

newsletter of the association of black women historians

TRUTH

sister to sister

ABWH's new mentoring program takes root

Ula Taylor, ABWH Vice Director and Professor at UC Berkeley, approached the ABWH Executive Board about starting a mentorship program in early 2016. She wanted to help members at varying stages of their careers. The Board identified four strategic areas: publishing (digital and traditional), finishing the dissertation, preparing for the job market, and tenure and promotion. All of the mentors are tenure-track professors but mentees include graduate students, adjuncts, post-docs, and assistant professors.

At the 2016 ABWH luncheon, attendees interested in serving as mentors or getting a mentor filled out information cards. As word spread, some members sent emails inquiring about the new program. The first step involved matching research interests, but the next

step required intuition and a bit of flair. Ula and her team considered how the mentee framed her project. If she needed assistance grounding her work, they looked for a mentor with theoretical expertise. If she needed guidance on the job-search dossier, they identified mentors with strong track records in this area. Ula's team matched about 50 mentors and mentees.

Some mentor pairs had a great deal more in common than just research topics. LaKisha Simmons, Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan, mentors Crystal Webster, a recent Ph.D. from University of Massachusetts, Amherst. LaKisha was surprised at how much she and Crystal had in common. "Not only do we both work on black childhood," LaKisha says, "but we are both from Arizona, have three-year old daughters, and many of the

same interests. Somehow, Ula knew we were a great fit!"

The benefits of mentorship are numerous. The reasons why people choose to be mentors are as complex. LaKisha understood the advantages of mentorship and wanted to pass them on. "During my career, I have been mentored by many different people," she says. "I went to graduate school because of mentorship I received from several professors as an undergraduate. I had wonderful mentors as a grad student. Because of that, I have dedicated myself to helping others—students, friends, colleagues—as I have been helped." Marcia Chatelain, Associate Professor at Georgetown University, also

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inside this issue

INTERVIEW: LASHAWN HARRIS

An interview with LaShawn Harris, ABWH Midwestern Director and author of *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners*. [Page 2](#)

2017 ABWH LUNCHEON

This year's luncheon, featuring keynote speaker Keeanga-Yamahatta Taylor, promises to be an exciting and uplifting affair. [Page 3](#)

CALLING ALL GRAD STUDENTS!

Graduate Student Rep Charlene Fletcher-Brown issues a call for graduate students. [Page 4](#)

MEMBER NEWS

Share in the achievements of our members. [Page 5](#)

AND MORE!





ABWH NATIONAL DIRECTOR message



In these challenging times when our healthcare, our vital social support systems, and our very lives are under attack by heedless politicians and heartless racists, it is more important than ever to support and defend the truth telling that defines

our mission. This means that ABWH and its members must continue to find ways to continue to resist racist, homophobic, sexist, anti-immigrant, and anti-intellectual attacks on all people and on our scholarship and our right to speak out in a democratic society. This is a collective effort that draws on the strategies and histories of our foremothers and forefathers and on the insights and progressive actions that guide our members from day to day. It is an honor to be your National Director, and I depend on your wisdom, courage, and participation to keep us moving forward.

In solidarity and struggle, Francille

ABWH National Director Francille Rusan Wilson is the Associate Professor of American Studies and Ethnicity and History at the University of Southern California.

SEX WORKERS

PSYCHICS

AND

NUMBERS RUNNERS

Black Women in New York City's Underground Economy

INTERVIEW

lashawn harris

by Siobhan Carter-David

Women's work in the underground economy, and Black women's work in particular, is grossly understudied. Equally lacking in the historiographical record is the nuanced examination of the ways in which these women used such labor strategically to engage in the work that would yield the most economic and social advantage. ABWH member

LaShawn Harris's *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners: Black Women in New York City's Underground Economy* (Illinois UP, 2016)—and her work on the lives of urban black women in the early 20th century more broadly—has been the subject of several journal articles. Dr. Harris has also been featured on an

episode of TV One's "Celebrity Crime Files" and reviewed through an online roundtable hosted by the African American Intellectual History Society. Dr. Harris is the recipient of two best book awards: the 2017 Darlene Clark Hine Award (Organization of American Historians) for African American women's and gender history as well as the 2017 Philip Taft Book Award (Labor and Working-Class History Association and Cornell University School of Industrial

and Labor Relations) for American Labor and Working-Class History. TRUTH caught up with Dr. Harris with a few questions of our own.

