



IWES Presents

COMMUNITY UPRISING
KATRINA, RESILIENCE, RESISTANCE & CULTURE AFTER 10 YEARS

AUGUST 20TH - 21ST 2015

ELLIS MARSALIS CENTER FOR MUSIC | 1901 BARTHOLOMEW STREET

REGISTER NOW!

MC- Michele Moore, JD

THURSDAY AUGUST 20th

- 8:30-9:00 am** Breakfast
- 9:05-9:15 am** Welcome Remarks- Lisa Richardson Ph.D.
- 9:20-9:25 am** Diaspora Dance- Greer Mendy
- 9:25-9:30 am** Resistance Music- Michaela Harrison
- 9:30-9:35 am** Remarks on Resiliency- Jeffrey Hebert, Chief Resiliency Officer, City of New Orleans
- 9:40-9:47 am** Community Voices- Selections Screening

Session 1: What would equitable recovery look like?

9:50-10:20 am Keynote: *“A Model of Equitable Recovery: Learning from Enschede, Netherlands”*
Mindy Fullilove M.D., Columbia University, NY

Abstract: A terrible explosion rocked Enschede, The Netherlands, on May 7, 2000. A fireworks storage facility located in the center of the city blew up, taking out much of the old industrial core. The nation came to the aid of Enschede, promising support so that the city could rebuild. The city came to the aid of its residents, including immigrants and minorities in the effort to restore functioning and health. Ten years later they had reached these goals. The story of Enschede gives us a model equitable recovery when there is political will to help everyone. In the United States, by contrast, we go into disasters with a long history and an all-too-likely future of unmitigated disaster. We the people must recover in spite of our government. What does this require? At the heart of this form of recovery are coalitions – the “weak ties” that can connect us to anyone and everyone who has common interest of any kind. An insistence on connection, evidence and models suggest, is the only way forward against the odds.

10:25-11:40 am Panel: *On the ground: Community Leaders*
Moderator: Linda Usdin DrPH
Panelists: Rescue and Recovery - Sharon Howard MSW
Death Care - Kathleen Astorga
Political Landscape - Oliver Thomas
Health – Dr. Joia Crear-Perry MD
Housing Advocate - Kim P. Ford

Questions

1. Tell us a little bit about your work directly after the storm.
2. Despite the lack of coordination of services in New Orleans post-Katrina, what factors were either present or missing that stand out as being critical to progress and recovery?

11:45-11:55 am Big Charity- Selections screening

12:00-12:40 pm Lunch

Session 2: Where / How did things go wrong?

12:45-1:15 pm Keynote: *“On Diaspora & Incursion: Spatial Reclamation & Militarization in Post-Katrina, New Orleans and Post-Tivoli Gardens, Kingston”*
Nadia Ellis Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley

Abstract: This paper explores the impact and the implications of militarized presence in two cities not often enough thought together: New Orleans and Kingston. In the wake of the disasters wrought by Katrina in 2005, security forces descended into the city creating a show of force that did little to aid those most affected by the storms. Indeed, cases of extra-judicial killing by the police were alleged and investigated. Five years later in May 2010, Jamaican security forces descended on the community of Tivoli Gardens in an attempt to apprehend a drug lord: 76 civilians were killed. In both these cases communities that were perceived from the outside as hyper-autonomous, culturally problematic, and politically unmanageable were subject to military-style incursion (in fact, the events in west Kingston have been referred to as the "Tivoli Incursion"). By tracing the material and conceptual similarities between the events in New Orleans and Kingston, the paper reaches back to the long historical connection between these two post-colonial, majority black, port cities and looks forward to the cultural resonances and resources shared by these communities in the present era.

1:25-2:45 pm Panel: *Ten years later*
Moderator: Andre Perry, PhD
Panelists: Health – Shelia J. Webb, Ph. D., APRN, CNS
Economic Equity – Flozell Daniels Jr.
Education – Rashida Govan, Ph.D.
Housing - Cashauna Hill Esq.
Environmental Justice - Monique Harden Esq.

Questions

1. What are some of the resources that would have been critical to your work post-Katrina but are still missing ten years later?
2. If you knew that a hurricane of similar magnitude would hit New Orleans in 2025, what work would you be doing now to prepare? How can government, businesses, and communities work together to prepare for future disasters?

3:00-3:10 pm Performance: Kelly Harris-Deberry

Session 3: What is the role of culture throughout recovery?

