

BUNCHE CENTER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2011

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Announcements



Derrick Bell **11/6/1930 - 10/5/2011**

It is with great sorrow that we inform you of the passing of leading civil activist and legal scholar **Derrick Bell**. In 1997, the Center was thrilled to welcome Professor Bell to UCLA as the Bunche Center's Thurgood Marshall lecturer. Bell, a legal scholar who worked to expose the persistence of racism in America through his books, articles and his provocative career moves — he gave up a Harvard Law School professorship to protest the school's hiring practices — died on Wednesday, October 5th, 2011, in New York at the age of 80. While his voice will definitely be missed, his legacy will live on forever. For more information about Professor Bell visit: www.nytimes.com/2011/10/06/us/derrick-bell-pioneering-harvard-law-professor-dies-at-80.html?pagewanted=all

October Bunche Center Report

Now Available

The latest Bunche Center Report, ***The Struggles for Racial Justice at UCLA, 1960 – 1963: Memoirs of a Scholar Activist*** is a historical analysis of student activism in the early 1960s. The report chronicles how a small group of African American activists at UCLA confronted Westwood merchants, apartment owners, employers, UCLA administrators, and reactionary student leaders with evidence of racial discrimination. To read the report, please visit the Center's website at www.bunche.edu.

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Programs & Events



November 8, 2011, 12 Noon

Bunche Center Authors' Series

Invisible Families: Gay Identities, Relationships and Motherhood among Black Women

UCLA School of Law – Room 1357

Mignon Moore, Associate Professor of Sociology and African-American Studies, and Bunche affiliated faculty member, brings to light the family life of a group that has been largely invisible—gay women of color—in a book that challenges long-standing ideas about racial identity, family formation, and motherhood. Overturning generalizations about lesbian families derived largely from research focused on white, middle-class feminists, *Invisible Families* reveals experiences within black American and Caribbean communities as it asks how people with multiple stigmatized identities imagine and construct an individual and collective sense of self. This Bunche Center Authors' series is co-sponsored by the UCLA Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy, the UCLA Center for the Study of Women, and the UCLA Department of Sociology. To RSVP, please call 310-267-4382. Read more about Dr. Moore's research on page 8.



November 10, 2011, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Bunche Center Circle of Thought – *Kenny Burrell: A Life in Music and Education*

Bunche Center, Haines Hall 135

Bunche Center affiliated faculty member, **Kenny Burrell** is a professor in the Departments of Music and Ethnomusicology at UCLA and is one of the most respected jazz artists in the world. He has been active from 1956 to the present as a guitarist and composer in a variety of musical contexts including solo, small combo, large ensemble and symphony orchestra. He is a producer

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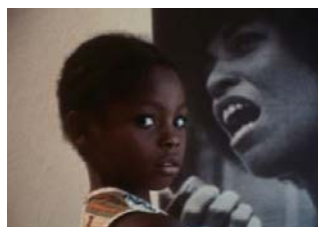
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Programs & Events (Continued)

and recording artist whose extensive discography includes the critically acclaimed *Guitar Forms*; *Ellington is Forever*; and *Kenny Burrell and John Coltrane*. He has performed and recorded with many of the most influential musicians in jazz history including Duke Ellington, Herbie Hancock, Dizzy Gillespie, Miles Davis, John Coltrane, Charlie Parker, Tony Bennett, Billy Holiday, Quincy Jones, Nat King Cole, Ray Charles, and Louis Armstrong. Burrell, recipient of many awards, was named a 2005 Jazz Master by the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), a title awarded annually to a handful of living figures in recognition of their exceptional contributions to the field of jazz. He also received a 2004 Jazz Educator of the Year award from DownBeat magazine for academic achievement and excellence in jazz education. Professor Burrell is a recognized authority on the music of Duke Ellington and in 1978 developed the first regular college course on Ellington ever taught in the United States, at UCLA. His "Ralph J. Bunche Suite," premiered at UCLA's Schoenberg Hall in June, 2004. The piece, commissioned by the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA, is dedicated to the memory and legacy of that great humanitarian. The founder of the Jazz Heritage Foundation and the Friends of Jazz at UCLA, Burrell is recognized as an international ambassador for jazz and its promotion as an art form. Part of the Bunche Center Circle of Thought Series, this entertaining and informative afternoon is open to the public and will take place in the Bunche Library Media Center, Haines 135. For more information, visit the Bunche Center website: www.bunche.ucla.edu



November 12, 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 5:30 p.m.
L.A. Rebellion: Creating a New Black Cinema Symposium
Hammer Museum, UCLA - The Billy Wilder Theater

This one-day symposium, **co-sponsored by the Bunche Center**, the Hammer Museum, and the UCLA Film and Television Archive, brings together critics and scholars for the first symposium of its kind dedicated to the L.A. Rebellion. Featuring panels and screenings of rarely seen footage, the symposium will illuminate

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Programs & Events (Continued)

the social and political concerns and contexts of L.A. Rebellion filmmaking, examine the interface between L.A. Rebellion filmmakers and Black creative practices in other media and discuss the movement's place within multiple historical perspectives.