What has been the most fascinating aspect of conducting research and writing a "history of recovery" such as *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners*?



I thoroughly enjoyed researching and re-imagining early twentieth century New York City and the different ways in which underprivileged women economically sustained themselves and their families. The most fascinating aspect of exploring urban black women's labor was locating and dissecting

under-utilized primary documents and photographic images at the New York State Archives, the New York Public Library, and the New York Municipal Archives. Primary materials including anti-vice organizational papers, death certificates, rehabilitation and prison case files, and New York City's District Attorney papers were a goldmine, charting many black women's criminal and income-generating activities and women's

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our awards

NOMINATIONS FOR SOME AWARDS STILL OPEN

Drusilla Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship Award

Deadline June, 30, 2017

The Drusilla Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship Award recognizes an emerging woman scholar of African descent and fosters scholarly research in Africana Women's history. Each year an award will be given for the best, unpublished original essay from a graduate course or a chapter from a thesis or dissertation for the 2017 award year (June 1, 2016, to May 30, 2017). The submission must be wholly focused on some aspect of the history on black women from the U.S. and/or Africana Diaspora. It must demonstrate analysis of primary sources, focus on the ideas or actions initiated among black women, and make a significant contribution to Africana women's history. See truth.abwh.org for further details. The deadline for receipt of all application materials

(including letters of recommendation) is June 30, 2017. Send materials to drusilladunjeeaward@gmail.com.

The 2017 Dunjee Houston Award Committee members are Professors Robyn C. Spencer, Chair (Lehman College, CUNY); Deirdre Cooper-Owens (Queens College, CUNY); Sonya Ramsey (University of North Carolina, Charlotte); and Daryl Scott (Howard University).

Lillian Hornsby Memorial Award

Deadline August 15, 2017

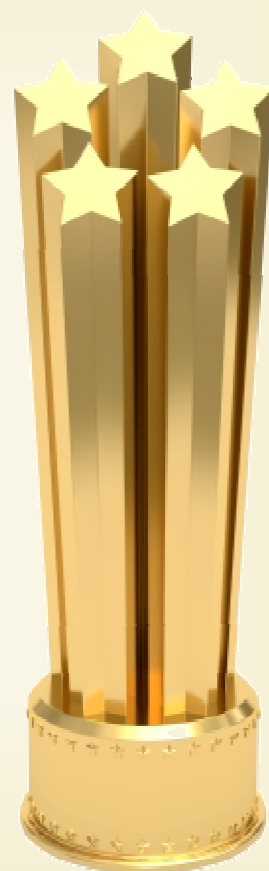
The Lillian Hornsby Memorial Award recognizes an undergraduate woman student of African descent pursuing a degree in History or related field. Each year an award will be given for the best 15- to 20-page essay related to a topic pertaining to Africana women in history, culture, politics, art, and/or science. In 1995, Dr. Alton Hornsby

created the award to honor his late mother. Mrs. Hornsby is remembered for her unwavering commitment to the education of her children and her community at large. See the website for specific requirements.

The deadline for receipt of all application materials (including letters of recommendation) is August 15, 2017. Send application materials to hornsbyabwh@gmail.com.

The 2017 Hornsby Award Committee members are Natanya Duncan, Chair (Lehigh University); Nikki L. Brown (University of New Orleans); Janice Sumler-Edmond (Huston-Tillotson University); and Kidada Williams (Wayne State University).

All awards will be presented at the ABWH Annual Luncheon at the Hyatt Regency Cincinnati on September 30 during the 102nd ASALH meeting.



2017 ABWH LUNCHEON | Black Women Educating for Social Justice

The annual ABWH luncheon will be held on Saturday, September 30, 2017, at the Hyatt Regency Hotel during the ASALH meeting in Cincinnati. Our theme this year is "Black Women Educating for Social Justice: Teaching the Past, Imagining the Future." Tickets are available for purchase by credit/debit card at truth.abwh.org via PayPal. Early bird tickets purchased by August 15 are

\$47 for life members and \$50 for all others. Tickets purchased on and after August 16 are \$49 for life members and \$54 for all others.