3:15-3:45 pm Keynote: *“Hurricane Humor: Music as Resistance in Caribbean Popular Culture”*
Carolyn Cooper Ph.D. – University of the West Indies, Jamaica

Abstract: The cultural production of Africans scattered across the globe, particularly music, has long functioned as a means of celebrating a shared heritage and a common history of struggle against racism, colonialism and imperialism. In the Caribbean, natural disaster is also the subject of humorous songs that express a complex psychology of resistance to oppression. The Jamaican proverb, “take bad things make joke,” articulates a collective survival instinct. Both calypso and reggae music express this sensibility of organic resistance though laughter. Deploying hurricane songs by Lloyd Lovindeer from Jamaica and Lord Melody from Trinidad and Tobago, the paper argues that the capacity to transmute

tragedy into comedy constitutes a fundamental element of Caribbean culture. Humor becomes a therapeutic antidote to catastrophe.

4:00-5:30 pm Panel: *Culture Bearers*
Moderator: Carol Bebel MSW
Panelists: Cultural Economy - Asante Salaam
Racial Justice –Kimberley Richards, Ph.D
Cultural Institutions - Erin M. Greenwald
Culture of/in Crisis: a Cuban Perspective–
Andrea Queeley Ph.D.

Questions

1. What is the role of culture in recovery/resistance?
2. How do we move from culture as resistance to transformation?
3. Can you give a specific example of a group you've worked with that has successfully put culture as transformation into practice?

5:35-5:45 pm Performance - Asali Ecclesiastes

Rebel Music: Conference Launch Party
Café Istanbul
Doors: 6:30pm, Show: 7pm



FRIDAY AUGUST 21ST

9:30-10:00 am Breakfast

10:00-10:10 am Welcome Remarks - Melanie Powers MPH

10:30-10:40 am Backstory Katrina- Selections Screening

Session 4: Youth Speak – Did we listen?

10:45-11:50 am Panel: *Katrina's Impact On Youth: Then and Now*

Moderator: Iman Shervington MFA

Panelists: Jeremy Tauriac

Paris Scott

Gabrielle Freels

Tori Washington

Elisa Perriott

Questions

1. Where did you go after the storm?
2. What was school like for you post-Katrina, either in New Orleans or outside of New Orleans?
3. What were you trying to tell the adults around you that they didn't hear?
4. If you knew that another storm was going to hit the city in ten years, what changes would you make in the city now in order to support youth?

12:00-12:30 pm Lunch

Session 5: A Town Hall Hearing on Girls of Color in New Orleans: The Impact of Systems

12:40-2:10 pm Moderator: Rheneisha Robertson MPH

Commissioners:

Amalphi Parker, New Orleans Blueprint for Safety

Michael Smith, Metropolitan Human Services District

Sametta Brown, New Beginnings Charter Network

Damekia Morgan, New Orleans Health Department

Judge Candice Bates Anderson, Juvenile Court Judge New Orleans

Panelists:

Dr. Rashida Govan, Researcher

Meghan Garvey, Louisiana Center for Children's Rights

Jamaica Johnson, Liberty's Kitchen

Brittany Firstley, Butterfly Project

Maria Agustin, VAYLA
Nakita Shavers, The Dinerral Shavers Education Fund

2:15-2:20pm Performance: Wavy Wave

Session 6: *What can youth in leadership teach us about resilience?*

2:30-2:45 pm Keynote: Melanie Powers MPH- Institute of Women & Ethnic Studies

3:10-4:30 pm Panel: *Old Meets New – Transformation or Regression*
Moderator: Brandan ‘BMike’ Odums
Panelists: Filmmaker - Alex Glustrom
Art Activism/Administration– Imani Brown
Visual Art – Ayo Scott
Creative Industry - Justin Shields
Theater Arts- Rebecca Mwase

This panel in particular focuses on NOLA residents in their mid twenties-thirties who work in the creative industries, but have also lived in New Orleans for significant periods of time. As the city changes, this is also the age demographic experiencing the most transformation in terms of gentrification and the city landscape. We shall discuss how these changes have affected each panelist's experience in both positive and/or negative ways, roles of leadership, as well as a reflection on the future of the city.

Questions

1. How can old New Orleans culture and "new" New Orleans culture come together for the future of the city? In other words, what will the new, New Orleans “gumbo” look like?
2. What changes have you experienced in your time in New Orleans, whether you are a native or have moved here more recently? Have you seen those changes as primarily beneficial or destructive?

5.30 pm *Closing Reception - Backyard Gardeners Network*

River procession- Led by Rebecca Mwase
Utilizing the mechanics of song — long-meter hymns, moaning, harmonies and the vocalizations manifested in restricted spaces — Inspired by her upcoming play, *Vessels*, Ms. Mwase will lead the group through some mourning and celebration songs, igniting the musicality present in bound bodies.

Cultural Expressions throughout the space: Art installations, Community Voices Clips, Resiliency Photovoice Exhibition, Altar, DJ in between sessions