“This is how you are a citizen”:

Humanities and Civic Life in Mississippi

*A mini-conference in partnership with Tougaloo College, the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, Hope Enterprise Corporation, Jackson 2000, the Margaret Walker Center, Jackson State University, the Eudora Welty Foundation, Parents for Public Schools of Jackson, the Jackson Human Rights Institute, and the Jackson Association of Black Journalists.*

Thursday, February 9

8:30am to 9:00am: Registration, 1st Floor Lobby, Gertrude C. Ford Academic Complex (hereafter, “Academic Complex”)

9:00am to 9:20am: Welcome, Introduction, Academic Complex, Room 215

9:30am to 10:30am: Session One: Civic Life and Our Human Ties

* Liberal Arts and the Public Square (Institute for Civic and Professional Engagement, Millsaps College), Academic Complex, Room 218
  + Moderator: Kenneth Townsend, Executive Director of the Institute for Civic and Professional Engagement, Special Assistant to the President, and Assistant Professor of Political Science, Millsaps College
  + Devon Cantwell, Midtown Public Charter School
  + Louwanda Evans, Assistant Professor of Sociology, Millsaps College
  + Mary Parker, Education Major, Millsaps College
  + Stephanie Rolph, Assistant Professor of History, Millsaps College
* “All Eyez on Me”: The Complexities of Black Bodies in White Spaces” (Anita DeRouen, Millsaps College; and Ebony Lumumba, Tougaloo College), Academic Complex, Room 334
  + Moderator: Anita DeRouen, Director of Writing and Teaching, Millsaps College
  + Ebony Lumumba, Chair and Assistant Professor of English, Tougaloo College
  + Miranda Freeman, Associate Professor of English, Tougaloo College
  + Rae Jean Spears, English Major, Tougaloo College
  + Khari Johnson, English major, Tougaloo College
* Economic Justice and Democratic Citizenship: A Look at the Past and Present (Hope Policy Institute and the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation), Academic Complex, Room 222
  + Moderator: Jake McGraw, Public Policy Coordinator, William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation
  + Dr. Daphne R. Chamberlain, Assistant Professor of History and Chair of the Department of History and Political Science, Tougaloo College
  + Dr. Susan Glisson, Co-Founder and Partner, Sustainable Equity, LLC
  + Dr. D'Andra Orey, Professor of Political Science, Jackson State University

10:30am to 11:00am: Coffee and informal conversation, 1st Floor Lobby, Academic Complex

11:00am to 12:00pm: Session Two: Dialogues

* Dialogue Jackson: Let’s talk about Citizenship (Jackson 2000), Academic Complex, Room 334
* *Citizen* discussion groups, Academic Complex, Room 222
  + Michael Pickard, Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing, Millsaps College
  + Leah Whitcomb, Communication Studies Major, Millsaps College
* “Must the Novelist Crusade?” Art as a Form of Activism (The Eudora Welty Foundation and the Margaret Walker Center), Academic Complex, Room 218
  + Moderator: C. Liegh McInnis, Instructor of English, Jackson State University
  + Shanna L. Smith, Visiting Assistant Professor of English, Jackson State University
  + Peggy Prenshaw, Humanities Scholar-in-Residence, Millsaps College

12:00pm to 1:30pm: Lunch break. Lunch available for purchase in cafeteria and café.

1:30pm to 2:30pm: Session Three: Instituting Equity

* Racial Equity and Public Education (Parents for Public Schools of Jackson), Academic Complex, Room 223
  + Moderator: David Dennis, Jr., Writer and Journalism Professor, Morehouse College
  + Flonzie Brown-Wright, Author and Civil Rights Activist
  + LaSonya Walton, Jackson State University Student (E3 Alum)
  + Torenzo Richardson, Jim Hill High School Senior (E3 Intern)
  + Chinelo Evans, Chief Academic Officer, Jackson Public Schools
* Investigating Mississippi: Race, Region, Justice and Journalism (Noel Didla, Jackson Human Rights Institute; and Ryan Nave, Jackson Association of Black Journalists), Academic Complex, Room 218
  + Moderator: R.L. Nave, *Mississippi Today*, and President, Jackson Association of Black Journalists
  + Sierra Mannie, Education Reporting Fellow, *Jackson Free Press*, University of Mississippi
  + Jerry Mitchell, Investigative Reporter, *The Clarion-Ledger*
* Economic Justice and Democratic Citizenship: A Look toward the Future (Hope Policy Institute and the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation), Academic Complex, Room 334
  + Moderator: Corey Wiggins, Director, Hope Policy Institute
  + Reilly Morse, President and CEO, Mississippi Center for Justice
  + Cassandra Welchlin, Director, Mississippi Women's Economic Security Initiative, a project of the Mississippi Low Income Child Care Initiative