Our Luncheon Speaker

We are honored to have as our keynote speaker Dr. Keeanga-Yamahtta Taylor. Dr. Taylor is the author of *From #BlackLivesMatter to Black Liberation* (Haymarket Books, 2016). Her book

surveys the historical and contemporary ravages of racism and persistent structural inequality, including mass incarceration, housing discrimination, police violence, and unemployment. Dr. Taylor is the recipient of the 2016 Cultural Freedom Notable Book Award from the Lannan Foundation. Her interests are broadly in the fields of race and public policy, Black politics, and racial inequality in the United States. Dr. Taylor's writing has been published in *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture and Society*, *The Guardian*, *The New Republic*, *International Socialist*



2017 ABWH Luncheon Tickets

Purchased by August 15:

\$47 for ABWH life members, \$50 for all others

Purchased on or after August 16:

\$49 for ABWH life members, \$54 for all others

On sale now at truth.abwh.org

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BLOG

AFRICANA WOMEN RESOURCES

online

by Justin I. Rogers

Blogs

African American Intellectual History Society, *Black Perspectives*
<http://www.aaihs.org/black-perspectives/>

Intersectional Black Panther Party History Project
<https://iphpc.com.wordpress.com/>

Jessica Marie Johnson, *Diaspora Hypertext, The Blog*
<http://diasporahypertext.wordpress.com>

National Archives, *Rediscovering Black History*
<https://rediscovering-black-history.blogs.archives.gov/>

Digitized Archival and Primary Sources

Duke University, Rubenstein Library, *African American Women*
<http://library.duke.edu/rubenstein/collections/digitized/african-american-women/>
Includes various resources and materials by and about African American women

Low Country Digital History Initiative, *Remembering Individuals, Remembering Communities: Septima P. Clark and Public History in Charleston, South Carolina*
http://ldhi.library.cofc.edu/exhibits/show/septima_clark
Highlights life of Septima P. Clark and the black freedom struggle in Charleston

Middle Tennessee State University, *Discovering American Women's History Online*

<http://digital.mtsu.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/women>
Award-winning database of digital collections of primary sources that document the history of women in the United States

Mississippi Department of Archives and History, *Speak Now: Memories of the Civil Rights Era*
http://www.mdah.ms.gov/arrec/digital_archives/speaknow/

Recorded and transcribed memories of seventy-five Freedom Riders

Schlesinger Library, Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard University, *Black Women's Oral History Project*
<https://www.radcliffe.harvard.edu/schlesinger-library/collection/black-women-oral-history-project>
Oral history interviews with seventy-two African American women taken between 1976 and 1981. Topics include careers, childhood, education, and family

Online Exhibits

Eliza Potter, *A Hairdresser's Experience in High Life (1859)*
<http://www.cincinnatiilibrary.org/tallstacks/voices/potter01.html?audio=on>

National Women's History Museum. "Claiming Their Citizenship: African American Women from 1624-2009"
<https://www.nwhm.org/online-exhibits/africanamerican/index.html>



grad student

by Charlene Fletcher-Brown

CORNER

Calling All Graduate Students!

Are you a graduate student in search of peer support? Are you a graduate member looking for ways to be more active with ABWH?

As the ABWH Graduate Student Representative, I am issuing a call for volunteers in each ABWH region to join the newly formed Graduate Student Committee. The committee's goals are:

- ★ To increase student membership, engagement, collaboration, and communication between the national ABWH and students at the undergraduate and graduate levels through outreach, recognition, and resource development.
- ★ To organize and coordinate an annual, student-focused, educational workshops held in conjunction with ASALH's annual conference, and develop

programming that is relevant and useful to all students.

- ★ To enhance the student experience by planning, organizing, promoting, and facilitating educational workshops, social events, and networking opportunities that are both peer-to-peer and professionally based.

I'm looking for you! If you're interested in joining the graduate student committee, please contact me.

I am also looking for an at-large (i.e., any region) undergraduate representative. If you are an undergraduate and would like to help, please contact me.

I can't wait to hear from you!

