



PURDUE UNIVERSITY BLACK CULTURAL CENTER

BLACK JOY

FALL 2021 CULTURAL ARTS SERIES

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Black Cultural Center

FALL 2021

CELEBRATING BLACK JOY

Sweat by Lynn Nottage directed by William Caise
September 23 - October 23 Nancy T. Hansen Theatre

Lynn Nottage has written one of her most exquisitely devastating tragedies to date. The play explores how a group of down and out factory workers struggle to keep their lives in balance, ignorant to the financial devastation looming in their future. *Sweat* is a reflection of America's economic decline.



"Good Vibrations" Exhibition by Tasha Beckwith
October 1 - November 21, 2021

Tasha Beckwith is an Indianapolis-based visual artist. She studied painting and drawing at the Herron School of Art & Design, IUPUI, but honed her skills in graphic design and digital art on her own. Her portrait-based work combines expressionism, realism, and surrealism and she cites science fiction, fantasy, and Afrocentric themes as her inspirations.

Black Like Us: A Cultural History of Black Dolls by Aria Halliday
November 10, 2021 6:30 pm, BCC Zamora Studio

Dr. Haliday, is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Gender and Women's Studies and program in African American and Africana Studies at the University of Kentucky. Dr. Halliday specializes in the study of cultural constructions of black girlhood and womanhood in material, visual, and digital culture in the late 20th and early 21st centuries. Her presentation will highlight the historical and cultural significance of Black dolls and how these dolls connect to Black representation across multiple forms of media. She is the editor of *Beyond Barbie: Nicki Minaj, Disney and Black Women's Cultural Production*.



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HONORING BLACK JOY

Jessamyn Stanley

October 27, 6:30pm BCC Zamora Studio

Jessamyn Stanley is a yoga teacher and body positivity advocate and writer. She gained recognition through her Instagram posts showing her doing yoga as a “plus-size woman of color” who self-identifies as a “fat femme” and “queer femme.” She is based in Durham, North Carolina. Jessamyn uses high energy vinyasa flow as a way to move past mental and emotional barriers. Her classes provide a body positive approach to yoga which celebrates students’ bodies and encourages them to ask “How do I feel?” rather than “How do I look?” when practicing yoga.



Deeply Rooted Dance Theater Residency

Free Masterclass September 21, 6:00pm Cordova Rec Center

Live Performance October 12, 7:00pm Loeb Playhouse

Deeply Rooted Dance Theater reimagines and diversifies the aesthetics of contemporary dance by uniting modern, classical, American, and African-American traditions in dance and storytelling. Through its uncompromising pursuit of excellence, Deeply Rooted demonstrates the transformative power of art and beauty through dance education, performance, and cultural enrichment in Chicago and on the world stage.

Deeply Rooted is rooted in traditions of American and African-American dance, storytelling, and universal themes that spark a visceral experience and ignite an emotional response in diverse audiences worldwide. Deeply Rooted collaborates with nationally renowned choreographers, across the spectrum of modern, ballet, and African dance, to reflect contemporary voices.

FALL 2021

AMPLIFYING BLACK JOY



A Conversation with Nnedi Okorafor moderated by Dr. Ravon Fouche
November 3, 6:00pm

Nnedi Okorafor is a best selling Nigerian-American writer who has quickly gained a reputation as one of the foremost voices in contemporary science fiction. The Binti series introduces us to a unique brand of “Afrofuturism”



The Debauchery Ball Screening & Panel
followed by House Dance Party
October 29, 7:00pm

Screening of the Award winning documentary of the hottest, hippest and deeply underground event Thee Debauchery Ball. A panel discussion featuring the filmmaker as well as the Ball’s founder and participants.

Art Exhibitions:

July – September

“Ode to Us” by Thee Black Card & Sarah Jones
at the BCC

September – November

“Good Vibes” by Tasha Beckwith at the BCC

November 2021 - March 2022

A Black Aesthetic in Education Exhibition at the
Indianapolis Airport

Virtual Research Tour

Morocco–North Africa

November 15, 16 & 17

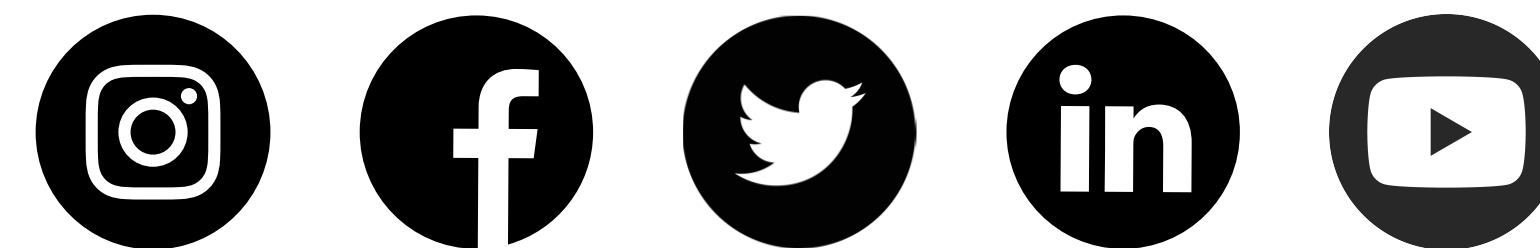
6:00 pm

ZOOM



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