

Kyle T. Mays, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
Department of African American Studies, American Indian Studies Center, & Department of History
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Employment:

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, LOS ANGELES

2017-present Assistant Professor, Department of African American Studies, the American Indian Studies Center, & Department of History

EMORY UNIVERSITY

2019-2020 Mellon Mays Fellow, The James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference

UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA AT CHAPEL HILL

2015-2017 Carolina Postdoctoral Program for Faculty Diversity Fellowship

Educational Background:

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

2015 Ph.D., United States History

Dissertation Research: *Indigenous Detroit: Indigeneity, Modernity, and Racial and Gender Formation in a Modern American City, 1871-2000*

Committee: Frederick Hoxie (chair), Robert Warrior, David Roediger Coll Thrush, Dianne Harris

Comprehensive Examination Fields:

Major Field: Modern United States History

Minor Field One: Global Indigenous Studies (gender & sexuality; comparative urban Indigenous studies; expressive culture); **passed with distinction**

Minor Field Two: Comparative Studies of Race and Ethnicity (critical studies of whiteness; Afro-Indigenous studies)

2012 Master of Arts, United States History

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

- 2009 Bachelor of Arts, Social Relations and Policy, James Madison College
- 2006 Japan Center for Michigan Universities Intensive Japanese Language Study (summer)

Publications:

BOOKS

- Mays, K. *City of Disposessions: Indigenous Peoples, African Americans, and the Creation of Modern Detroit* (Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press, May, 2022), Politics and Culture in Modern America Series. <https://www.upenn.edu/pennpress/book/16365.html>
- Mays, K. *An Afro-Indigenous History of the United States* (Boston: Beacon Press, November, 2021), ReVisioning American History Series. <http://www.beacon.org/An-Afro-Indigenous-History-of-the-United-States-P1731.aspx>
- 2018 Mays, K. *Hip Hop Beats, Indigenous Rhymes: Modernity and Hip Hop in Indigenous North America* (Albany: SUNY Press, 2018); “Native Traces” Series, edited by Jace Weaver & Scott Richard Lyons. Finalist, “Best First Book Prize” for the Native American and Indigenous Studies Association (2019)
Reviewed in *Transmotion*, vol 6., no. 2 (2020); [American Philosophical Association](#), vol 18., no. 1

JOURNAL ARTICLES

(Refereed)

- 2021 Mays, K. “A Provocation of the Modes of Black Indigeneity: Culture, Language, and Possibilities.” *Ethnic Studies Review* vol. 44 (2): 41-50.
- 2020 Rice, AJ & **Mays, K.**, “*The Boondocks*, Black History, and Black Lives Matter: Or, Why Black Popular Culture Matters for Black Millennials.” *Popular Culture Studies Journal*, vol. 8(2): 49-67.
- 2019 Mays, K. “Decolonial Hip Hop: Indigenous Hip Hop and Disrupting Settler Colonialism.” *Cultural Studies*, Vol. 33(3): 460-479.
- 2016 Mays, K. “From Flint to Standing Rock: The Aligned Struggles of Black & Indigenous People.” Hot Spots, *Cultural Anthropology* website, December, 22. <https://culanth.org/fieldsights/1015-from-flint-to-standing-rock-the-aligned-struggles-of-black-and-indigenous-people>.
- 2016 Mays, K. “Pontiac’s Ghost in the Motor City: Indigeneity and the Discursive Construction of Modern Detroit.” *The Middle West Review*, 2(02): 115-142.
- 2016 Mays, K. “Promoting Sovereignty, Rapping Mshki (Medicine): A Critical Anishinaabe Reading of Rapper Tall Paul’s ‘Prayers in a Song.’” *Social Identities: Journal for the Study of Race, Nation and Culture*, 22(02): 195-209.

- 2013 Mays, K. "Transnational Progressivism: African Americans, Native Americans, and the Universal Races Congress of 1911." *American Indian Quarterly* 37(4): 244-261.

EDITED VOLUMES

- Burton, A., Winkelmes, M.A., & **Mays, K.** (eds.) 2014. *An Illinois Sampler: Teaching and Research on the Prairie*. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 144 pages.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS

- 2021 Mays, K. "Blackness and Indigeneity" in Kendi, I., & Blain, K., *400 Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019* (New York: Penguin Random House), pp. 123-125.
- 2018 **Mays, K.** & Whalen, K. "Decolonizing Indigenous Education in the Postwar City: Native Women's Activism from Southern California to the Motor City." In Linda Smith, Eve Tuck, & K. Wayne Yang, *Indigenous and Decolonization Studies in Education* (Routledge,) 116-130.
- 2014 Mays, K. "Humanities and Sciences at Work: Liberatory Education for Millennials." In Burton, A., Winkelmes, M.A., & **Mays, K.** (eds.). *An Illinois Sampler: Teaching and Research on the Prairie*. Urbana: University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign: 119-122.