Charlene
ABWH Graduate Student Rep
chfletch@indiana.edu



life members



New Life Members (as of October 2016)

Beverly Bunch-Lyons
K. T. Ewing
Francoise Hamlin
Aura Wharton-Beck

member news

Farwestern

ABWH Farwestern Director **Marne Campbell** received tenure at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. Campbell is now Associate Professor of African American Studies. Her first book *Making Black Los Angeles: Class, Gender, and Community, 1850-1917* was published last fall by UNC Press.

Willi Coleman, Professor Emerita of History, University of Vermont, received an honorable mention in the 2017 Carolina Woman Writing Contest for her poem "Mama Outsider," which was published in the July/August issue of *Carolina Woman Magazine*.

Amina Hassan won the 2016 Donald Pflueger Local History Book Award from the Historical Society of Southern California for her biography, *Loren Miller: Civil Rights Attorney and Journalist*. Hassan is an independent scholar and an award-winning public radio documentarian.

Cheryl Hicks was awarded a Franklin Research Grant from the American Philosophical Society and a Program in African American History Mellon Scholars Post-Doctoral Fellowship from The Library Company of Philadelphia.



Enjoying the 2017 OAH Annual Meeting in New Orleans are (L to R): Amrita C. Myers (Indiana), Crystal Sanders (Penn State), Tanisha Ford (Delaware), and Noelle Trent (National Civil Rights Museum)

She was also selected to participate in the NEH Summer Institute "American Material Culture: 19th-Century New York" at the Bard Graduate Center. Hicks is Associate Professor of History at University of North Carolina Charlotte.

Zakiyyah Muhammad is the Founding Director of the Institute of Muslim American Studies (IMAS). IMAS was created to bridge the gap between traditional Islamic, U. S., and African American Studies, which have not adequately addressed the Muslim African American experience. IMAS provides research and ethnographic studies on the Muslim African American experience and its role in the freedom struggle.

Donna J. Nicol, formerly of California State University, Fullerton, has accepted the position of Associate Professor and Chair of Africana Studies at California State University, Dominguez Hills, beginning fall 2017.

Stephanie E. Jones-Rogers, Assistant Professor at UC Berkeley, received an NEH fellowship for her project "Women, American Slavery, and the Law."

Midwestern

Duchess Harris, Professor and Chair of American Studies at Macalester College, is the author of a new line of titles for students in mid- to high-level grades published by ABDO, a leading educational publisher. Harris is the coauthor of *Black Lives Matter* and *Hidden Human Computers: The Black Women of NASA*. She is also the author of *Race and Policing*, part of the forthcoming series *Race in America* from ABDO this fall.

LaShawn Harris, the ABWH Midwestern Regional Director, was awarded tenure at Michigan State University and is Associate Professor of History at Michigan State University. She also won the OAH's

2017 Darlene Clark Hine Award for the best book in African American women's and gender history and Cornell University School of Industrial Relations and LAWCHA's 2017 Philip Taft Labor History Book Award for best book in U.S. labor history for *Sex Workers, Psychics, and Numbers Runners: Black Women in New York City's Underground Economy* (Illinois UP, 2016).

Erik McDuffie, 2011 Brown Prize winner, has won two fellowships for his book project *Garveyism in the Diasporic Midwest: The American Heartland and Global Black Freedom, 1920-1980* from the NEH and American Council of Learned Societies. McDuffie is Associate Professor of African American Studies and History at the University of Illinois-Champaign Urbana.

Ava Purkiss, Assistant Professor at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, won the OAH Lerner-Scott Prize for best doctoral dissertation in U.S. women's history. She completed her dissertation, "Mind, Soul, Body, and Race: Black Women's Purposeful Exercise in the Age of Physical Culture, 1900-1939," at UT Austin under the direction of ABWH Eastern Director and Life Member Tiffany Gill and Daina Ramey Berry.

Heather Ann Thompson, ABWH Life Member and Professor of History at University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, won the Pulitzer Prize and the Law & Society Association's Hurst Prize for Best Book in Legal History for her book *Blood in the Water: The Attica Prison Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy* (Pantheon, 2016).

Aura Wharton-Beck, ABWH Life Member, was awarded the 2017 Sapientia Award for Scholarly Work Focused on Women by the University of St. Thomas-Minnesota. The award is co-sponsored with the Women's Studies Department, the Luann Dummer Center for Women and the University Advocates for Women and Equity.

