

BUNCHE CENTER NEWS

OCTOBER 2010

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Layout & Design: Ana-Christina Ramon

Announcements

The faculty and staff of the Bunche Center would like to welcome new and returning students back to the UCLA campus for the 2010 Fall Quarter. For updated and detailed information on Bunche Center research, programs and activities, please visit our website regularly at www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu or follow us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA.

2010-2011 Director's Message

The academic year 2009-2010 marked a milestone for the Bunche Center. The Center celebrated its fortieth anniversary with an exciting array of programs and projects -- we welcomed Professor Emeritus Harry Edwards as our 21st Thurgood Marshall Lecturer and Professor Charles Henry as our fourth Bunche Chair Lecturer; the Center's vibrant history was showcased in "Art, Activism, and Access," a powerful exhibit at the Fowler Museum commemorating the 40-year contributions of UCLA's four ethnic studies centers; and the Center's 8-year-old Black Los Angeles Project produced a groundbreaking, edited volume on black life in the city, *Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities* (NYU Press, 2010).

Less than ten years from now, in 2019, the Bunche Center will turn 50 and UCLA will celebrate its centennial. We begin the countdown to the alignment of these important milestones by prioritizing a number of key initiatives over the next few years. First, the Center plans to capitalize off of its faculty resources and location by reinvigorating a commitment to the Race and Hollywood Project. This project was initiated in 2001 with the Center's "Primetime in Black and White" report series and in coming years will explore a host of important questions about black representations, particularly as they are impacted by the behind-the-scenes and in-front-of-the-camera practices of the Hollywood entertainment industry. The Center also plans to

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follow up its College Access Project for African Americans (2002-2008) with a research initiative that will continue to investigate access and equity concerns for African Americans in public higher education, looking closely at the material benefits of diverse campus populations for the broader public good. Finally, the Center will continue to pursue opportunities to forge lasting, intimate connections to the region's African American communities, especially through place-based initiatives that bring Center faculty, students, and programs to areas far beyond the boundaries of Westwood.

In a time of fiscal uncertainty and considerable challenges, I am excited about the prospects for the Bunche Center's future. I am confident that the Center will continue to make important contributions to both the academic and broader communities, and I invite you to join us in this important work as the Center moves toward 50.

Darnell M. Hunt Director Professor of Sociology

Programs & Events

The Bunche Center cordially invites you to attend the **2010 Black Convocation**. The theme of this year's convocation is, "Academics is Key." The event will be held on Thursday, October 7, 2010, with the program beginning at 5:30pm in the Grand Horizon Room, with the reception immediately following at 7:00 PM on the Covel Commons Terrace. The convocation is cosponsored by the Afrikan Student Union, USAC, the UCLA Office of Student Affairs, the UCLA Office of Residential Life, the Academic Advancement Program, the Interdepartmental Program in Afro-American Studies, the UCLA Black Staff and Faculty Association, the Black Graduate Student Association, and the UCLA Black Alumni Association.

There will be TWO fall panel events and book signings for the



anthology, *Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities* (*NYU Press 2010*) edited by Bunche Center Director Dr. Darnell Hunt and the Center's Assistant Director, Dr. Ana-Christina Ramon.

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OCTOBER EVENT:

When: Wednesday, October 13th at 7:30pm

Location: BARNES & NOBLE, 16461 Ventura Boulevard,

Encino, CA 91436.

http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3060948

Contributing authors participating in the event include:

M. Belinda Tucker, UCLA Associate Dean & Professor Mary Weaver, Executive Director of Friends Outside in Los Angeles County

Gwendelyn Rivera, UCLA Doctoral Student Dionne Bennett, LMU Assistant Professor

NOVEMBER EVENT:

When: Tuesday, November 9th at 7pm

Location: BARNES & NOBLE, Westside Pavilion, 10850 West

Pico Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90064

http://store-locator.barnesandnoble.com/event/3064548

For more information, please go to www.facebook.com/BuncheCenter.UCLA.

To purchase the book, go to <u>amazon.com</u> or barnesandnoble.com.

Awards & Accolades

The African American Literacy Education Project awarded one of their first "Literary Achievers" Awards to Dr. Darnell Hunt and Dr. Ana-Christina Ramon for *Black Los Angeles: American Dreams and Racial Realities*. The award was presented during the "Write On!" Authors, Publishers, and Writers Awards Ceremony on Saturday October 2, 2010 at the Celebrity Centre Theater in Hollywood, California. Drs. Hunt and Ramon received the "Luminary Award" presented for the highest level of literary achievement to those who frame the African American experience through literary art.