BOOK REVIEWS

- 2021 Mays, K. Review of *Detroit's Hidden Channels: The Power of French-Indigenous Families in the Eighteenth Century* by Karen Marrero for the *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal* (accepted).
- 2020 Mays, K. Review of *Indians on the Move: Native American Mobility and Urbanization in the Twentieth Century* by Douglas K. Miller for the *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal* 7(1), 167-168.
- 2019 Mays, K. Review of *Native Spaces: Geographic Strategies to Unsettle Settler Colonialism* by Natchee Blu Barnd. Book review form, *The AAG Review of Books*, 7, (2), 131-132.
- 2017 Mays, K. Review of *This Benevolent Experiment: Indigenous Boarding Schools, Genocide, and Redress in Canada and the United States* by Andrew Woolford. Winnipeg, University of Manitoba Press, 2015. *Canadian Journal of History*. 51(1), 147-149.
- 2016 Mays, K. Review of John J. Laukaitis, *Community Self-Determination: American Indian Education in Chicago, 1952-2006*. Albany: State University of New York Press, 2015. *History of Education Quarterly*. 56(4), 669-673.
- 2016 Mays, K. Review of John N. Low, *Imprints: The Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians in the City of Chicago*. H-Environment Reviews. October. <https://www.h-net.org/reviews/showpdf.php?id=47617>.

- 2015 Mays, K. Review of Sam McKegney (ed.), *Masculindians: Conversations About Indigenous Manhood*. (Winnipeg: University of Manitoba Press, 2015). *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal* 2(1), pp. 140-143.
- 2014 Mays, K. Review of David E. Kirkland, *A Search Past Silence: The Literacy of Young Black Men*. New York: Teachers College Press, 2013. *Spectrum: A Journal on Black Men*. 3(1), pp. 123-125.
- 2013 Mays, K. Review of H. Samy Alim & Geneva Smitherman, *Articulate While Black: Barack Obama, Language and Race in the U.S.* New York: Oxford University Press, 2012. *Spectrum: A Journal on Black Men*. 1(2): 114-116.

DOCUMENTARY & FILM REVIEWS

- 2017 Mays, K. Review of *MTV's Rebel Music: Native America*. *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal*. 1(3), 146-147.
- 2014 Mays, K. Review of Audrey Geyer, *Our Fires Still Burn: The Native American Experience*. *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal*, 1(2), 198-199.

PUBLIC WRITING

- 2020 “Native American Hip Hop: Rhymes and Stories from the City to the Rez.” *The Source* Op Ed, <https://thesource.com/2020/11/30/native-american-hip-hop/>.
- 2020 “What Alexis de Tocqueville Told Us About Democracy and the Future of Black and Native Americans.” <https://www.beaconbroadside.com/broadside/kyle-t-mays/>.
- 2020 “Hip Hop Democracy and the future of our freedom.” *The Source* Op Ed, <https://thesource.com/2020/11/13/hip-hop-democracy-future-freedom/>.
- 2020 “Malcolm X warned us about the pitfalls of Black celebrities as leaders.” *Washington Post* Op Ed, <https://www.washingtonpost.com/outlook/2020/10/23/malcolm-x-warned-us-about-pitfalls-black-celebrities-leaders/>.
- 2019 “Words that Matter: Black and Indigenous Solidarity and the Right to Language.” <https://www.beaconbroadside.com/broadside/kyle-t-mays/>.
- 2017 “I ghost dance over drums/my music speaks to the young”: Thoughts on Settler Colonialism, Contemporary Politics & Culture, & the Rise of the Indigenous Hip Hop Millennials.” <https://artsinachangingamerica.org/ghost-dance-drumsmy-music-speaks-young-kyle-t-mays/>.
- 2017 Indigenous Genocide and Black Liberation: A Short Critique of “I Am Not Your Negro”--with Love. <https://indiancountrymedianetwork.com/news/opinions/indigenous-genocide-black-liberation-short-critique-not-negro-love/>.
- 2016 The Souls of White-Indians: A Letter to My White Indian Friend. <http://www.nativeninetypercent.com/kyle-t-mays.html>.

