**The Matter of Black Lives:**
**Black History and Experiences in the United States and the Question of Genocide**

2017-2018, 2020 Project Report

Dr. Raz Segal, Director of the MAHG Program

The goal of this project, which consisted, so far, of two workshops (4-5 March 2017 and 28 February-2 March 2018)—supported by a 2020 grant, GENS, the Holocaust Resource Center, and ARHU—is to discuss and examine the history and experiences of Black Americans in relation to new issues and questions in the study of modern genocide and mass violence, particularly race and racism; slavery, segregation, and mass incarceration; and sexual violence, reproductive violence, and social destruction. *The Matter of Black Lives*, therefore, places *systematic* violence against Blacks as a *central* element of United States history. The relevance of these topics for students in the United States cannot be overstated, and there is much research and educational potential in the intersection of these two fields. Indeed, significant collaborations both within and outside of Stockton have emerged through this project. As the attached programs of the two workshops show, colleagues at Stockton from the programs in Sociology and Anthropology, Criminal Justice, Literature, Economics, Communications, and Africana Studies have participated in the project. And a number of prominent scholars from outside of Stockton have become our partners, including Nan Woodruff from Pennsylvania State University, Susan O'Donovan from the University of Memphis, and Alfred Frankowski from Southern Illinois University in Carbondale.

Furthermore, the project created new connections for Stockton faculty with a number of partners and organizations in Atlantic City and Pleasantville, where most of the sessions in both workshops took place. Thus, a partnership with Reverend Willie Dwayne Francois of Mount Zion Baptist Church in Pleasantville—forged thanks to Dr. Christina Jackson at Stockton—has allowed us to take our work to the public and hold the closing event of the 2nd workshop at his church. This adds to the growing presence of Stockton in Atlantic City and its role in creating meaningful interface between academia and the public sphere. The project thus strengthens "Stockton's comprehensive diversity and inclusion efforts," as stipulated by the mission of the Office of Institutional Diversity and Equity, and contributes to Stockton's 2020 Strategic Initiatives, particularly with regard to Engagement. This engagement, in turn, strengthens

teaching on campus. For example, many of the Stockton faculty who participated in the 2nd workshop have expressed interest in inviting Tamu Lane from the Women's Center in Linwood to talk in their classes about ways to confront and stop sexual violence within communities.

**Moving forward**, Stockton faculty who have become partners in this project—specifically, Dr. Christina Jackson, Dr. Donnetrice Allison, Dr. Jess Bonnan-White, and myself—plan to build on the public engagement that the project has created in order to attract to Stockton not only professionals and activists like Tamu Lane but also Black students from Atlantic City and its area. Specifically, we aim to increase the number of Black students at Stockton by expanding considerably the Dual Credit Program in African-American History in collaboration with the newly developed major in Africana Studies, coordinated by Dr. Allison. Establishing this program in schools in Atlantic City and Pleasantville is particularly important now, with the opening of the new Atlantic City campus of Stockton in fall 2018. *The Matter of Black Lives* project would thus contribute to an increase in engagement that, in turn, diversifies the university—its student body and the intellectual experience it offers.

Related to the duel credit program, participants in both workshops have expressed interest in contributing to an edited volume on the subject—one that would be designed for high-school teachers and students. Such a volume would be the first of its kind, bridging cutting-edge scholarship and education in a way that fits Stockton' mission of developing engaged and effective citizens, both locally and globally.

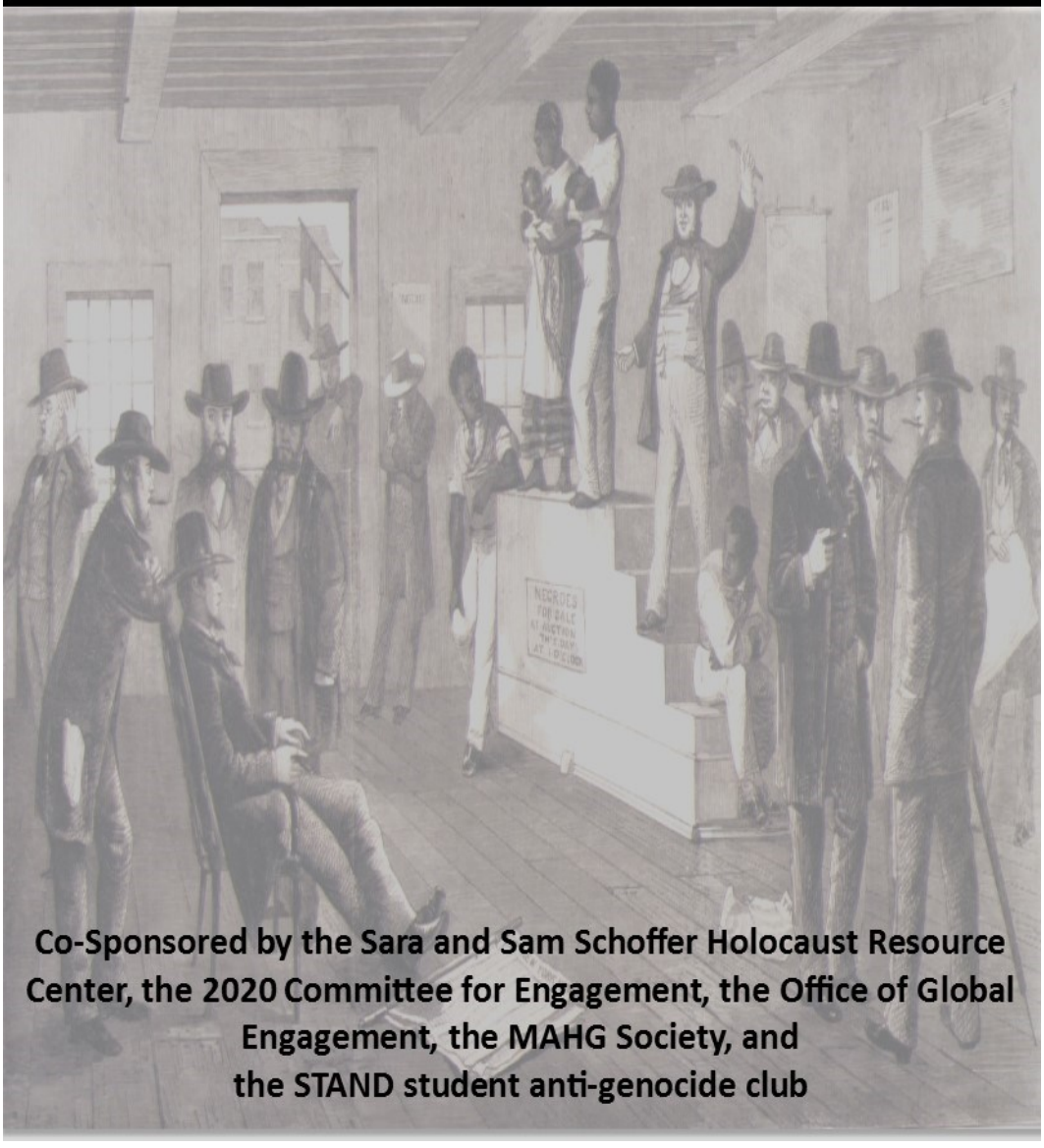
Finally, Dr. Michael Hayse of the MAHG program is leading the design and organization of a new study tour to slavery, lynching, and civil rights sites. It is planned for spring break 2020, as part of two new courses that semester on genocide and mass violence in United States history—an intersection at the heart of the project on *The Matter of Black Lives*. One course will be at the undergraduate level, taught by Dr. Kameika Murphey (Historical Studies), and one at the graduate level, which will probably be co-taught by Dr. Allison and myself. The Holocaust Resource Center (HRC) and its director, Gail Rosenthal, has been instrumental in initiating this study tour, which exemplifies the kind of long-term collaborations that have emerged as a result of the project.

The Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program & The School of General Studies present

# The Matter of Black Lives: Black Experiences in the USA and the Question of Genocide

March 4 - 5, 2017

Stockton University, Galloway & Atlantic City




**Co-Sponsored by the Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center, the 2020 Committee for Engagement, the Office of Global Engagement, the MAHG Society, and the STAND student anti-genocide club**

# The Matter of Black Lives
# Black Experiences in the United States and the Question of Genocide

**4-5 March 2017, Stockton University**

**Saturday, 4 March, Stockton University, Galloway Campus**

**5:00** Dinner (D-Wing Atrium)

**6:00** Performances by Stockton Students (Alton Auditorium)
Naijasia Thomas will perform "Theme for English B" and "Memo to Non-White People"
Nataliia Maciejewski will perform "The Cats of St. Nicholas" and "My Land is Hurt"
Megan Coates will perform "The Death of John Prince"

**6:30**
Opening Remarks, Reverend William Williams, United Methodist Church, Atlantic City

Keynote Lecture
Chad Williams, Brandeis University
*Responding to Charleston: The Practice of African American History in the Black Lives Matter Moment*

**7:45-9:15** Film: 13th

**Sunday, 5 March, Carnegie Center, Atlantic City**
**9:00-9:15 Opening Remarks**

**9:15-10:15 Re-Conceptualizing Genocide**
Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, Stockton University
*The 'Where' of Genocide: Bodies, Reproductive Violence, and Community Destruction*

Raz Segal, Stockton University
*Holocaust and Genocide Studies: Shall we Revise a Traditional View?*

**10:15-10:30 Break**

**10:30-12:00 New Approaches to the Present**
Janice Joseph, Stockton University
*Mass Incarceration of Blacks in the U.S.: Is This a New Form of Genocide?*

Elizabeth B. Erbaugh, Stockton University
*Reproductive Justice and Black Lives*

Donnetrice C. Allison, Stockton University
*Framing the Victim: Do Black Lives Matter to the Media?*

**12:00-12:30 Performances by Stockton Students**
Tatayania Robinson will perform "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain"
Jade Fleming will perform "Seven People Dancing"

**12:30-1:30 Lunch**

**1:30-2:30 The Dialectics of Remembering and Eliding**
Susan Eva O'Donovan, University of Memphis
*Remembering the 1866 Memphis Massacre: Towards a New Historical Iconography*

Robert Gregg, Stockton University
*The Birth of an Empire: African American Invisibility in the Making of the US*

**2:30-2:45 Break**

**2:45-3:45 The Body in Space**
Jess Bonnan-White, Stockton University
*Riots, Protests, Demonstrations: America's Problem with Discontent*

Christina Jackson, Stockton University
*Black Lives Matter: Using a Genocide Framework to Understand the Relationship between the Black Community and Urban Spaces Historically*

**3:45-4:45 The Corporate Body**
Lissa Skitolsky, Susquehanna University & and Alfred Frankowski, Northeastern Illinois University
*The 'Event' and the Invisibility of Anti-Black Genocidal Practices: Rethinking the Ontology of Genocide*

**4:45-5:00 Break**

**5:00-5:45 Rikers is a Concentration Camp at the Epicenter of American Culture**
A slide show with Don Christian Jones, mural artist and rapper

**5:45-7:00 Hip Hop Music and Resistance to Anti-Black Racism**
Lissa Skitolsky, Susquehanna University
Gabriel Baez (stage name: Kelo)**,** Joshua Tebar (stage name: J Remedy)**,** Andrew Barbeau (stage name: DJ Cash Out Casper)**,** Monique Shirelle (stage name: B.L. Shirelle), and Joaquin Whitehurst (stage name: Dynasty)

**7:00-7:30 Closing Remarks**
Rev. Willie Dwayne Francois, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Atlantic City

# Bios

**Donnetrice C. Allison** currently serves as Associate Professor of both Communication Studies and Africana Studies at Stockton University in Galloway, NJ. Dr. Allison also serves as coordinator/chair of the Africana Studies Program, and she teaches numerous Africana Studies courses. In addition to Africana Studies, Dr. Allison has been a Communication Studies scholar for more than two decades and has published several articles and dozens of conference presentations on hip hop culture and media portrayals of African Americans. Moreover, Dr. Allison has coordinated three Hip Hop Summits at Stockton University, hosting more than 100 scholars and entertainers from the local area. In 2016, Dr. Allison served as sole editor of the book *Black Women's Portrayals on Reality Television: The New Sapphire*, published by Lexington Books; and she recently contributed an article titled, "The Perpetuation of Racial Stereotypes in American Media," for the two-volume book set, *Race in America: How a Pseudo-Scientific Concept Shaped Human Interaction*, published by Praeger Books.

**Gabriel Baez** a.k.a. Kelo was born in the Bronx in 1977 on Halloween. This event in itself could be used as a metaphor to describe his unique personality and eclectic personna. Born to Black & Latino parents, he was raised in Brooklyn until the age of five. He then was "born again," as he says, in Harlem on 110 St & Madison Ave in a middle class complex known as The Schomburg Houses. His career in the music industry started out like many youths at that time; as a street dancer, break dancing on cardboard boxes, listening to Hip Hop, and watching Ralph Mcdaniels on Video Music Box. Then things changed in the early 1990s, when his group Trouble Neck Brothers (TNB) got signed to Stepsun Records along with Miss Jones (Hot 97) and they performed at clubs such as The Latin Quarter, Mecca, Home Base, and The Tunnel (with Funkmaster Flex). However, the record company went bankrupt, and it seemed as though things were over for the group. So Kelo re-invented himself and by 1996 his new conglomerate, Die Hard Records, was "going hard" on Dj Clue tapes that featured artists like The Lox, Mase, and Lord Tariq. His new artist was Genovese, and with production by SKI from Rock A Block (of Jay Z fame), things were looking up. Yet, with an extensive line up and limited resources, things fell through once again. Never daunted in the pursuit of his dream, he returned to the business of doing street team work, working with groups like Nore, Gangstarr, Mobb Deep, Eminem, Ruff Ryders, Clispe, Busta, Flipmode Squad Lox, and Mase. Kelo traveled all over the world, developing good relationships with Dj's media contacts and artists and building his network into what is now known as the Global Thugz Network / NFE (Nii**a's From Everywhere). All his hard work has now put him in the business of

radio/mixshow promotion and mixtapes. By doing national mixshow promotions for giants like Jive, TVT, and Def Jam Records, Kelo has mastered the art of breaking records and at this point in his career he feels ready to put out some good music.

**Jess Bonnan-White (**PhD, University of Iowa, Anthropology) is a disaster studies and homeland security scholar in the Criminal Justice Program at Stockton University. Her most recent work can be found published in *The Journal of Humanitarian Action, Contemporary Justice Review*, *PLOS Currents – Disasters*, *Journal of Trauma & Dissociation*, *Journal of Interpersonal Violence*, *Peace Review*, *Agriculture and Human Values* and the *International Association for Emergency Management (IAEM) Bulletin*. With domestic and international fieldwork experience, she focuses her scholarship on emergency preparedness and response in conflict areas and exploring social processes that increase community resiliency. She is the Director of Education and Training for the Forage Center for Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Education, and volunteers with the American Red Cross – New Jersey Region.

