



# BUNCHE

Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

# NEWS

## May 2012

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### *Bunche Center Commentary*

This month, Bunche Center director Darnell Hunt introduces the Center's newest research initiative, Race and Hollywood. Dr. Hunt has written extensively on race and media. Over the past twenty years, he has worked on numerous projects exploring the issues of access and diversity in the entertainment industry, including work with the WGA, SAG, AFTRA, and NAACP. Dr. Hunt edited *Channeling Blackness: Studies on Television and Race in America*, (Oxford University Press, 2005), an anthology of classic and contemporary studies examining television access and representations. He also served as a media researcher for the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights' 1993 hearings on diversity in Hollywood and has been a frequent public commentator on questions of media and race in national and international media.

### *Race and Hollywood*

By Darnell M. Hunt

The Hollywood Entertainment industry is about more than just entertainment and sales. Hollywood images work both to reflect and shape the world around us. So it is significant to note that, despite the increasing diversity of America, the Hollywood industry is a relatively insular one dominated by white males.

The Bunche Center is embarking on a major research initiative, the *Race & Hollywood Project*. *Race & Hollywood* seeks to generate an annual analysis of the inclusion of underrepresented groups in film and television, identify and disseminate best practices for increasing diversity in the entertainment industry, and foster dialogue to bring about change. To read the full commentary and learn more about the initiative, visit our website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu).



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## Featured Stories



**Jordon Norris**

In 1991-1992, John Densmore (former drummer for the musical group The Doors), established an endowment fund to support UCLA undergraduate majors or minors in Afro-American Studies who have demonstrated outstanding academic achievement. Scholar, musician, and athlete, Jordon Norris was the Densmore Scholarship award winner for the 2011-12 academic year. After the recent awards luncheon on April 10<sup>th</sup>, we had an opportunity to discuss with Jordon the impact of the Densmore scholarship and how he hopes to combine his academic research interests with his passion for music.

Ed. Tell us about yourself.

J.N. I'm from Oakland, California, and I transferred to UCLA after attending two years at Laney College. I played football there and was going to pursue a football scholarship at a 4-year university when I realized I wanted to focus more on my academic career. I came to UCLA as a philosophy major and changed my major to African American studies after my first quarter.

Ed. What is your research interest?

J.N. I am interested in the K-12 education pipeline, the track to incarceration, and the commonalities between the two. I want to look at how the education system contributes to some people of color ending up on the incarceration track.

Ed. How have the scholarship funds helped you with your education?

J.N. The \$5,000 scholarship has helped a lot. I was trying to figure out ways to make sure I had my college career paid for so I wouldn't have lots of debt. I have been working as a resident assistant and was doing other things on the side to cover the cost of living, campus fees. The scholarship helps me so I don't have to work as much at my other job, which is working at a retail store at the West Side Pavilion. I don't have to work there as much and can really focus on my studies.

Ed. One of the things highlighted at the luncheon was your music video. Tell us about your interest in music.

J.N. I was writing poetry at first, from young age. My brother, who was a student at UCLA at the time, encouraged me to experiment with my poetry. I was hanging out with some friends one night, playing around with the words, and it sort of evolved into rapping.

My plan is to make music a profession. I'm focusing on taking the steps to make that possible. I'm dedicating my time to my education, but the music video and other things I'm doing with my music, those are the building blocks. I am building up a following, networking, capitalizing on all the musical resources and contacts I have.

Ed. Were you aware of John Densmore and his music before you applied for the scholarship?

J.N. I was vaguely aware of him...my father, he is a big fan of The Doors. But I didn't know about Densmore to any great degree. When I got this scholarship and I was able to meet Densmore, my father was very excited. Densmore, anyone involved in music, has common understanding. He's a great person and a great resource.

To read the complete article about Jordon and to view his music video, visit the Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

The Adderley Scholarship fund was established in 1976 to honor the memory of the late, internationally renowned jazz musician, Julian "Cannonball" Adderley. The purpose of the fund is to represent an effort on the part of UCLA and the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies to foster greater appreciation for the African American musical heritage. Awards are made on a competitive basis to undergraduate students specializing in Afro-American Studies, music, the arts or other related areas. We had an opportunity to speak with the 2011-2012 Adderley Scholarship winner, California native, honor student, and scholar, Marcus Roberts.



