

# News: June-July 2013

### **Featured Stories:**

### **Summer Humanities Institute**

Funded through generous grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the University of California Office of the President, this month, the UCLA Bunche Center for African American Studies will host its thirteenth Summer Humanities Institute (SHI) from Sunday, June 23 to Saturday, August 17, 2013.

SHI caters to high-achieving students from historically under-represented groups in their junior and senior year, planning to pursue a doctoral degree in the humanities and social sciences, with a focus on the African American experience. The 2013 cohort hails from eight different schools, primarily historically black colleges and universities.

Amanda Powell, a Tuskegee senior, is part of the 2013 cohort. From Montgomery, Alabama, her local paper featured an article about the English major's upcoming participation in the SHI program. To read the full story, Click Here.





In May, the Bunche Circle of Thought Series and the Bunche Author Series held several public events with scholars from UCLA, UC Irvine, University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, and Stanford University.

Karla Slocum, Associate Professor, Anthropology, University of North Carolina -Chapel Hill, discussed contemporary tour narratives of historical black towns. Later in the month, Sohail Daulatzai, Associate Professor, Department of Film and Media Studies and the Program in African American Studies at the University of California – Irvine, gave a talk, Fire in the Masters House: Malcolm X, Muslims and the Black Radical Imagination.

Continuing the series, Sharon Luk, a Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow from Stanford, presented her lecture, "Between Starshine and Clay': The Black Radical Tradition and Future Directions in Comparative Ethnic Studies," and Janira Teague gave the lecture, "I, too, Am America: Migrations, Identity and Citizenship in Black New York City, 1890s to 1930s." Teague is a UCLA Doctoral Candidate in history, and was the recipient of the UCLA Institute of American Cultures for the 2012-2013 academic year.

Finally, Jordan T. Camp, a Visiting Scholar at the Institute of American Cultures and the Bunche Center, ended the series with his discussion, "Interpreting the Housing Crisis in Los Angeles: Race, Class, and Dispossession." Camp is the co -editor of Freedom Now! Struggles for the Human Right to Housing in L.A. and Beyond (Freedom Now Books, 2012). To read about these scholars, Click Here.

## News and Announcements:

The Bunche Center is a hub for lectures, readings, screenings and other informative and entertaining events. To learn more, Click Here.

#### Afrikan Graduation Ceremony

The 34<sup>th</sup> Annual Afrikan Graduation Ceremony will take place on Sunday, June 16, 2013 in UCLA's Royce Hall. the theme of this year's event will be, "We Are the Architects of Our Future."

The ceremony, which is infused with the spirit of African culture, strives to celebrate the academic achievements of graduating students individually and as a group, while also promoting retention among the black students on campus. Additionally, the ceremony seeks to unite the extended UCLA community and acknowledge the graduates' families, for which their accomplishments are mutually shared. For more information, Click Here.







#### 2013 Leimert Park Village Book Fair

Join the Bunche Center at the 2013 Leimert Park Village Book Fair on Saturday, June 29, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The Bunche Library and Media Center will co-host a booth with UCLA's Undergraduate Admissions and Relations with Schools on the Vision Theatre back lot in historic Leimert Park. The event will feature over 150 celebrity readings, book signings, writing workshops, panel discussions, poetry readings, stage performances and musical performance during this day-long festival. The Bunche Center booth will provide information on Bunche Center activities, services, and programs, while encouraging the community to check out the happenings at the Bunche Center and on the UCLA campus. Also stop by the booth to test your knowledge at Bunche Center librarian Dalena Hunter's Black trivia game. Show how much you know!

Additionally, the Book Fair will continue its tradition of paying special tribute to a literary legacy by honoring the African American novelist, playwright, poet, and social critic, James A. Baldwin (August 2, 1924 - December 1, 1987) and the 1960's: America's Era of Social Change.

To learn more about the Leimert Park Book fair, Click Here.

### **Faculty News:**

Edmond J. Keller's two recent publications are "Meeting the Challenges of Strategic and Human Security Security Interests in US-Africa Relations, or the Orphaning of 'Soft Power'?," Africa Review 4, 1 (2013): 1-16, and "The Delivery of Public Goods in a Rapidly Expanding African City: Financing Policies in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia," Journal of International Affairs (2012).

Keller is Research Professor of political science, and former Director of the UCLA Globalization Research Center-Africa and of the James S. Coleman African Studies Center UCLA. He is also a Bunche Center affiliated faculty member. Keller specializes in comparative politics with an emphasis on Africa.





The UCLA Undergraduate Students Association Council dedicated a plaque in honor of the UCLA Freedom Riders on Tuesday, May 14, 2013 in Kerckhoff Hall. The event took place on the same day as the burning of a Freedom Rider's bus in Anniston, Alabama, which occurred on May 14, 1961.

The event featured a special presentation by Former Los Angeles City Councilmember Robert Farrell and Dr. Robert Singleton who discussed their experience as UCLA students who served as Freedom Riders. Dr. Singleton was the Bunche Center's Founding Director and served as the Bunche Center 2009-2010 IAC Visiting Scholar.

Dr. Singleton and his wife Helen joined the Freedom Rides and were arrested in Jackson, Mississippi, charged with "Breach of Peace," and subsequently incarcerated at Parchman Penitentiary with more than 300 other Freedom Riders. The Freedom Rides and the bus burning led to new regulations enforcing the Supreme Court's decisions and gradually led to society and policy change in America.

To read the full story, Click Here.

# Library & Media Center News:

In April and May, the Bunche Library and Media Center hosted its 3rd Images in Blackness Film Series, with a focus on black women filmmakers. Series speakers screened their work and shared their experience in the industry, describing film content and the technical process of making films. Panel discussions explored the contributions of black women filmmakers, the dearth of realistic representations of black women in mainstream media, as well as an examination of the cultural environment in which films are created and received and how those challenge old funding and distribution models. To read the full story, Click Here.

Images in Blackness **Film Series** 



# **External Research Opportunities:**

Department of State - Core Fulbright Scholar Program

Fulbright Scholar Program

The core Fulbright U.S. Scholar Program provides approximately 800 teaching and/or research grants to U.S. faculty and experienced professionals in a wide variety of academic and professional fields. Awards vary. Grants are available in over 125 countries worldwide. Deadline for application is August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2013. For more information Click Here.



## 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. To make a contribution, Click Here. You may also contact the Center's development director, Bea Richman, at 310-825-8654 or brichman@support.ucla.edu. Or, you may contact the Center directly at (310) 825-7403.

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#### Ralph J. Bunche Center for African American Studies at UCLA

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