- 2015 Can We Live—And Be Modern?: Decolonization, Indigenous Modernity, and Hip Hop. <https://decolonization.wordpress.com/2015/03/12/can-we-live-and-be-modern-decolonization-indigenous-modernity-and-hip-hop/>.
- 2014 How Obama’s ‘Acting White’ Blunder Erased Indigenous Concerns. *Indian Country Today Media Network*. Link: <http://bit.ly/1uAlwgs>.

Media Appearances

- 2021 “[Black History is American History](#).” Capradio: Insight, NPR Interview, February 8.
- 2021 “400 Souls: A Community History of African America,” California African American Museum.” In conversation with Ibram X. Kendi, Keisha N. Blain, and Martha Jones, February 4.
- 2021 “Keeping Indigenous elders safe from COVID-19 a critical part of preserving culture.” <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/columnists/story/2021-01-10/keeping-indigenous-elders-safe-from-covid-19-a-critical-part-of-preserving-culture>, January 10.
- 2020 Distinct Histories, Shared Struggles: A Conversation with Prof. Kyle Mays on Indigenous People’s Day. History Then and Now Podcast. Luskin School of Public Policy, UCLA. 12 October. <https://www.buzzsprout.com/952522/5858653>.
- 2019 “How Hip Hop Artists are defining a modern Indigenous identity.” CBC. May 05, 2019. <https://www.cbc.ca/radio/unreserved/indigenous-masculinity-and-the-lasting-impacts-of-colonization-1.5109762/how-hip-hop-artists-are-defining-a-modern-indigenous-identity-1.5109766>.

Grants and Awards

- 2019-2020 Visiting Fellow, The James Weldon Johnson Institute for the Study of Race and Difference, Emory University, \$45,000
- 2019-2020 Institute on Inequality and Democracy Luskin Faculty Seed Grants, “Discourse and Dispossession: Culture, Language, and Black and Indigenous Freedom Dreams in Detroit.” UCLA, \$9,010
- 2018-2019 Bunche Center Community Fund, UCLA, \$1,500
- 2018-2019 Council on Research, Faculty Grants Program, Research Enabling Grant, UCLA, \$1,600
- 2018-2019 Institute of American Cultures (IAC) Research Grant for project, “Black Belonging, Indigenous Sovereignty, and Radical Resurgence on Turtle Island.” UCLA, \$9,934
- 2017-2018 University of California Consortium for Black Studies in California Fellowship; \$4,000
- 2016 Democratizing Knowledge Summer Institute, Syracuse University
- 2014-2015 Nicholson-IPRH Fellowship, Illinois Program for Research in the Humanities, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

2014-2015	Dissertation Fellowship, Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2014-2015	Alternate, Ford Foundation Dissertation Completion Fellowship
2014	FLEFF (Finger Lakes Environmental Film Festival Fellow), Ithaca College, Ithaca, New York
2014	Conference on College Composition and Communication Dream Travel Award
2013-2014	Focal Point Graduate College Project Grant, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2013-2014	Research Fellowship, Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2013	Newberry Consortium on American Indian Studies Graduate Student Fellowship
2013	Bosch Foundation Archival Seminar for Young Historians, German Historical Institute, Washington, D.C.
2013	Joseph W. Swain Prize for best-published journal article in History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2011-2012	Graduate College Fellowship, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2011-2012	Humanities, Arts, Science, and Technology Advanced Collaboratory
2010-2011	McNair Graduate College Fellowship, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2010	Newberry Consortium on American Indian Studies Graduate Student Seminar Institute Fellow
2010	Summer Pre-Doctoral Institute Fellow, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Research Interests:

- Urban Indigenous Culture and History
- Urban History
- Indigenous Popular Culture
- Critical Ethnic Studies
- Afro-Indigenous Studies

Research Experience:

2013-2014	<i>University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign Department of History Research Fellowship.</i> This dissertation research is based primarily on oral histories and archival materials conducted during my time in Detroit.
2013	<i>Newberry Consortium in American Indian Studies Research Fellowship</i> (summer). This research was conducted at the Newberry Library in Chicago, Illinois. The research was based primarily on the Library's extensive collection in Midwestern Indigenous culture and history.

- 2011-2012 This research project was a one-year study of the language and literacy practices of African American male adolescents and their engagement with a Critical Sports Pedagogy during their participation in the My Brother's Keeper Program, a partnership between Michigan State University and the Paul Robeson-Malcolm X Academy in Detroit, Michigan.
- 2009-2010 This research project, conducted under the direction of Dr. Geneva Smitherman, relied on an analysis of primary documents in order to write a history of the African American and African Studies Program at Michigan State University.