**Marcus Roberts**

## ***Featured Stories (continued)***

Ed. Why did you transfer to UCLA?

M.R. I'm from San Francisco and I transferred here from Foothill College in Los Altos, California. I was in the honors program there and wanted to study African American studies, but they didn't really have that at my school. They only had one English class that focused on African American writers. I came to UCLA for a Student Transfer Opportunity Mentorship Program (STOMP) conference and fell in love with the campus. Once I came to STOMP, I saw myself as a Bruin and wanted to be a part of it.

Ed. How have the funds from the scholarship helped you over the last year?

M.R. The scholarship paid for books, a computer, and it made it so I didn't have to take out as much in student loans. I'm very appreciative of the scholarship.

Ed. What influenced you to major in African American studies?

M.R. My research interest is in the mass incarceration of African American males. I grew up in an environment where African American males don't survive very long. They are men who are capable of doing a lot of things, but they don't have the opportunities so instead, they get in trouble and end up incarcerated.

Ed. How do you intend to use your degree? What are your future plans?

M.R. I want to become an attorney, doing criminal law. I want the law to be an even playing ground for everyone. The justice system (as it is now) is just not fair.

To read the complete article about Marcus, visit the Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu)

## ***Announcements***

Clayborne Carson, a Stanford University history professor and director of the Martin Luther King Jr. Research and Education Institute, delivered the **44th annual Bunche Center Thurgood Marshall Lecture on April 5, 2012**. About 100 people attended the event in the Covell Commons Grand Horizon Room, which coincidentally took place on the same day as the 44th anniversary of Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination. To read more at UCLA Today visit: [http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/martin-luther-king-jr-scholar-231037.aspx?link\\_page\\_rss=231037](http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/martin-luther-king-jr-scholar-231037.aspx?link_page_rss=231037)

***Carson being presented award by Tierra Moore, UCLA Afrikan Student Union co-chair.***



***Clayborne Carson gives Thurgood Marshall Lecture***

***Carson with former Bunche Center director (1969-1970), Robert Singleton.***





## Announcements (continued)



The 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Los Angeles Uprising garnered a significant amount of news coverage. Darnell Hunt, Bunche Center director, was interviewed and/or quoted in several articles about the unrest. Below are links to recent coverage, including a link to original coverage which occurred in 1992.

L.A. Sentinel's Coverage of the Anniversary of the Civil Unrest:  
[www.lasentinel.net/Race-and-Rage-L.A.-Civil-Unrest-20-Years-Later.html](http://www.lasentinel.net/Race-and-Rage-L.A.-Civil-Unrest-20-Years-Later.html)

Faculty Experts Serve As Advisors on Coverage:  
[http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/ucla-faculty-experts-advisory-232808.aspx?](http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/ucla-faculty-experts-advisory-232808.aspx?link_page_rss=232808)

[link\\_page\\_rss=232808](http://newsroom.ucla.edu/portal/ucla/ucla-faculty-experts-advisory-232808.aspx?link_page_rss=232808)

Darnell Hunt, a professor of sociology and director of the Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies, discusses the relationship between the L.A. riots and the media [www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2012/04/ucla\\_revisits\\_the\\_la\\_riots\\_two\\_decades\\_later](http://www.dailybruin.com/index.php/article/2012/04/ucla_revisits_the_la_riots_two_decades_later)

L.A. Weekly's Original 1992 Coverage:  
[http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/2012/04/la\\_weeklys\\_original\\_coverage\\_of\\_the\\_la\\_riots.php](http://blogs.laweekly.com/informer/2012/04/la_weeklys_original_coverage_of_the_la_riots.php)

## Programs & Events

On Friday, May 4<sup>th</sup> from 12:00pm to 1:30pm, the **UC Irvine Department of Sociology Colloquium Series** presents Darnell Hunt, Bunche Center Director and UCLA Professor of Sociology, speaking on Diversity & Inequality. His lecture, "**Dreaming of Black Los Angeles: A Multidisciplinary Project on Race, Representation, and Community,**" will be held on the UC Irvine campus, Social Science Plaza B, Room 4206. For further information: Ekua Arhin, [earhin@uci.edu](mailto:earhin@uci.edu) or 949-824-6800.



