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# Lifting the Veil

Multidisciplinary Perspectives on Identity  
and Responsibility in Global Societies



The 5th Annual  
Herman C. Hudson Symposium

Conference Location:  
*Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center*  
*Indiana University, Bloomington*  
*Saturday, March 22nd, 2008*

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**Herman C. Hudson  
Symposium  
History and Details**



Only two years after the historically groundbreaking Black Studies Program commenced at San Francisco State University, **Herman C. Hudson** founded and chaired the present-day African American and African Diaspora Studies Department at Indiana University, adding it to the richly budding movement. Growing exponentially from its three original faculty members, Hudson's department now houses over forty faculty, staff, and adjunct professors. Distinguished as one of the nation's premier programs in the field, the AAADS program at IU introduces students to a wide range of current research and scholarly opinion on the history, culture, and social status of black Americans and their African heritage, in addition to sharing vital educational and service-minded reciprocity with the Bloomington community.

The Herman C. Hudson Symposium memorializes the department's founder, and strives to unite the insights of students and faculty from multiple disciplines in the pursuit of scholarship on the African Diaspora. It is produced by the graduate students in the African American and African Diaspora Studies department of Indiana University under the aegis of faculty member Dr. Audrey McCluskey. The event features opening remarks by Professor Valerie Grim, chair of the department, student panels spotlighting various perspectives on identity and responsibility in global societies, a keynote address by Sonia Sanchez and closing remarks by Professor Matthew Guterl, co-director of graduate studies for AAADS.



**Sonia Sanchez** is a poet, mother, activist, professor, and international lecturer on black culture and literature, women's liberation, peace and racial justice. A sponsor of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, Sanchez is also a board member of MADRIE. She has written over 16 books, including: *Homecoming*; *We a BaddDDD People*; *Love Poems*; *I've Been a Woman: New and Selected Poems*; *A Sound Investment and Other Stories*; *Homegirls and Handgrenades*; *Under A Soprano Sky*; *Wounded in the*

*House of a Friend*; *Does Your House Have Lions?*; *Like the Singing Coming off the Drums*; and most recently, *Shake Loose My Skin*.

Sanchez is contributing editor to *Black Scholar* and the *Journal of African Studies* and she is the recipient of numerous awards. Ms. Sanchez has been honored with: the National Endowment for the Arts Lucretia Mott Award in 1984; the Outstanding Arts Award from the Pennsylvania Coalition of 100 Black Women; the Community Service Award from the National Black Caucus of State Legislators; the Governor's Award for Excellence in the Humanities for 1988; the Peace and Freedom Award from Women International League for Peace and Freedom for 1989; and a Pew Fellowship in the Arts for 1992-93.

Sonia Sanchez's exemplary writing skills have earned her the 1985 American Book Award for *Homegirls and Handgrenades* and the Langston Hughes Poetry Award in 1999. *Does Your House Have Lions?* was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. She has received other prestigious honors, including the Poetry Society of America's 2001 Robert Frost Medal and was named a Ford Freedman Scholar from the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Her poetry was also featured in the movie, *Love Jones*. Additionally, Sonia Sanchez was the first Presidential Fellow at Temple University, where she held the Laura Carnell Chair in English.

Having lectured and read poetry to over 500 universities, colleges and organizations in the United States, Africa, Cuba, England, the Caribbean, Australia, Nicaragua, the Peoples Republic of China, Norway and Canada, Sanchez has established a reputation as a highly renowned author and scholar.