2:30pm to 3:15pm: Coffee and informal conversation, 1st Floor Lobby, Academic Complex

3:30pm to 4:45pm: Training the Citizen-Artist, Campbell Conference Center (Peter Friedrich, Assistant Professor and Chair of Theater, Millsaps College, and Kate Woodley, LMSW)

*An experiential workshop in which attendees will participate in exercises to explore citizenship, engagement, and transformation. Activities will include applications of the Theater of the Oppressed, a theatrical form developed to facilitate social and political change through action and dialogue.*

5:00pm to 5:15pm: Millsaps Experimental Music Ensemble (MEME) performs Jason Carl Rosenberg’s *Who Took the Bomp?,* Academic Complex, Room 137

5:30pm to 6:30pm: Masterclass on *Citizen* with Claudia Rankine for students from Jackson State University, Tougaloo College, and Jackson Public Schools (by application). Academic Complex, Room 223

6:30pm to 7:30pm: Student Poetry Slam Showcase / Open Mic Reading, with DJ Young Venom, Leggett Living Room

8:00pm until: Screening and discussion of “Situations” videos from *Citizen*, Academic Complex, Room 137, sponsored by the Millsaps College Black Students Union

Friday, February 10

8:30am to 9:00am: Registration, 1st Floor Lobby, Academic Complex

9:00am to 10:00am: Session Four: Art, Education, and Investigation

* Investigating Mississippi: Race, Region, Justice and Journalism. (Noel Didla, Jackson Human Rights Institute; and Ryan Nave, Jackson Association of Black Journalists), Academic Complex, Room 223
  + Moderator: R.L. Nave, *Mississippi Today*, Jackson Association of Black Journalists
  + Sierra Mannie, Education Reporting Fellow, *Jackson Free Press*
  + Zachary Oren Smith, Reporter, *Mississippi Today*
  + Adria R Walker, Sociology Major, Millsaps College, *The Purple and White*
  + Anna Wolfe, Reporter, *The Clarion-Ledger*
* “Must the Novelist Crusade?” Art as a Form of Activism (The Eudora Welty Foundation and the Margaret Walker Center), Academic Complex, Room 218
  + Moderator: Robert Luckett, Associate Professor of History and Director, Margaret Walker Center, Jackson State University
  + daniel johnson, Director of Engagement and Learning, Mississippi Museum of Art
  + Phillip Rollins (DJ Young Venom), Off Beat Records
  + Tamar Shirinian, Cultural Anthropologist, Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, Millsaps College
  + Katy Simpson Smith, Novelist
* Racial Equity and Public Education (Parents for Public Schools of Jackson), Academic Complex, Room 222
  + Moderator: David Dennis, Jr., Writer and Journalism Professor, Morehouse College
  + Hollis Watkins Muhammad, Author and Civil Rights Activist
  + Jala Robinson, Lanier High School Junior (E3 Intern)
  + Stephen Brown, Get2College (E3 Consultant)
  + Dr. William Merritt, IV, Chief Academic Officer, Jackson Public Schools

10:00am to 10:30am: Coffee and informal conversation, 1st Floor Lobby, Academic Complex

10:30am to 11:30am: Session Five: Citizenship

* *Citizen* book discussions (Michael Pickard and Leah Whitcomb, Millsaps College), Murrah Hall, Room 111
  + Michael Pickard, Assistant Professor of English and Creative Writing, Millsaps College
  + Leah Whitcomb, Communication Studies, Millsaps College
* Dialogue Jackson: Let’s talk about Citizenship(Jackson 2000), Murrah Hall Annex, Room 304
* “All Eyez on Me”: The Complexities of Black Bodies in White Spaces” (Anita DeRouen, Millsaps College; and Ebony Lumumba, Tougaloo College), Murrah Hall, Room 207

11:30am to 12:30pm: Lunch break. Lunch available for purchase in cafeteria and café.

12:30pm to 1:00pm: Claudia Rankine, Book Signing, 1st Floor Lobby, Academic Complex

1:00pm to 2:00pm: Claudia Rankine, Public Reading, Recital Hall, Academic Complex