Southern

Telisha D. Bailey, an Instructor at University of Mississippi, has been awarded a 2017-19 Woodson

Postdoctoral Fellowship at the University of Virginia. She will use the time at UVA to work on her book manuscript based on her dissertation, which won the Mississippi Historical Society's Riley Award for best dissertation, entitled "Please Don't Forget about Me: African American Women and Crime and Punishment in Parchman Prison, 1890-1980."

Daina Ramey Berry, Associate Professor and the George W. Littlefield Fellow in American History at the University of Texas at Austin, published *The Price for their Pound of Flesh: The Value of the Enslaved, From Womb to Grave, In the Building of a Nation* (Beacon Press, 2017). She was also named the Oliver H. Radkey Fellow in American History at the University of Texas at Austin. She also published two book chapters in two high-profile volumes: "The Ubiquitous Nature of Slave Capital," in *After Thomas Piketty's Capital in the 21st Century* (Harvard, 2017) and "Broad is da Road dat Leads ter Death: Enslaved Mortality and Human Chattel," in *Slavery's Capitalism: A New History of American Economic Development* (UPenn, 2016).

Stephanie Y. Evans, Professor and Chair of African American Studies, Africana Women's Studies and History at Clark Atlanta University, announces publication of *Black Women's Mental Health: Balancing Strength and Vulnerability* (SUNY, 2017). Evans was also awarded the 2017 Delores Aldridge-Eldridge McMillan Award for Excellence in Research at CAU.

Justin Isaac Rogers, University of Mississippi, ABD, was selected as one of twenty scholars for the On Native Grounds: Studies of Native American Histories and the Land NEH Summer Institute in at the Library of Congress.

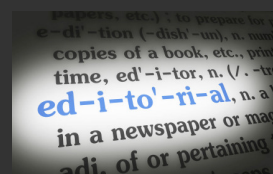
Leslie E. Spencer has been accepted into Georgia State University's History PhD program for Fall 2017. She has also been elected the Community Outreach Coordinator for the Black Graduate Students Association at GSU.

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While abwh.org is under construction, get a sneak peak of the new site at

truth.abwh.org



Shennette Garrett-Scott
Publications Director

TRUTH Editorial Board

Siobhan Carter-David
Charlene Fletcher-Brown
Daleah Goodwin
Tameka Hobbs
Cherisse Jones-Branch
Kibibi V. Mack-Shelton
Ishwanzya D. Rivers
Justin I. Rogers

Interview: LaShawn Harris

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sensibilities about their labor and crimes, families, and often hidden aspirations and desires. Another aspect of the research that fascinated me was examining the labor activities of individuals who were not primarily concerned with financial stability. Their interests laid in escaping dull and monotonous unskilled labor and breaking from a life of convention and the prescribed rules and protocols set by urban reformers and moralists.

These women viewed off-the-books labor as a path toward participating in illicit amusements and pleasure and securing neighborhood respect and power.

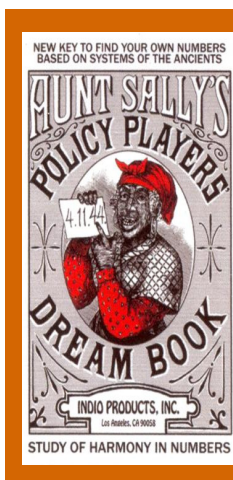
Your work touches on some ethical issues related to the choices of the women that you study. Has there been any push back against producing scholarship that highlights the more corrupt side of black women's lives?

No. I haven't received any push against my work. My book is indebted to the scholarship of historians Sharon Harley, Kali Gross, Cheryl Hicks, Yvonne Chireau, Mireille Miller-Young, Talitha LeFlouria, Sarah Harley, Shannon King, and Victoria Wolcott. Their remarkable and creative work paved the way, and made it easy for me to do the kind of research that I enjoy doing. In reading their books, I felt comfortable stepping outside of historic constructions on black women. Their work—and now my study—contributes to normative imagines of black women while also demonstrating women's often multi-layered and complex lives.

What do you feel in the subfield of black women's criminality and underground economies is the most lacking? What does the future of this field look like?

