

TRUTH

The newsletter of the Association of Black Women Historians



SEPTEMBER
| 2016 |

ABWH @ ASALH

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Annual ABWH
Luncheon

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Congratulations to the
winners of the Brown,
Dunjee Houston, and
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HUMANITIES MEDALISTS

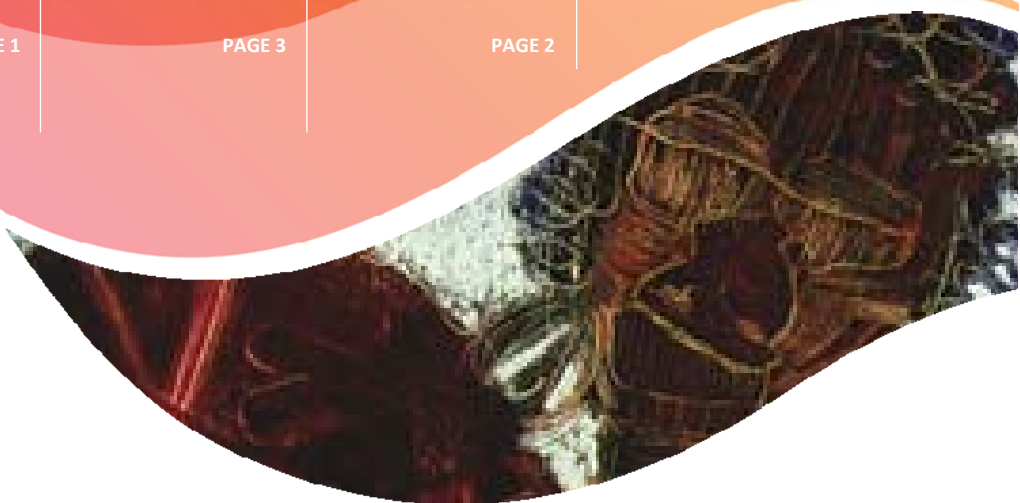
Celebrating Darlene
Clark Hine and Evelyn
Brooks Higginbotham

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JOIN ABWH

Join or renew your
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Events of interest to scholars of Africana women's studies

...and more!



Image: *Self-Portrait*, Gilda M. Edwards, 1987 24" x 32", oil on paper

ABWH @ ASALH

ABWH Luncheon

The ABWH Luncheon Committee has pulled out all the stops for this year's banquet. The banquet will be held on Saturday, October 8, at the Richmond Hilton Hotel (across the street from the ASALH conference hotel). Our speaker this year will be Tiffany M. Gill, Associate Professor of Black Studies and History at the University of Delaware. Dr. Gill's recent work focuses on the roles international leisure travel and fashion play in shaping African American women as global citizens after World War II. Known as a dynamic and engaging speaker, Dr. Gill's topic fits with ASALH's theme of Hallowed Grounds: Sites of American Memory. This year's luncheon features a Mediterranean Buffet and a travel theme so get ready to unlock your spirit of adventure.

Thanks so much to our 2016 sponsors: The Comparative Black History Program, Department of History, Michigan State University, Dr. Pero Dagbovie, Director; Africana Studies Program, Lehigh University; Carter G. Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies, Dr. Deborah McDowell, Director; College of Arts and Sciences, University of Delaware; Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs and the Vice Provost for Academic Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, University of California,



Tiffany M. Gill
2016 ABWH Luncheon Speaker

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National Director's Message

Truth-Telling: Keep Saying Her Names

Despite our national turmoil and seemingly unending violence against our communities, our field is stronger than ever as ABWH members continue to lead the way in deepening and complicating our understanding of the lives of black women and girls. The Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Prize had an unprecedented nineteen entries this year! Many ABWH members like Rhonda Williams and Kali Gross are using their powerful voices to pierce the current cacophony of white supremacist rhetoric in the ongoing struggle for social and racial justice. Thank you all for your engagement in our joint endeavor: promoting excellence in black women's history and supporting black women historians. Keep writing and saying her names and making black lives matter.

