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## In the Know - A Quarterly Newsletter (W23)

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*North Torrey Pines at dusk, Faculty Sunset Happy Hour with BSP, Winter 2023. Photo by Katia Todorova*

## Reflections on a Winter in Black Studies

### A Message from the Directors

In the midst of this rigorous quarter, you came together: to herald breakthroughs in [Black Italian cinema](#); to engage the referents to the Black Power movement in [Kanaka Maoli \(Native Hawaiian\) land struggles](#) of the 1970s, and in a 1973 film production of *Black Mama, White Mama*, featuring luminaries like Pam Grier; to meditate on calls for [racial and gender diversity](#) in the American Sign Language (ASL)



interpreter community; and to contemplate the [Black hair salon as a “contact zone”](#) where power dynamics are constantly being renegotiated. We are grateful to all the presenters, participants, and supporters who made such a rich quarter of intellectual exchange possible. The Spring promises a similarly vibrant experience in the [life of the mind](#) with the launch of BSP's first iteration of the [Sherley Anne Williams Writing Residency](#) in mid-April to the return of the *Blackness in Latin America Series* featuring scholar [Dixa Ramirez D'Oleo](#) in May. We look forward to the various forums in the quarter ahead to be in community and scholarship with you. Check out the events and opportunities below!

*BSP provides a platform for supporting meaningful work in Black Studies among faculty, graduate and undergraduate students from across the UCSD campus, while building sustainable and mutually beneficial relationships with broader San Diego and UC communities.*

Sara Johnson  
Angela Booker  
[Faculty Co-Directors](#)

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From left to right: Professor **Sara Johnson** (BSP Co-Director), Professor **Zeinabu Davis** (BSP Executive Committee), Professor **Ulrike Strasser** (European Studies Program Co-Director), Professor **Angela Booker** (BSP Co-Director), invited guest **Antonio Dikele Distefano** (filmmaker, *Autumn Beat*), invited guest **Fred Kuwornu** (filmmaker, *Blaxploitalian*), **Cristina Della Coletta** (Dean of the School of Arts and Humanities, Chancellor's Associates Chair in Italian Literature). Photo by Cecilia Ozkan

## Upcoming Events



RSVP invitations coming soon...

April - June 2023





Dixa Ramirez-D'Oleo



Ainsley LeSure



Nicole Miller



T.J. Tallie

# BLACK STUDIES IN SPRING



Joy Miller







Most listed events will begin in the early afternoon

Most listed events will serve RSVP refreshments

- APR 6 (Th) “[Freedom Dreaming](#)” with activist, writer, and filmmaker [Tourmaline](#). Join Visual Arts and BSP as Tourmaline, creator of seminal works such as “[Happy Birthday, Marsha!](#)” engages us in her art practice and vision
- APR 12 (W) *Discussing the poetry of To the Realization of Perfect Helplessness* with PEN/Voelcker Award for Poetry Collection winner Robin Coste Lewis for this year’s [Sherley Anne Williams Writing Residency](#) Inaugural Lecture
- APR 20 (Th) *Beyond Arrivantcy: Black Indigeneities in Africa and the Diaspora*, a BSP Faculty Fellow talk and discussion with Professor [Boatema Boateng](#)
- APR 24 (W) *On the experiences of queer women of color activists and spirituality* with Ethnic Studies doctoral student [India Pierce](#), a BSP Dissertation Fellow talk and discussion
- MAY 3-4 (W-Th) In this year’s first edition of the *Black Physics Seminar*, the Astrophysics Colloquium and BSP host a talk with [Dr. Nia Imara](#) (UCSC) astrophysicist, artist, and activist
- MAY 9 (Tu) On the eve of the [Blackness in Latin America series](#), Visual Arts and BSP host an afternoon discussion with choreographer [Ligia Lewis](#), an artist who pursues questions of [embodiment](#) in her widely toured work
- MAY 10 (W) BSP and Latin American Studies presents *Insolence, Indolence, and Blackness in Hispaniola*, a Blackness in Latin America Series talk with Professor [Dixa Ramírez D’Oleo](#) (Brown)
- MAY 18 (Th) A conversation continues as BSP Faculty Fellow Professor Boatema Boateng presents *Black Indigeneities in Africa and the Diaspora* featuring a dialogue with Professors T.J. Tallie (USD) and Paul Joseph López Oro (CUNY-Hunter College)
- MAY 24 (W) BSP Faculty Fellow Professor [Kelema Moses](#) puts her questions in [Competing Sovereignties](#) in live conversation with the work and ideas of Professor [Ainsley LeSure](#) (Brown)
- MAY 31- JUN 1 (W-Th) “*Pursuing why things are the way they are*” with Professor [Charles Brown](#) (Yale) for the second installation of the *Black Physics Seminar*, brought to you by the Physics Colloquium and BSP
- JUN 13 (Tu) Join BSP for a second springtime edition of [Hidden Curriculum](#) and pick up valuable UC insights into navigating your professorship journey
- JUN 13 (Tu) Faculty Sunset Happy Hour (Spring Edition) Food, drink, and tunes as the sunset sets with BSP faculty!

#### LIKE MINDS - Affinity Events Around Campus

- Coming soon...

# BSP Funding Opportunities



# Open Call Deadlines

Check out and spread the word...

