research guide entitled "Uncovering Racial Logics: Lousiville's History of Racial Oppression and Activism". This fall, UofL scholars are currently presenting their interdisciplinary research in the Virtual Healthcare Ethics Speaker Series. Click on the images above to learn more!

FESTIVAL of FAITHS SACRED STORIES CONTEMPLATION AND CONNECTION

NOVEMBER 9-12 | KENTUCKY CENTER

FESTIVAL OF FAITHS

This year marks the 26th annual Festival of Faiths. The 2022 Festival of Faiths, Sacred Stories: Contemplation and Connection, will celebrate the power of narratives to inspire purpose, instill a sense of belonging and define our lives. Millennials and Gen Zers will explore the next generation of storytellers and how faith has shaped their activism in response to the historic events of the past few years – specifically racial reckonings and other social justice concerns.

Join us Nov. 9-12, as renowned speakers and artists help us engage in the sacred work of sharing stories to illuminate both our complexity and our interdependence. The Anne Braden Institute will be partnering with the Festival of Faiths, and our very own Dr. Michael Brandon McCormack, Professor in the Departments of Pan-African Studies and Comparative Humanities, has curated and will moderate the panel on Friday, November 10, 2022, from 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm. For ticket information, please visit <u>festivaloffaiths.org</u>.

Friday, November 10, 2022

Changing Story Keepers: Millennials and Gen Zers 1:30 pm to 3:30 pm



Co-curated and moderated by Dr. Michael Brandon McCormack, Director of the Anne Braden Institute

with guest panelists



Najeeba Syeed



storae michele



Lyla June

VOTE IS SACRED

The Vote is Sacred (VIS) is a national, nonpartisan civic engagement initiative created by Interfaith America that seeks to inform and equip citizens with the practical steps needed to secure the right to vote for all Americans. Essentially, this initiative aims to spark a national conversation about how voting is rooted in diverse faith traditions and practical ways those traditions can come together to protect our democracy. A significant portion of this grant initiative will focus on activating the social capital of higher education and faith communities to underscore the centrality of the vote in a religiously diverse, participatory government.

The Vote is Sacred will positively impact our students and community because it will educate the Louisville community on the importance of voting for securing a better future where democracy and freedom include all of us. The Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research (ABI) will collaborate with VIS to promote knowledge and awareness in our community. We will have an ABI Vote is Sacred team with Louisville educators, students, and community leaders. The Vote is Sacred is fashioned after Interfaith America's innovative programs that engage faith commitments to address religious and racial divides. We are part of this grant until May 2023 with programming to be planned for the spring semester.

Learn more about the initiative here.

FACULTY AFFILIATE SPOTLIGHT



Dr. Yara Mekawi is an assistant professor in the Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences at the University of Louisville. She is the director of the Challenging Ongoing Legacies Of Racism (COLOR) lab and her research focuses on examining racial discrimination and racial prejudice at the intersection of affect and cognition. Dr. Mekawi is also a clinical psychologist and her approach to clinical work is consistent with an empirically-driven, functional-contextualist orientation that emphasizes culturally-informed assessment, contextually-driven hypothesis generation, collaborative goal setting, and implementation of evidence-based, culturally-informed intervention (e.g., DBT, STAIR, ACT). Administratively, Dr. Mekawi is interested in the assessment and integration of diversity practices within organizations and the implementation of interventions designed to increase access for underrepresented minorities.



Dr. Megan Poole is an assistant professor in the Department of English at the University of Lousiville. Dr. Poole's work aims to push against the bounds of what "science" is, where it happens, and who engage in the work of science. Locally, she enacts these principles through a community-engaged, environmental justice project called "Air Justice." Air Justice is a product of the Environmental Health Literacy Coalition, a group of community leaders, grassroots activists, and interdisciplinary scholars, who seek to make the science of air pollution for accessible for residents who live near Rubbertown. Their work is supported by generous grants from The Humana Foundation, UofL's Health Equity Innovation Hub, and the Gheens Foundation.

MEET OUR TEAM



Laura Rodriguez Graduate Assistant Spanish

Laura Rodriguez is a MA student in Spanish. She graduated from IUS with an undergraduate degree in Psychology and Spanish. She is interested in understanding more about mental health issues stemming from discrimination and traumatic situations for minority groups.



Barbie Johns Graduate Assistant Pan African Studies

Barbie Johns is a second-year Ph.D. student in Pan African studies. She received her masters from Walden University in human and social service and her undergraduate degree at UofL in PAS. She has also served 7 years in the Kentucky National Guard and is a mother of 2.



Deme Wharton Program Coordinator

Deme Wharton is the ABI program coordinator. She is passionate about creating community facing opportunities that change the landscape of racial and social justice locally. A graduate of Penn State with a bachelor's degree in African American studies, she is currently a MS student in Human Resources and Organizational Development.



Braden Institute Faculty Affiliates

David Ross Anderson, Associate Professor of English
Lisa Danielle Bjorkman, Associate Professor of Urban and Public Affairs
Aishia Ayanna Brown, Assistant Professor of Health Promotion and Behavioral Sciences
Anna T Browne Ribeiro, Assistant Professor of Anthropology
Nefertiti Burton, Department Chair and Professor of Theater Arts
Ying Kit Chan, Professor of Fine Arts, Director of Graduate Studies, Studio Art
Karen M. Chandler, Associate Professor of English
Dewey M. Clayton, Professor of Political Science
Amy B. Clukey, Associate Professor of English and Honors Advisor
Fannie Mae Cox, Associate Professor, Outreach and Reference Librarian.

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Lisa B. Markowitz, Associate Professor of Anthropology

Yara Mekawi, Assistant Professor of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Head of the

Challenging Ongoing Legacies of Racism (COLOR) Lab

Carrie Yvonne Mott, Assistant Professor of Geography and Geosciences

Laura P Moyer, Associate Professor of Political Science, Affiliate Faculty Member of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies
Andrea R Olinger, Associate Professor, Director of Composition & Director of the Thomas R. Watson

Conference in Rhetoric and Composition

Megan Renee Poole, Assistant Professor of English

Aaron C Rollins Jr., Associate Professor & Chair of Urban and Public Affairs, Director of Peace, Justice, and Conflict Transformation and Master of Public Administration Programs

Mary P Sheridan, Professor of English, Director of the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society Rachel Jeanne Singel, Associate Professor of Fine Arts

Siobhan Elizabeth Smith Jones, Associate Professor of Communications

Angela Diane Storey, Assistant Professor of Anthropology

Kaila A Story, Associate Professor of Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies & Pan-African Studies

Karl Frederic Swinehart, Associate Professor of Comparative Humanities

Shelley Thomas, Associate Professor & Assistant Department Chair of Social Studies Education Sherri Wallace, Interim Associate Dean of A&S Diversity, Engagement, Culture & Climate (DECC) &

Professor of Political Science

Bronwyn T. Williams Professor of English, Director of the University Writing Center

Please consider a tax-deductible gift to support social justice research at the University of Louisville. You can always make a credit card donation at uofl.me/abigive. Also, you can help the ABI "Raise of Some L" on Oct. 18-19th. Thank you for your support!