It is a great honor to serve as your ABWH National Director. Your elected Executive Council is made up of dedicated sister scholars working tirelessly to organize panels, sponsor regional activities, engage new members, and plan for this year's luncheon, business meeting and graduate reception. Our Awards committees have been painstaking in their selections. ABWH depends on our members to volunteer their time and talents, so let us know how you would like to



help and keep sending us news of your awards, publications, new jobs and promotions. Come to our Business meeting on Friday October 7 at noon, and then join us at the Maggie House for a curated tour. On Saturday October 8 ABWH will be launching a new mentoring program at the luncheon and we hope that you will take part.

In friendship and solidarity,
Francille

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



ABWH Life Members Awarded National Humanities Medals

The National Humanities Medal honors individuals or groups whose work has deepened the nation's understanding of the humanities, broadened our citizens' engagement with the humanities, or helped preserve and expand Americans' access to important resources in the humanities. The ABWH expresses its gratitude for the commitment and legacies of 2013 recipient Darlene Clark Hine (Board of Trustees Professor of African American Studies and History at Northwestern University) and 2014 recipient Evelyn Brooks Higginbotham (ASALH President and Victor S. Thomas Professor of History and of African and African American Studies at Harvard University) to the study of African American women's history.

Life Members

ABWH thanks its newest life members for 2016 (as of January 1, 2016)

Tera Agyepong	Edna Greene
Marne Campbell	Medford
Siobhan Carter-David	Koritha Mitchell
William Jelani Cobb	Amrita Myers
Tiffany Gill	Ava Purkiss
Thavolia Glymph	Robyn Spencer
Dayo Gore	Melissa Stuckey
Damita Drayton Green	Heather Thompson
	Tamara Thorn
	Shannen Williams

Get your ABWH swag!
35th Anniversary ABWH tee \$18
 (Sizes: S/M/L/XL/1X/2X/3X)
NEW lunch cooler \$12
 For sale (credit/debit cards only)
 at ABWH Luncheon

ABWH @ ASALH

ABWH Luncheon

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Irvine; American Studies and Ethnicity and History Departments, University of Southern California; Office of the Dean, College of Arts and Sciences, Indiana University; University of Georgia Press, Ms. Lisa Bayer, Director; History Department, University of Texas at Austin; and African American Studies Department, University of California at Berkeley. Thank you to the National Center for Faculty Development and Diversity. Once again, President and CEO Kerry Ann Rockquemore has donated free one-year memberships to ABWH luncheon ticket holders.

2016 ABWH Prize Winners

Congratulations to our 2016 prize winners

Brown Memorial Book and Article Prizes

The Letitia Woods Brown Memorial Book Prize and Article Prize are awarded annually for the best book or anthology and article about African women's history. The competition is open to all books and articles published between June 1, 2015, and May 30, 2016. Works written by members and non-members of ABWH are eligible for nomination.

The 2016 winner of the Brown Memorial Book Prize is Dr. Sarah Haley, Assistant Professor of Gender Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles. She is the author of *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity* (University of North Carolina Press, 2015). *No Mercy Here* focuses on African American women in Georgia convict camps, chain gangs, and domestic service captivity.

Haley's work is described as "[a] landmark history of black women's imprisonment in the South." *No Mercy Here* centers incarcerated black women "to demonstrate how the system of incarceration was crucial to organizing the logics of gender and race, and constructing Jim Crow modernity." Angela Davis, one of several distinguished scholars commenting on the book, writes, "Sarah Haley's compelling study of black women's quotidian encounters with post-slavery systems of punishment generates original insights regarding the role of gendered carcerality in the persistence of racial violence today. *No Mercy Here* also reveals a long line of resistance—an unacknowledged dimension of the Black Radical Tradition—from minor disruptions and acts of sabotage to poetic ruptures in the expressive culture of the blues."

The committee also acknowledged two books for honorable mention: Premilla Nadasen, *Household Workers Unite: The Untold Story of African American Women Who Built a Movement* (Beacon Press, 2015) and LaKisha Michelle Simmons, *Crescent City Girls: The Lives of Young Black Women in Segregated New Orleans* (UNC Press, 2015). Of

Nadasen's work, the committee noted that "based upon oral recollections of a group of activist black women workers, she tells the story of African American household workers who empowered themselves through the construction of their own narratives of work and social struggles." In addition, it praised Simmons' work as "a fascinating and compelling account of how black girls in New Orleans navigated racialized and gendered geographies of the Crescent City that denigrated and marginalized them."