**Elizabeth B. Erbaugh** is Assistant Professor of Sociology and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Stockton University. Her research and teaching focus on gender, race and reproductive health, community engagement research methods, and feminist theory. Dr. Erbaugh holds a PhD and MA from the University of New Mexico in Sociology, an MA from the University of Notre Dame in International Peace Studies, and a BA from Tufts University in Philosophy. She has been named the Service-Learning Faculty Fellow of Stockton University for 2017-18.

**Willie Dwayne Francois, III** is a 2009 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Religion, named the ranking scholar in both departments. Francois is a member of various honor societies and holds two fellowships from the Fund for Theological Education. While at Morehouse, he served as the president of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel Assistants Program and was named the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar. Francois received a Master of Divinity from Harvard University's Divinity School, where he was awarded the Hopkins Shareholders Award—the school's highest academic recognition—and served as class commencement speaker.

Called and committed to empower people through transformative preaching, teaching and organizing, Francois serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville, NJ. From 2013 to 2015, Francois served as the Associate Pastor of First Corinthian Baptist Church

(FCBC) in Harlem, New York, where Pastor Michael A. Walrond, Jr. is the pastor. Prior to joining the FCBC team, he served as the Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, under his pastor, Rev. Dr. Marcus D. Cosby. Francois also fulfilled several highly intensive and structured ministerial internships at Wheeler Avenue, FCBC and Morning Star Baptist church (of Mattapan, Massachusetts, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. John M. Borders III). Francois was licensed and ordained at the First Union Baptist Church of Galveston, Texas.

Francois lives into the intersection of the life of the spirit and the life of the mind. Along with Rev. Martha L. Simmons, Esq., he is the co-author of *Christian Minister's Manual: For the Pulpit and the Public Square for All Denomination*—the most progressive and comprehensive clergy resource for priestly and prophetic ministries. In addition to publishing various articles and sermons, Francois served as a member of the Young Preachers' Leadership Team of the Academy of Preachers, the director of the Young Ministers' Corner of the African American Lectionary, a research assistant for Dr. Jonathan L. Walton, a Civil Rights Scholar for the imaging of the King Paper collection through the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (in Atlanta). Likewise, he holds an adjunct position in the African American Studies program at the University of Houston.

Associated with various organization, boards and initiatives, Francois works to dismantle the racialized prison industrial complex in America. Through the Bill Lucy Fellowship, Francois represented the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference in a global conversation on mass incarceration at the Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race at the University of London-Birkbeck in London, England. Francois serves as co-chair of the Theological Working Group of the Black Church Center for Justice and Equality. For 2014-2015, Francois was named a Beatitudes Society Fellow, focusing on congregational responses to Mass Incarceration and empowering returning citizens. Also a charter core team member of Black Lives Matter: Atlantic City, Francois' pastoral activism is organized around racial and economic justice and criminal justice reform.

Francois attributes his love of life and dedication to doing the so-called impossible to his close-knit family. He is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

**Alfred Frankowski** is Assistant Professor of Philosophy at Northeastern Illinois University. He specializes in 19th and 20th Century Continental Philosophy, Critical Race Theory, Post-Colonialism, Aesthetics and Genocide Studies. He is author of *The post-racial limits of memorialization: Toward a political sense of mourning* (Lanham, MD*:* Rowman & Littlefield/Lexington Books, 2015) and co-editor of *Rethinking Genocide in African and the African Diaspora* (forthcoming). He is currently completing a book project, entitled *Decolonial Aesthetics and the Post-Genocide Situation.*

**Robert Gregg** is Professor of History and Dean of the School of General Studies at Stockton University. He previously served as the Dean of Arts and Humanities at Stockton. His publications include a work on African-American migration (*Sparks from the Anvil of Oppression: Philadelphia's African Methodist and the Southern Migrants*), one on comparative history (*Inside Out, Outside In*), a co-edited encyclopedia (Routledge's *Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Culture*), and an on-line volume (*Histrionyx: Rethinking Migration in American Studies)*. He has co-written and produced two musicals, *A Midsummer Night's Scream* and *Frogs Reimagined.*

**Christina Jackson** is Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stockton University who participates in community work in both Atlantic City and Philadelphia. She is a core team member of the Black Lives Matter Atlantic City chapter, helping to facilitate monthly forums with community residents, and she has worked with The New Jersey Organizing Project's Sandy Truth Project. Dr. Jackson teaches classes and conducts research on inequality, urban places, gender, social movements, and the politics of redevelopment and gentrification. She has published in *Sociology Compass,* and in two books: *Black California Dreamin': The Crises of California's African-American Communities* and *The Ghetto: Contemporary Global Issues and Controversies*. Dr. Jackson also reviews for academic journals such as *City and Community* and *Contemporary Sociology*. She is an avid supporter of integrating service-learning into her teaching pedagogy. She is a board member of a girls' leadership camp and year-long program called Camp Sojourner, based in West Philadelphia.

**Elisa von Joeden-Forgey** is Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Stockton University in New Jersey, where she also directs the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program. She is also founder of the Genocide Prevention Certificate Program at Stockton. She serves as President of Genocide Watch and First Vice President of the International Association of Genocide Scholars. She teaches undergraduate and graduate classes on the Holocaust, comparative genocide, gender, sexual violence, war, human rights, imperialism and genocide prevention, and has lectured and published widely on these topics. Most recently she spoke at the United Nations for the inaugural Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and the Prevention of This Crime, the United Nations symposium on "Defending Religious Freedom and Other Human Rights: Stopping Mass Atrocities Against Christians and Other Believers," and the Second Global Forum on Genocide Prevention. Her current work examines the reproductive justice dimension of genocidal violence and how this can be helpful in early warning and prevention efforts.

**Don Christina Jones** is a New York based rapper, producer, and visual artist. His work spans musical and visual performances, rap mixtapes, installations, and public murals, blending genres of painting and hip hop referencing classical and contemporary styles. He has completed over twenty public works, and shown and performed at institutions both here and abroad, such as the Whitney Museum and Webster Hall. His 2015 mixtape Renzo Piano was named one of the best albums of the year by U.K. music journal *The Quietus*.

**Janice Joseph,** Ph.D. is a Distinguished Professor of the Criminal Justice Program at Stockton University in New Jersey. In 2010, she became the 47th President of Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), a national criminal justice organization, with over 2,000 members. She is also presently the organization's official ACJS NGO representative at national and international meetings of the United Nations. She is the Editor of the *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, a scholarly criminal justice journal. Her broad research interests include gangs, youth violence, juvenile delinquency, violence against women, and women and criminal justice. She has over 70 publications and made over 130 presentations in more than 25 different countries. She was elected four times as a member of the Executive Board of the *International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council* (ISPAC) of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, Milan, Italy, and she is also the Chair of the Working Party on Violence Against Women for that UN institute. She has also testified before

the U.S. Commission on Civil Rights and the Criminal Intelligence Service, Alberta, Canada, served as a peer reviewer for U.S. Department of Justice and the Fulbright Scholar Program, External Faculty Reviewer for 14 faculty members in two countries, and External Examiner for Ph.D. candidates in Trinidad, Tobago, and South Africa. She is also an elected member of the World Society of Victimology's Executive Committee and the UN Liaison Committee of that organization.