Parking lot under theater: \$3 flat rate after 6:00 p.m. and \$3.00 for first 3 hours before 6:00pm with Museum validation. Thereafter, \$1.50/20 minutes with a maximum of \$12/day. Obtain validation with ticket stub at security desk in Wilshire Lobby. Enter from Westwood Boulevard, just north of Wilshire. UCLA Lots 32 and 36: \$6 after 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday, all day on weekends. Enter from Kinross, between Gayley and Veteran. For more information, please call 310.206.8013 or visit www.cinema.ucla.edu.



November 13, 2011, 3:00 p.m.
Hammer Museum Lectures – *High Voltage: The Watts Legacy*
Hammer Museum, UCLA

Dr. Darnell Hunt, director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA, moderates a discussion with artists John Outterbridge, Edgar Arceneaux, Andrew Zermeno, and collector Stan Sanders regarding the past and future of Watts as a creative hub. In conjunction with the exhibition, *Now Dig This! Art and Black Los Angeles 1960–1980*, this event is co-sponsored by the Bunche Center and the Hammer Museum.

All Hammer programs are free. Seating is on a first come, first served basis. Hammer members receive priority seating, subject to availability. Reservations not accepted, RSVPs not required. Parking is available under the museum for \$3 for 3 hours. For more information visit: www.hammer.ucla.edu/programs/detail/program_id/1056



November 16, 2011, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
New Directions in Gender and Sexuality Studies – Camp Revival: Queering Gender in the Black Church
Royce Hall 314

E. Patrick Johnson, Professor of Performance Studies and African American Studies at Northwestern University is part of a colloquium which

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Programs & Events (Continued)

features internationally renowned scholars, whose innovative work has opened new paths of critical inquiry. Its objective is to initiate a discussion of the continued social relevance of gender and sexuality studies and to identify the kinds of interventions being made into disciplinary knowledge. This event is co-sponsored with the UCLA Division of Social Sciences; the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the UCLA Departments of Women's Studies, Anthropology, English, LGBT Studies and World Arts and Cultures/Dance; the UCLA Center for Society and Genetics; the UCLA Center for the Study of Women; the UCLA School of Law, the UCLA Mellon Post-doctoral Program in the Humanities and the UCLA Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy. For more information visit: www.womensstudies.ucla.edu/documents/MainFlyerFinaleSept12.pdf



November 17, 2011, 12:00 p.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Bunche Center Circle of Thought
'The Negro Athlete and Victory!': Traditional African American Advancement and the Origins of the Myth of the Black Athlete
Bunche Center, Haines Hall 135

Dexter Blackman, Bunche Center IAC Visiting Scholar, will discuss the influence that the success of black athletes in predominantly white athletics in the mid-1930s had on sport at historically black colleges in the era. In the late 1920s and early 1930s, blacks first emerged as national championship athletes in track and field, the premier Olympic sport, and heavyweight boxing, an immensely popular international sport. These accomplishments garnered blacks rare press in the national mainstream (white) press and thus motivated many black spokespersons for the race to call for a greater emphasis on sport at historically black colleges. Many enthusiasts argued that successful black athletes in integrated institutions improved the image of the race by demonstrating that blacks possessed a superior manliness similar to that which allowed Anglo-Americans to build the United States, the pinnacle civilization of the period, and thus advance the race's claim to equality. The event is open to the public and will take place in the Bunche Library Media Center, Haines 135. For more information, visit the Bunche Center website: www.bunche.ucla.edu. Read more about Dr. Blackman's research on page 11.

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Awards and Accolades



We are pleased to announce the publication of the article co-authored by Bunche affiliated faculty member **M. Belinda Tucker**, “Exploratory analysis of verbal aggression in romantic relationships among unmarried men and women: Predictive patterns by gender and race,” in the

Sage Journal of Social and Personal Relationships. Tucker is a social psychologist and a professor in the Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Sciences in the David Geffen School of Medicine.