The winners of the 2016 Brown Article Prize are Drs. Rebecca J. Plant and Frances M. Clarke for "'The Crowning Insult': Federal Segregation and the Gold Star Mother and Widow Pilgrimages of the Early 1930s," published in the *Journal of American History*. "The Crowning Insult" discusses the Gold Star Mother Program initiated in 1930 by the U.S. government, which undertook to send roughly 6,700 mothers and wives of fallen WWI soldiers to Europe.

Plant, an Associate Professor of History at the University of California at Irvine, received the message the article won the prize in the middle of the night. She admits to getting a bit teary eyed. She wanted to call her co-author, but could not because of the time difference (Clarke lives in Sydney, Australia). "This essay means a lot to me," Plant said. "If I had to choose one piece to be recognized for out of everything I've published, this would be the piece. In part, that's simply a reflection of how hard we worked on it. We spent years researching and writing it—it took so long that, given the pressures to publish, it sometimes felt like we were undermining ourselves professionally. But it really required that much time to get the story right and to master the relevant secondary literature fully enough to provide the necessary historical contextualization. So winning this award feels like a kind vindication of all that effort—and a small victory for 'slow scholarship.' The fact that the award is from the ABWH—that it was judged by leading experts in the field of black women's history—is especially gratifying."



Brown Memorial Book Prize
Sarah Haley
UCLA
No Mercy Here



Brown Memorial Article Prize
Frances Clarke
University of Sydney
"The Crowning Insult"



Brown Memorial Article Prize
Rebecca Jo Plant
UC San Diego
"The Crowning Insult"



Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship
Crystal Webster
U Mass, Amherst



Williams Leadership Award
Erica Armstrong Dunbar
University of Delaware



Williams Leadership Award
La Vonne I. Neal
Northern Illinois University

ABWH Prize and Award Committees

Brown Book and Article Prize Committee
Sharon Harley, University of Maryland, Chair
Elsa Barkley Brown, University of Maryland
Erik McDuffie, U of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Joe Trotter, Carnegie Mellon University
Margaret Washington, Cornell University

Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship Cmte.
Robyn Spencer, Lehman College, CUNY, Chair
Deirdre Cooper-Owens, Queens College, CUNY
Darryl Scott, Howard University
Sonya Ramsey, UNC, Charlotte

Williams Leadership Award Committee
ABWH 2015-2017 Executive Board

2016 ABWH Prize Winners

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Clarke's first feeling on learning they'd won was amazement because she was not aware the article was under consideration for the prize. "And my second was sheer delight, because I knew that it wasn't just any award but one given out by scholars who knew this field inside and out and who had perhaps even worked with some of the same records we'd used. That felt like the best possible vindication for our efforts." Clarke, a Senior Lecturer in History at the University of Sydney, recalls, "I immediately wanted to talk to Rebecca but, frustratingly, I had to go and give a lecture. And I couldn't even tell anyone about the award, because it hadn't been announced yet. So my lecture ended up containing a lot of jokes and asides, because my delight required an outlet."

"On the most basic level," they said, "we're committed to recovering the voices of those who are often silenced in the historical record—and not only because history should belong to everyone rather than a privileged few. It's also just better history, because such accounts more clearly reveal the complexity of the past and lines of causation and consequence that are often hidden by narratives focused on elites."

Drusilla Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship

The Drusilla Dunjee Houston Memorial Scholarship Award recognizes an emerging female scholar of African descent. It fosters scholarly research in Africana women's history by recognizing the best unpublished original essay from either a graduate course or a chapter from a thesis or dissertation for the award year. The essay must be wholly focused on some aspect of history on black women from the United States and/or African Diaspora. The paper must involve the interpretation of primary sources, focus on the ideas or actions initiated among black women, and make a significant contribution to Africana women's history.

This year's winner is Crystal Webber, a graduate student at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst. Webber researches nineteenth-century African American childhood. Her dissertation, "Fugitive Play, Discursive Resistance: The Politics of Black Childhood in Nineteenth Century America," focuses on the ways Black children in the North experienced forms of subjugation outside of slavery in ways that deprived them of many of the social and legal protections assigned to notions of childhood. Her work centers Black women and children and their contributions to the development of a politics

of Black childhood, a form of political activism and discourse that demonstrated the centrality of Black children in debates over Black freedom, citizenship, and subjectivity.