**Susan Eva O'Donovan** is Associate Professor of History at the University of Memphis. She is a former editor with the Freedmen and Southern Society Project, the co-editor of two volumes of *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008 and 2013), author of *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* (Harvard University Press, 2007), and co-director of the Memphis Massacre Project. An OAH Distinguished Lecturer, she has been the recipient of several awards, including fellowships at the Newberry Library and the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. She is completing a political history of slaves.

**Raz Segal** holds a Ph.D. in History from Clark University (the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, 2013). He is Assistant Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies and Sara and Sam Schoffer Professor of Holocaust Studies at Stockton University. Focusing on central and southeast Europe, Dr. Segal is engaged in his work with the challenges of exploring the Holocaust as an integral part of late modern processes of imperial collapse, the formation and occasional de-formation of nation-states, and their devastating impact on the societies they sought to break and remake. He has held, *inter alia*, a Harry Frank Guggenheim Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship, and a Lady Davis Fellowship at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His last book is *Genocide in the Carpathians: War, Social Breakdown, and Mass Violence, 1914-1945* (Stanford: Stanford University Press, 2016).

**Monique Shirelle**, a.k.a B.L. Shirelle, was born in Philadelphia, PA. She started writing poetry at the age of 7, and she began to receive acknowledgement for her rapping and multi-instrumental musicianship by the age of 9. At the age of 11 she entered into a life of crime. Her mother was a crack addict and as a result exposed B.L., her oldest child, to a fast and often violent street lifestyle growing up. She was sent to a number of Juvenile detention placements, and by the age of 17, was sentenced to 12 years. Now B.L. Shirelle has become a voice of freedom. She had made various live appearances, including her participation in Ted Talks on mass

incarceration, and she has written and recorded vocals for the album, “The Die Jim Crow EP,” a conceptual piece about systemic oppression in the U.S. prison system. B.L. Shirelle uses her talents and her music as a voice for the oppressed, while at the same time reinforcing the ideas of self-determination and accountability. She is now writing and recording her debut EP, “Restricted Movement 2,” a follow up to her well received underground mixtape, “Restricted Movement.”

**Lissa Skitolsky** is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Susquehanna University. Her research in the fields of Continental philosophy and genocide studies aims to interrogate our cultural and political responses to state sanctioned violence and the suffering that follows. Recently she has published articles about the role that our notion of the ‘criminal’ has played in genocides in the past and present. As part of this project she draws on hip-hop as testimony to carceral violence and the genocidal wounds inflicted by the US criminal justice system. She is currently working on a manuscript titled “Can I Get a Witness? Hip hop as philosophical text and testimony,” which illustrates the philosophical importance of underground rap music for critical race theory, cultural studies, trauma theory, and genocide studies.

**Joshua Tebar** a.k.a J-Remedy was brought into this world December 11th 1986 in Brooklyn New York. Due to family situations and life circumstances, the state of New York took custody and placed him into an orphanage. His sibling later relocated them to Pennsylvania, with his maternal grandmother in hopes of a better life. Unfortunately, being a troubled teen landed him several years in a youth institution and later state penitentiaries. A three-year sentence in Western State Penitentiary and becoming a single father of three kids was the wake-up call he needed to chase and accomplish his dreams and goals. J-Remedy is now becoming the fastest growing Hip Hop artist in Central Pennsylvania. His music is real, and his pain and stories are real. He has toured with big names in Hip Hop such as Cassidy, Joe Budden, Beanie Sigel, Freeway, Vado, JR Writer, and many more. J-Remedy has also traveled to several different states and cities to perform at back to back venues. He was nominated and won an award for entrepreneur of the year for his hard work as an artist and promoter for hosting Indie events as well as celebrity events in the PA Area.

**Joaquin Whitehurst** a.k.a. Dynasty. I am twenty-one years old, from New Jersey, and have been writing since 5th grade. I started off writing poetry which eventually turned into songwriting. Only recently I felt that I was ready to share my music with the world. I was always confident in my ability, but wanted to produce the best quality possible. I have been mastering my craft for years, and at the age of twenty, I dropped my first project titled "First of Many" and stepped onto the stage for the first time at Susquehanna University on March 23rd, 2016. Hip-Hop is something that has always been embedded in my DNA. It is not only music, but a lifestyle, a feeling, and most importantly, a voice for the people. My music represents that voice.

**Chad Williams** is Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of African and Afro-American Studies at Brandeis University. Chad earned a BA with honors in History and African American Studies from UCLA, and received both his MA and Ph.D. in History from Princeton University. He specializes in African American and modern United States History, African American military history, the World War I era and African American intellectual history. His first book, *Torchbearers of Democracy: African American Soldiers in the World War I Era,* was published in 2010 by the University of North Carolina Press. Widely praised as a landmark study, *Torchbearers of Democracy* won the 2011 Liberty Legacy Foundation Award from the Organization of American Historians, the 2011 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for Military History and designation as a 2011 CHOICE Outstanding Academic Title. He is co-editor of *Charleston Syllabus: Readings on Race, Racism and Racial Violence* (University of Georgia Press, 2016) and *Major Problems in African American History,* 2nd edition (Cengage Learning, 2016). Chad has published articles and book reviews in numerous leading journals and collections. He has earned fellowships from the American Council of Learned Societies, the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture, the Ford Foundation and the Woodrow Wilson Foundation. He is currently completing a study of W. E. B. Du Bois and World War I.

**Rev. William M. Williams, III** is a husband to Joyce and father to Julia, William, IV, and James. He is an Ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church, and is currently under appointment at the Asbury United Methodist Church of Atlantic City. He has a Bachelor of Arts degree in economics from Swarthmore College and a Masters of Divinity degree from Drew University School of Theology. He is a member of the Black Lives Matter – New Jersey: Atlantic City core team.

*Thank you to the following organizations for their support of The Matter of Black Lives: Black Experiences in the USA and the Question of Genocide Workshop*

**The Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies**

**The School of General Studies**

**The Sara and Sam Schoffer Holocaust Resource Center**

**The 2020 Committee for Engagement**

**The Office of Global Engagement**

**The MAHG Society**

**STAND**

# *The Matter of Black Lives: Black History and Experiences in the United States and the Question of Genocide*

*Second Workshop*
*Stockton University*
*Philadelphia, Atlantic City, and Pleasantville*
*28 February — 2 March 2018*

*Sponsored by a 2020 Engagement Grant, The School of General Studies, and the M.A. Program in Holocaust and Genocide Studies*

Cover images from the following sources:

(Top Right) Image of Coretta Scott King crossing the Edmund Pettus Bridge on March 8, 1975, the 10th anniversary of the march from Selma to Montgomery © 1975 Edmundite Southern Missions

(Bottom Left) Image of  protests in Ferguson, Missouri, November 23, 2014 © 2014 Adrees Latif/ Reuters

(Background) Image of the American flag and barbed wire at Guantanamo Bay. Link Referral: Max Pixel

Wednesday, 28 February: Opening Evening
**Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Philadelphia**
(2027 Fairmount Avenue)

4:30pm: Tour of the exhibit “Prisons Today: Questions in the Age of Mass Incarceration”

5:00pm: Remarks by Sean Kelley, Senior Vice President and Director of Interpretation, Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Philadelphia

DonChristian Jones, Interdisciplinary Artist, Musician, and Activist
*Art for Change: Painting at Rikers*

Light Dinner Sponsored by Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Philadelphia

Thursday, 1 March
**Carnegie Building, Atlantic City**
(35 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd)

9:30am—9:45am: **Opening Remarks**
Raz Segal, Assistant Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Stockton University