Teaching Interests

- Modern United States History
- Comparative Race and Ethnicity & Afro-Indigenous Histories
- Urban History & Urban Indigenous History
- Modern Native American History
- Hip Hop Studies
- Indigenous Popular Culture
- Comparative/Global Indigenous Studies

Teaching Experience:

- 2021 "The Black Celebrity Class." University of California, Los Angeles (summer)
- 2021 "Indigenous Methods," graduate seminar, University of California, Los Angeles (Winter).
- 2021 "Black Folks Kung Fu Fightin': Black America, Martial Arts, and Popular Culture." University of California, Los Angeles (Winter).
- 2019 "Advanced Historiography of American Indian Peoples," University of California, Los Angeles (Winter)
- 2019 "Introduction to American Indian Studies," University of California, Los Angeles (Fall)
- 2018 "Millennials Are Us: Race, Gender, and Decolonization," University of Los Angeles, California, (Spring).
- 2017 "Afro-Indigenous History: From Enslavement and Settlement to Black Lives Matter & Indigenous Sovereignty," University of California, Los Angeles (Fall).
- 2016 "The Promise of Urbanization: American Cities in the 19th and 20th Centuries, Department of History," University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (Fall).
- 2015 Instructor and Course Designer, "Indigenous Histories of Place: Indigenous People, Local Narratives, and Modernity," Program for Native American Studies, West Virginia University (Spring; online).
- 2013 Teaching Assistant, "Western Civilization, 1660-Present," Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (Spring Semester).

- 2012 Teaching Assistant, “U.S. History to 1877,” Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (Fall Semester).
- 2012 Instructor and Course Designer, “Rappin and Reppin History: Exploring Culture, Language, and U.S. History through Hip Hop Culture,” Champaign County Juvenile Detention Center (Summer).

Conference Organization and Inviting Speakers:

- 2019 Brought Paul Ortiz, associate professor at the University of Florida.
- 2014 Undoing the Destruction of Black Education in Detroit: A Midwestern Strategic Planning Forum. Black Education Congress, Detroit, Michigan.
- 2014 Learning From Detroit: Turbulent Urbanism in the 21st Century. University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Michigan.
- 2014 Reimagining Education: A Workshop for Critical Educators. May 2-3, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Two-day conference with invited speakers, Geneva Smitherman, Ana Celia Zentella, and David E. Kirkland (with Eduardo Coronel, Gabriel Rodriguez, et al.).
- 2013 Women’s and Gender History Symposium, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign.

Guest Lectures, Invited Talks, and Keynotes

- 2021 “Hip Hop as Sacred Medicine?: Thoughts on Boujee Natives, Indigenous Rap Music, and NdN Popular Culture.” University of Colorado, Boulder, March 3.
- 2021 “Black Indigeneity and Dispossession: The Meaning of Land, Sovereignty, and Freedom.” University of California, Merced, February 24.
- 2021 “Afro-Indigeneity: The Meanings and Possibilities of Our Shared Future.” University of Redlands, February 23.
- 2021 “Malcolm X and the Black Celebrity Class.” Brown University, February 8.
- 2020 “Afro-Indigeneity on the way to a Post-Settler World.” Panel, University of Michigan, November 20.
- 2020 Black and Indigenous Solidarity Remarks. *Tending the Wild* film screening. October 12, UCLA via zoom.
- 2020 ‘*All My People Rise Up!: Blackness, Indigenous Popular Culture, and the Limits and Possibilities of Cultural Solidarity.*’ American University, April 7. [Canceled; COVID-19].
- 2020 “*Seeing Red, Hearing Black: Language and Discourse in NdN Popular Culture.*” University of Alberta, Edmonton, March 27. [Canceled; COVID-19].