Webster feels it is important to tell these kinds of stories because she believes that African American history is an essential element of U.S. history. She sees a clear relationship between the subjects she researches and the trajectory of American history. She adds, "Although many of the stories I uncover in my research of African American children are compelling and incredibly illuminating, they are also often heartbreaking. And sadly, many of the ideas about Black children established during the nineteenth century persist today. But it is precisely that fact, and my own personal investment in Black history and social justice, that drives my work."

Lorraine A. Williams Leadership Award

The Lorraine A. Williams Leadership Award honors a Black woman in education or related area, such as archives, libraries, historical societies, and museums. In the past, a committee made up of ABWH members considered candidates for the Williams Award. This year, the ABWH Executive Board vetted the candidates. National Director Francille Rusan Wilson explains

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MEMBER NEWS

Eastern

Erica Dunbar Armstrong was promoted from associate professor of Black Studies and History to the Blue and Gold Professor of Black Studies and History at the University of Delaware.

Karen Cook Bell, Assistant Professor of History at Bowie State University, published "Self-Emancipating Women, Civil War, and the Union Army in Southern Louisiana and Low Country Georgia" in Winter-Spring issue of the *Journal of African American History*.

Natanya Duncan, ABWH Parliamentarian and Assistant Professor at LeHigh University, was elected to the Board of ASALH.

Marisa J. Fuentes was promoted to Associate Professor at Rutgers University, New Brunswick in the Departments of Women's and Gender Studies and History in the Spring of 2016. Her recent book is *Dispossessed Lives: Enslaved Women, Violence, and the Archive* (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2016).

Tiffany M. Gill, Associate Professor of Black Studies and History at the University of Delaware, was awarded a Schomburg Center Scholar-in-Residence for the 2016-2017 academic year.

The new book by **Kali N. Gross**, Professor of African American Studies at Wesleyan University, *Hannah Mary Tabbs and the*

Disembodied Torso: A Tale of Race, Sex, and Violence was published by Oxford University Press and has been featured in *Essence*, *BBC News*, *Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Bust Magazine*, *Kirkus*, and *Publisher's Weekly Magazine*, *Kirkus*, and *Publisher's Weekly*, to name a few. It was also on C-Span2's Book TV and Book TV on PCN as well as being featured on radio and podcasts such as "Stuff You Missed in History Class."

The University of North Carolina Press recently published **Crystal Sanders's** first book, *A Chance for Change: Head Start and Mississippi's Black Freedom Struggle*, as part of its John Hope Franklin Series in African American History and Culture. Her article, "Money Talks: The Elementary and

Secondary Education Act of 1965 and the African American Freedom Struggle in Mississippi.” is in the May 2016 issue of the *History of Education Quarterly*. Sanders is an Assistant Professor of History and African American Studies at Penn State.

LaKisha Simmons, ABWH Life Member and Assistant Professor of Global Gender Studies at SUNY, University at Buffalo, published her book *Crescent City Girls: The Lives of Young Black Women in Segregated New Orleans* (UNC, 2015), which won the SAWH Julia Cherry Spruill Prize for best book in southern women’s history.

Robyn Spencer’s book *The Revolution Has Come: Black Power, Gender, and the Black Panther Party in Oakland* will be published by Duke University Press in November 2016. It is currently available for pre-order on Amazon. Spencer, an Associate Professor at Lehman College, was also awarded a Mellon Mid-Career Fellowship by Yale University’s Whitney Humanities Center. For 2016-2017, she is in residence writing and researching for her second book on Black liberation politics and the movement against the Vietnam War.

Farwestern Region

Marne Campbell’s book *Making Black Los Angeles: Class, Gender, and Community, 1850-1917* will be published in November by UNC Press.

Sharla Fett was promoted to full Professor at Occidental College. Her forthcoming book is *Recaptured Africans: Surviving Slave Ships, Detention, and Dislocation in the Final Years of the Slave Trade* (UNC Press).