9:45am—11:30am: **The Event of Morbid Sensibility: Anti-Blackness, Genocide, and the Aesthetic Limits of the Critical**
Lissa Skitolsky, Associate Professor of Philosophy, Susquehanna University
Alfred Frankowski, Assistant Professor of Philosophy, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

11:30am—11:45am: Break

11:45am—1:30pm: **Black Lives and the Making of the United States**
Susan Eva O’Donovan, Associate Professor of History, The University of Memphis
*Slaves and the Making of a Nation: The Antebellum Economy and its Human Foundation*

Robert Gregg, Professor of History and Dean of the School of General Studies, Stockton University
*What's in a Name? Stockton, Slavery, and Memorialization*

1:30pm—2:30pm: Lunch

2:30pm—2:45pm: Performance by Stockton students Megan Coates of her poem "Skittles" and by Tatayania Robinson of Langston Hughes' poem "The Negro Artist and the Racial Mountain"

2:45pm—4:30pm: **Systemic Deprivation and Inequalities**
Ramya Vijaya, Professor of Economics, Stockton University
*Measuring Systemic Deprivations: Multidimensional Poverty in Atlantic City*

Christina Jackson, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Stockton University
*Segregation and Redlining: The Disruption of Black Neighborhood Ecosystems*

5:00pm—9:00pm: **Community Evening, All Wars Memorial Building, Atlantic City**
(1510 Adriatic Avenue)

5:00pm—5:10pm: **Opening Remarks**
Kaleem Shabazz, Ward 3 Councilman in Atlantic City

5:10pm—5:30pm: Kellie Cors-Atherly, Peace Amongst Youth

5:30pm—6:30pm: **Living with the Everyday Legacies of Violence in the Contemporary South: The 1966 Grenada, Mississippi Freedom Movement**
Nan Elizabeth Woodruff, Professor of African American Studies and Modern U.S. History, Pennsylvania State University

Dianna Freelon-Foster, Founder and Director of Activists with a Purpose and Organizer for Southern Echo

6:30pm—7:30pm: **Conversation on Christianity, Imperialism, and Black Lives in the U.S.**
Moderator: Christina Jackson, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Stockton University
Rev. Willie Dwayne Francois, Mount Zion Baptist Church, Pleasantville
Rev. William Williams, United Methodist Church, Atlantic City

7:30pm—8:00pm: Dinner

8:00pm—9:00pm: Discussion

Friday, 2 March
**Carnegie Building, Atlantic City**
(35 S. Dr. Martin Luther King Blvd)

9:00am—11:00am: **Sexual Violence in the United States**
Janice Joseph, Distinguished Professor Criminal Justice, Stockton University
*Genocidal Violence against Black Women*

Elizabeth Erbaugh, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Stockton University
*Trust Black Women: Reproductive Justice in South Jersey and the U.S.*

Tamu Lane, Therapist and Director of Social Justice Programming, The Women's Center, Linwood, New Jersey
*The Hidden Voices: Confronting the Difficulties of Discussing Sexual Violence within the Community*

11:00am—11:15am: Break

11:15am—1:15pm: **Genocide in the Modern World**
Adam Miyashiro, Associate Professor of Literature, Stockton University
*Militarism, Environmentalism, and Indigenous Struggle*

Elisa von Joeden-Forgey, Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Stockton University
*Genocidal Exchanges: The Black Body and the Imperial West*

Jeff Benvenuto, Doctoral Candidate, Rutgers University
*Three Misconceptions about Genocide, Indigenous Peoples, and Settler Colonialism*

Raz Segal, Assistant Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Stockton University
*Holocaust Memory and Education and the Reproduction of Modern Structures of Genocide: The Case of Israel*

1:15pm—2:15pm: Lunch

2:15pm—2:30pm: Performance by Stockton students Jayden Cohen-Boyce of the poem "The Spirit of Mike Brown" and Christiana Nicolaides of her poem "Cut in Half"

2:30pm—4:30pm: **Black Lives, Immigration, and Security Anxieties**
Nazia Kazi, Assistant Professor of Anthropology, Stockton University
*Model Minorities, Anti-Black Racism, and Islamophobia*

Jess Bonnan-White, Associate Professor of Criminal Justice, Stockton University
*From 1812 to 2015: America's Conflicting Responses to Civil Dissent*

Donnetrice C. Allison, Professor of Communication Studies and Africana Studies, Stockton University
*It's Black and White: How Media Manipulates the Narrative on Victimization Based on Race*

5:00pm—9:00pm
**Closing Community Event, Mount Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville**
(353 S. New Road)

5:00pm—5:30pm: Perry Mays, Coalition for a Safe Community

5:30pm—7:00pm: **Incarceration as Destruction**
Sean Kelley, Senior Vice President and Director of Interpretation, Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Philadelphia & Sarah Pharaon, Senior Director of Methodology and Practice, International Coalition of Sites of Conscience, New York
*How to Talk to White People about Mass Incarceration*

Ute Bettray, Visiting Assistant Professor of German, Lafayette College
*Angela Davis's Trans Feminism: Countering Modern-Day Slavery and Genocide in the U.S.*

7:00pm—7:30pm: Dinner

7:30pm—9:00pm: **Performance of the play *Skeleton Crew* by Dominique Morisseau**
Produced and directed by Travis Love, Activist in Residence, Stockton University, and performing artist, Atlantic City

# Biographies

**Donnetrice C. Allison,** Ph.D currently serves as Professor of both Communication Studies and Africana Studies at Stockton University in Galloway, NJ. Dr. Allison also serves as coordinator/chair of the Africana Studies Program and Faculty Senate President. For the Africana Studies Program, Dr. Allison has coordinated four successful Hip Hop Summits at Stockton since 2007, and the Fannie Lou Hamer Human and Civil Rights Symposiums of 2016 and 2017. In addition to Africana Studies, Dr. Allison has been a Communication Studies scholar for more than two decades. Dr. Allison has published several articles and dozens of conference presentations on hip hop culture and media portrayals of African Americans – at national and international conferences. In 2016, Dr. Allison served as sole editor of the book *Black Women's Portrayals on Reality Television: The New Sapphire*, published by Lexington Books; and she contributed an article titled, "The Perpetuation of Racial Stereotypes in American Media," for the two-volume book set, *Race in America: How a Pseudo-Scientific Concept Shaped Human Interaction*, published by Praeger Books. In 2017, Dr. Allison's article on colorism was featured in the *Journal of African American Studies* special issue on music icon Prince.

**Jeff Benvenuto** is a PhD candidate in Global Affairs at Rutgers University, where he is completing a dissertation entitled, "From Cultural Genocide to Cultural Integrity: Indigenous Rights and the Co-optation of International Norms." He is the co-editor of *Colonial Genocide in Indigenous North America* (Duke University Press, 2014) and *Canada and Colonial Genocide* (Routledge, 2017).

**Ute Bettray** is a Visiting Assistant Professor of German at Lafayette, where she also teaches in the Women's and Gender Program. She is currently completing her first monograph entitled *Towards a Transnational Trans Feminism*. Dr. Bettray has published on 20th and 21st Century German-language literature, sexual citizenship, and queer, transgender, and trans feminist theory.