\*Retrieved from the AEI Speaker's Bureau website

**What's in your future?**

**Major in African American & African  
Diaspora Studies.**

*It's a foundation for a lifetime of success.*

**Careers in Medicine, Law, Education,  
Non-profits, Performing and Visual Arts, & Government**

**What will your legacy be?**

**Small Classes. Enormous Possibilities.**

*"Where consciousness builds communities."*





Saturday, March 22nd, 2008

**Check-In Begins: 10:00am-11:00am**  
Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center Lobby

**Purchase Sonia Sanchez's Books:**

**10:00am - 2:00pm**

Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center Lobby

**Books available to purchase:**

- *Does Your House Have Lions?*
- *Wounded in the House of a Friend*
- *Like the Singing Coming Off the Drums*
- *Shake Loose My Skin*
- *Homegirls and Handgrenades*

**\*Book Signing: 12:40-1:20pm**

**Lunch Line Begins: 11:00am**

Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center:  
Grand Hall

**Opening Remarks: 11:20am**

- **Dr. Valerie Grim;** Associate Professor, Chair to the African American and African Diaspora Studies Department (AAADS) at Indiana University, Bloomington

**Introduction of Sonia Sanchez:**

- **Katie E. Dieter;** AAADS Graduate Student, Vice-President of the AAADS Graduate Society



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NEAL-MARSHALL BLACK  
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...Where You Belong

Audrey T. McCluskey, Interim Director

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The Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center (NMBCC) is a home for black students with a wide open door to all. We are devoted to helping our students develop their full potential academically, while encouraging their growth as community-minded global citizens. Our programming is responsive to the diverse needs of our students, including their need for cultural and intellectual endeavors.

**Upcoming Events:**

- African Dance Ensemble-Fridays 6-8pm at the NMBCC Rm. A219
- Brown Bag Lecture Series-March 19, April 9th, Noon-1pm at the NMBCC Bridgwaters Lounge
- Spotlight Spoken Word-March 19th, April 2nd, April 16th, 7:30-9pm at the NMBCC Bridgwaters Lounge
- June 14th-June 14th at Bryan Park, time: TBA

◆  
Saturday, March 22nd, 2008  
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**Keynote Address: 11:30am**

- Sonia Sanchez, Influential writer, poet, and social activist

**Musical Performance: 12:30pm**

Grand Hall

***“Color Line”***

Written and composed by Justin Merrick

**Performers:** Terrilyn Dennie, Adrianna Christmas-Rutledge, Shilan Douglass, Salea Douglass, Ronald Schneider, Keenan Billups and Lakyra Pharms

**Sonia Sanchez Book Signing: 12:40-1:20pm**

**Panel 1A: 1:30am-3:00pm**

Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center:  
Bridgewaters Lounge

**It's a New Day<sup>1</sup>: Undergraduate Spotlight**

Panel Moderator: Dr. Frederick McElroy

- LaDortha Mitchell: *An Analysis of Domestic Violence in the Black Community*
- Mariah Moore: *Interracial relationships and Society in Literature*
- Shawn Major-Winston: *Identity Politics in Rap Music*
- Max Drucker: *A Study of the Afro-Brazilian Diaspora*

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1. Inspired by Sonia Sanchez's *It's a New Day: Poetry for Young Brothas and Sistuhs* (1971)

# American Studies Program

**American Studies at IU:**

- considers the role of the United States in the world
- ponders the significance of Diaspora, migration, and globalization for cultures and nationalism
- pushes the study of the United States into a hemispheric context
- develops interdisciplinary methodologies that encourage a careful, critical reflection on the meaning of the terms “America” and “American”
- weighs the significance of empire in “our” history
- incorporates Anthropology, Folklore, Ethnomusicology, Linguistics, Ethnic Studies, Area Studies, the study of Spanish, French, and Portuguese literatures, and other concentrations in the Humanities and Social Sciences

<http://www.indiana.edu/~amst/>  
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FOR DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND  
MULTICULTURAL AFFAIRS

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**Panel 1B: 1:30am-3:00pm**

Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center: A210  
We a Bad People<sup>3</sup>: Social Consciousness  
and the Diaspora