Darnell Hunt



The **Bunche Center Circle of Thought Lectures Series** will hold several events during the month of May. All events will be held at noon in the Bunche Library and Media Center, Haines Hall 135:

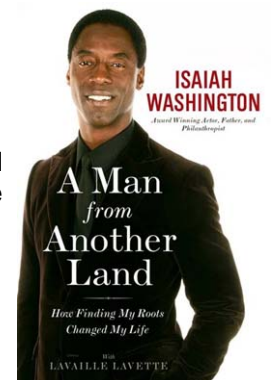
Thursday, May 3, 2012  
Professor Sarah Haley  
"**Critical Blues Feminism and the Politics of Resistance in the Era of the Chain Gang, 1908-1940**"

Thursday, May 17, 2012  
Professor Joshua Bloom  
"**Black Liberation Struggle in the Postwar Decades, Social Movement Theory, and the Implications for Insurgent Social Movements Today**"

Thursday, May 24, 2012  
Professor Robert Singleton  
"**The Freedom Rides: Why It Took Fifty Years to Acknowledge Its Importance**"

The **Bunche Center Authors' Series** will also hold three events in May, starting with a lecture and book signing with Isaiah Washington. The award-winning actor, father and philanthropist will share his story of ancestral discovery and his new book "**A Man from Another Land: How Finding My Roots Changed My Life.**" The event, co-sponsored by the Bunche Center and the UCLA James S. Coleman African Studies Center, will be held on Thursday, May 3, 2012, from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in 6275 Bunche Hall on the 6th floor.

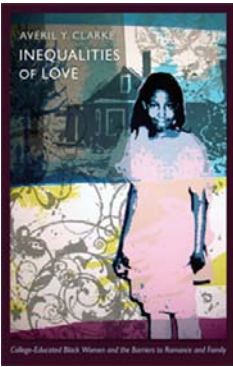
For more information visit: [Facebook](#) and [Amazon.com](#).



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## Programs & Events (continued)



On May 8<sup>th</sup>, author and sociologist Averil Y. Clarke discusses her book, *Inequalities of Love*, as part of the **Bunche Authors Series**. Clarke's book uses the personal narratives of college-educated black women to describe the difficulties they face when trying to date, marry, and have children. The author analyzes the accounts of black women who repeatedly return to incompatible partners as they lose hope of finding "Mr. Right" and reject unwed parenting because it seems to affirm a negative stereotype of black women's sexuality that is inconsistent with their personal and professional identities.

This talk takes place from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Haines Hall 135 and is co-sponsored with the UCLA Center for the Study of Women; the UCLA Office of the Vice Provost for Diversity and Faculty Development; the UCLA Center for the Study of Race, Ethnicity and Politics; the Critical Race Studies Program in the UCLA School of Law and Dr. M. Belinda Tucker in the UCLA Center for Culture & Health.

On Wednesday, May 9, 2012 at noon in Haines 135, UCLA history Professor Robert Hill will discuss "The Caribbean Garvey Movement: A New Perspective." Hill has been collecting documents related to Garvey since the early 1970s and his work is the basis for several important volumes documenting Garvey and the United Negro Improvement Association.



*Robert Hill*

For more information about the **Bunche Center Circle of Thought Lecture Series** and the **Bunche Center Authors' Series**, please visit our website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu)



*Kathryn Stockton*

**Kid Orientalism: African-American HIV Children V. The Children of the World Documentaries**  
Tuesday, May 15<sup>th</sup>  
4-6pm - 314 Royce

The UCLA Department of Women's Studies will feature the final lecture in a year-long series, 2011-12 Colloquium on New Directions in Gender and Sexuality Studies. On May 15<sup>th</sup>, Kathryn Stockton, Professor, English, University of Utah and Purnima Mankekar, Dept of Women's Studies, UCLA will discuss and explore the sexualization of children in a racialized world.