To view her article, please visit: www.spr.sagepub.com/content/early/2011/02/21/0265407510397984.abstract.



We are pleased to announce the publication of three articles by **Gail E. Wyatt**, Professor, Department of Psychiatry & Biobehavioral Sciences and Bunche Center affiliated faculty member.

Dr. Wyatt's articles are:

Loeb, T.B., Gaines, T., Wyatt, G.E., Zhang, M.Z., & Liu, H. (in press). Associations between Child Sexual Abuse and Negative Sexual Experiences and Outcomes Among Women: Does Measuring Severity Matter? Manuscript accepted for publication in *Child Abuse and Neglect*.

Sciolla, A., Glover, D.A., Loeb, T.B., Zhang, M., Myers, H.F., & Wyatt, G.E., (2011). Childhood Sexual Abuse Severity and Disclosure as Predictors of Depression Among Adult African_american and Latina women. *Journal of Nervous and Mental Disorders*, 199(7), 471-7.

Glover, D.A., Loeb, T.B., Carmona, J.V., Sciolla, A., Zhang, M., Myers, H.F., & Wyatt, G.E. (2010). Child sexual abuse severity and disclosure predict PTSD symptoms and biomarkers in ethnic minority women. *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*, 11(2), 152-173.

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Gifts to the Bunche Center support our commitment to teaching, research, and service, ensuring that a UCLA education remains accessible and that the caliber of its scholarship and research is peer to none.

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- * Spurs research
- * Energizes students
- * Entices world-class faculty, and
- * Opens the doors of academic opportunity and exploration

There are several ways to support the Bunche Center, including Estate Planning. In writing a will or living trust, donors can specify that they would like their estate to benefit the Bunche Center at UCLA.

Donors who wish to have their gifts managed by The UCLA Foundation must specifically state in their wills or living trusts that their gifts be made to The UCLA Foundation in support of the Bunche Center.

For information on how to include the Bunche Center at UCLA in your estate plans, please contact Sabrina Burris, Director of Development at 310-206-9173 or sburris@support.ucla.edu.

To learn more about other ways to support the Bunche Center, please visit:

<https://giving.ucla.edu/Standard/NetDonate.aspx?SiteNum=55>

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Research

Bunche affiliated faculty member, **Dr. Mignon Moore**, spoke with us about her upcoming Author's Series event (see page 2). Moore is an Associate Professor of Sociology at UCLA and Chair, Race Gender and Class Section of the American Sociological Association.

Ed. Tell me about the event at the Law School which is happening on November 8th?

MM. The event is a book talk, and it is co-sponsored by the Bunche Center, the UCLA Center for the Study of Women, the UCLA Department of Sociology, and the UCLA Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy, where I am a faculty affiliate. It is an opportunity to discuss ***Invisible Families: Gay Identities, Relationships, and Motherhood among Black Women*** (University of California Press, 2011).

Ed. Tell me about your book.

MM. *Invisible Families* is really the very first study to look at racial minority, same sex couples, people with multiple, stigmatized identities, and how they negotiate their world and create family. They don't want to give up being black. Many grew up in the '60s and '70s in black families and communities, and that shaped their understanding of themselves, the expectations they have for their partners, and how they have and raise children. That experience of being a black, gay woman is very different from the experience of being a white one. Until now, most of the research was based on the white experience. This work really adds to the existing research on LGBT families and on black families.

Ed. Why do you think it took so long for a study like this to be conducted?

MM. I think many researchers were concerned that they would be disadvantaged within the academy if they studied this topic. They were concerned that it would hurt their careers. Five to seven years ago, the field of sexuality studies was not given strong consideration within the discipline of sociology. It was an area of study that was marginalized and not looked upon as highly, relative to other sub-fields within the discipline. I was also afraid that by studying populations marginalized because of race, gender and sexuality I would not be taken seriously as a sociologist.

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Research (Continued)

Ed. What made you move beyond that fear?

MM. I felt that if my colleagues could get beyond their own biases, they could see that this is important, legitimate research. I was also encouraged to continue because of the two fellowships I was awarded – the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship and a Russell Sage Visiting Scholars position. Both allowed me to collect and analyze data and begin writing scholarly journal articles, which provided, legitimacy to the work and gave me exposure within my field. With the support of these fellowships, and the support of my mentor, Kathy Edin at Harvard University, it was difficult for people in the academy to dismiss the research.

Ed. Why do you feel this is the right time for this work?