I think future studies will focus on southern black women's off-the-books

labor, black women's home-based businesses, and black women's role in illicit drug economies. All of these topics warrant further exploration.



According to Dr. Harris, black supernatural laborers used stereotypical images like the mammy to play on assumptions about links between black people and black magic.

As a recipient of the Darlene Clark Hine Award, what do you hope will be your legacy as a scholar in African American women's and gender history?

I want to continue to uncover men and women's less familiar narratives and experiences

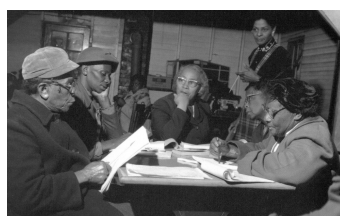
while showing the different ways they worked toward personal and collective freedom.

What do you hope will be the legacy of the women that you study?

I hope more scholars will interrogate the personal and private worlds of women who were not middle-class or political reformers.

Luncheon

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Septima Clark teaching at a citizenship school at Johns Island, South Carolina

Review, and others. She is at work on a book entitled *Race for Profit: Black Housing and the Urban Crisis in the 1970s*, under contract with UNC Press in its Justice, Power and Politics series. The series editors are ABWH Life Members Heather Thompson and Rhonda Y. Williams.

Dr. Taylor received her Ph.D. in African American Studies from Northwestern University in 2013. She is currently Assistant Professor of African American Studies at Princeton University.

Member News

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The University of Texas Alumni Association selected Juliet E. K. Walker, Professor, as a top ten UT professor.

Eastern

Marcia Chatelain, Associate Professor of History at Georgetown University, received an NEH fellowship for her project on black McDonald's owners "Restaurant Ownership and Civil Rights History in Chicago."

Marisa J. Fuentes, Associate Professor at Rutgers University, was awarded the Berkshires Conference of Women Historians' 2016 First Book Prize and was co-winner of the Caribbean Studies Association's Barbara Christian Book Prize for her book *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive*. Fuentes has also been given the Presidential Term Chair for collaborative work on the Scarlet and Black Project with Professor Deborah Gray White.

Paula Giddings, Elizabeth A. Woodson 1922 Professor of Africana Studies at Smith College, was elected to the prestigious American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Hannah Mary Tabbs and the Disembodied Torso: A Tale of Race, Sex, and Violence in America (Oxford, 2016) by Kali N. Gross and *The Social Life of DNA: Race, Reparations, and Reconciliation After the Genome* (Beacon Press, 2016) by Alondra Nelson were both nominated for the 2017 Zora Neale Hurston/Richard Wright Foundation Legacy Award for nonfiction. Gross is Professor at Rutgers, and Nelson is Dean of Social Science and Professor of Sociology at Columbia University.

Crystal R. Sanders, recently promoted to Associate Professor at Penn State, won the History and Historiography Division of the American Educational Research Association's 2017 New Scholars Book Award for best published in the history of education for her book *A Chance for Change: Head Start and Mississippi's Black Freedom Struggle* (UNC, 2016). She also won a fellowship from the National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation for the 2017-2018 academic year, which she will use spend starting her new book project.

Barbara D. Savage, the Geraldine R. Segal Professor in American Social Thought and chair of Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania, has been named the 2018-19 Harnsworth Visiting Professor of American History at Oxford University.



Heather Ann Thompson accepts the 2017 Pulitzer Prize in History for *Blood in the Water*.

Join the ABWH

The Association of Black Women Historians, founded in 1979, is a dynamic network of scholars representing every region of the United States and beyond. Membership in the ABWH is open to anyone interested in the research and teaching of African American Women's Studies.

Our organization is comprised of professors (college and university), students (undergraduate and graduate), archivists, public historians, and others who value the study of African American women.



The ABWH membership year runs from October 1 to September 30

Membership Categories

Life Membership \$450
Payable in one lump sum or in 3 installments of \$150 over 3 years

Note: For life members who paid any amount toward a \$300 life membership before January 1, 2017, your membership must be paid in full by December 31, 2017. If you do not pay the life membership in full by this date, your status reverts to a regular membership.