- 2020 “*Detroit vs. Everybody: Indigeneity, Dispossession, and the Making of Modern Detroit.*” University of Michigan, Detroit Urbanisms Series, February 15.
- 2019 “*Native American Hip Hop and Beyond: The Rhymes and Possibilities of NdN Popular Culture.*” Bonchek House Speaker Series. Franklin and Marshall College, November 4.
- 2019 “*Urban Indigenous History, Dispossession, and Indigenous Knowledges.*” Decolonizing Architectural Pasts and Futures. Aggregate Architectural History Collaborative, American Indian Center, Chicago, IL, October 19.
- 2019 “*Hip Hop Beats, Indigenous Rhymes: Decolonization & Black & Indigenous Solidarity.*” Northern Arizona University Ethnic Studies 6th Annual Hip Hop Week, April 16.
- 2019 “*The Mobility of Belonging: How Black People Construct their Indigeneity on Turtle Island.*” University of Florida, April 8.
- 2019 “*When did Black Americans lose their indigeneity? Antirblackness, Indigenous Erasure, and the Future of Black-Indigenous Relations.*” Princeton University, April 5.
- 2019 “*Who Gets to be Indigenous? Black Indigeneity, Indigenous Erasure, and Black-Indigenous Relations on Turtle Island.*” University of Texas, Austin, March 28.
- 2019 “*When did Black people lose their Indigeneity?*” *Reimagining Black and Indigenous Histories.*” Dartmouth College, February 6.
- 2018 “*Indigenous Hip Hop Millennials: Decolonization, Solidarity, and Artistic Struggle.*” Cal Poly Pomona, Pomona, California, November 7.
- 2018 “*Indigenous Hip Hop: Decolonization, Solidarity, and the Struggle for the Im/Possible.*” University of Louisville Keynote. Louisville, Kentucky, October 12.
- 2018 “*Black Belonging, Indigenous Sovereignty: The Struggle for Freedom, Self-Determination, & Sovereignty.*” James Madison College, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan, October 4.
- 2018 “*We Still Here: Indigenous Hip Hop, Resisting (settler) Colonialism, and the Politics of Possibility.*” Bucknell University, keynote, September 24.
- Panels**
- 2018 Panelist, “Navigating the Academic Job Process at Research, Teaching, and Private Institutions. Academic Job Spring Intensive for Graduate Students and Postdoctoral Scholars in the Social Sciences, Humanities, Arts & Education,” June 8.
- 2018 “*We Still Here: Indigenous Hip Hop Dreams and Resistance in the Americas.*” Critical Latinx Indigeneities Pre-Conference. Los Angeles, May 16.
- 2018 “*Indigenous Politics & Coalitions in California: Or, Why We Need a Settler Colonial Framework.*” Envisioning California 2018: Racial and Ethnic Politics in the Golden State.” California State University, Northridge, April 9.

- 2017 “*I apologize’: On Indigenous Men Ending Toxic Masculinity.*” Native American Heritage Month, UCLA, November 14.
- 2017 “*Getting Elsewhere: Shared Futures on Self-Same Land.*” University of Toronto, November 3.
- 2017 “*Yall just tryna be black!’: Indigenous Hip Hop and the Politics of Blackness on Turtle Island.*” Institute of American Cultures Fall Forum, UCLA, November 2.
- 2017 “*Black and Indigenous Relations Across Turtle Island: Dreams, Tensions, and Possibilities.*” Keynote for Native American Heritage Month, University of Maryland, College Park, October 30.
- 2017 “*Indigenous Dreamin’: How Indigenous Hip Hop Rejects the Colonial Politics of Recognition.*” Decolonization in a Comparative Perspective, Amherst College, October 28.
- 2017 “Race, Capitalism, and Settler Colonialism,” Respondent to Alyosha Goldstein paper. Race and Capitalism: Global Territories, Transnational Histories. October, 20.
- 2017 “*Be Like water: Indigenous Millennials & How We Gon’ Get Free.*” Second Annual Native Big Ten Gathering, Purdue University, October 14.
- 2017 “*Indigenous Hip Hop and Why Representation Matters.*” Brown University, October 2.
- 2017 “*‘A Million dollars worth of game for \$9.99’: What Bruce Lee Can Teach Us About Surviving the University.*” Community College Program, UCLA, July 11.
- 2017 “*From Black & Red Power to Flint & Standing Rock: Unexpected Encounters in Black & Native Histories.*” Middle Tennessee State University, February 21.
- 2017 “*Thoughts on Black and Indigenous Relations, From Flint to Standing Rock--and Beyond.*” Mount Royal University, Calgary, February 9.
- 2016 “*Remixing Turtle Island: The Rise of the Indigenous Hip Hop Generation.*” Keynote for Duke University’s Native American Heritage Month, November 16.
- 2016 “*Be Who You Be: Notes on Culture, Politics, and the Rise of the Indigenous Hip Hop Generation.*” Keynote for North Carolina State University, November 1.
- 2016 “*The Black Centered City,*” Charles Wright Museum, Detroit, Michigan. Featured panel, October 6.
- 2016 “*A Change is Gonna Come’: Thoughts on Culture, Protest, and the Rise of the Indigenous Hip Hop Generation.*” Keynote for the First Annual Big Ten Native Gathering, University of Wisconsin, Madison. September 30.
- 2016 “*The Intersections of Black and Native Activism in 1960s America.*” The Turbulent Decade: 1965-1975. Program in the Humanities, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, June 24.