Aisha Finch was named as finalist for the Frederick Douglass Award for her book, *Rethinking Slave Rebellion in Cuba: La Escalera and the Insurgencies of 1841-1844* (UNC Press, 2015).

Sarah Haley was promoted to Associate Professor at University of California, Los Angeles. Her book *No Mercy Here: Gender, Punishment, and the Making of Jim Crow Modernity* (UNC Press, 2015) won the ABWH Brown Prize. She was a Guest Editor, with Prudence Cumberbatch and Dayo Gore, of a special issue of on Black Women’s Labor: Economics, Culture, and Politics for the journal *Souls*.

Jessica Millward, an Associate Professor at the University of California, Irvine, and ABWH Farwestern Regional Director, published “Black Women’s History and the Future of Mourning” in *Souls* and “DOJ report echoes centuries old limits on African American Freedom in the Charm City” on TheConversation.com. She was also elected to the UCI Faculty Senate.

Donna Nicol was awarded a sabbatical for Fall 2016 to work on her book project tentatively entitled *Black Woman on Board: Trustee Claudia Hampton and the Rise and Fall of Affirmative Action in the California State University System, 1974-1994*.

Shana Redmond co-edited and contributed a chapter to the recent book *Critical Ethnic Studies: A Reader* (Duke UP, 2016). Redmond accepted a position as Associate Professor of Musicology and African American Studies at University of California, Los Angeles.

Brenda Stevenson, Professor at University of California, Los Angeles, published *What is Slavery?* (Polity Press); “‘Out of the Mouths of Ex-Slaves’: Carter G. Woodson’s *Journal of Negro History* ‘Invents’ the Study of Slavery,” in the *Journal of African American History*, Centennial Edition; and *The Contested Murder of Latasta Harlins: Justice, Gender and the Origins of the L.A. Riots* (Oxford UP) in paperback. She received the John W. Blassingame Award for Mentorship and Scholarship by the Southern Historical Association. She successfully directed three graduate students to completion of their degrees: Selah Johnson, Janira P. Teague, and Jessica Harris. She appeared on several radio news programs and Al Jazeera America TV and was quoted in the *LA Times* and the *LA Daily News*. She gave fifteen public lectures including the keynote address for Women’s International Day at the U.S. Embassy in Berlin.

Jaye Austin Williams joined the faculty of the Department of Theatre Arts at Cal State Long Beach last fall. In the spring, she directed Kia Corthron’s *Play A Cool Dip in the Barren Saharan Crick* at Cal State Long Beach and will direct Lynn Nottage’s *Intimate Apparel* at Chapman University in the fall. Her chapter “On the Table: Crumbs of Freedom and Fugitivity: A 21st Century (Re) Reading of *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*” was just published in *A Critical Companion to Lynn Nottage* (Routledge, 2016), edited by Jocelyn L. Buckner. Her conversation with Frank Wilderson, “Staging Within Violence,” was just published in a Special Issue of the online cultural studies journal, *Rhizomes*. Her forthcoming entry on the Apollo Theatre will launch with Oxford Bibliographies’ new African American Studies Portal at the end of September.

Dani Williams-Jones received her Associate of Arts in Gender, Ethnicity, and Multicultural Studies History from Pasadena City College in 2016. She is now a third-year History and African American Studies major at the University of California, Los Angeles. She presented “Sister Saints and the Seeds of Educational Exceptionalism: An Academic Liberation Movement Rooted in Faith” at the

47th Annual Northeast Modern Language Association in March and “Remembering that which Was Almost Forgotten: Returning to and Reclaiming the Indigenous Knowledge of Native American Womanhood” at UCLA’s 3rd Annual Perspectives on Contemporary Native Issues Symposium in February. She is also a recipient of the 38th TABE African American Student Scholar Award and Alpha Kappa Alpha Educational Advancement Foundation, Inc. Undergraduate Merit Scholarship Award.

Midwestern Region

Keisha Blain, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Iowa, co-authored with Kidada Williams and Chad Williams *Charleston Syllabus: Readings on Race, Racism, and Racial Violence* (Georgia UP, 2016). Blain also guest edited, with ABWH Vice President Ula Taylor and ABWH member Asia Leeds, a special issue of *Women, Gender, and Families of Color* in Fall 2016. Blain received a postdoctoral fellowship from the Department of Africana Studies at the University of Pennsylvania.