MM. Back in 2003, you'd see this topic done in a sensationalized way in the media. Now, with the repeal of Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Prop 209, and the tragic rash of gay teen suicides because of bullying, families headed by same-sex couples and issues of LGBT sexuality more generally are at the forefront of the national agenda, part of the public conversation. For black people, we've also seen this topic move from a private to a public discussion in the African American community.

Ed. What was your inspiration for doing this work?

MM. When I moved to New York in 2002, I met working class black women who were gay, had children, lived in black neighborhoods, and were raising their children in the black culture. It was of sociological interest to me. I thought, "Here's an overlooked part of the black community and the LGBT community." I needed to know more about them.

Ed. What research methods did you use?

MM. I wanted to use a variety of research methods so that I could be confident in my analyses and so that the work would be respected. I collected data from surveys, in-depth interviews, and focus groups on black gay community life, religion, family life, and gender presentation. I also observed my research subjects at various social and family functions and for 18 months, hosted a weekly event where the women came together to socialize. I observed them in these settings – how they dressed, who they partnered

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Research (Continued)

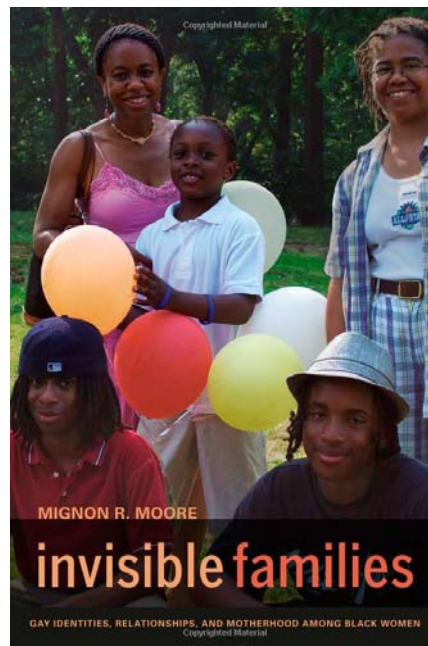
with, etc. I learned their feelings and how their parents and families felt about their lifestyle. The women were coming to socialize, but they also knew I was writing the book and willingly opened up their lives to me.

Ed. Who is the audience for this book?

MM. I think there are several audiences: Students, faculty, and researchers studying families, black communities, gender and LGBT issues; black LGBT people who have families and are not visible themselves; both the black and gay communities who need to see these invisible families and understand that they exist and how they negotiate their lives.

Ed. What do you want people to take away from this book?

MM. I hope that the black community takes the time to read *Invisible Families*. I want them to think about the book in relation to their own family members. I want them to think about this part of the black community, of black life, and be open to learning more.



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Research (Continued)

Dr. Dexter Blackman is the Bunche Center's 2011-2012 IAC Visiting Scholar. Blackman will present a talk on *'The Negro Athlete and Victory!': Traditional African American Advancement and the Origins of the Myth of the Black Athlete* for the Bunche Center Circle of Thought series (see page 5). Dr. Blackman shared his research with us and discussed plans for his time at the Center.

Ed. Tell me about your upcoming lecture?

DB. The lecture is about the origins of "the myth of the black athlete" or in other words, why black athletes became so popular, especially in the black community.

Ed. What are some of the concerns the lecture will address?

DB. That the myth has its origins in traditional black advancement beliefs and that it has been and remains contested within and without the black community by racism and class perceptions.

Ed. What motivated you to do this research?

DB. As a child of the 1970s, I watched sports, particularly basketball, and realized that black players had a different aesthetic, including often how they played the game, dressed, and carried themselves. It was flashy, aggressive, and assertive. I later realized that like many other blacks and browns of the period that were making a political statement. My first sports hero was Dr. J (Julius Erving). The afro, the goatee, the loose jersey. That brother had style and he played like he knew it. That motivated me to do my graduate research on black athletes and that evolved into my dissertation.

Ed. And what is that?

DB. The aesthetic is based on the culture they came up in. When Dr. J played, he was not only playing a game, but he was expressing himself as well. For me, it's almost as if black athletes often used sports as a platform to express their humanity or pride of their people, which was often denied them in other aspects of society.

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Research (Continued)

Ed. How will you be exploring that further as a visiting scholar at the Center?

DB. While I'm at the Center I will visit 3 major archives and continue doing oral history interviews. I've already done some with two Tennessee State Olympians, Wyomia Tyus and Madeline Manning. I hope to be able to interview Harry Edwards and Rayford Johnson, both of whom have a relationship with the Bunche Center. Coming to the Bunche will also give me access to black newspapers - old copies of the L.A. Sentinel, the Chicago Defender, the Pittsburgh Courier and the New York Amsterdam News. I don't think I would have access to all of those at any other research center in L.A.