- 2016 “*Anti-Colonial Experiments in Entangled Socialities;*” participant. The Institute for Gender, Race, Sexuality and Social Justice, University of British Columbia, May 26.
- 2016 “*Indigenous in the Motor City: Indigeneity and the Development of 20th Century Detroit.*” Faculty Seminar on the Urban Experience.” University of Kansas, May 12.
- 2016 “*Indigenous Detroit: Or, How Indigeneity Was Central to the Development of Modern Detroit.*” James Madison College, Michigan State University, April 20.
- 2016 “*Red Power to Hip Hop: Citizenship, Modernity, and the Quest for Sovereignty in Indigenous North America.*” James Madison College, Michigan State University, April 19.
- 2016 “*Between the Rez and the City: The Urban Native American Experience in Postwar America,*” Middle Georgia State College, March 16.
- 2016 “*The Arrivant, the Native, and the Settler in the Motor City: Indigenous (Competing) Histories of 20th Century Detroit.*” University of Toronto. February 25.
- 2016 “*We Gon Be Alright!”: Black-Indigenous Relations in Popular Culture, and Why It Matters.*” North Carolina State University, February 15.
- 2016 “*From Red Power to Hip Hop: The Urban Indigenous Experience in Postwar America.*” Center for the Study of the American South, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. February 9.
- 2016 “*Reading Indigeneity into the Rhetoric and Words of Malcolm X: The Discourses of Black Indigeneity, and Why It Matters.*” University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. January 27.
- 2015 “*Indigenous Hip Hop: Performing Indigeneity in 21st Century North America.*” Lecture for Dr. Daniel Cobb’s 20th Century Native North America Course. University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. November 30.
- 2015 “*Indigenous Hip Hop, or How Native People Challenge Stereotypes One Bar at a Time.*” Kennesaw State University. November 19.
- 2015 “*You got that good hair!”: Sayings, Encounters, and Other Moments in Black and Indigenous Histories.* University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh. February 26.
- 2015 “Black-Indigenous Histories in Unexpected Places,” for Dr. Gabriel Loiacono’s “American Indian History 363 course,” University of Wisconsin, Oshkosh, February 26.
- 2015 *In Defense of Community and Nation: Education, Indigenous Feminism, and Political Culture in Postwar Detroit.* California Poly Pomona, Native Scholars Lecture Series; Pomona, CA, February 17.
- 2015 *Unexpected Encounters in Black-Indigenous History,* Residential College in the Arts and

Humanities, Michigan State University, February 5.

Conference Presentations (selected)

- 2021 “New Directions in Black-Native History in the North American West.” Western History Association, October 27.
- 2021 “On the Streets and in the Archives: Urban Indigeneity in the 20th century.” **Chair**, Western History Association, October 28.
- 2021 “Race, Indigeneity, and Settler Colonial Urbanism in Detroit.” Institute of Australian Geographers & New Zealand Geographical Society Combined Conference, July 8.
- 2021 “Black and Indigenous American Relations.” **Moderator**, African American Intellectual History Society (AAIHS), March 20.
- 2019 “The Poetics of Economies of Dispossession.” Roundtable, American Studies Association, Honolulu, Hawai’i, November 9.
- 2019 “Memory and Un-Remembering in Detroit.” Society of Early Americanists Biennial Conference, Eugene, Oregon, March 1.
- 2018 “Indigenous Hip Hop and Decolonization: Toward a Global Indigenous Popular Culture.” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Atlanta, Georgia, November 8.
- 2018 “Black and Indigenous Dreamin’: Indigenous Millennials and Decolonial Possibilities.” Scholar-Activism in the Twenty-First Century Conference, London, United Kingdom, June 23.
- 2018 “*From Red Power to Indigenous Hip Hop: Radical Indigenous Culture and Politics in Post-Rebellion Detroit.*” “1968 & Its Legacies” Conference, London, United Kingdom, June 15.
- 2018 “*NdNs in the Black Mind: Possibilities, Tensions, & Why We Gon Be Alright.*” Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Annual Meeting, Los Angeles, California, May 18.
- 2017 “*Indigenous Hip Hop & the Politics of Blackness.*” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL, November 10.
- 2016 “*Malcolm X and Indigeneity: The Discourses of Black Indigeneity and Indigenous Erasure.*” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Denver, CO, November 19.
- 2016 *Black, Indigenous, and Indigeneity?: Race, Place, and Competing Indigeneities in Postwar Detroit.* Western History Association Annual Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota, October 22.
- 2016 “*Family as a Method in Reconstructing Indigenous and Black West(s).*” Western History Association Annual Meeting, St. Paul, Minnesota, October 21.

