

# ASALH

Association *for the* Study of  
African American Life *and* History®

## 109TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 25-29, 2024

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania

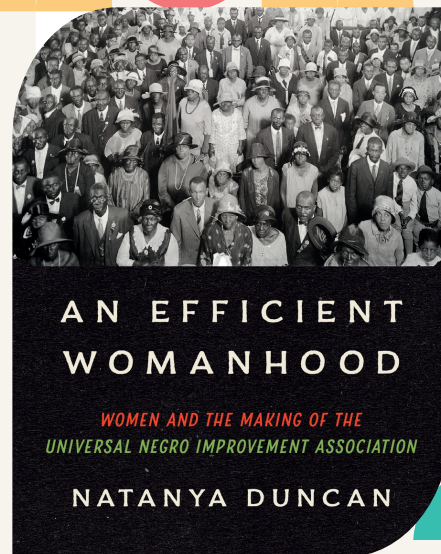
DARLENE CLARK HINE & GERALD HORNE  
BOOK ROUNDTABLE ON

### ***AN EFFICIENT WOMANHOOD***

Friday, September 27, 2024

2:00 P.M. - 3:40 P.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON



NATANYA DUNCAN



Queens College

ULA TAYLOR



University of California,  
Berkeley

TAKKARA BRUNSON



Texas A&M University

SHENNETTE GARRETT SCOTT



Tulane University

LARA PUTNAM



University of Pittsburgh

ALISON PARKER



University of Delaware

Scan to learn more, register,  
and read about the speakers



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2024 BLACK HISTORY THEME  
AFRICAN  
AMERICANS  
&  
THE ARTS





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### HOLLYWOOD AND BLACK HISTORIES

Saturday, September 28, 2024

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL

### PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS:

NAILAH JEFFERSON



Guest Speaker

MAURICE HOBSON



Guest Speaker

RANDAL JELKS



Moderator

KEVIN WILLMOTT



Guest Speaker

HEATHER THOMPSON



Guest Speaker

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### THE SPEAKERS

#### UNPACKING HBCU STUDENTS' FEAR WHEN ENCOUNTERING POLICE

Friday, September 27, 2024

8:30 – 9:40 A.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

KEMBA SMITH-PRADIA



Panelist

LEWIS ROGERS



Panelist

KIDESTE MARIAM YUSEF



Chair

RYAN TILLMAN



Panelist

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### MANY RIVERS TO CROSS:

BRIDGING BLACK STUDIES AND BLACK  
THEATER AND PERFORMANCE

Friday, September 27, 2024

10:00 A.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

JORDAN EALEY



Guest Speaker

LISA THOMPSON



Guest Speaker

JULIUS FLEMING



Guest Speaker

SOYICA COLBERT



Guest Speaker

LETICIA RIDLEY



Guest Speaker

ISAIAH WOODEN



Guest Speaker

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



### THE MAKING OF THE AUGUST WILSON HOUSE

Saturday, September 28, 2024

12:00 PM – 1:45 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

### THE SPEAKERS

DENISE TURNER, ESQ



Guest Speaker

PAUL ELLIS, ESQ



Guest Speaker

KIMBERLY C. ELLIS



Moderator

ERV DYER



Guest Speaker

DEMEATRIA BOCCELLA



Guest Speaker

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and read about the speakers



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### AUTHOR'S BOOK SIGNING

Thursday, September 26, 2024  
7:30 PM – 9:00 PM EST

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

WINE AND BEER  
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ILLINOIS PRESS