Ed. What impact do you want your research to have?

DB. My generation of researchers are revising black power. We want to learn the lessons of past protests in order to help current protesters and their movements. We want to contribute to today's movements not only physically, but intellectually as well. I'm very grateful to be a Bunche fellow and have the opportunity to continue this work.



*Occupy Chicago Protests 2011
(AP Photo)*

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In the Community

NOVEMBER EVENTS



November 9, 2011, 5:00 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Contesting Beauty

University Park Campus
USC Fisher Museum of Art

The USC Fisher Museum of Art hosts a talk on the impact of African American beauty pageants and the image of the idealized woman. Moderator Francille Wilson and a distinguished panel will discuss the history of black beauty contests and pageants and their influence on the image of the idealized woman in society. For more information visit: www.fisher.usc.edu/education/



Now through January 8, 2012

Freedom's Sisters

Museum of Tolerance

Now on display at the Museum of Tolerance, ***Freedom's Sisters*** is a collaboration between SITES and Cincinnati Museum Center which brings to life 20 African American women, from key 19th-century historical figures to contemporary leaders, who have fought for equality for all Americans. The exhibition is introduced by video and electronic projections of strong artistic images that will seize visitors' emotions. Organized around the themes of "Dare to Dream," "Inspire Lives," "Serve the Public," and "Look to the Future," graphically striking interactive stations tell the stories of Harriet Tubman, Mary McLeod Bethune, Septima Poinsette Clark, Fannie Lou Hamer, Dorothy Height, Coretta Scott King, Rosa Parks, and 13 other women leaders.

Sponsored by Ford Motor Company Fund, ***Freedom's Sisters*** includes educational and community outreach components to facilitate engagement with local audiences. For more information visit: [www.museumoftolerance.com/site/c.tmL6KfNVLtH/b.7519845/k.24C9/Now at the Museum of Tolerance.htm](http://www.museumoftolerance.com/site/c.tmL6KfNVLtH/b.7519845/k.24C9/Now%20at%20the%20Museum%20of%20Tolerance.htm)

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In the Community

NOVEMBER EVENTS (Continued)



Now through November 21, 2011

Historic Black Churches of Los Angeles: Influence and Architecture in Four Neighborhoods

Azusa Pacific University, Duke Art Hall

Azusa Pacific University and the California African American Museum (CAAM) co-host ***Historic Black Churches of Los Angeles: Influence and Architecture in Four Neighborhoods***, now through November 21, 2011. The *Historic Black Churches of Los Angeles* exhibit features illustrated banners of period photographs and maps from CAAM that celebrate the role of local Black churches as cultural, political, and social centers for their communities in historic Los Angeles. The display highlights the people, contributions, denominations, and architecture of early Black churches established through 1945 within the Los Angeles neighborhoods of Temple Beaudy, Central Avenue, South Los Angeles, and West Adams-Jefferson Park. On **Saturday, November 12**, APU hosts *A Celebration of the Legacy of the King James Bible and the African American Church*. Highlights of this day-long event include special guest speakers **Michelle Burford**, journalist and founding senior editor of *O' The Oprah Magazine*, and Bishop Noel Jones, pastor of City of Refuge Church. To learn more about *Historic Black Churches of Los Angeles* visit: www.apu.edu/kingjamesbible/events.



Photo credit:
Chris Bennion

Opens November 20, 2011
"The Night Watcher"

Written and Performed by **Charlayne Woodard**, directed by Daniel Sullivan, the play depicts a woman who is a best friend, advisor, confidant and sage to the many young people for whom she is an auntie or a godmother. Woodard pays homage in "The Night Watcher" to the life-enhancing intimacy that can exist between children and the loving extended family of "other" adults who are not related. Told with penetrating grace and candor,

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NOVEMBER EVENTS (Continued)

Woodard beautifully weaves together stories of the ordinary and extraordinary ways she has mentored the children in her life. Previews begin November 17 at 8:00 p.m. and opens November 20, continuing through December 18, 2011. For more information visit: www.centertheatregroup.org/theatres/douglas/



November 25, 8:00 p.m.

Bones and Blues

The Center
10950 S. Central Avenue
Los Angeles

Bones and Blues is a monthly concert series featuring **live blues and jazz music, domino tournaments**, and a hearty barbecue dinner. For more information call 323-563-5639 or visit: www.wlcac.org.

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