- 2016 “*Settler Colonialism in a Settler Regime: Race, Place, and Internal/Settler Colonialisms in Modern Detroit.*” American Historical Association Annual Conference, Atlanta, GA. January 10.
- 2015 *Detroit is the Black Man’s Land: The Problem of Black Indigeneity in Post-Rebellion Detroit.* Ethnohistory Conference, Las Vegas, NV; November 7.
- 2015 *Indigeneity “where the big waters are divided”:* *Indigenous Histories of Belle Isle, Detroit.* Ethnohistory Conference, Las Vegas, NV; November 5.
- 2015 *Performing Colonialism: The Construction of a Settler Colonial City at Detroit’s 1901 Bicentennial.* American Studies Association, Toronto, ON, CA; October 11.
- 2015 *Indigenous Women and the Settler Regime: Indigeneity, Gender, and Race in Post-Rebellion Detroit.* Native American and Indigenous Studies Annual Conference, Washington D.C. June 5.
- 2015 *Between Past and Presence: Settler Masculine Imaginings and Settler-Indigenous Encounters in Detroit, 1871-1922.* Chair: Jean M. O’Brien. American Historical Association Annual Conference, New York City. January 4.
- 2014 *Reclaiming Waawayeyaattanong, or Indigenous Detroit: Reinserting Indigenous Peoples back into Modern Detroit (and Midwestern) History.* The Humanities Center 2014 Fall Symposium, Theme: re: The City. Detroit, MI; October 31.
- 2014 Organized session and chair. *Reimagining Education as a Cultural Rhetoric: A Roundtable Conversation on Workshops as a Critical Tool for Teacher-Learning.* Cultural Rhetorics Conference. East Lansing, MI (with Eduardo Coronel & Gabriel Rodriguez). November 1.
- 2014 *Indigenous Hip Hop as an Embrace of Indigenous Modernity: Indigenous Rappers Constructing Cultural Rhetorics through Masculinity.* Cultural Rhetorics Conference. East Lansing, MI. November 1.
- 2014 *Indigenous Women’s Activism in the Motor City: Indigenous Women (Re)mapping—through Indigenous Feminism in Post-Rebellion Detroit.* Urban History Association Bi-Annual Conference, Philadelphia, PA, October 10.
- 2014 *Indigenous Herstories in the Motor City: Toward Urban Indigenous Feminism in Postwar Detroit.* Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, Austin, Texas, May 29.
- 2014 *Pushing the Boundaries of Blackness and Indigeneity: Medicine Bear American Indian Academy.* Organization of American Historians Annual Conference, Atlanta, Georgia, April 11.
- 2014 *Performing Settler Colonialism, Constructing Race: African Americans, Native Americans, and White People at Detroit’s 1901 Bicentennial.* Newberry Library Urban History Dissertation Group, Chicago, Illinois, February 8.

- 2013 *Blackness, Indigeneity, and Hip Hop: Toward Indigenous Masculinities*. American Anthropological Association Annual Meeting, Chicago, Illinois, November 22.
- 2013 *From Detroit's Indian Educational and Cultural Center to Medicine Bear American Indian Academy: Indigenous Education in Postwar Detroit*. History of Education Conference, Nashville, Tennessee, October 31.
- 2013 *Pontiac's Ghost in Detroit: Constructing Race and Gender through Indigenous Masculinity at the Turn of the 20th Century*. Chair: Tiya Miles. The Annual Meeting of the Society of Ethnohistory, New Orleans, Louisiana, September 14.
- 2013 *Pushing the Boundaries of Blackness: How Indigeneity Challenges Detroit's Racial History*. History Council of Black Studies Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana, March 14.
- 2012 "The Voice of the Voiceless": *Indigenous Hip Hop and Urban Youth Culture*. Native American and Indigenous Studies Conference, Uncasville, Connecticut, June 5.
- 2012 *Beyond the Rez: Toward Indigenous Hip-hop Literacies*. Hip-hop Literacies Conference: The Globalization of Black Popular Culture. Ohio State University, May 10.
- 2011 "We Jus D town Reppin": *Black Males and Critical Sports Literacies*. (E)Racing the Past, Righting the Future: Examining the Intersections of Race and Gender in New English Education. National Council for Teachers of English Convention. Chair: David E. Kirkland, (with Austin Jackson and AJ Rice), November 18.
- 2011 *Black, Red, and Radicalism: African American and Native American Activism in the Bay Area*. Western Historical Association Conference. Oakland, California, October 13.
- 2011 Organized session. *Black and Red Progressives: African Americans and Native American Responses to White Supremacy 1911*. Chair: Frederick E. Hoxie. Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Conference, May 20.