**Jess Bonnan-White** is disaster studies scholar teaching in the Criminal Justice Program at Stockton University. Dr. Bonnan-White currently teaches graduate and undergraduate courses in homeland security, conflict resolution, peace studies, criminological theory, and emergency management. With domestic and international fieldwork experience, Dr. Bonnan-White focuses her scholarship on analyzing social processes that influence community preparedness and resiliency. She holds an M.A. and Ph.D. in Anthropology from Northern Illinois University and The University of Iowa, respectfully, as well as a postgraduate certificate in Conflict and Peace Studies from the University of North Carolina – Greensboro. Dr. Bonnan-White volunteers with the American Red Cross, and also serves the Forage Center for Peacebuilding and Humanitarian Education as a Board Member and Director of Education and Training.

**Kellie Cors-Atherly.** I lost my 13-year-old son Todd Amaru Mitchell on December 6, 2012 to gun violence in Pleasantville, NJ. Through the years, I went to different doctors, counselors, and group meetings but I could not find anywhere or anyone that I felt could identify with what I was going through. After the death of my son, it just seemed like a domino effect of young men dying in our area due to gun violence, and years after their deaths, mothers, fathers, siblings, families and friends were still so angry and full of grief. On January 27, 2016, I held my first support group for mothers and families who lost someone due to gun violence, and Broken Hearted Due to Gun Violence was born. That meeting was well attended, but at the end of it, I knew that I needed to give more. Many in our communities are affected by violent crimes and it is going unidentified and unaddressed. Depression, anxiety, drug and alcohol abuse, physical abuse, mental illness, detachment from schools, communities and faith-based homes and much more are happening at a rapid rate in our communities. On October 30, 2016, my nephew K'Vaue Elijah Wyatt was killed at the age of 17 in Atlantic City, NJ—another victim of gun violence. When my son was killed, I was in a state of depression and full of grief for years. K'Vaun was killed 4 years after Todd, and I became angry and full of rage. During K'Vaun's final viewing, I made a promise to him that some way I would try to bring an end to the senseless killings happening around us. That was the origin of the non-profit organization Peace Amongst Youth, Inc, which I founded. My vision and mission is to give support to families affected by violent crimes through group meetings, assistance in applying for Victim of Violent Crime Compensation and referrals to legal representation and counseling services that are available to them. I want to bring awareness to the mental, emotional and physical effects on individuals and assist in finding positive ways of coping with such trauma. Being a survivor of a violent crime not only has a huge impact on individuals, but also on their immediate and extended families, friends and the communities.

**Elizabeth Erbaugh** earned her PhD and MA in Sociology at the University of New Mexico, and an MA in International Peace Studies at the University of Notre Dame. She is an Assistant Professor of Sociology and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies at Stockton University, as well as the university's Faculty Fellow for Service-Learning. Her research and teaching focus on intersections of race, gender and sexuality in public health and social movements. She was the lead researcher on the first Report on the Status of Women in Atlantic County in 2015. She is engaged in multiple collaborative, community-based research projects on community and institutional strategies for communicating and making decisions about reproductive, maternal and general health care in culturally and sexually marginalized groups.

**Rev. Willie Dwayne Francois, III** is a 2009 Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Morehouse College with a Bachelor of Arts in History and Religion, named the ranking scholar in both departments. Francois is a member of various honor societies and holds two fellowships from the Fund for Theological Education. While at Morehouse, he served as the president of the Martin Luther King Jr. International Chapel Assistants Program and was named the 2009 Martin Luther King Jr. Scholar. Francois received a Master of Divinity from Harvard University's Divinity School, where he was awarded the Hopkins Shareholders Award—the school's highest academic recognition—and served as class commencement speaker. Called and committed to empower people through transformative preaching, teaching and organizing, Francois serves as the Senior Pastor of Mount Zion Baptist Church of Pleasantville, NJ. From 2013 to 2015, Francois served as the Associate Pastor of First Corinthian Baptist Church (FCBC) in Harlem, New York, where Pastor Michael A. Walrond, Jr. is the pastor. Prior to joining the FCBC team, he served as the Minister of Christian Education and Discipleship at Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church of Houston, Texas, under his pastor, Rev. Dr. Marcus D. Cosby. Francois also fulfilled several highly intensive and structured ministerial internships at Wheeler Avenue, FCBC and Morning Star Baptist church (of Mattapan, Massachusetts, under the leadership of Rev. Dr. John M. Borders III). Francois was licensed and ordained at the First Union Baptist Church of Galveston, Texas. Francois lives into the intersection of the life of the spirit and the life of the mind. Along with Rev. Martha L. Simmons, Esq., he is the co-author of *Christian Minister's Manual: For the Pulpit and the Public Square for All Denomination*—the most progressive and comprehensive clergy resource for priestly and prophetic ministries. In addition to publishing various articles and sermons, Francois served as a member of the Young Preachers' Leadership Team of the Academy of Preachers, the director of the Young Ministers' Corner of the African American Lectionary, a research assistant for Dr. Jonathan L. Walton, a Civil Rights Scholar, for the imaging of the King Paper collection through the Martin Luther King Jr. Center for Nonviolent Social Change (in Atlanta). Likewise, he holds an adjunct position in the African American Studies program at the University of Houston. Associated with various organization, boards and initiatives, Francois works to dismantle the racialized prison industrial complex in America. Through the Bill Lucy Fellowship, Francois represented the Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference in a global conversation on mass incarceration at the Transatlantic Roundtable on Religion and Race at the University of London-Birkbeck in London, England. Francois serves as co-chair of the Theological Working Group of the Black Church Center for Justice and Equality. For 2014-2015, Francois was named a Beatitudes Society Fellow, focusing on congregational responses to Mass Incarceration and empowering returning citizens. Also a charter core team member of Black Lives Matter: Atlantic City, Francois' pastoral activism is organized around racial and economic justice and criminal justice reform. Francois attributes his love of life and dedication to doing the so-called impossible to his close-knit family. He is a proud member of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated.

**Alfred Frankowski** is assistant professor of philosophy at Southern Illinois University, Carbondale. He specializes in Aesthetics, Critical Philosophy of Race, Continental Philosophy, and Critical Genocide Studies. He is author of *The Post-Racial Limits of Memorialization: Toward a Political Sense of Mourning* (2015) and co-editor of *Rethinking Genocide in Africa and the African Diaspora* (Routledge, forthcoming 2018).

**Dianna Freelon-Foster,** at the age of 15 years old, participated in the violent desegregation of the public schools in Grenada, Mississippi. She is a community organizer with Southern Echo in Mississippi, is Founder and Director of Activists With A Purpose, a grassroots community organization based in Grenada County that works with students and adults to shape education policy and implementation in the local school district. Ms. Foster, who has been actively involved in the political process in Grenada for more than twenty years, was elected the first African American and first woman Mayor of the City of Grenada. She holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

**Robert Gregg** is Professor of History and Dean of the School of General Studies at Stockton University. He previously served as the Dean of Arts and Humanities at Stockton. His publications include a work on African-American migration (*Sparks from the Anvil of Oppression: Philadelphia's African Methodist and the Southern*

*Migrants*), one on comparative history (*Inside Out, Outside In*), a co-edited encyclopedia (Routledge's *Encyclopedia of Contemporary American Culture*), and an on-line volume (*Histrionyx: Rethinking Migration in American Studies)*. He is currently working on the Stockton exhibition project, as lead historian, examining Richard Stockton's history as a slaveholder and as signer of the Declaration of Independence.