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### OPENING RECEPTION

Wednesday, September 25, 2024  
6:00 PM–8:00 PM EST

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### JAAH RECEPTION

Thursday, September 26, 2024

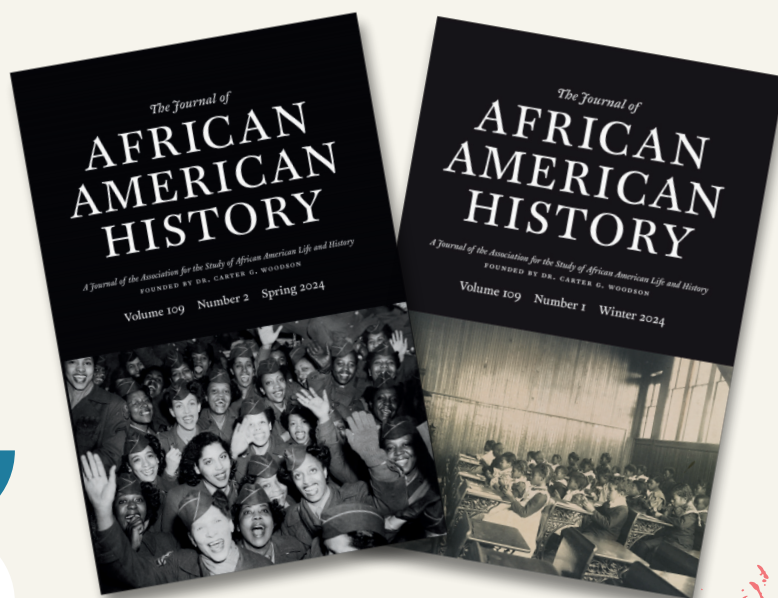
6:30 PM – 8:30 PM EST

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JOURNALS



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### FRIDAY NIGHT IN RECEPTION

Friday, September 27, 2024

7:30 PM – 9:30 PM EST

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### EMERGING FRONTIERS IN PITTSBURGH'S HIGHER EDUCATION LEADERSHIP LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 26, 2024

12:00 PM – 1:45 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

ASA LEE



Panelist – Pittsburgh  
Theological Seminary

QUINTIN A. BULLOCK



Panelist – Community  
College of Allegheny County

R. DREW SMITH



Moderator – Pittsburgh  
Theological Seminary

EBONI ZAMANI-GALLAHER



Panelist – Dean, University of  
Pittsburgh

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### WHAT YOU GONNA DO WHEN YOUR TROUBLES GET LIKE MINE?

AUGUST WILSON'S LIFE AND PLAYS

Friday, September 27, 2024 12:00 PM – 1:45 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

In this luncheon keynote led by Dr. Kimberly C. Ellis, who is Wilson's maternal niece and an American and Africana Studies Scholar, you will gain a complex and intimate understanding of August Wilson, his motivations, how his plays reflected his evolution in life and why his legacy sustains, not just in his hometown of Pittsburgh, but internationally.

### FEATURING

KIMBERLY C. ELLIS



Speaker

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### THE SPEAKERS

#### BLASSINGAME LUNCHEON

Saturday, September 28, 2024

12:00 PM – 1:45 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

SHEILA FLEMING



Moderator

ASHLEY PRESTON



Panelist

NOLIWE ROOKS



Panelist

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### PLACE, POLITICS, AND THE FUTURE OF BLACK PITTSBURGH HISTORY

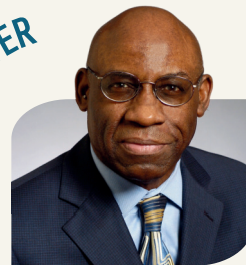
Thursday, September 26, 2024

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

### PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS:

JOE TROTTER



Guest Speaker

ADAM LEE CILLI



Guest Speaker

JESSICA D KLANDERUD



Guest Speaker

AARON COWAN



Guest Speaker

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### A SOULFUL URGE:

A CONVERSATION ABOUT BLACK  
ARTISTIC EXPRESSION IN AND BEYOND  
OUR NATIONAL PARKS

Friday, September 27, 2024

4:00 PM – 5:30 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

### PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS:

MIA ANDERSON



Guest Speaker

KAREN ARMAGOST



Guest Speaker

JOSHUA JENKINS



Moderator

IFA BAYEZA



Guest Speaker

BRIAN JOYNER



Guest Speaker

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# 109TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE Awards Banquet

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2024  
8:30 P.M. - 11:00 P.M. EST

**OMNI WILLIAM PENN HOTEL**

The Annual ASALH Awards Banquet recognizes the contributions of ASALH members, community and national leaders who have made significant contributions to African American history.



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### POSTER SESSIONS

Friday, September 27, 2024

10:00 A.M. EST

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**EMBASSY SUITES BY HILTON  
PITTSBURGH DOWNTOWN**

535 Smithfield St.  
Pittsburgh, PA 15222



Digital posters can be viewed on All Academic



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# EXPLORE BLACK HISTORY IN PENNSYLVANIA

SEPTEMBER 26-29, 2024

Register now for the 109th Annual Meeting and Conference  
and book exciting tours of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



## PITTSBURGH AFRICAN AMERICAN HERITAGE BUS TOUR

Thursday, September 26 | 7:00AM – 11:45AM

Freedom Corner/Lower Hill District, The August Wilson House,  
August Wilson Park, HOPE VI Housing, Memory Lane Overlook,  
Josh Gibson Field, Bedford Dwellings, Centre Avenue YMCA,  
MOKA Art Gallery, Crawford Grill, Thelma Lovette YMCA, Jitney  
Station, August Wilson Mural, Thaddeus Mosley Sculpture, Hill  
House Association, and ACH Clear Pathways



