



Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side Eve L. Ewing, Ed.D.

Poet, visual artist, essayist, and author of *Ghosts in the Schoolyard* and the "Ironheart" series for Marvel Comics.
Assistant Professor, University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration.

Wednesday, December 12, 2018, 7:00 PM

Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,
in partnership with **Connections for the Homeless, Evanston Township High School D202,**
the McGaw YMCA, Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

This event is **free and open to the public** and will not be taped. Suitable for youth 12+. **INFO: familyactionnetwork.net**

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Wednesday, December 12, 2018, Ghosts in the Schoolyard: Racism and School Closings on Chicago's South Side, 7:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, IL 60201.

In the spring of 2013, approximately 12,000 children in Chicago received notice that their last day of school would be not only the final day of the year, but also the final day of their school's very existence. The nation's third largest school district would eventually shutter 53 schools, citing budget limitations, building underutilization, and concerns about academic performance. Of the thousands of displaced students, 94% were low-income and 88% were African-American.

Ghosts in the Schoolyard tells the story of these school closings, from their unfolding to their aftermath, in Bronzeville, a historically significant African-American community on the South Side of Chicago. The book details the resistance efforts of the residents of Bronzeville, inspired by the legacy of a storied past and driven to fight back against the malfeasance and disregard of city political leaders. But at its core, this is a book about what schools really mean to Americans and to African-Americans in particular, beyond the brick and mortar that compose them or the test scores and graduation rates that garner the most public attention.

Ghosts in the Schoolyard author **Eve L. Ewing, Ed.D.** is a poet, visual artist, essayist, sociologist, and educator based in Chicago. She is also the author of *Electric Arches*, which received awards from the **American Library Association** and the **Poetry Society of America** and was named one of the year's best books by NPR and the *Chicago Tribune*. She is the co-author (with Nate Marshall) of the play *No Blue Memories: The Life of Gwendolyn Brooks*. She also writes the "Ironheart" series for **Marvel Comics**. Dr. Ewing is an Assistant Professor at the **University of Chicago School of Social Service Administration**. Her work has been published in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic*, *The New York Times*, and many other venues.

A dynamic and powerful voice, Dr. Ewing is a leader in the discussions on the role of black women in academia and writing. She often uses public platforms to discuss these subjects, particularly Twitter, where she is a well-recognized commentator with over 150,000 followers and 25-40 million views each month.

Dr. Ewing completed her doctorate at the **Harvard Graduate School of Education**. Prior to that, she received an undergraduate degree with honors in English Language & Literature from the **University of Chicago**, with a focus on African-American literature of the twentieth century. She also holds a MAT in Elementary Education from **Dominican University** and an M.Ed. in Education Policy and Management from Harvard.

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