Christy Clark-Pujara, Assistant Professor at University of Wisconsin-Madison, published *Dark Work: The Business of Slavery in Rhode Island* (New York UP, 2016) in August 2016.

Jewell Debnam received her Ph.D. from Michigan State University in May 2016. She accepted a position as an Assistant Professor of History at Morgan State University. She also published an article in *Souls* entitled “Mary Moultrie, Naomi White, and the Women of the Charleston Hospital Workers’ Strike of 1969.”

Keona Ervin, Assistant Professor of History at the University of Missouri, published “We Rebel: Black Women, Worker Theater, and Critical Unionism in Wartime St. Louis” in *Souls*.

Michigan State University appointed **Darlene Clark Hine** Visiting Hannah Distinguished Professor for 2016-2017, its most prestigious faculty appointment at the university.

Treva Lindsey was promoted to Associate Professor at Ohio State University. Lindsey received a prestigious postdoctoral fellowship at the W. E. B. Du Bois Research Institute at the Hutchins Center at Harvard University.

Crystal Moten accepted a new position as an Assistant Professor of History at Macalester College this fall 2016. She recently published an article in the June 2016 issue of *Souls* entitled “‘Fighting Their Own Economic Battles’: Saint Charles Lockett, Ethnic Enterprises and the Challenges of Black Capitalism in 1970s Milwaukee.”

Member News

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Amrita Chakrabarti Myers is now the Ruth N. Halls Associate Professor of History and Gender Studies at Indiana University.

Kennetta Perry, ABWH Membership Director, was promoted to the rank of Associate Professor of History at East Carolina University. She is the author of *London Is the Place For Me: Black Britons, Citizenship and the Politics of Race*.

Heather Ann Thompson, Professor of Afroamerican and African Studies at the University of Michigan, published *Blood in the Water The Attica Uprising of 1971 and Its Legacy* (Pantheon Books, 2016).

Kidada Williams, Associate Professor of History at Wayne State University, co-authored with Keisha Blain and Chad Williams, the *Charleston Syllabus: Readings on Race, Racism, and Racial Violence* (Georgia UP, 2016).

Southern Region

The dissertation by **Telisha Dionne Bailey**, an Instructor at the University of Mississippi, entitled “‘Please Don’t Forget about Me’: African American Women, Mississippi, and the History of Crime and Punishment in Parchman Prison, 1890-1980” (University of Mississippi, 2015; advisor: Ted Ownby and Charles Ross) received the 2016 Riley Prize from the Mississippi Historical Society. The Riley Prize is awarded biennially for a dissertation on a topic in Mississippi history or biography completed during 2014 or 2015.

Anastasia C. Curwood was promoted to Associate Professor of History at the University of Kentucky. She also serves as Interim Director of African American and Africana Studies.

Shennette Garrett-Scott, an Assistant Professor at the University of Mississippi, is a 2016-2017 Shelby C. Davis Center for Historical Research Fellow. She will spend a year at Princeton completing her book manuscript, *Invincible Daughters of Commerce: The St. Luke Bank and Black Women in Finance*.

Tameka Bradley Hobbs, Assistant Professor of History and Interim Chair of the Department of Social Sciences at Florida Memorial University, published *Democracy Abroad, Lynching at Home: Racial Violence in Florida* (Florida UP, 2015). The book received the Harry T. and Harriette V. Moore Award for a book relating to Florida’s ethnic groups or dealing with a significant social issue from

an historical perspective at the 2016 Florida Historical Society Annual Meeting and Symposium in Orlando. The book has also won the 2015 Bronze Medal for the Florida Book Awards Florida Nonfiction Category. She was recognized at the Florida Book Awards annual banquet in April.

Cherisse Jones-Branch became director of the ASTATE Digital Press and published “How Free Is Free?: A Historiographical Review of African American History in Post-Civil War and Reconstruction Arkansas,” in *Competing Memories: The Legacy of Arkansas’s Civil War*, edited by Mark K. Christ. She was also promoted to full professor at Arkansas State University at Jonesboro.