**Christina Jackson** is an Assistant Professor of Sociology at Stockton University who participates in community engagement work in both Atlantic City and Philadelphia. She was a core team member of the Black Lives Matter Atlantic City chapter working with local community residents and faith leaders. Dr. Jackson teaches classes and conducts research on inequality, urban places, gender, social movements and the politics of redevelopment and gentrification. She is an avid supporter of integrating service learning into her teaching pedagogy. Her classes complete service-learning projects with the New Jersey Organizing Project, Asbury United Methodist Church and Media Mobilizing Project in South Jersey. She is a board member of a girls' leadership camp and year-long program called Camp Sojourner based in West Philadelphia. She has co-authored articles in books such as *Black California Dreamin': The Crises of California's African American Communities*, *The Ghetto: Contemporary Global Issues and Controversies* and in journals such as *Sociology Compass*. Jackson also reviews articles and books for sociology journals. Jackson is co-authoring an edited volume entitled *Embodied Difference: Divergent Bodies in Public Discourse*, published by Lexington Inc due to come out this year.

**DonChristian Jones** is a Philly born, New York based, visual artist, rapper, singer/songwriter, and producer. His work spans musical and time based performance, rap mixtapes, video and public murals, blending genres of painting and hip hop, referencing classical and contemporary styles. Much of his work today is informed by his time spent painting murals on Rikers Island with youth inmates. Don has shown and performed at The Whitney Museum, MoMA Ps1, Webster Hall, Danspace, Center for Performance Research, as well as abroad. *Play These at My Funeral*, Don's debut album, will be released on Palms Out Sounds this spring 2018.

**Janice Joseph,** Ph.D. is a Distinguished Professor of the Criminal Justice Program at Stockton University. In 2010, she became the 47th President of Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences (ACJS), a national criminal justice organization, with over 2,000 members. She is also presently the organization's official ACJS NGO representative at national and international meetings of the United Nations. She is the Editor of the *Journal of Ethnicity in Criminal Justice*, a scholarly criminal justice journal. Her broad research interests include gangs, youth violence, juvenile delinquency, violence against women, and women and criminal justice. She has over 70 publications and has made over 130 presentations in more than 25 countries. She was elected four times as a member of the Executive Board of the International Scientific and Professional Advisory Council (ISPAC) of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, Milan, Italy, and is the Chair of the Working Party on Violence Against Women for that UN Institute. She has also served as a peer reviewer for U.S. Department of Justice and the Fulbright Scholar Program, External Faculty Reviewer for 14 faculty members in two countries, and External Examiner for Ph.D. candidates in Trinidad, Tobago, and South Africa. She is an elected member of the World Society of Victimology's Executive Committee and the Chair of the UN Liaison Committee of that organization.

**Nazia Kazi** is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at Stockton University in New Jersey, where she teaches classes on race, empire, Islamophobia, and migration. She completed her graduate work at Columbia University and the City University of New York, where she conducted ethnographic research on Muslim American advocacy groups and how they combatted Islamophobia in the post-9/11 era. Kazi's work on Islamophobia focuses on the troubling rise of the "good Muslim" trope and the role of neoliberal multiculturalism. Her public scholarship has appeared in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* and on the news programs, *Democracy Now!* and *Loud & Clear.* Her book, "Islamophobia: Race and Critical Thinking in the Age of Terror," will be published in 2018. In this book, she explores the connections between white supremacy, Islamophobia, and U.S. foreign policy.

**Sean Kelley** is Senior Vice President and Director of Interpretation at Eastern State Penitentiary Historic Site, Philadelphia**.** He has run all public programming at Eastern State Penitentiary since 1995, when he was hired as the organization's first full-time employee. He produced the site's award-winning audio tour in 2002, now heard by more than a million visitors, and he has overseen the selection of, and curated, more than 100 site-specific artist installations. Mr. Kelley is currently focused on developing programming to address the enormous growth in the US prison population since 1970, and the causes for racial disparities within that population. In 2014, he managed the development of a 16-foot, 1.5 ton bar graph on the penitentiary's baseball diamond illustrating these trends. Mr. Kelley has led the development of a major companion exhibit*, Prisons Today: Questions in the Age of*

*Mass Incarceration*, which won the 2016 Overall Award for Excellence of the American Alliance of Museums annual competition. Mr. Kelley visits active prisons and writes critically about prison museums and sites of detention, and he has served as adjunct faculty at Rutgers University, teaching Museum Studies in the graduate program in Public History.

**Tamu Lane** is a mother, a daughter, a sister, an activist, an artist, a writer, and a servant. Tamu is currently employed as the Director of Social Justice Programming at the Women's Center in Linwood, NJ, where she runs the VIP (Domestic Violence, Sexual Assault & PALS) Program, Batterers Intervention Program, and The Home to Work Program. Tamu has been in the field for over 10 years and is committed to education. She holds a MA in Counseling Psychology, and completed her course studies in Addiction Psychology (PH.D). As a therapist, she has helped women and men work through issues of domestic violence and sexual abuse. The Women's Center has also afforded Tamu the opportunity to become a trainer around issues of cultural competency, breaking the glass ceiling, and addictions. She has trained DCP&P staff at Stockton University on issues of child sexual abuse, substance abuse, human trafficking, and engagement of non-residential fathers. Lastly, many years ago she had to come to terms with her past and heal so that she could help others. She thus became a published author of her first book, *Finally Free*, on her struggles around domestic violence, sexual abuse and eating disorders. Tamu is committed to serving in whatever capacity in the hope of making a difference in the lives of others.

**Travis Love**, a native of Atlantic City, is a local activist and performance artist who has used his talents to teach and inspire his community. After receiving his Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts from Montclair State University, Travis appeared on the off-off Broadway production of "7 Degrees of Separation," toured regionally with the George Street Playhouse and nationally with Educational Tours Inc. His most recent credits include artistic director for "Nina In Motion" and director of "Before It Hits Home" and "The Vagina Monologues." Travis was honored for his work in the community by Princess Inc. after being acknowledged by the Martin Luther King Community Commission. Travis Love is currently Stockton's Activist in Residence for the 2017-2018 academic year. While much of his professional career centers on HIV prevention, he has utilized his theatrical and creative roots to evoke positive change in his surrounding community. Throughout his career, Mr. Love has worked to mobilize people and celebrate beauty through the theater arts and his Story Slams. Although Atlantic City has very little spaces devoted to art or culture, with tenacity, perseverance, and a little help from his friends, Mr. Love has spearheaded culturally and artistically diverse projects. Mr. Love's body of work is an effort to educate the community and enhance the creative spirit of Atlantic City.

**Perry Mays** is a retiree from AtlantiCare Health System, where he worked for 32 years. Perry started his career in the Emergency Room and worked his way quickly up through the organization to become Director of Community Partnerships for Health Engagement. Prior to his last position, Perry's successful career included a Total Quality Management Fellowship, in which Perry worked directly with the CEO of AtlantiCare. This Fellowship focused on two key issues: chemical dependency and the reasons youth join gangs. Soon thereafter, Perry became the coordinator of an initiative called "Healthy Cities," where the focus changed to organizing communities to become more aware of their environment, particularly clean air, preventative programs, and a sense of community. In 1997, Perry organized and trained individuals to take their communities back from drug dealers who had showed their disregard for positive life styles. Perry has coordinated over 300 drugs marches in Atlantic County. Through the success of the drug marches, 4 crack houses were closed, and people began to take back their communities in both Atlantic City and Pleasantville. Additionally, Pleasantville and Atlantic City were soon eligible for a Weed and Seed Grant. The concept of Weed and Seed was to "weed" out the bad elements and "seed" with the good programs/resources. Over a span of 5 years both Atlantic City and Pleasantville received over a million dollars in grant funding. Perry soon became the Director of Atlantic County Weed and Seed, and was very successful for the entire grant funding period. Other accomplishments of Perry include Pennies for the Homeless; Young Ladies at Peace Program; Community Expos; 5 Gun Surrender Programs, in which over 3,500 guns were retrieved off of the streets of Atlantic County; HIV/AIDS Seminars; and a Healthy Cities Basketball Team, where x-gang members were recruited to shot hoops instead of each other. These are just a few of the many initiatives Perry facilitated for AtlantiCare. Currently, Perry is retired and is the Chairman of Atlantic County Coalition for a Safe Community. This group was formed in August 2010 by concerned citizens, public officials, law enforcement, and faith-based/social/religious organizations for the betterment of our communities. Perry has won several awards and recognitions for his work. In addition, Perry has developed a new business called Faith At Work, where, as Executive Director, he seeks to positively impact 3 specific life situations: A re-entry program, working with Drug Court Clients on 2nd Chance Programs, and Drug/Alcohol Referrals. Best of all, Perry is the Chairman of the Deacon's Board; the President of the Youth Congress; and Sunday School Teacher for Holy Trinity Assembly of the Living God in Mays Landing, NJ. Perry is married to his beautiful