**TUE  
MARCH 28**

**FRI  
MARCH 31**

## BSP Graduate Student Researcher Application

The BSP Graduate Student Researcher (GSR) is a graduate student who works closely as part of BSP leadership and convening team to connect with and support fellow graduate students...[\(read more\)](#)

Apply for 2023-2024 at [bit.ly/yearlonggsr](https://bit.ly/yearlonggsr)

## BSP Graduate Student Research & Travel Grants

Awards are intended to partially offset research and travel expenses incurred in the U.S. or abroad...[\(read more\)](#)

Apply for 2023 at [bit.ly/bspgradgrant](https://bit.ly/bspgradgrant)

**FRI  
MARCH 31**

## BSP Summer 2023 Graduate Student Research Award Program

(FOR FACULTY) Awards provide support for faculty to hire a graduate student to work with them for one to two months at 50% time on ongoing research projects that materially advance the faculty member's career...[\(read more\)](#)

Apply for 2023 grants at [bit.ly/summergsr](https://bit.ly/summergsr)

**ONGOING**

## BSP Faculty Research Grants

BSP provides ongoing faculty research support in the amount of small grants of up to \$4000. Awards support projects undertaken during the current academic year (2022-2023) or the next one (2023-2024)...[\(read more\)](#)

**ONGOING**

## Funds for Co-sponsorships



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## Community Spotlight

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### "OXUMARÉ"

**Spotlight:** A brief view into the practice of **BSP Artist in Residence** *Evan Scoggins*

Scenes from a BSP visit to his **ArtProduce** studio in the Fall...









The featured textile above is titled ***Oxumaré***. The piece is a meditation on the perceptions and realities contained in racialized moments of encounter between police authorities and Black people. Among the phenomena associated with the Yoruba deity *Oxumaré* is the rainbow. Evan's background as a painter and a scholar of color is visible in this woven piece. Photo by Evan Scoggins



***"Tools"*** Evan's weaving practice involves making his own natural dye colors from organic material. On display is his work table at ArtProduce in North Park during his BSP residency; it features some of his dyed yarn, and his beautifully kept journal where he indexes color experiments. Photo by Evan Scoggins









**ArtProduce in North Park.** (from the left) A picture of the ArtProduce courtyard and vegetable garden from the corner of Herman Avenue. (next) Inside Evan's studio space at ArtProduce - pictured here are marigold flowers donated by growers who plant and harvest specifically for *Día de los Muertos* festivals in the border area. Evan was drying these excess flowers as a first step of the dye-making process. Also featured, on the chair is his ubiquitous red scarf, Evan's first woven piece. (next) A picture that captures both the enchanting length and light of the studio space. Photos by Evan Scoggins and Lorraine Makone







**Spotlight:** BSP Community *On the page & on the road*

**Highlights, Awards, Happenings & More**



- Meet [inaugural Provost](#) for Eighth College at UC San Diego, BSP Co-Director Professor [Angela Booker](#). ¡Congratulations Angela!
- BSP community members Professor [Dennis Childs](#) and doctoral student **James Crawford** reflect on this year's Black History Month theme *Black Resistance* in [UC San Diego Today](#).
- March finds BSP affiliate [Paul Mpagi Sepuya](#) exhibiting in [Rome, San Francisco, and Lisbon](#). Be sure to check out his artwork at the [Mandeville Art Gallery](#) on campus through June 18 as part of the "[Are We Not Drawn Onward to New Era](#)" faculty exhibit, curated by [Ceci Moss](#).
- Recognized as a [2023 Bouchet Scholar](#) is Alicia Wright (Anthropology), one of this year's [BSP Dissertation Fellows](#). The Bouchet Graduate Honor Society recognizes graduate students "using their research topic as an arena to uncover and address inequities." ([UC San Diego Today](#)) Alicia presented her research *Black Deaf Signers and ASL-English Interpreters* at a [February convening](#) of the BSP Graduate Seminar [series](#).
- Professor [Anthony Davis](#) of the Department of Music at UCSD earned a [2023 Grammy Award nomination](#) with his composition for opera *X, The Life and Times of Malcolm X*.







"Flier in the campus wild" Winter 2023. Photo by Lorraine Makone

- Read Professor of Sociology and member of the BSP Executive Board Committee [Danielle Raudenbush](#) [expounding](#) on her research on questions of equitable access to healthcare.
  - [Watch](#) BSP affiliated Faculty [Danny Widener](#) engage featured guests Professors [Kelly Mayhew](#) (SDCC) and [Jim Miller](#) (SDCC) on the 20th anniversary of their text *Under the Perfect Sun: The San Diego Tourists Never See*, a conversation held in honor of the text's third co-author the late [Mike Davis](#).
  - Welcome to new UCSD Faculty [Mamadou Diagne](#) and [Lisa Jones](#). Don't see your name? Reach out at [bsp@ucsd.edu](mailto:bsp@ucsd.edu) to let us know you are here - we would love to meet you!
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## Contact Us!

If you have any inquiries about BSP, or would like to be added to our listserv for more event and opportunity notifications, please email [bsp@ucsd.edu](mailto:bsp@ucsd.edu)

We are located on the Second Floor of the Public Engagement Building (PEB). PEB is located across from the Arts & Humanities Building & Plant Power Fast Food.







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