Talitha LeFlouria was recently awarded the 2016 Darlene Clark Hine Award from the OAH and the 2016 Philip Taft Labor History Award from Cornell University School of Industrial and Labor Relations and Labor and Working-Class History Association for *Chained in Silence: Black Women and Convict Labor in the New South* (UNC Press, 2015). *Chained in Silence* also earned her the 2016 Malcolm Bell, Jr. and Muriel Barrow Bell Award from the Georgia Historical Society and the 2015 Berkshire Conference of Women Historians’ First Book Prize. In Spring 2016, LeFlouria was promoted to Associate Professor of African American Studies in the Woodson Institute for African-American and African Studies at the University of Virginia.

Ava Purkiss received her Ph.D. from the University of Texas at Austin. In April 2016, she defended her dissertation “‘Mind Soul, Body, and Race’: Black Women’s Purposeful Exercise in the Age of Physical Culture, 1900-1939,” directed by Tiffany Gill. Purkiss began a new position as an Assistant Professor at the University of Michigan in the departments of Women’s Studies and American Culture. She dreamed for several years of becoming a Life Member once she entered the professoriate and recently realized her dream by becoming a paid-in-full Life Member of the ABWH.

In March of 2016, **Shannen Dee Williams**, an Assistant Professor at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, was named the inaugural Woman-to-Woman Honoree by the Nu Zeta Alumnae Chapter of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. for outstanding community service and a demonstrated commitment to building a better future. She also won a 2016-17 Scholar-in-Residence Fellowship from the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in New York City. Finally, she was named a Distinguished Lecturer for the Organization of American Historians.

ABWH 2016 Award Winners

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that she felt the nature of the award meant that the association’s leadership should take up the awesome task of reviewing the nomination packages. An award recipient must not only be an outstanding scholar, administrator, or teacher but also have demonstrated mentoring, organization-building, and leadership skills. Recipients create and help sustain personal, professional, and institutional networks that enhance the professional growth of other scholars and students. A quorum of the Executive Board (i.e., at least eight of the eleven officers present) reviewed candidates. Eastern Regional Director Tiffany Gill recused herself because one of the nominees taught at her university.

This year’s co-winners are Drs. Erica Armstrong Dunbar of the University of Delaware and La Vonne I. Neal of Northern Illinois University. Letters of support for both winners glowed with admiration for their many strengths.

Dr. Dunbar is the Blue and Gold Professor of Black American Studies and History at Delaware. Of Dunbar, colleagues wrote “Without question Dr. Dunbar embodies the legacy of the Williams Award. Her impressive body of scholarship on African American women has influenced a new generation of students. As a professor and campus leader at the University of Delaware, her relentless advocacy for Black women is unmatched. She is blazing new pathways of opportunity in her role as the first director of the Program in African American History at the Library Company of Philadelphia. Indeed, Dunbar’s institution building and mentorship is in many ways unparalleled among scholars of her generation. Rather than seeking the spotlight or accolades, Erica Dunbar works tirelessly behind the scenes to make sure that the work and careers of Black women scholars is taken seriously. Simply put, Erica Armstrong Dunbar is a leader of the highest order.”

Dr. La Vonne I. Neal is Associate Vice President for Process Improvement and Operational Effectiveness at NIU and Co-Editor of the *Negro History Bulletin*. She describes herself as a person who enjoys challenges that require her to move quickly and traverse difficult obstacles. Colleagues used words like “impactful” and “transformative.” The nominators highlighted Neal’s diversity work: “Dr. Neal’s background and special interest in diversity have helped to create an inclusive environment and culture at Northern

CONGRATULATIONS



Renew or Join the ABWH

The ABWH, founded in 1979, is a dynamic network of scholars representing every region of the U.S. and beyond. Membership is open to anyone interested in the research and teaching of Africana Women's Studies. Our organization is comprised of professors, students, archivists, public historians, and others who value the study of African American women.

Life Membership	\$300.00
Life membership dues may be paid in three ways: (1) one payment of \$300.00, (2) three payments of \$100.00 in three calendar years, or (3) six payments of \$50.00 in three calendar years.	
Regular Membership	\$40.00
Student Membership	\$20.00
Retiree Membership	\$10.00
Institutional Membership	\$100.00

Dues are paid annually and valid for one calendar year (October 1, 2016, to September 30, 2017). To join the ABWH, visit www.abwh.org and click the Membership tab. Payment available online through PayPal and via mail by check or money order.