Panel Moderator: Dr. Stephen Selka

- Lanier Holt: *Cause and Defect: A Closer Look at the 2005 French and 1992 Los Angeles Riots*
- Donald Davis: *21<sup>st</sup> Century Black Collective Society: Global Hip-Hop Culture and Perception Management*
- Phyllisia J. Gant: *Employment Discrimination, Former Felony Offenders, and the Disparate Impact Theory*
- Nsaka Septuf Ntepua Sesepekeiu: *The Brown Piper : Black Power and Black Underdevelopment*

**Panel 2A: 3:15pm - 4:45pm**

Neal Marshall Black Cultural Center:  
Bridgwaters Lounge  
Shake Loose My Skin<sup>3</sup>: Socio-cultural Ob-  
servations in the Diaspora

Panel Moderator: Dr. Micol Seigel

- Antonio Garcia: *The Gangsta Curriculum: Exploring Pedagogies in Gangsta Rap Music*

2. Inspired by Sonia Sanchez's *We a BaddDDD People* (1970)

3. Inspired by Sonia Sanchez's *Shake Loose My Skin: New and Selected Poems* (1999)



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**Panel 2A Continued:**

- Byron Craig: *Engaging White Hegemony: Communicating World Views Through False Memories*
- Siobhan Carter-David: *Let Us Speak About the Motherland: Africa in the Hip-Hop Worldview During Rap's Golden Age of Black Nationalism*
- Jean-Christophe Henry: *Being Black In France: A Contemporary Analysis of Politics And Struggles*

**Panel 2B: 3:15pm - 4:45pm**

Neal Marshall Black Cultural Center: A210  
Liberation Through My Words: Humanities  
and the Black Diaspora

Panel Moderator: Dr. John A. McCluskey

- Clark Whitlow: *Black Urban Literature: "Pimp: Thug's Life" From Exploitation to Glorification*
- Sara Bagby-Farmer: *The Greek Gods: Race and Privilege in Undergraduate Greek Organizations*
- Katelyn Hipskind: *Breaking Down the Black Autobiography: The Role of Movement in Defining a Racial Identity*
- Regina Barnett: *Warriors Don't Cry They Juba: An Analysis of Joe Turner's Come and Gone*



Saturday, March 22nd, 2008

**Closing Remarks: 5:00pm**

Neal-Marshall Black Culture Center:  
Grand Hall

- **Dr. Matthew Guterl;** Associate Professor in African American and African Diaspora Studies, Co-director of AAADS Graduate Studies, Indiana University, Bloomington

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## Herman Hudson Symposium

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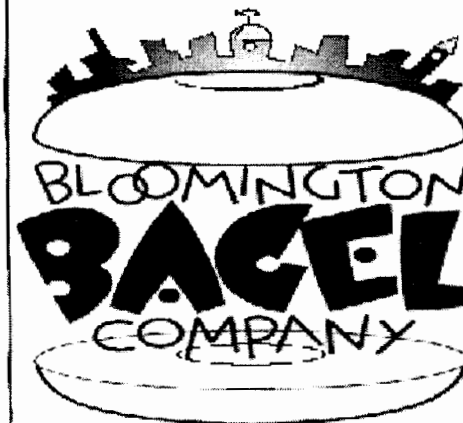
by encouraging the dynamic exchange of information, ideas, and creativity



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# The Department of History is a proud co-sponsor of the Herman C. Hudson Symposium.



*The BBC is downtown Bloomington's first on-site, made from scratch bagel bakery! BBC Bagels are boiled and baked right here every day, using only the highest quality ingredients, following kosher recipes from New York City's historic Bagel Bakers Local #288! We are unique because we do everything the hard way (occasionally and, unfortunately, often personally!). All of our food is made from scratch. Each bagel combines five essential ingredients; water, malt, salt, yeast and flour. Every recipe uses real ingredients, nothing fake or processed to look and taste like real food (gross!). We never add dough conditioners, stabilizers or preservatives. We use local ingredients when possible! We love our opportunity to serve and are thankful every day for the opportunity to be a part of this community. We are proudly "Locally Owned and Boiled."*

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