Join Black Women's Blueprint
and the Women's Research and Resource Center at Spelman College

THE WORDS OF FIRE CONFERENCE: SEX, POWER AND THE BLACK FEMINIST CALL FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

APRIL 29-30, 2017 | SPELMAN COLLEGE | ATLANTA GEORGIA

BLACK WOMEN'S BLUEPRINT

WOMEN'S RESEARCH & RESOURCE CENTER
SPELMAN COLLEGE

WHY WORDS OF FIRE

On the One-Year Anniversary of the Black Women's Truth and Reconciliation Commission on Sexual Assault we want to honor the work of the contributors to Words of Fire: An Anthology of African-American Feminist Thought edited by Dr. Beverly Guy-Sheftall, as well as the Black feminist shapeshifters, waymakers and those human rights defenders whose words helped survivors of rape and reproductive abuses give life to the national Commission and its groundbreaking Tribunal at the United Nations in 2016.

In the wake of the 2016 elections, Words of Fire reinvigorates a call for resistance and urgent communal care on behalf of all Black women, girls, and transgender/gender nonconforming people so that we can move, thriving and surviving, with full momentum into the next phase of Black feminist futurity. Word of Fire are voices inside all of us, they are our experience, our history in our DNA, our stories, our ancestors — they are our truth, our individual uniqueness and our collective strength and power. Words of Fire continues to be the heat within our bodies, the passion with which we live our lives, the destruction of oppression, the sparks of ideas, art and vision, the color of transformation, the flame of unity, the fire of inevitability.

Bring Your Fire Together With:

Women Engaged
Wellstone Action
Trans Sistas of Color Project
US Human Rights Network
Women of Color Network
Georgia Coalition Against Domestic Violence
Sister Song

You want to be here for this!!

REGISTER TODAY

http://www.mamablack.org/2017-conference

Recognizing our foresisters, building on their works and words, we are the offspring taking Black feminism into the future. Join us.

Our Words of Fire

Provocative both politically and sexually, this conference will offer inspiring accounts by a cross-section of women, girls, queer, trans women of African Descent in order to deconstruct patriarchal ideologies that women and girls are to be taught consistently and often violently, that their bodies are corrupting, imperfect, violable and volatile harbingers of immorality.

Celebrating, reclaiming and engaging in memory work, political dialogue and action which centers Black women's traditions, various spiritualities as well as healing modalities, the conference will combine visioning workshops, panels, debates, art and interactive speakers committed to empowering, cultivating, and UNITING new generations of Black girls and young women with revolutionary Black feminist politics, solutions, and actions. Building on the works of our foresisters, we are the offspring bringing Black feminism into the future.

REGISTER:
http://www.mamablack.org/2017-conference

Getting There

Conference Date/Location
April 29-30, 2017
Spelman College,
350 Spelman Ln,
Atlanta, GA 30314

Visit Conference Website

ASK FOR INFO ABOUT STUDENT & ACTIVISTS TICKETS:
WordsOfFireConference
@blueprintny.org

347-533-9102/9103

Get Hotel & Lodging Info Here
Registration Fees/Groups

40 WORKSHOPS & PRESENTATIONS

Go from building prevention and service programs to building power.

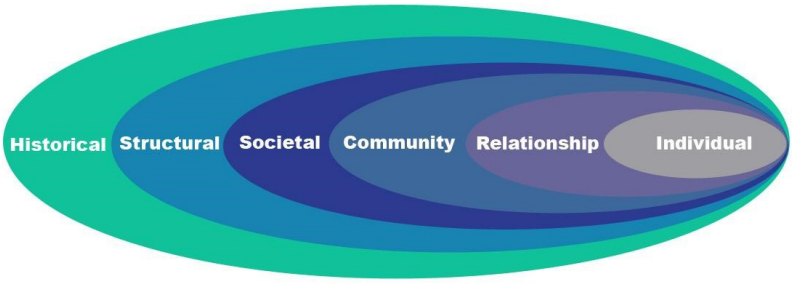

Illustration of an expanded Ecological model as articulated by Black Women's Blueprint which foregrounds structural and historical dimensions and dynamics as the critical components to be integrated into the existing CDC model for prevention. "It is not enough to build prevention programs, we must also build power."-Farah Tanis

SOME CONFERENCE TOPICS THAT WILL EXPAND KNOWLEDGE, PRACTICE AND ACTION SO WE CAN MOVE TO BUILDING POWER

Black Women, Racial Politics and The Nation State
Black Women, Gender and A Response to the White House
Consent, Agency, Pleasure and Desire in Young Women and Girls
Black Girlhood, Sex & Reproductive Health
Unpacking Perspectives on Virginity Across the African Diaspora
Abortion, Co-Parenting, and other Reproductive Consequences of Sexual Violence
Trans-Survivors, Community and Campus Sexual Assault
"Netflix and Chill Phenomena", Trauma and Sexual Violence
Bill Cosby, Nate Parker, R.Kelly and Other Black Male Icons Who Break Our Silences
To Our Brothers at Morehouse on Building an Ecology of
Campus Sexual Assault and Black Sexual Politics
Ending The Sexual Violence to Poverty Cycle
Sexual Liberation and Emancipatory Healing
New Imaginings for Justice: Gender-Based Violence and Policy Change
#SquadGoals: Intra-Communal Violence and Community Accountability
The Birthing Traditions and Ways of Our Grandmothers
Black Feminist Geographies of African Diasporic Religions and Rituals
The Role of Liberation Theology and Healing from Trauma
Healing Modalities for Adult Survivors of Child Abuse
Voices from the Global South (from the African Continent, Caribbean/West Indies, Latin America and elsewhere on the issues of land rights, the impact of colonization, and other issues that link the global to the local).
Truth Commissions, The Need for Sites of Memory, and Recognition for Survivors