## SUNDAY TROLLEY TOUR August Wilson Experience – Tour of August Wilson's Hill District and the August Wilson Home Sunday, September 29 | 9:00AM

Led by Dr. Kimberly C. Ellis, Wilson's maternal niece and an American and Africana Studies Scholar, you will see the actual sites that impacted his life, served as the setting or references for some of his plays, as well as the film location of "Fences" and places of tremendous interest for Wilson fans and aficionados. Peppered with familial and fun anecdotes, Dr. Ellis will share personal and professional stories about Wilson and his literary journey, ending the tour at the National Historic Register of Places—the August Wilson House, where refreshments will be served and guests will have the opportunity to tour his boyhood home, which is a sight to behold!

TOUR LOCATIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE

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Photos (from top to bottom): August Wilson Park, HOPE VI Housing, Hill House Association, August Wilson Mural, The Three Sisters Bridges



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### USPS KWANZA STAMP 1ST DAY OF ISSUE CEREMONY

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

12:30 PM–1:30 PM EST

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**Wednesday – September 25, 2024 10:00 AM – 5:00 PM**

**Martin Delany Symposium**

**Location: Heinz History Center – 5th Floor Education Center**

**Wednesday – September 25, 2024 12:30 PM–1:30 PM**

**USPS Kwanza Stamp 1st Day of Issue Ceremony**

**Location: Heinz History Center**

**Wednesday – September 25, 2024 6:00 PM–8:00 PM**

**Opening Reception**

**Location: Heinz History Center**

**Thursday – September 26, 2024 7:00am**

**Pittsburgh African American Heritage Bus Tour**

**Route: Tour of Pittsburgh Hill District**

**Thursday – September 26, 2024 12:00pm–1:45pm**

**Lunch**

**Location: William Penn Ballroom**

**Thursday – September 26, 2024 8:30pm–10:30pm**

**JAAH Reception**

**Location: Grant Ballroom – Embassy Suite Hotel**

**Transportation: There will be no transportation provided to the hotel**

**Friday – September 27, 2024 12:00pm – 1:45pm**

**Lunch**

**Location: William Penn Ballroom**

**Friday – September 27, 2024 7:30pm–9:30pm**

**Friday Night In Reception**

**Location: William Penn Ballroom**



**Saturday – September 28, 2024 12:00pm – 1:45pm**

**Lunch**

**Location: William Penn Ballroom**

**Saturday – September 28, 2024**

**ASALH Annual Banquet**

**Location: William Penn Ballroom**

**Sunday – September 29, 2024 8:30 AM– 11:30 AM or 11:00 AM–2:00 PM**

**Post-Conference African American Heritage Tour**

**Route: VIP August Wilson Experience**

### **Plenary Session:**

Dr. Maurice Hobson [https://www.imdb.com/name/nm8810619/?ref\\_=nv\\_sr\\_srg\\_0\\_tt\\_2\\_nm\\_6\\_q\\_Maurice%2520Hob](https://www.imdb.com/name/nm8810619/?ref_=nv_sr_srg_0_tt_2_nm_6_q_Maurice%2520Hob) (waiting to hear)

Nailah Jefferson Film: Donyale Luna: Supermodel <https://www.hbo.com/movies/donyale-luna-supermodel>

Dr. Heather Ann Thompson, Film: Attica [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt12482898/?ref\\_=nm\\_knf\\_i\\_2](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt12482898/?ref_=nm_knf_i_2)

Kevin Willmott Film: The 24th [https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10452854/?ref\\_=nm\\_flmg\\_t\\_3\\_wr](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt10452854/?ref_=nm_flmg_t_3_wr)

Randal Maurice Jelks (chair/moderator)

Ruth N. Halls Professor

Indiana University

Author Website <https://randalmauricejelks.com/>

Indiana University Website <https://aaads.indiana.edu/about/faculty/jelks-randal.html>

"Notes from the Black Bottom: A Personal Interpretation of the Politics of Black America"

<https://randalmauricejelks.substack.com/>

## **Sunday tour:**

8:30 or 9:00 – 11:30 AM.

Sunday VIP August Wilson Tour Experience with Dr. Kimberly C. Ellis, niece and scholar of August Wilson and His Works.

