



2022 NWSA Conference Call for Papers



NWSA Conference 2022 **killing rage: resistance on the other side of freedom**

November 10-13, 2022
Minneapolis, MN ~ Hilton Minneapolis

National Women's Studies Association: nwsa.org

2022 NWSA Annual Conference:

killing rage: resistance on the other side of freedom

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Submission D/L March 15th, April 15th

Zora Neale Hurston once wrote, there are years that ask questions and years that answer them: 2020 asked a lot of questions about freedom and justice; salvation and sacrifice; convenience and controversy; whose life and vote matters; and who has the right to have their hands and laws inside of a woman's womb and 2021 answered them. Over the past two years, many of our heroes have died while our enemies have both gained and remained in power. We have come through the storm of Trump *in* power only to find ourselves in the center of Trumpism as power. We tried to burn it all down while they worked to build it back in such a way that it would be more racist, more divisive, and more dangerous. They exploited our pain and gaslit us when we expressed our rage. But like our hero-to-ancestor, bell hooks, we resisted and refused to let our rage remain "trapped in the realm of the unspeakable." We cried out. We voted. We protested. We loved on one another. We exhausted ourselves and found ways to continue our march toward freedom. We reflect(ed) on the life and legacy of bell hooks and are committed to doing the hard work. Our Conference title, *killing rage*, is from her 1995 essay collection *Ending Racism*. It has been a *long* two years, since we have last seen each other, but we have not lost either hope or ourselves. *We are at a moment where we need to gather.*

As Nikki Giovanni reminds us, it is not unusual to gather to seek comfort (or strength) in our hours of stress. In November of this year, we will gather in Minneapolis, a place that has been, in so many ways, the eye in the middle of this storm. A place where our tears have been watered and where our blood is mixed with the soil. A place where we *need* to gather because we *need* threshing. The place where we must come together to laugh, share, cry, and be in community with one another to separate what is needed for our survival from what must be discarded or left behind. We will push and support each other and make space to think critically, as bell hooks taught us, because critical thinking is at the center of how we can transform our lives

and ultimately, how we can transform the spaces where we choose to live out this American experiment called democracy.

We call on you to step with us into the fire of our collective work and research and emerge on the other side stronger for the journey. We are storytellers, and 2022 is the year we gather to share our stories and tell the world what we have learned and what we damn well expect to happen next. We invite you to come and bear witness, to be present, and to tell your stories, our stories, of who we are and who we are going to be. Let 2022 be the year that we come together to reclaim OurVoices, OurStories, OurSpaces, and OurSelves! We invite you to see your work within our subthemes and then push outside of our boundaries and reshape our themes so your work fits and has a space to grow. We seek proposals situated in the traditional fields or within the interdisciplinary areas or squarely motivated by the public sphere: art and artistry; politics and poetry; music and medicine; race and religion; southern issues and northern noise; front porch conversations and blue light basement parties. *The academy is changing, and we want our conference to reflect that change and amplify it!*

We encourage submissions from anyone who has a story to tell and the courage to say it, including professors, activists, graduate students, independent scholars, first-time presenters, artists, community healers, women's and gender scholars, historians, and researchers. We invite paper, panel, performance, poster, and workshop proposals that build creatively and critically on our theme and sub-themes. We strongly encourage independent scholars, non-academic writers, artists, researchers, and organizers to propose panels and presentations and be included in sessions alongside community college, college, and university-based scholars.

Sub-themes for the conference include:

1. teaching to transgress: education from the classroom to the streets

2. burn it all down: activism and advocacy
3. ain't i a wummon: identity, feminism and ideology
4. sweet land of liberty: black/brown land use, ecology, ancestral roots, and waters
5. invisibility: reclaiming our voices and ourselves
6. black and brown covid stories: medical apartheid and inequity
7. writing, researching, and thinking beyond race, place, and space
8. queer and trans studies: outlining the places where we find ourselves
9. **Special Sub-Theme:** *bone black: bell hooks and the impact of her words and her work*

Pre-Conferences: Program Administration and Development (PAD); Women's Centers; Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin K-12 Feminist Teacher Workshop; and, the Women of Color Leadership Project (WoCLP). *Additional information about the Pre-Conferences can be found on the NWSA website*

The submission deadlines for proposals are as follows:

Early Bird Submissions will be accepted via All Academic until **March 15, 2022 at 11:59 pm EST**. Responses will be sent by **April 29, 2022 11:59 pm EST**.

All regular submissions are due by **April 15, 2022 at 11:59 pm EST**. Responses will be sent by **May 31, 2022 11:59 pm EST**.

****ALL ACADEMIC WILL OPEN FOR SUBMISSIONS ON FEBRUARY 1, 2022 AT 12:01 AM EST.***

*****Acceptances will not be considered official until all session participants have joined NWSA and are registered for the conference.***

Conference Co-Chairs:

Karsonya Wise Whitehead

Stephanie Troutman

Prathim-*Maya* Dora-Laskey

Conference Committee

Shenée Simon

Ashley Baggett

Karla Strand

Mary Zaborskis

Jennifer Brandt (PAD Pre-Conference, Grad Student Mentoring Project)

Lisa Covington (WCC and WoCLP)

Takiyah Amin and Marlo David (WoCLP)

Ileana Jiménez (Feminist Teacher Workshop)

NWSA Officers and General Council:

Karsonya Wise Whitehead, President

Ariella Rotramel, Vice-President

Heidi Lewis, Secretary

Angela Clark-Taylor, Treasurer

Karma Chavez, Member at Large

Gina Velasco, Member at Large

Qiana Cutts, Member at Large

Erica Williams, Member at Large

Briona Jones, Lesbian Caucus Chair

Lisa Covington, WoCC Chair

Schedule:

Wednesday, November 9: NWSA Board Meeting

Thursday, November 10: Pre-Conferences: PAD, Women's Centers, Feminist Teacher Workshop, WoCLP; Opening Keynote

Friday, November 11: Mimosa Toast, Paper Sessions, Poster Presentations, Plenary and Presidential Sessions, Reception

Saturday, November 12: Paper Sessions, Caucus Meetings, Membership Meeting with Presidential Address, Plenary and Presidential Sessions, HouseParty

Sunday, November 13: Paper Sessions

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