The event will be held from 4:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. in 314 Royce Hall. For additional information visit: [www.csw.ucla.edu/events/kathryn-stockton](http://www.csw.ucla.edu/events/kathryn-stockton).

## 26<sup>th</sup> Annual UCLA Jazz & Reggae Festival



The May 27 and 28<sup>th</sup> event is the largest student-run festival in the United States and features jazz and reggae artists from around the world. For more information visit: [www.jazzreggaeifest.com/info](http://www.jazzreggaeifest.com/info)

## Faculty News

Bunche Center Director Dr. Darnell M. Hunt, and historian and Bunche affiliated faculty member, Dr. Scot Brown, received an Academic Advancement Program Faculty Recognition Award on Wednesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> from the UCLA Academic Advancement Program (AAP). As part of AAP's 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary year-long celebration, AAP honored UCLA faculty who have made substantial contributions to the education of AAP students and who have provided support for the social justice mission of AAP.

Both professors were honored at a faculty reception hosted by Dr. Charles Alexander, Director, AAP and Associate Vice Provost for student diversity. They were cited for their commitment to teaching and for the important role they have played in helping AAP students deepen their learning and attain academic excellence.



**Scot Brown**



**Darnell Hunt**



**Antronette Yancey**

On March 3<sup>rd</sup>, Bunche affiliated faculty member Dr. Antronette Yancey lectured at Claremont College as part of their Intercollegiate Department of Africana Studies' Speaker Series, "Active by Default: Getting the African-American Community Moving -- 10 Minutes at a Time." Dr. Yancey was also co-author on a recent paper on implementing organizational physical activity and healthy eating habits in the workplace. The lead author was Dr. Yancey's PhD candidate, Jammie M. Hopkins.



**Gary Orfield**

Gary Orfield, UCLA distinguished professor of education, law, political science and urban planning, and Bunche affiliated faculty member, was selected as one of the 2012 winners of the Dr. John Hope Franklin Award for his achievements as an advocate for racial equality in education, including his work with the Civil Rights Project/Proyecto Derechos Civiles (CRP) at UCLA.

## Support the Bunche Center

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. Your individual gift helps support vital research, programs and services.



For information on how to include the Bunche Center at UCLA in your giving plans, please contact (310) 825-7403, visit the Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.edu), or go to: <https://giving.ucla.edu/Bunche>

## Library & Media



The LMC regularly accepts donations from scholars and community members. This month, we highlight a few recent donations added to the collection. In honor of May Day, these titles reflect solidarity movements in the African diaspora during the 1960's and 1970's. Many 21<sup>st</sup> century movements have gained insights into protest movements by examining earlier movements that led to where we are today. Our new donations include:



## ***Library & Media (Continued)***

Clayborne Carson ed., *The Papers of Martin Luther King, Jr. Volumes II, II, III, V.*  
Vol. I Called to Serve Jan 1929-June 1951  
Vol. II Rediscovering Precious Values July 1951- November 1955  
Vol. III Birth of A New Age December 1955-December 1966  
Vol. V Threshold of a New Decade January 1959-December 1960

Salkey, Andrew, *Havana Journal*, Baltimore 1971

Clarence Major ed., *The New Black Poetry*, New York: International Publishers, 1969

The Bunche Center Library and Media Center is open during regular hours to students, researchers, and the general public. Research and reference questions by phone and email are always welcome. The Librarian can be reached at 310-825-6060 or by email at [dhunter@bunche.ucla.edu](mailto:dhunter@bunche.ucla.edu). The LMC is located in 135 Haines Hall. For more about the library visit: [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu), click on Library and Media Center.

## ***Interdepartmental Program Afro-American Studies***



### **Afro-Am Graduation, Saturday, June 16, 11:30am\*\*\***

The UCLA AFRO-Am Graduation for Afro-Am majors, double-majors, minors, MA and MA/JD students will be held on Saturday, June 16. The Ceremony will be from 11:30a.m. to 1:30p.m. in the Fowler Museum, Lenart Auditorium. A reception will follow. A limited number of free tickets for the event are available and information on obtaining tickets is forthcoming. \*\*\*Please note – this event is NOT the same as the *Afrikan Graduation* on Sunday, June 17. For additional information, please contact: 301 825-9821 or visit [www.afro-am.ucla.edu](http://www.afro-am.ucla.edu).