wife Wendy, and has 4 children, Tara, Perry Jr., Markus and Michael, a daughter in law, Shakemia, 9 grandchildren and 3 great-grandchildren.

**Adam Miyashiro** is Associate Professor of Literature at Stockton University. He completed a PhD in Comparative Literature at Penn State, and wrote a dissertation on medieval literature and the construction of race, which he is currently revising as a book. He is a past Secretary of the Delaware Valley Medieval Association, and is also on the Advisory Board of the journal *Early Middle English.* He has a book chapter forthcoming on *Postcolonial Malory*, and has published articles and reviews in *Comparative Literature Studies, Journal of Law and Religion*, *Notes and Queries* and *Neophilologus*.

**Susan Eva O'Donovan** is Associate Professor of History at the University of Memphis. She is a former editor with the Freedmen and Southern Society Project, the co-editor of two volumes of *Freedom: A Documentary History of Emancipation, 1861-1867* (University of North Carolina Press, 2008 and 20013), and author of *Becoming Free in the Cotton South* (Harvard University Press, 2007). In addition to co-editing *American Nineteenth-Century History* and co-directing the Memphis Massacre Project, she is an OAH Distinguished Lecturer. She has been the recipient of several awards, including the James A. Rawley Prize, the Dunavant University Professorship at the University of Memphis, and fellowships at the Newberry Library and the Gilder Lehrman Center for the Study of Slavery, Resistance, and Abolition. She is currently writing about the political lives of slaves.

**Sarah Pharaon** is Senior Director of Methodology and Practice at the International Coalition of Sites of Conscience. She oversees the Coalition's training initiatives and resource development. She directs the Coalition's work on issues of race, education equity, and incarceration, and currently manages *From Brown v Board to Ferguson*, a three-year collaboration between ten sites and their community partners to create dynamic youth public engagement programs that foster much-needed community dialogue on race, education equity, and incarceration in the context of civil rights history. She also coordinates the Coalition's Immigration and Civil Rights Network. From 2010 to 2014, she led twenty-five U.S. museums in providing training and overall development for the *National Dialogues on Immigration* project, an IMLS and NEH-funded initiative that linked sites across the country in hosting dialogues on contemporary immigration issues affecting their communities (www.dialoguesonimmigration.org). Prior to her work at the Coalition, Sarah worked as Director of Education at the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and was the founding curator of the Arab American National Museum (AANM). She is a consulting trainer on dialogue and community engagement for the National Park Service and serves on the Leadership Council for the American Association for State and Local History.

**Raz Segal** earned his PhD in history at the Strassler Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Clark University in 2013. He is assistant professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies and Sara and Sam Schoffer Professor of Holocaust Studies at Stockton University, where he also serves as director of the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies. Dr. Segal is engaged in his work with the challenges of exploring the Holocaust as an integral part of modern processes of imperial collapse, the formation and occasional de-formation of nation-states and their evastating impact on the societies they sought (and seek) to break and remake. He has taught at the University of Haifa, the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Tel Aviv University, and he has held a Harry Frank Guggenheim Fellowship, a Fulbright Fellowship and a Lady Davis Fellowship at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His last book is *Genocide in the Carpathians: War, Social Breakdown, and Mass Violence, 1914-1945* (Stanford University Press, 2016).

**Lissa Skitolsky** is an Associate Professor of Philosophy at Susquehanna University. Her research in the fields of Continental philosophy and genocide studies aims to interrogate our cultural and political responses to mass violence and useless suffering. She has published articles on political theory, rhetoric and state-sanctioned violence. She is currently working on a manuscript about the role that our notion of the 'criminal' has played in genocides in the past and present. As part of this project she is drawing on Hip-hop as testimony to carceral violence and the genocidal wounds inflicted by the US criminal justice system.

**Ramya Vijaya** is a professor of economics at Stockton University. Her research focuses on poverty measurements, globalization and labor market inequalities and feminist political economy. She has co-authored *Seeing White: An Introduction to White Privilege and Race* (2011), an interdisciplinary text on race, white privilege and social power.

**Elisa von Joeden-Forgey** is Associate Professor of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at Stockton University. She is also Founder and Director of the Genocide Prevention Certificate Program at Stockton, and serves as President of Genocide Watch. She teaches undergraduate and graduate classes on the Holocaust,

comparative genocide, gender, sexual violence, war, human rights, imperialism and genocide prevention, and has lectured and published widely on these topics. She spoke at the United Nations for the inaugural Day of Commemoration and Dignity of the Victims of the Crime of Genocide and the Prevention of This Crime; the United Nations symposium on "Defending Religious Freedom and Other Human Rights: Stopping Mass Atrocities Against Christians and Other Believers"; and the Second Global Forum on Genocide Prevention. Her current work examines the reproductive justice dimension of genocidal violence and how this can be helpful in early warning and prevention efforts.

**Rev. William M. Williams, III** is proud to be the husband of Joyce and father to Julia (6), William, IV (3), and James (3). When he asked his daughter, what should be included in his biography, she replied, daddy is a lover of God, is talented, and is like superman. Rev. Williams is currently under appointment at the Asbury United Methodist Church of Atlantic City. He has his Bachelor of Arts in Economics from Swarthmore College, a Post-Baccalaureate Certification in Pre-Medicine from Drexel College of Medicine, and a Masters of Divinity from Drew University.

**Nan Elizabeth Woodruff** is a historian of Twentieth Century African American History. Her most recent book, *American Congo: The African American Freedom Struggle in the Delta* (Harvard University Press, 2003), focused on the African American freedom struggle in the Arkansas and Mississippi Delta during the first half of the twentieth century. It received the 2004 McClemore Prize and Honorable Mention for the 2004 Benjamin Hooks Institute for Social Change Book Prize. The University of North Carolina Press released in 2012 a paperback edition of *American Congo*. Her articles have appeared in the *Journal of Southern History*, *Radical History Review*, and in Charles Payne and Adam Green, *Time Longer Than Rope: A Century of African American Activism, 1850-1950*, among others. She is completing a book on "The Legacies of Everyday Struggle: History, Memory, and Trauma in Grenada, Mississippi in the Post Civil Rights Era." She teaches courses on the African American Freedom Struggle, African American History, and African Americans in the Twentieth Century. She has received numerous awards and fellowships, and most recently was a fellow at the National Humanities Center in Research Triangle, NC.