The African American Literacy Education Project was initiated by writers and community leaders whose disciplines include screenplay compositions, and who are deftly concerned over the lack of literary influence among inner-city youth. Their programs work closely with inner-city children to help them express themselves through their writings. Their programs offer mentoring; teaching music, novels, books, magazines, theater and interactive programming that help young people understand

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the importance of literacy in their lives.

Twyman Owens, is a distinguished pediatric cardiologist and affiliated faculty member of the Bunche Center. He is the grateful recipient of the **2010 Robert C. Neerhout Teaching Award in Pediatrics**.

Summer at the Bunche Center



The Bunche Center just concluded the tenth year of its highly successful **Summer Humanities Institute (SHI)**. Please see 2010 cohort (on the left). Made possible through the generous support of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, SHI is a bridge

program designed to prepare traditionally underrepresented students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and others with a demonstrated commitment to advancing scholarship in African American studies, to successfully complete a graduate program in the humanities and humanistic social sciences. SHI provides instructional offerings that include skills development workshops, cultural activities in the greater Los Angeles area, and mentoring by leading faculty at UCLA.

SHI provides financial support for the students selected to participate in the eight-week summer program. SHI covers travel expenses, housing, and pays each participant a modest stipend. Students from our previous cohorts continue to make excellent progress in graduate programs at Yale, Brown, Cornell, Auburn, Harvard, Penn State, Duke, and UCLA

New SHI applications will be accepted in mid-November for the 2011 SHI program which will run from Sunday, June 19 to Saturday, August 13, 2011. Please check the Bunche Center website for final dates and updates. An online application can be obtained at www.gdnet.ucla.edu/asis/srp/srpapp.htm.

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More Programs & Events

The Bunche Center will kick its off its 2010-2011 **Authors**



Series on Friday, November 5, 2010, with <u>Dr. Antronette K. Yancey</u> discussing her latest book, *Instant Recess: Building a Fit Nation 10 Minutes at a Time* (University of California Press, 2010). This event is certain to get you up and moving! Dr. Yancey, MD, MPH, is a professor in the Department of Health Services,

UCLA School of Public Health, serves on the Institute of Medicine (IOM) Standing Committee on Childhood Obesity Prevention, the National Physical Activity Plan Coordinating Committee, the California Department of Public Health Advisory Committee, and the Boards of Directors of the Public Health Institute, Action for Healthy Kids, and the Partnership for a Healthier America, the non-profit supporting First Lady Michelle Obama's Let's Move campaign to end the childhood obesity epidemic. Copies of Dr. Yancey's book will be available for purchase and signing immediately following the event. To purchase this book, go to amazon.com.



On Friday, November 19, 2010, the Bunche Center's **Circle of Thought Series** opens with a presentation by <u>Dr. Robert Singleton</u>, "Mapping the Sources of Racial Economic Inequality Using Geographic Information Science." Dr. Singleton's talk will explore

reasons behind the different impact of economic and environmental changes on White and African American communities and describe the use of Geographic Information Science (GIS) as a tool to sway opinions about the existence of institutional and pernicious racism and their effect on economic inequality. Dr. Singleton is an Associate Professor of Economics at Loyola Marymount University and currently a visiting scholar at the Bunche Center for the 2009 – 2010 academic year. Dr. Singleton previously served as Bunche Center director, from 1969 to 1970.

Both events will be held from 12:00pm-1:30pm in the Bunche Library and Media Center (Haines Hall 135). The events are free. Campus parking is available for \$10; UCLA map and directions: www.ucla.edu/map/. For more information, call 310-206-8267 or email atucker@bunche.ucla.edu.

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On October 8th and 9th, the Bunche Center will co-sponsor the



LGBTS' 12th annual Queer Studies Conference.

This year's event focuses on trans issues broadly construed from specific transgender embodiment to the intellectual, social, political, racial, global, theoretical, and philosophical "crossings" that happen in queer lives and queer discourses. The conference will feature an array of nationally and

internationally renown speakers and a not-to-be-missed performance by Vaginal Davis, whose most recent one-person show was described in *The New* as monologues that "alternately touch on queerness, race, and other hot-button issues" as she wounds and amuses. For conference times and panel topics, please visit

www.humnet.ucla.edu/humnet/lgbts/events/LAQSC2009.html.

