

MLK Day Symposium 2021

Renew. Refresh. Rethink.

This year, taking our cue from the Juneteenth letter that BSU sent to the UHS administration last summer, we decided not to put the onus of presenting symposium workshops on our students. We also changed the structure of the symposium due to Covid as well as Zoom fatigue: rather than have one intensive day of workshops, we kicked off the symposium on January 21 with Dr. Bettina Love's keynote talk, *Living A Hip Hop & Abolitionist Life: Resistance, Creativity, Hip Hop Civics Ed, Intersectionality, & Black Joy*, and continued with workshops offered on our Human Development (HD) days throughout the semester.

The theme for this year's symposium is "Renew. Refresh. Rethink." This theme was also inspired in part by BSU's letter, which encouraged us to rethink our curricula and pedagogy, and to make space for Black creativity and joy as much as Black Resistance (you can see why Dr. Bettina Love's talk was the perfect keynote in this context). This theme felt right given we just entered a new year and decade, began a new semester, and that the launch of our symposium is on Inauguration Day, with a new administration.

1/20/2021	Living A Hip Hop & Abolitionist Life: Resistance, Creativity, Hip Hop Civics Ed, Intersectionality, & Black Joy (to be followed by a Q & A session). Dr. Love will discuss how Hip Hop Civics Ed, when linked to the framework of intersectionality and Abolitionist Teaching, creates a space where Black lives matter and analytic sensibilities are nurtured to engage youth in the work of fighting for visibility, inclusion, and justice. Her talk will end by calling for us all not only to teach students about racial violence, oppression, and how to make sustainable change in their communities through innovative and radical civic curriculum, but also to expose youth to the possibilities that come with envisioning a world built on Black joy, creativity, imagination, boldness, ingenuity, and the
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rebellious spirit and methods of abolitionists.

Dr. Bettina L. Love is an award-winning author and the Athletic Association Endowed Professor at the University of Georgia. She is one of the field's most esteemed educational researchers. Her writing, research, teaching, and activism meet at the intersection of race, education, abolition, and Black joy. Dr. Love is concerned with how educators working with parents and communities can build communal, civically engaged schools rooted in Abolitionist Teaching with the goal of intersectional social justice for equitable

classrooms that love and affirm Black and Brown children. In 2020, Dr. Love co-founded the Abolitionist Teaching Network (ATN). ATN's mission is simple: develop and support teachers and parents to fight injustice within their schools and communities. In 2020, Dr. Love was also named a member of the Old 4th Ward Economic Security Task Force with the Atlanta City Council.

Dr. Love is a sought-after public speaker on a range of topics, including: Abolitionist Teaching, anti-racism, Hip Hop education, Black girlhood, queer youth, Hip Hop feminism, art-based education to foster youth civic engagement, and issues of diversity and inclusion. She is the creator of the Hip Hop civics curriculum GET FREE.

In 2014, she was invited to the White House Research Conference on Girls to discuss her work focused on the lives of Black girls. For her work in the field of Hip Hop education, in 2016, Dr. Love was named the Nasir Jones Hip-hop Fellow at the Hutchins Center for African and African American Research at Harvard University. In April of 2017, Dr. Love participated in a one-on-one public lecture with bell hooks focused on the liberatory education practices of Black and Brown children. In 2018, Georgia's House of Representatives presented Dr. Love with a resolution for her impact on the field of education. She has also provided commentary for various news outlets including NPR, Ed Week, The Guardian, and the Atlanta Journal Constitution.