Regular Membership \$50

Student Membership \$25

Retiree Membership \$25

Institutional Membership \$100

To join the ABWH, visit truth.abwh.org and click the Membership tab. Payment available online by PayPal.

sister to sister

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wanted to pay it forward. She was looking for an opportunity to do just that. Marcia says, "When Ula posted a call for mentors, I knew that this would be a great opportunity to offer some support to someone new to the field."

The benefits of mentorship are long term, but they can also be immediate. Not surprisingly, Crystal found completing her dissertation and the months leading up to her defense, stressful. She was able to share the experience with her mentor LaKisha. Crystal especially appreciated her mentor during the job search. "I was able to manage the stress of interviews as well as the difficulty of rejection with the help of supportive mentorship," she told TRUTH. Marcia was able to share in the achievements of her mentee, Charisse Burden-Stelly, an Assistant Professor at Carleton College, who won a fellowship and landed a job.

A significant strength of the ABWH is its intergenerational membership. Research by the *Harvard Business Review* found that among the top five things millennials want to learn are strategies for self-management, increasing their productivity, and leadership. The key for making mentorship relationships work, no matter if an intergenerational divide exists, is to resist falling into a traditional, top-down rut, where the mentor tells and the mentee does. The mentoring relationship is a mutual one; mentors can learn a great deal from their mentees.

Mentorship does have its challenges. Marcia sees distance as a significant one. She tells TRUTH, "Charisse and I only got to meet face-to-face once, but phones and e-mail helped keep the relationship strong." Mentors and mentees have to be creative to make the relationship work.

Sometimes, despite the best intentions, mentorship relationships do not work out. Mentees do not always respond to their mentors' guidance. Some mentors act as managers and not coaches. Personalities do not always mesh. Other priorities take time away from developing the relationship. As in any significant relationship, failure is not a reason to give up—as long as you do not repeat the same mistakes. Chemistry between the mentor and mentee is the foundation of a promising relationship. Mizuko Ito, a UC Irvine cultural-anthropology and informatics professor who studies peer mentoring, says mentoring "doesn't work if there isn't a connection." Good

rapport and a willingness to engage in authentic, mutually respectful communication are critical. Both the mentor and the mentee have to step outside of their formal selves and willing to find common ground as a first step toward a successful mentorship relationship.

If you are interested in being a mentor or getting one for the 2017-2018 year, we will give details at the ABWH Luncheon. If you are not attending the luncheon, we will send an announcement to the listserv in October.

MENTOR TIPS



As a mentor, be generous with optimism and stingy with criticism.

Mentees may have overly ambitious and unrealistic goals and ideas, but your biggest responsibility is to give energy—not take it. Try spending at least an hour and work your way up to twenty-four hours thinking of all the positives of your mentee's ideas before you criticize.

Take advantage of mentoring resources.

Southern Association of Women Historians' Mentoring Toolkit

thesawh.org/mentoring-toolkit/
Offers advice on a range of topics of interest to graduate students, early-career professionals, and veteran scholars.

The National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity

www.facultydiversity.org
Offers webinars for members as part of its core curriculum, including Cultivating Your Network of Mentors, Sponsors and Collaborators. NCFDD also offers on-campus workshops.



upcoming EVENTS

National/International

CFP: African/Diasporic Futures: Re-Envisioning Power, Interventions, Imaginations and Belonging

ASWAD, Spain, Nov. 7-11, 2017
ASWAD invites panel and individual paper proposals that discuss, examine, and reflect on the critical nature of the interactions and transformations that African descendants experience in their diaspora, particularly in a European context. Proposals due June 30.

Slave Narratives in British And French America, 1700-1848

University of Notre Dame London Global Gateway, London, England, July 14-15, 2017

This symposium focuses on alternative types of slave narratives and interrogates how such narratives were produced, the slave societies in which slave narratives existed and the meanings that we can attach to such narratives.

Registration is free but required:
<https://goo.gl/forms/W4jnjQUAoslaEqZ9I2>

CFP: Race and Class in Britain and America, 17th-19th Centuries

Université Paris VIII Vincennes-St Denis, March 22-23, 2018

Conference will question how developing discourses of race came to structure the societies of Britain and America in the early modern period. Please submit a paper proposal of 300 words and a one-page CV by September 30, 2017 to anneclaire.merlin-faucquez@univ-paris8.fr. Check online for details.