On Sunday, there will be a VIP August Wilson Experience Tour, led by Dr. Kimberly C. Ellis, who is Wilson's maternal niece and an American and Africana Studies Scholar. You will see the actual sites that impacted his life, served as the setting or references for some of his plays, as well as the film location of "Fences" and places of tremendous interest for Wilson fans and aficionados. During Denzel Washington's visit to Pittsburgh as he prepared to shoot "Fences," the Founding Executive Director, Attorney Paul Ellis, and his sister, Dr. Kimberly Ellis, gave Denzel Washington a private tour of the dilapidated structure and what it would mean to revitalize the home as the Hill District's economic anchor. You will hear details about this journey and understand how this relationship continues to unfold.

Peppered with familial and fun anecdotes, Dr. Ellis will share personal and professional stories about Wilson and his literary journey, ending the tour at the National Historic Register of Places—the August Wilson House, where refreshments will be served and guests will have the opportunity to tour his boyhood home, which is a sight to behold!



## Kim Ellis, Friday Luncheon and Sunday Tour

Kimberly C. Ellis, Ph.D. is a Scholar of American and Africana Studies, an Artist, Activist and Entrepreneur, as well as a playwright, world traveler and international thought leader on culture, gender and social technology.

Dr. Ellis is the Founding Executive Director of the Historic Hill Institute, the Historic Preservation organization of the neighborhood. As a scholar and public intellectual, in her capacity as Executive Director, Dr. Ellis is serving as the producer of the Freedom House Citywide Celebration on May 15, 2024 in the Historic Hill District of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, during the National Association of State Emergency Medical Service Officials (NASEMSO) Conference, whose participants want to honor the pioneers of the Freedom House Ambulance Services.

As the maternal niece of the late, great playwright, August Wilson, and having grown up on his plays in the famed, Historic Hill District that serves as the setting for the majority of of Wilson dramas, Dr. Ellis is an expert on his works, as both a scholar and practitioner. Dr. Ellis taught the first seminar course on August Wilson at the University of Pittsburgh, as well as the first seminar course on Wilson at Carnegie Mellon University. Dr. Ellis has also taught Black Theater and August Wilson's "Fences" in China, using a Mandarin script. She also teaches master classes and trains actors online. She is often the host and/or tour guide for the annual August Wilson Monologue Competition in Pittsburgh and, at times, helps train student competitors. She worked on the committee to create a National Historic Marker for the August Wilson House, which was unveiled during a community celebration in the Spring of 2007.

Dr. Ellis wrote the Introduction to the guidebook, "August Wilson: Pittsburgh Places in His Life and Plays" by Laurence A. Glasco and Christopher Rawson, published by the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation. Dr. Ellis served as a Consultant on the American Masters / WQED documentary on August Wilson and is also in the documentary, which aired February 20, 2015.

With her academic, familial and experiential knowledge and digital skill set, Dr. Kimberly Ellis served as the Digital Director for the August Wilson House, as well as for the National Black Theater Festival (NBTF). Over a decade ago, Dr. Ellis launched AW-L, the online discussion forum on the Life, Literature and Legacy of August Wilson, which boasts membership of national and international fans, scholars, educators, producers, directors, thespians, designers and other practitioners of August Wilson's works. A consultant and plenary session speaker for the first August Wilson Society Conference at Howard University, she continues to work to make his plays accessible by giving Teacher Training workshops online and in person, nationally and internationally.

Dr. Ellis continues to serve as a consultant and choreographer for various August Wilson productions, including "August in April," "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" and "Radio Golf" and has spoken on panels for the state-of-the-art, August Wilson Center for African American Culture in Downtown, Pittsburgh, PA. She is looking forward to the opportunity to finish her memoir about growing up on August Wilson's plays and what it was like to have such a close relationship with her uncle, while living in the Historic Hill District of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania and throughout her time traveling the country in graduate school. Dr. Ellis owns many of the digital assets related to all things August Wilson.

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Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



### MARTIN DELANY SYMPOSIUM

Wednesday, September 25, 2024

10:00 AM – 5:00 PM EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON OR VIRTUAL

## FEATURING

EDDA L. FIELDS-BLACK



Speaker

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### THURSDAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
12:00 – 1:45 P.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

### THE SPEAKERS

KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW



Guest Speaker

KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW



Guest Speaker

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### THE SPEAKERS

#### THURSDAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
12:00 – 1:45 P.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW



Guest Speaker

ASHLEY ROBERTSON PRESTON



Guest Speaker

HASAN KWAME JEFFRIES



Guest Speaker

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## 109TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

September 25–29, 2024  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania



### THE SPEAKERS

#### THURSDAY LUNCHEON

Thursday, September 21, 2023  
12:00 – 1:45 P.M. EST

REGISTER IN-PERSON

KIMBERLÉ CRENSHAW



Guest Speaker

ULA TAYLOR



Guest Speaker

ASHLEY ROBERTSON PRESTON



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