Workshops

- 2018 Indigenous Millennials & NdN Hip Hop Pedagogy. UCLA Teacher Education Program's Annual Ethnic Studies Speaker Series, Horace Mann Middle School, April 27.
- 2017 "Spit yo game/talk yo sh*t!: Creating (counter) Safe Spaces in the Neoliberal University." Mount Royal University, Calgary, Alberta, February 9.
- 2016 "Smitherman/Villanueva Scholarly Writing Retreat;" participant. Stanford University, July 25-30.
- 2016 "Democratizing Knowledge Institute;" participant. Syracuse University, June 13-18.
- 2016 "Building Guerilla Intellectuals: Strategies for Cultivating Transformative Student Organizations." Michigan State University, April 22, 2016. With A.J. Rice and Ashley Newby.

- 2016 “*Can Black Lives and Native Lives Matter, Equally?: The Discourses of Decolonization.*”
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, February 17.
- 2016 “Hip Hop Beats, Indigenous Rhymes: History, Hip Hop Culture, and Indigenous Peoples
in the U.S.” Hotchkiss School. January 30-31.
- 2015 “Hip Hop and Representation” with Lakota Hip Hop Artist Frank Waln. First Wave
Program, University of Wisconsin Madison, October 24.
- 2014 *Hip Hop and the Teaching of Social Studies: A Critical Language Approach*,
for instructor Jay Mann’s “Introduction to Teaching in a Diverse Society—Social
Studies- Curriculum and Instruction 401,” University of Illinois, Urbana-
Champaign; October 15.
- 2013 “*I’m just tryna find common ground: Toward a Humanizing of Young Black Men.*”
Workshop for My Brother’s Keeper Mentoring Program, East Lansing, MI,
Michigan State University; August 24.

Professional Service

Manuscript Reviews

- 2015 Reviewer for special issue on “Race, Rhetoric, and the State,” in *Present Tense: A
Journal of Rhetoric in Society* (vol. 5, no. 2)
- 2015 Reviewer for special issue on “cultural rhetorics” in *Enculturation: A Journal of
Rhetoric, Writing, and Culture*
- 2017-Present Manuscript Reviewer for *Contemporary Literature; American Studies Quarterly;
International Journal of Urban and Regional Research*
- 2017 Manuscript reviewer for the University of Manitoba Press
- 2018 Manuscript reviewer for the University of Minnesota Press
- 2020 Reviewer for *International Migration*
- 2020 Reviewer for *Anthropology Quarterly*
- 2020 Reviewer for *Journal of Latin American Cultural Studies*
- 2021 Manuscript reviewer for University Press of Kansas
- 2021 Reviewer for *American Indian Studies Culture and Research Journal*

Editorial Board Member

- 2020-2023 Editorial Board Member, *The Public Historian*
- 2020-2022 Founding editorial board member, *Rhetoric, Politics, and Culture.*

2013-2015 Founding Managing Editor, *Native American and Indigenous Studies Journal* (co-editors Jean O'Brien and Robert Warrior); **won Best New Journal Award of the Council of Editors of Learned Journals.**

National and International Service

2019-2021 Nominations Committee, Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
2017-2018 Native American and Indigenous Studies Association Planning Committee

Departmental and University Service

2020-2021 Executive Committee, Department of African American Studies
2019-present Faculty Collective, Institute on Inequality and Democracy, UCLA
2018-2019 Executive Committee, Department of African American Studies, UCLA
2019 Institute of American Cultures, American Indian Studies Center, Visiting Fellowship Award Committee
2019 Institute of American Cultures, American Indian Studies, IAC Grant Awards Committee
2018-2019 Mentor, RAIN (Retention of American Indian Students Now!)
2018 Mentor, Graduate Summer Research Mentorship Program, UCLA.
2017-2020 Bunche Center for African American Studies Faculty Advisory Committee
2017-2020 American Indian Studies Center Faculty Advisory Committee
2017 Ronald E. McNair proposal reviewer at UCLA.

Graduate School Service

2011-2013 Native American House Advisory Committee, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2011-2013 Diversity Committee, Department of History, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2011-2012 The Subcommittee on Graduate Student Conduct, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
2009 Graduate Mentor, McNair Scholars Program, Michigan State University
2009-2010 Coordinator, My Brother's Keeper Mentoring Program for African American Males, Michigan State University

Professional Affiliations and Interests:

American Studies Association
Organization of American Historians
American Historical Association
Native American and Indigenous Studies Association
American Society for Ethnohistory
Western History Association