Amounts and terms may change after October 7 ABWH Business Meeting

ABWH 2016 Award Winners

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Illinois that has resulted in [NIU]'s ethnic diversity student body composition currently being above the national average. In addition, she actively seeks out and works to nurture, mentor, and support female students within her department (when she was the Dean) and within her university (now as an Associate Vice President)." Neal is the longest-serving co-editor of ASALH's *Black History Bulletin*, outside of Dr. Carter G. Woodson himself. She has helped make the *BHB* a unique pedagogical resource used by over 5,000 teachers worldwide.

Both winners are nationally and internationally renowned while remaining intimately engaged with students, peers, and friends. Dunbar and Neal have touched the lives of many in far-reaching ways.

The ABWH appreciates the kind support of our members who donated to the prizes. This year, the ABWH thanks V.P. Franklin, Sandra Jowers-Barber, Mary Rolinson, Aura Wharton-Beck, and National Director Francille Rusan Wilson for their donations.

Full interviews with winners and exclusive images at

abwh.org

Conferences

January 2017

131st Annual American Historical Association
Denver, January 5-8, 2017
<https://www.historians.org/annual-meeting>

February 2017

27th Annual Thinking Gender Graduate Student Research Conference | Thinking Gender 2017, Imagining Reparations
UCLA, February 9-10, 2017
<https://csu.ucla.edu/event/thinking-gender/>

March 2017

African American Intellectual History Society Conference | Exploring the Boundaries of Black Intellectual History
Vanderbilt University, March 24-25, 2017
<http://www.aaihs.org/general-information/>

Global History of Black Girlhood Conference | University of Virginia, March 17-18, 2017
<https://globalhistoryofblackgirlhood.org>

The Arts in the Black Press During the Age of Jim Crow | Yale University, March 10-11, 2017
<https://artsblackpress.wordpress.com/>

Calls for Articles

Canadian Journal of Cultural Studies | "Black Lives, Black Politics, Black Futures" | Guest Editors Tobias c. van Veen (California State University, Northridge) and Reynaldo Anderson (Harris-Stowe State University)
Deadline for proposals: October 15, 2016
<http://topia.journals.yorku.ca/index.php/topia/announcement/view/11>

Phylon: The Clark Atlanta University Review of Race and Culture | "Gender and Equity"

UPCOMING EVENTS

Guest Co-editors Hashim Gibrill (Clark Atlanta University) and Catherine Kanabahita (Makerere University, Uganda)
Deadline for proposals: February 1, 2017
<https://www.facebook.com/CAUHistoryDepartment/posts/1322096507835854>

Calls for Papers/Presentations/Panels

Who Is a Farmer? Regional Identity and Regional Culture

Agricultural History Society
Grand Rapids, MI | June 8-10, 2017
Deadline: October 15, 2016
<http://www.aghistorysociety.org/meetings/>

Intersectional Black Identities

African American Studies Spring Symposium
University of Texas at San Antonio
San Antonio, TX | April 6, 2017
\$300 honorarium
Deadline: October 31, 2016 @ 5:00 pm EST
<http://colfa.utsa.edu/english/aass/>

Exploring Boundaries Black Intellectual History

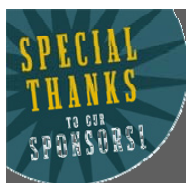
African American Intellectual History Society
Deadline: November 15, 2016
<http://www.aaihs.org/cfp/>

Black Women in White America, Revisited

Sarah Lawrence Conference
Bronxville, NY | March 3-4, 2017
Deadline: December 9, 2016
<https://www.sarahlawrence.edu/womens-history/conference/>

CFP/Panels/Plenaries Afro-Texana Women

Texas State Historical Association
San Marcos, TX | March 1-3, 2018
Contact Bernie Pruitt at his_bxp@shsu.edu
Deadline: February 1, 2017



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University of California at Berkeley

Africana Studies Program,
Lehigh University

American Studies and Ethnicity
Department and the History
Department, University of
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