	<p>She is the author of the books <i>We Want to Do More Than Survive: Abolitionist Teaching and the Pursuit of Educational Freedom</i> and <i>Hip Hop's Li'l Sistas Speak: Negotiating Hip Hop Identities and Politics in the New South</i>. Her work has appeared in numerous books and journals, including the <i>English Journal</i>, <i>Urban Education</i>, <i>The Urban Review</i>, and the <i>Journal of LGBT Youth</i>.</p>
1/26/2021	<p>Chinatown Rising. In this workshop, we will watch an excerpt from the critically-acclaimed documentary, <i>Chinatown Rising</i> followed by a Q&A with Josh Chuck, co-director and producer. Against the backdrop of the Civil Rights Movement of the mid-1960s, a young San Francisco Chinatown resident armed with a 16mm camera and leftover film scrap from a local TV station, turned his lens onto his community. Totalling more than 20,000 feet of film (10 hours), Harry Chuck's exquisite unreleased footage has captured a divided community's struggle for self-determination. <i>Chinatown Rising</i> is a documentary film about the Asian-American Movement from the perspective of the young residents on the front lines of their historic neighborhood in transition. Through publicly challenging the conservative views of their elders, their demonstrations and protests of the 1960s-1980s rattled the once quiet streets during the community's shift in power. Forty-five years later, in intimate interviews these activists recall their roles and experiences in response to the need for social change.</p> <p>Josh Chuck grew up in San Francisco's Chinatown and has worked in the community for over 16 years as a youth worker, filmmaker, and fundraiser. He has produced, shot, and edited short films for the past 16 years, mostly sharing the stories of individuals who symbolize the rich diversity of the city, as well as organizations advocating for the needs of the underserved.</p>
1/26/2021	<p>"Learning in Public": How School Choice Shapes Democracy. Please join Elizabeth Evers in conversation with Courtney Martin on Tuesday, January 26th during Flex A (12:40). Courtney Martin is a writer, activist and a former co-editor of the Feministing blog. She is nearing completion of her sixth book, <i>Learning in Public</i>, about navigating public schools in Oakland as a white, privileged parent. Courtney and Elizabeth will talk about the role Whiteness plays in schools and more specifically the roles White women play in the educational landscape. Schools were founded to be the basis of democracy, so how can we address what</p>

Bettina Love calls "apartheid schools"? **This meeting is open to all members of the UHS community.**

Recommended readings (not required to attend) by Courtney Martin:

- <https://onbeing.org/blog/courtney-martin-the-problem-with-seeking-the-best-for-your-kids/>
- <https://courtney.substack.com/p/my-friend-is-dead-but-dont-call-her>
- <https://www.sfchronicle.com/opinion/openforum/article/What-this-parent-learned-from-the-Oakland-13662064.php>

1/26/2021



Body Peace conversations with Virgie Tovar. Our relationships with food and our bodies are complicated, confusing and sometimes painful. The impacts of diet-culture on the UHS community have been felt for years, but with the changes that COVID and shelter-in-place have brought, this conversation has become more widespread and prevalent than ever. Corinne, Lindsay, Jessica and Alexandra are launching on-going Body Peace work at UHS to bring a new perspective on how to heal and change our thinking about our bodies and how to nourish them. Please join us on Tuesday 1/26 during Flex B (2-3pm) for a Body Peace conversation with Virgie Tovar! Virgie is a SF local and author of *You Have the Right to Remain Fat* as well as *The Self Love Revolution*. She is also the host of the [Rebel Eaters Club](#) podcast. This workshop is open to ALL UHS students and staffulty.

"When people say they want to lose weight, they often mean I want to be

	<i>respected. I want to be loved. I want to be seen. I want liberation from fear and self-loathing. Weight-loss culture will never give us those things because it is founded on fear/hate-based systems like sexism, racism, classism and ableism.” —Virgie Tovar.</i>
2/3/2021	Air Pollution: What It Is, Where It's From, and What You Can Do. This session will focus on air pollution, which currently causes 7 million deaths annually. We will examine the various air pollutants, their respective sources, and the global distribution of air pollutants. Next, we will explore how COVID-19 lockdowns impacted air pollution levels worldwide. We will discuss the correlation between air pollution and climate change while also highlighting the connection to other issues such as racial inequality, poverty, and food insecurity. Our session will conclude with a sharing of resources for participants to learn more about air pollution and identify ways they can become involved in mitigating this century-defining issue. <i>(presenter: James P., '21)</i>
2/3/2021	Body Peace follow-up (see above for a link to the recording of last week's session with Virgie Tovar). As a continuation of our body peace conversations, we are hosting a space to continue the discussion that came up in the workshop with Virgie Tovar. We will think about and discuss how fatphobia has impacted ourselves and our communities and how we might start the process of breaking up with diet culture . <i>All students, faculty and staff welcome.</i>
2/24/2021	Sustainable Fashion. This workshop will focus on fast fashion and sustainable shopping: what it is, how it impacts the world, and what you can do. Join Amelie S. ('21) and Fiona F. ('23) for a discussion and presentation from Sam Ives, a UHS alumna from the class of 2008. Sam now runs her own sustainable clothing business based in Melbourne, Australia, and will give a presentation on how she became interested in sustainable fashion and how she runs her business. We will also discuss the implications of shopping sustainably (including socioeconomic status, race, body negativity, and consumer blame), the environmental and humanitarian effect that our wardrobes cause, and how to go from there. Everybody is welcome to attend!
Coming soon!	A workshop led by Intimacy Director Maya Herbsman