Support the Bunche Center



Please consider **making a donation** to support the Bunche Center's research,

programming and community outreach. Your contribution is tax deductible and can be made online at:

https://giving.ucla.edu/Standard/NetDonate.aspx?SiteNum=73 &Fund=616530.

If you have questions or wish to make a multi-year pledge, please contact Sabrina Burris at (310) 206-9173 or sburris@support.ucla.edu. Thank you for your generosity and support.

Library & Media Center

The Bunche Center Library and Media Center (LMC) provides specialized information services to UCLA faculty, students, and staff and is open to the general public. The LMC supports academic programs and research projects in African American Studies and complements the resources of the UCLA library system. Please visit the LMC in Haines Hall 135 to access the vast array of books, journals, films, and special collections which document the challenges and accomplishments of African Americans and the Diaspora. The LMC is here to support you in your research or to direct you to the materials and resources you need to be educated, enlightened, and entertained.

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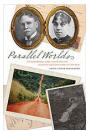
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Over the summer the Library acquired a variety of new books, films and music. Here is a sampling of our current offerings:

Set in 1970's Los Angeles, Charles Burnett's highly successful film, *Killer of Sheep* portrays the life of Stan, a man who finds solace in simple beauty as he struggles to survive in a deadening job.

The Black Panther Intercommunal News Service, 1967-1980 by David Hilliard, reprints selections from the Black Panther's news service and shows current scholars another side of Los Angeles history.

Additionally, we acquired the book, *Parallel Worlds: The Remarkable Gibbs-Hunts and the Enduring (In)Significance of Melanin.* Below is a review of the book, which is available in the LMC:



In her fascinating new book, *Parallel Worlds: The Remarkable Gibbs-Hunts and the Enduring (In)Significance of Melanin*(University of Virginia Press, 2010), Adele Logan Alexander uses her keen historian's perspective to combine family story with academic scholarship, examining the early history of African Americans in the Foreign Service. Her expansive narrative

follows the Gibbs-Hunt family, the author's own distant relatives, from the 1840s into the early 1950s, as they advocated for racial and gender equality in and out of government service. The book details their experience and demonstrates how their efforts to uplift blacks here and abroad were both hindered and helped by the complexity of race and color.

The Gibbs-Hunts were privileged members of W.E. B. Du Bois' Talented Tenth. Ida Gibbs was an Oberlin graduate, Washington, D.C. elementary school teacher and daughter of an enterprising businessman/diplomat. She parlayed a 15 year friendship with an ambitious young man named William Hunt, into marriage at an age when everyone believed she was destined to be a spinster. William Hunt was determined to rise above race and class, and like Ida longed to travel the world and in doing so, escape racial restrictions and discrimination at home. Hunt was the product of a union between slave and master. He was so fair that his race was ambiguous and he easily could have passed for white but did not consciously do so. Ida lobbied her father, Judge Mifflin Wistar Gibbs, newly appointed U.S. Consul to

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Madagascar, to hire Hunt as his clerk, despite Hunt not having any experience which would have qualified him for the position. Hunt went on to succeed Judge Gibbs as U.S. Consul, and his fair complexion contributed to Hunt being able to advance in his Foreign Service career in ways that many other African Americans sought to, but were prevented from doing. Hunt received coveted posts in France, Guadeloupe, and the (Portuguese) Azores. Eventually, Hunt was sent to Liberia, a disease ridden, far flung outpost which destroyed Ida's health and was rife with political corruption and corporate colonialism. Liberia came to be known as the end of road for blacks in the diplomatic corps, and it was there that Hunt's career concluded. Hunt had courageously served for over three decades, despite blacks being discouraged and often prohibited from representing the United States abroad. Over the course of their marriage, Ida Gibbs-Hunt was no less extraordinary in her accomplishments. She was routinely active in W.E.B. Du Bois' Pan African Congresses, and used hers and Hunt's position of privilege and their ex-pat status to become a writer and activist promoting the rights of African Americans, women, and the Diaspora.

Alexander's book traverses a vast terrain, examining the Gibbs-Hunt's life on the world stage as they lived through World War I, the Harlem Renaissance, the Great Depression, World War II and the emerging Civil Rights movement. Their lives were spent traveling from the countryside and cities of the U.S. to the most fashionable salons of Europe and the impoverished villages and jungles of tropical diplomatic stations. The Gibbs-Hunts were the center of a variety of influential social circles, with an impressive cast of characters that included Booker T. Washington, James Weldon, Paul Laurence Dunbar, Ida B. Wells, Frederick Douglass, and even a former U.S. Vice President under Martin Van Buren, who was reputed to be the grandfather of Ida Gibbs-Hunt.

Parallel Worlds: The Remarkable Gibbs-Hunts and the Enduring (In)Significance of Melanin is a thought provoking story, engagingly told. It deftly examines the intricacies and impact of race in the late nineteenth and early the twentieth century through the lives of two truly extraordinary people who overcame discrimination to contribute to the cause of equality and justice for people of African descent at home and abroad.

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Also check out the recently released publications by Bunche Center affiliated faculty:

Trustee for the Human Community: Ralph J. Bunche, the UN, and the Decolonization of Africa (Ohio University Press, 2010), edited by Ed Keller and Robert Hill

Publisher's Description:



Ralph J. Bunche (1904–1971), winner of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1950, was a key U.S. diplomat in the planning and creation of the United Nations in 1945. In 1947 he was invited to join the permanent UN Secretariat as director of the new Trusteeship Department. In this position, Bunche played a key role in setting up

the trusteeship system that provided important impetus for postwar decolonization ending European control of Africa as well as an international framework for the oversight of the decolonization process after the Second World War.

Trustee for the Human Community is the first volume to examine the totality of Bunche's unrivalled role in the struggle for African independence both as a key intellectual and an international diplomat and to illuminate it from the broader African American perspective.

These commissioned essays examine the full range of Ralph Bunche's involvement in Africa. The scholars explore sensitive political issues, such as Bunche's role in the Congo and his views on the struggle in South Africa. Trustee for the Human Community stands as a monument to the profoundly important role of one of the greatest Americans in one of the greatest political movements in the history of the twentieth century.

Contributors: David Anthony, Ralph A. Austen, Abena P. A. Busia, Neta C. Crawford, Robert R. Edgar, Charles P. Henry, Robert A. Hill, Edmond J. Keller, Martin Kilson, Georges Nzongola-Ntalaja, Jon Olver, Pearl T. Robinson, Elliott P. Skinner, Crawford Young.

To purchase this book, go to amazon.com.

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Social Services and the Ethnic Community - History and Analysis. Second Edition. (Waveland Press, 2011), by Alfreda P. Iglehart & Rosina M. Becerra

Publisher's Description:

The demand for ethnic-sensitive social services in the twenty-first century continues to grow as ethnic diversity in the

United States increases. With demographic projections revealing that populations of color will eventually outnumber Whites, helping professionals are increasingly challenged to define and deliver ethnic-sensitive services. In their meticulously documented and well-organized second edition, Iglehart and Becerra stress that analysis of the origins, evolution, and current state of social service delivery systems to ethnic communities is vital to the provision of ethnic-sensitive practice.

Up-to-date sources provide expanded discussions of ethnic and racial-group history in the United States, White ethnics and their services, ethnicity and the development of social work, and the linkage of mainstream agencies to ethnic communities. Ethnic-sensitive practice is a puzzle that can be assembled through an understanding of the past, identification of contemporary issues, and recognition of the significance of race and ethnicity in American society. Through a synthesis of historical, theoretical, and empirical literature, this important work can empower social service providers to effectively address the needs of ethnic minorities and provide them with increased validation, visibility, and voice within their communities.

To purchase this book, go to amazon.com.

<u>Dr. Gail E. Wyatt</u> co-authored an article in the latest edition of the *Journal of Trauma and Dissociation*, "Childhood Sexual Abuse Severity and Disclosure Predict Posttraumatic Stress Symptoms and Biomarkers in Ethnic Minority Women" (*Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*, Volume 11, Issue 2, Pages 152–173, April 2010).

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OCTOBER/NOVEMBER EVENTS

Catalina Island Jazztrax Festival

September 30, October 1-3, 7-10 and 14 – 17

Jazztrax is one of the nation's best jazz festivals. Featured artists include:



Gerald Albright



Earl Klugh



Fourplay



Eric Darius

For dates and ticket prices visit <u>www.jazztrax.com</u>.

Unity Fest Glendale - An International Street Fair Sunday, October 10, 11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m at Brand Blvd. between California and Lexington in Glendale.

The City of Glendale is proud to present UNITY FEST GLENDALE. Brand Blvd. will be transformed into a celebration of diverse cultures, and will include a global marketplace, live entertainment, international food court, arts & crafts, children's activities, and a farmer's market. Free admission. For information, visit www.ci.glendale.ca.us/UnityFest2010.asp.