The Bunche Center and HBCUs

On April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, Dr. Lisbeth Gant-Britton, Student Affairs Officer of the Afro-American Studies Program, visited Tuskegee University to meet with students and faculty. Gant-Britton talked with students Asheia Turner, a senior, and Davonte Logan, a junior. Both students are interested in politics and public policy, and were chosen from a highly competitive, nationwide pool of HBCU students to participate in the **2012 Bunche Center Summer Humanities Institute (SHI)**. Now in its 12<sup>th</sup> year, SHI provides rigorous academic training to high-potential undergraduate students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and to others with a demonstrated commitment to advancing scholarship in African American studies to prepare them for successful graduate study in the humanities and humanistic social sciences.

Dr. Britton also met with Tuskegee's Provost, Dr. Luther S. Williams, faculty members Dr. Darryl Roberts, Pre-Law Advisor, Dr. Lisa Beth Hill, Chair, Department of History and Political Science, and Dr. Adaku Ankumah, Professor of English. In addition to working with students, the Bunche Center is eager to build a stronger relationship with HBCU faculty and looks forward to Dr. Ankumah visiting UCLA this summer. Dr. Ankumah will serve as the first Tuskegee faculty member to participate in what the Center hopes will be the start of an ongoing faculty exchange program.

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## Research

### Appeals Court Upholds Prop. 209

In late 2011, the Center drafted an amicus brief which was used by a larger coalition of educators, activists, and students to file legal cases in the Sixth and Ninth Circuit Courts of Appeals that challenge the bans on affirmative action in Michigan and California. In a blow to affirmative action in higher education, on April 2<sup>nd</sup>, a three judge panel of the Ninth Circuit Rejected the Challenge to Prop 209. The judges argued that little has changed since the court last ruled in favor of Proposition 209. The plaintiffs in the case plan to file a motion for en banc review by the entire court. To read the argument, click [HERE](#).



Justin Sullivan/Getty Images

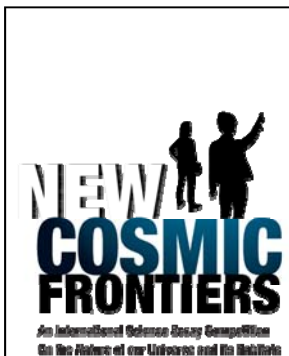
## External Opportunities

The UC Humanities Research Institute is pleased to accept calls for Working Group proposals. Working Groups will provide financial and technological resources for University of California faculty to support research collaboration and communication within the extended range of humanities disciplines.



**The University of California Humanities Research Institute (UCHRI)** invites proposals for **Working Groups** during the 2012-13 academic year (July 1 to June 30). UC Ladder Rank Faculty are eligible to apply. Award level is \$10,000. The NEW DEADLINE is 5:00 pm PST, May 10, 2012..

For more information visit the Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/category/research/fellowships-research-grants-external-opportunities/](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/category/research/fellowships-research-grants-external-opportunities/)



### College Students Invited to Submit Entries for New Cosmic Frontiers International Science Essay Competition

The New Cosmic Frontiers International Science Essay Competition on the Nature of our Universe and its Habitats is open to college and high school students worldwide. The competition is designed to inspire students to consider careers in science, to nurture their enthusiasm for the subject, and to engage young minds in creative, intellectual activities essential to scientific endeavors. The first-prize winners will be awarded cash prizes of \$25,000 (for high school students) and \$50,000 (for college students). Winners also will be given an opportunity to meet world-renowned scientists and scholars at a conference and award ceremony, to be held in Philadelphia, October 12-13, 2012.

The college category is open to undergraduate students registered full-time at a college or university at the time of submission. Part-time college students are not eligible. For additional information, visit the Bunche Center website at [www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/category/research/fellowships-research-grants-external-opportunities/](http://www.bunchecenter.ucla.edu/index.php/category/research/fellowships-research-grants-external-opportunities/)

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[www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter](http://www.youtube.com/user/uclabunchecenter)

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