Midwestern

ASALH 102nd Conference: The Crisis in Black Education
Cincinnati, Sept. 27-Oct. 1, 2017

Southern

CFP: 18th Annual Intl. Grad. Student Conference on

Transatlantic History: 1917: Revolution, Radicalism, and Resistance in the Atlantic World

University of TX, Arlington, October 19-21, 2017
Invites papers and panel submissions that are historical, geographical, anthropological, literary, sociological, and cartographic in nature that fall within the scope of transatlantic studies from both graduate students and young scholars. Will accept submissions in English, French, Spanish, and German. Deadline for proposals extended to July 31, 2017. For details, see <http://transatlantic-history.org/call-for-papers-2017-conference/>

CFP: 1977-2017: IWY National Women's Conference in Retrospect

University of Houston, November 5-7, 2017
This conference seeks to draw attention to the diversity, ingenuity, and determination of participants in the 1977 National Women's Conference who dared to dream up concrete policy goals of "what women want." Proposals due August 10, 2017. See website for details: <http://classweb.uh.edu/iwynatlwomenconf/>

CFP: African Americans in Western North Carolina and Southern Appalachia

UNC Asheville, Oct. 19-21, 2017

Email proposals with contact info, not to exceed two pages, by September 1 to Darin Waters, dwaters@unca.edu. Check online for additional details

upcoming events

CF Contributors: Fearfully and Wonderfully Made: Modifying the Black (Self) Body through Science and Technology, a Historical and Social Context

Chapter proposals are invited for this edited collection, which will explore and examine post- and transhuman blackness in African American literature and critical thought. Interested authors should send a 300-word abstract and 200-word biography to Melvin Hill at mhill33@utm.edu by September 1, 2017. See details online.

CFP: From the Archives to Social Media: Exploring Black History, Culture, and Lives |

University of Memphis, October 18-20, 2017
This year's Graduate Association for African American History 18th Annual Conference will feature a keynote address from Paula Giddings, the Elizabeth A. Woodson 1922 Professor of Africana Studies. The deadline for proposals is September 1, 2017.

CFP: Medicine and Healing in the Age of Slavery |

Rice University, February 23-24, 2018
This conference will examine the health histories of enslavement through various temporal and geographic prisms, including comparative slavery, the Atlantic World, and Second Slavery. A CV and 300-word proposal

are due September 15, 2017 and should be sent via email to MedicineandSlavery@gmail.com. Additionally, papers presented will be considered for inclusion in a planned anthology.

CFP: The Many 14th Amendments |

University of Miami, Coral Gables, March 1-3, 2018
On the 150th Anniversary of the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, the Department of History invites scholars at every stage of their careers to join a research symposium on the causes, consequences, and living legacies of this revolutionary amendment. Limited travel funds will be available to conference participants. See details online. Send a short CV and 250-word abstract to amendmentconference@gmail.com by September 15, 2017.



ABWH Life Member Robyn Spencer (Lehman College, CUNY), left, and Jasmine C. Howard (Michigan State) rock an ABWH tote and tee at the Black Panther Party 50th Anniversary event at Oakland Museum in October 2016.

Eastern

Black Activist New York, July 9-14, 2017

Columbia University Institute for Research in African-American Studies (IRAAS) 2017 Summer Teachers and Scholars Institute
<http://www.columbiastsi.com/>

CF Contributors: Libraries: Culture, History, and Society

Libraries: Culture, History, and Society is now accepting submissions for its third issue, to be published in Spring 2018, and for subsequent issues, to be published semiannually. The only journal in the U.S. devoted to library history, *LCHS* promotes innovative cross-disciplinary research on libraries' relationships with their unique environments. Submissions are due August 25, 2017. For details, see http://www.psupress.org/Journals/jnl_LCHS.html

Hidden Capitalism: Beyond, Below, and Outside the Visible Market

Wilmington, DE, Hagley Museum and Library, October 27, 2017
<http://www.hagley.org/research/conferences>

2017 NWSA Annual Conference: 40 Years after Combahee: Feminist Scholars and Activists Engage the Movement for Black Lives

Baltimore, November 16-19, 2017
<http://www.nwsa.org/conference2017>



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