The California African American Museum (CAAM) hosts a variety of events and exhibits this fall including:

The Big Draw LA - Expo Park Wide Event! Sunday, October 17, 2010, 1pm

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THE \$15 DRAW LA Los Angelenos are invited to try drawing in fun and imaginative ways and museums, schools and organizations of all sizes are sponsoring public drawing events as part of The Big Draw LA.

CAAM will be providing several opportunities to draw in October with planned workshops and we will also host one of the premiere events **of** *The Big Draw LA*, **when** CAAM joins Ryman Arts to create a huge continuous drawing in Exposition Park, Sunday, October 17 beginning at 1pm. Starting at CAAM, the drawing will continue down State Drive to the California Science Center, Natural History Museum, through the Coliseum and on to Expo Center. Experience how drawing can help us see, think and invent! Visit the website at www.thebigdrawla.org.

Lens at Work: Photography with Rick Russell

(Workshop)

Sunday, October 31, 2010, 2pm

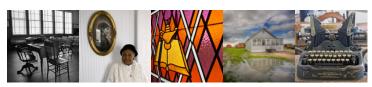
Students receive a large-format photography demonstration and hands-on practice as they shoot the many subjects available in Exposition Park. Bring your own digital camera and leave with a great print.

CAAM Current exhibits Allensworth: A place. A people. A story.

August 26, 2010 - February 27, 2011

In the long shadow of the Civil War, a group of pioneers in the American West were determined to find a place of their own. Allensworth became California's first Black-founded, financed and governed town. The enduring legacy of Colonel Allen Allensworth's dream is recreated and maintained daily by those who painstakingly work to keep the environment of Allensworth alive. What began in 1908 as a settlement by a former slave, is today the subject of an exhibition of contemporary photographs now on view at the California African American Museum (CAAM).

Sampling of works on display:



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The power and beauty of these extraordinarily vibrant photographs give the viewer a sense of actually being in the Allensworth site. In addition to recognizing the historic significance of Allensworth, these images are also personalized interpretations by photographic artists Rick Russell, David Paul Green, Mel and Karen Carll, Clark Campbell, Jean Carter, Ted Dayton, Christy Stallcup, Robert Mance and April Bielefeldt, all of whom sought to recreate the soul of that pioneering spirit through their modern camera lenses.

Conceived as a photographic study by Rick Russell, the result is a collective effort by the photographers. The actual images on the exhibition were printed by Mel Carll of the SCV Center for Photography, and the organization of the photographs into an exhibition was project managed by CAAM visual arts curator Mar Hollingsworth. The exhibition includes a video created by Dusty and Barbara Stiles that celebrates the contributions of today's docents and volunteers to sustaining the stories and the place that became Allensworth. A catalog of the photographers' commemorative works also accompanies the exhibition. To learn more, go to www.caamuseum.org.

2011 Pan African Film Festival

Call for submissions

The Pan African Film Festival is seeking short and feature length film submissions for its 19th Annual Festival, which runs February 16-21, 2011. The official deadline is October 31, 2010.

Submission forms can be completed directly online at the official PAFF website. For more information, please visit www.paff.org or call (310) 337-4737.

Research

The **Race in Hollywood Project** is a research and outreach initiative conducted by the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA. The objective is to conduct an annual, comprehensive in-depth analysis of the representation of African Americans and other ethnic minorities in film and television, including starring roles, writing, directing, producing, and talent representation. The outreach objective is to find ways to create an effective "pipeline" for ethnic minorities into the entertainment industry.

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A proposed documentary project sponsored by the Center, **Our Stories** profiles black female authors in Los Angeles. Using authors' interviews and their creative work, the documentary will paint a richly textured social, political, and personal understanding of the history of black life in L.A. over the past sixty years, looking at how it was influenced by gender and race. We will explore the connection between the writers and their fiction in relation to their community, hoping to gain a better understanding of community's influence on the city, state and nation.

A trailer for **Our Stories** will be posted on the Bunche Center website. Once the film is complete, it will be 60 minutes in length and use interviews, combined with archival footage, stills, and music to present a visually arresting, emotional, entertaining and educational experience. Through on-air and online broadcasts, it will serve as an inspiration and resource for the general public, fiction lovers, teachers, students, researchers, writers, filmmakers, and others.