REGISTER

https://blackwomensblueprint.ourpowerbase.net/civicrm/event/register?reset=1&id=11&cid=0

SPECIAL FEATURE

Every Forgotten Rape Has a Name

ENOUGH SAID

IN 2009, 11,341 UNTESTED RAPE KITS WERE DISCOVERED ABANDONED IN A DETROIT POLICE DEPARTMENT STORAGE FACILITY. FOR NEARLY 30 YEARS, EVIDENCE HAD BEEN LEFT TO COLLECT DUST, LIKE NO ONE LISTENED OR CARED ENOUGH TO SECURE JUSTICE FOR THOUSANDS OF SURVIVORS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT FROM WAYNE COUNTY, MICHIGAN.

81% OF THE UNTESTED KITS BELONGED TO BLACK WOMEN SURVIVORS.

As we host three Black women: Kim Trent, a Detroit nonprofit leader, Darci McConnell, head of a Detroit public relations firm, and Kym Worthy, head of the Wayne County Prosecutor's Office focusing on their Enough Said campaign to eliminate Detroit's rape kit backlog, challenge institutional racism and inaction and make sure survivors and their stories get the attention they deserve, **we will create space to reflect on how the pursuit of community-based power to combat shared challenges relies on vast networks of influence that often cut across race, class, and sector.** The role and participation of Joanna Cline, local business executive, and Peg Tallet of the Michigan Women's Foundation, two white women who exemplify what meaningful ongoing allyship with Black women and girls can and should look like in all our communities will be the focus of one of our panels. **Allies are encouraged to attend this deliberative dialogue.**

SPECIAL FEATURE

CIS-TAH to SISTAH: Building Solidarity and Sisterhood Between Cis-gender and Transgender Women of Color

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As of March 2017, seven trans women have been murdered. All were women of color.

As we host women from the **Trans Sistas of Color Project** and honor fierce feminist and co-founder **Bré Campell**, we will create space to answer the question **"what does sisterhood look like between trans women of color and cis-hetero, cis-lesbian and cis- bisexual women of color given the current assault of womanhood across the spectrum from the current administration?"**

The Trans Sistas of Color Project was founded in 2015 by a group of Detroit community activists to uplift, influence and positively impact the lives and well being of trans women of color through trans centric programming, services, resources and community building efforts. " CIS-TA to SISTAH: Building Solidarity and Sisterhood Between Cis-gender and Transgender Women of Color" will construct a blueprint for relationship building, movement work, resource sharing and solidarity and accountability practices between trans-gender and cis-gender women of color through a Black, queer, trans feminist lens.

ACTIVIST INSTITUTE
April 29, 2017

Sign Up For The One Day Institute for Black Women 's
Leadership . Public Policy . Community Organizing . Electoral Politics

Understanding that revolution begins at the margins, Black Women's Blueprint is joining forces with Wellstone Action and aims to equip Black women with the strategies and knowledge to build power for ourselves and our communities. Wellstone organizes to close the representation gaps in every city hall, school board and state legislature in our country. Wellstone organizes to manifest the transformation and healing our communities need. Join Wellstone Action in a hands on, day long training institute where we will learn to build our power through community organizing and public leadership.

Wellstone

REGISTER FOR THE WELLSTONE ACTION INSTITUTE
OFFERED AT THE WORDS OF FIRE CONFERENCE
APRIL 29, 2017
CLICK HERE VIA CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

The Fire We Honor

Recy Taylor

Beverly Guy-Sheftall

Pearl Cleage

Fania Davis

Angela Davis

Loretta Ross

Byllye Avery

Cheryl Clarke

Barbara Smith

Paula Giddings

Kimberly Foster

Bre Campbell

Aishah Simmons

Brittney Cooper

Alexis Gumbs

In Memoriam
Cassandra Q. Butts
Who Made it Possible
for the 2010- 2016
TRC to go to the U.N.

To See Who Else Is Being Honored, Visit A Praise Song On Our Conference Website

FUEL THE FIRE REGISTER HERE

Register by Mail To:
Black Women's Blueprint
P.O. Box 24713
Brooklyn, NY. 11202
FStines@blueprintny.org

ASK MORE INFO ABOUT STUDENT TICKETS:
WordsOfFireConference
@blueprintny.org

347-533-9102/9103

To Reserve Hotel & Lodging:
Words of Fire Conference Discount Rates Are at the Marriott Marquis and Other Hotels. Click **Here** For More.

Click Here for Registration Fees and Groups

Attend Conference As a Volunteer

HOST COMMITTEE:

Shawnda Chapman Brown,Yolande Tomlinson, Malika Redmond
Mayowa Alero Obasaju, Maybelline McCoy, Tyffani Dent, Nina Angela Mercer

SUPPORTED BY: