

Mako Fitts Ward, PhD

School of Social Transformation
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CURRENT POSITION

- 2021-present *Assistant Professor*, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
(Affiliations in African and African American Studies and Women and Gender Studies)
- 2021-present *Director*, Social Transformation Lab, Office of the President, Arizona State University

EDUCATION

- 2005 PhD, Justice Studies, Arizona State University
- 2002 MS, Justice Studies, Arizona State University
- 1999 BA, Political Science & Gender Studies, University of Southern California (*Cum Laude*)

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

- 2019-2021 *Faculty Head*, African and African American Studies, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
- 2019-2020 *Clinical Assistant Professor*, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
- 2014-2019 *Instructor*, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
- 2012-2014 *Faculty Associate*, School of Social Transformation, Arizona State University
- 2005-2011 *Assistant Professor of Sociology*, Department of Anthropology, Sociology & Social Work Seattle University
- 2004-2005 *Scholar-in-Residence, Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence Dissertation Fellowship* Department of Sociology, Coe College
- 2003-2004 *Instructor*, Africana Studies Program, University of Arizona
- 2002-2003 *Teaching Assistant*, Women and Gender Studies, Arizona State University
- 1999-2001 *Research Assistant*, School of Justice Studies, Arizona State University

RESEARCH AREAS

Black Feminist & Womanist Theories Economic Justice Culture Industries
Intersectional Social Inequalities Social Movements Hip Hop Culture

SCHOLARSHIP

Books

Ward, M. F., Sandlin, J., Vlahoulis, M. M. and Holman, C. (editors) (2021). *The pandemic reader: Exposing social (in)justice in the time of COVID-19*. New York: DIO Press, Inc.

Peer-Reviewed Journals

Ward, M. F. (2021) Metamorphic liberation: Radical self-care & the biopolitical agency of black women post-COVID-19. *Kalfou: A Journal of Comparative and Relational Ethnic Studies* 8(1-2): 256-273.

Ward, M. F. (2017). Queen Bey and the new niggerati: Ethics of individualism in the appropriation of black radicalism. *Black Camera*, 9(1): 146-163.

Fitts, M. (2011). Theorizing transformative revolutionary action: The contribution of bell

hooks to emancipatory knowledge production. *The C.L.R. James Journal: A Review of Caribbean Ideas*, 17(1): 112-132.

- Fitts, M. (2008). 'Drop it like it's hot': Culture industry laborers and their perspectives on rap music video production. *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism*, 8(1): 211-235.
- Rubin, L. R., Fitts, M. L., & Becker, A. E. (2003). 'Whatever feels good in my soul': Body ethics and aesthetics among African American and Latina women. *Culture, medicine, and psychiatry*, 27: 49-75. [Reprinted in S. M. Shaw & J. Lee. *Women's voices, feminist visions: Classic and contemporary readings*, 3rd (2005), 4th (2008), 5th (2011), & 6th (2014) editions, New York: McGraw-Hill.]

Edited Journals & Book Chapters

- Beck, T., Perlow, O., White, H. and Ward, M. (2017). *Race and Pedagogy Journal*, 2(2) (Special Issue Editors).
- Fitts, M. (2009). Institutionalizing intersectionality: Reflections on the structure of women's studies departments and programs. In Michele T. Berger and Kathleen Guidroz (Eds.) *The Intersectional Approach: Transforming the Academy through Race, Class and Gender*, 249-257. Chapel Hill, NC: University of North Carolina Press.

Scholarly Works in Progress

- The new niggerati: Commodification, power & the queering of black radicalism* (original manuscript, revised and resubmitted for review with the New Sexual Worlds Series at University of California Press)
- "Ecologies of pleasure: Visionary fiction as a method for social justice community building," essay in progress, to be submitted to *Palimpsest: A Journal on Women, Gender and, the Black International*
- "Mixed feelings: Multiracial narratives in punk and hip hop," essay in progress, to be submitted to *Ethnic Studies Review*
- "Building inclusive organizations through relational equity," essay in progress, to be submitted to *Harvard Business Review*

Research Reports, White Papers & Training Materials

- Barra, E., Ward, M. F., Anderson, L. M. and Brown, A. M. (2022). *Women in the mix study*. Los Angeles, CA: The Recording Academy©.
https://www.recordingacademy.com/sites/com/files/witm_study_2.pdf.
- Hines, E. and Ward, M. F. (2022). *Black women thriving: BWT report 2022*. Raleigh, NC: Every Level Leadership. https://everylevelleads.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/Black-Women-Thriving-Report_2022.pdf.
- Ward, M. F., Crudup, C. Borman, B., Young, L. and Wilson, D. (2022). Outreach worker program: Assessment and evaluation. Evaluation report submitted to the Starbucks Global Social Impact Team. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University.
- Ward, M. F. (2020). BARE coach certification program: Curriculum assessment report. Evaluation report submitted to Susan Hyatt, Inc. Tempe, AZ: Arizona State University.
- Ward, M. F., Bailey, M. M., Solyom, J. and Bustamante, N. (2019). Welcoming dialogue on sexuality bias. *To be welcoming*. Tempe, AZ: Starbucks Global Academy.
<https://www.starbucksglobalacademy.com/to-be-welcoming/>.
- Ward, M. F., Solyom, J., Chin, J. (2019). Welcoming dialogue on gender bias. *To be welcoming*. Tempe, AZ: Starbucks Global Academy. <https://www.starbucksglobalacademy.com/to-be-welcoming/>.

Fitts, M., Sawa, D. and Schulman, J. C. (2007). Lesson 1: Modern momotoro: Folktales in hip hop. In M. Runnel and M. Diaz (eds.), *The hip-hop education guidebook, volume 1*. New York: Hip-Hop Association, Inc., 70-77.

Books Reviews & Encyclopedia Entries

Ward, M. F. (2021). The Resurgence of Marxist feminist analytics: Book review of *Marx, Women and Capitalist Social Reproduction: Marxist Feminist Essays* by Martha E. Giménez. *Social justice: A journal of crime, conflict and world order*, 47(1-2): 241-247.

Fitts, M. (2009). Media and gender stereotypes. In Jodi O'Brien (ed.) *Encyclopedia of gender and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 540-543.

Fitts, M. (2009) Body image. In Jodi O'Brien (ed.) *Encyclopedia of gender and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 81-86.

Fitts, M. (2008). Women and hip hop and rap. In Robert Schaefer (ed.) *Encyclopedia of race, ethnicity and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 621-624.

Fitts, M. (2008). Body image. In Robert Schaefer (ed.) *Encyclopedia of race, ethnicity and society*. New York: Sage Publications. 187-190.

Fitts, M. (2005). Garvey movement women. In Darlene Clark Hine (ed.) *Black women in America: An historical encyclopedia*. New York: Oxford University Press.

Editorials & Social Impact Scholarship

Ward, M. F. The limits of the protest paradigm. *JSTOR daily*, October 3, 2020, <https://daily.jstor.org/intersectional-protest-image/>.

Ward, M. F. and Bailey, M. Queer liberation is Black liberation, justice for Black lives is justice for all. *Praxis center*, June 24, 2020, <https://www.kzoo.edu/praxis/justice-for-black-lives/>.

Ward, M. F. Could Black philanthropy help solve the Black student debt crisis? *The conversation*, July 12, 2019, <https://theconversation.com/could-black-philanthropy-help-solve-the-black-student-debt-crisis-117734>.

Ward, M. F. and Bell, C. The problem with beyhive bottom bitch feminism. *Huffington post Canada*, Dec. 17, 2013, http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/real-colored-girls/beyonce-feminism_b_4459678.html

Contributing Blogger, *Ms. Magazine*

[The good news: Madea's not a colored girl, November 6, 2010](#)

[Can Tyler Perry pull off a Black feminist masterpiece?, October 14, 2010](#)

[Where do we go From bell \[hooks\], September 10, 2010](#)

[Police violence is a feminist issue, May 27, 2010](#)

[Marquette retracts job offer from lesbian-feminist sociologist, May 10, 2010](#)

Fitts, M. Better education, open schools are the right way to fight crime. *Seattle post-intelligencer*, Friday, February 5, 2009, Editorials, p. A11, <https://www.seattlepi.com/local/opinion/article/Guest-Columnist-Better-education-open-schools-1299429.php>.

Fitts, M. *Beyond beats and rhymes* tackles male roles and sexism in hip hop. *Freedom Socialist*, April-May 2007, Volume 28, No.2, p. 10, <https://socialism.com/fs-article/beyond-beats-and-rhymes-tackles-male-roles-and-sexism-in-hip-hop/>.

FELLOWSHIPS, RESEARCH GRANTS, & FUNDING

Fellowships

2022-present Faculty Fellow, Studio for Creativity, Place and Equitable Communities, Arizona State

University
 2021-2022 ADVANCE Leadership Fellow, Arizona State University
 Funded through an Institutional Transformation grant from the U.S. National Science Foundation ADVANCE program, fellows work collaboratively with the PI team to contribute to realizing the goal of increasing the representation and success of women and underrepresented minority faculty at ASU.
 2021 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Research Fellow, The Adaway Group

Funding Received

2022-2023 Arts Organizations Centering Communities of Color: Community Orientation Study, The Wallace Foundation
 Awarded: \$947,580
 Role: Co-PI
 This collaborative research team comprised of PIs from ASU’s Studio for Creativity, Place and Equitable Communities and The Equity Center at the University of Virginia will provide research support to a cohort of eighteen BIPOC arts organizations funded by the foundation through this initiative. The research team will generate robust research and assets that explore possible links between community orientation strategies and organizational resilience and relevance. The project includes a collaborative partnership with the Social Science Research Council (SSRC).

2022-2023 Addressing Health Disparities Related to Substance Use Disorders, Arizona Health Care Cost Containment System (Prime Sponsor: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration)
 Awarded: \$789,999
 Role: PI
 The initiative explores prominent health disparities and access to substance use disorder (SUD) service provision issues among Black, Indigenous and other People of Color (BIPOC) communities across the state to: (1) address administrative barriers, (2) prioritize needs and resources, (3) increase services in counties with higher drug and alcohol related deaths and/or where individuals travel long distances to access services, and (4) provide culturally attuned trainings for SUD providers who service BIPOC communities.

2021-2022 The Recording Academy® Women In the Mix 2021 Survey
 Awarded: \$25,000
 Role: Co-I
 This study focuses on women’s representation spanning all sectors of the music industry. As a partnership between The Recording Academy®, Berklee College of Music and Arizona State University, data collected from the study will be utilized to develop and empower the next generation of women music creators by generating actionable items and solutions to help inform the Academy’s diversity, equity and inclusion objectives amongst its membership and the greater music industry.

2021 Virginia G. Piper Charitable Trust
 Awarded: \$50,000
 Role: Co-Lead
 A learning workshop series on diversity, equity and inclusion (four 3-hour sessions) and one-on-one consulting (50 hours) for the Piper Fellows, a diverse group of roughly 80 Fellows who serve as CEO’s, senior staff, and other leaders in not-for-profits around the

- Phoenix metropolitan area. Workshops and consulting focus on elevating actionable learning for Fellows about race, diversity, equity, and inclusion at the individual and organizational level.
- 2020-2021 Global Sport Institute Seed Grant Program, Arizona State University
Awarded: \$19,572
Role: PI
This study is a university-corporate partnership that is part of a larger national study – Black Womxn Thriving – to examine how professional Black womxn across the gender spectrum find joy, success and stability at work, and the role of organizations to cultivate environments of care that promote the values of inclusion, equity and diversity in the workplace.
- 2018-2019 Research Cluster, Institute for Humanities Research, Arizona State University
Awarded: \$1000
Role: Co-Participant
This research cluster unpacked complex questions connected to hip-hop and urban cultural production in framing and reframing Phoenix and the US/American Southwest.
- 2009 Research & Advocacy Grant, Poverty & Race Research Action Council (PRRAC)
Awarded: \$10,000
Role: Co-PI
The purpose of this mixed-methods, community action research project is to explore how social networks are constructed and maintained within the gentrifying community of Seattle’s Central District.
- 2008 The Sydney S. Spivack Program in Applied Social Research and Social Policy Community Action Research Initiative, American Sociological Association
Awarded: \$3000
Role: Co-PI
The purpose of this project was to develop the *Central Area Displacement Project*, a university-community partnership to: assess the impact of displacement on community partners; assess the needs of each community partner as a result of the impact(s) of displacement; and build a coalition between these community partners as a means of strategically responding to the effects of displacement and to the emergent needs of our community partners.
- 2004-2005 Dissertation Fellow, Consortium for a Strong Minority Presence, Coe College
1997-1998 Undergraduate Research Fellow, McNair Scholars Program, University of Southern California

Submitted Proposals

- 2021 U.S Department of Education, Assistance for Arts Education Grant
Amount Requested: \$2,295,246 (Not Funded)
Role: Co-I
This project addresses a need for music education to support a broader set of high school students’ musical needs and interests by expanding and updating secondary music programs through collaborative professional development across communities of practice at the local, interstate, and national levels. Short-term outcomes include 8 in-state local communities of practice, 3 interstate cohort communities of practice, and a national network community of practice embodying and modeling collaboration among people and orgs. that otherwise may not engage with one another. Long-term outcomes

include in-state, interstate, and national communities of practice developing into Contemporary Music Education Ecosystems.

2020 Mellon Just Futures Initiative
Amount Requested: \$3,565,367 (Not Funded)
Role: Coordinator (collaboration includes 8 faculty across three colleges)
The proposed multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary collaboration includes the development of a Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Center that will support and generate innovative projects, scholarship, pedagogies, community collaborations and curricula that focus on intersectional racial justice and structural change.

COURSES TAUGHT (Arizona State University)

Undergraduate: 100-level: Introduction to Justice Studies; Women, Gender & Society
200-level: Introduction to Ethnic Studies; Introduction to Africana Studies; Bob Marley Reggae and Resistance
300-level: Gender and Hip Hop; Domestic Violence; Women and Social Change; Race, Gender and Sport; Black Religion: Sex, Power and Eroticism; The American Class System
400-level: Critical Race Theory; #Feminism in Social Media (Proseminar); Women and the Body

Graduate: 500-level: Critical Race Theory; Foundational Feminist Thought
600-level: Engendering Methodology; Mapping the Intersections of Gender

COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH & PROJECTS

Principal Investigator, Black Womxn Thriving (January 2021-present)

A university-corporate partnership with Every Level Leadership, Black Womxn Thriving is research, conducted by and for Black womxn, designed to gather the experiences of Black womxn across the gender spectrum. The research will aid in identifying data-informed solutions that companies can implement that allow us to move beyond surviving to *thriving* in our jobs, and to find success and stability at work.

Curriculum Co-Lead & Reviewer, “To Be Welcoming,” Starbucks Global Academy, (March 2019 – present), <https://tobewelcoming.com/>

A series of 15 free online courses created by a team of ASU subject matter experts in partnership with Starbucks. Courses are designed to prepare participants with the tools to engage in constructive conversations about implicit bias, understand how bias affects others, and explore the role of sympathy, empathy, and compassion when engaging in critical dialogue about social differences. Curriculum launched to over 191,000 Starbucks employees in the U.S. in September 2019 and several modules released to the general public in June 2020. Responsibilities include:

- Led content writing and development on three (of fifteen) online courses - “Welcoming Dialogue on Black/African American Bias,” “Welcoming Dialogue on Gender Bias” and “Welcoming Dialogue on Sexuality Bias”
- Provided content edits on “Welcoming Dialogue on Class Bias”
- Synthesized feedback from multiple review bodies – academics from across the U.S., Starbucks staff and leadership – to identify areas of improvement for several courses in the series
- Coordinated faculty to contribute to short video discussions on content for several courses in the series
- Provide on-going pedagogical assistance to the Starbucks team and enhancements for the development of scalable Learning Enterprise academic products

Co-Investigator, Hip Hop Research Cluster, Institute for Humanities Research, Arizona State University (2018-2019)

The primary function of this research cluster is to unpack complex questions connected to hip hop and urban cultural production in framing and reframing Phoenix and the US/American Southwest. The consortium of ASU faculty, scholars, artists, students, and community members connect monthly in the Sonoran Desert around a series of themes that deeply investigate some of the ethical implications of urban arts knowledges and culture as a research and educational framework in relationship to the humanities, performing arts, liberal arts and sciences.

Co-Founder, Women Who Rock Community Research Project, <http://womenwhorockcommunity.org/>

Founded in 2009, this university-community collective that connects musicians, media-makers, performers, artists, scholars and activists to explore the role of women and popular music in the creation of cultural scenes that anchor social justice movements in the Americas and beyond. This multifaceted endeavor reshapes conventional understandings of music and cultural production by initiating collective methods of research, teaching, and community and scholarly collaboration. Projects include: (1) an annual participant-driven community engagement conference and film festival; (2) project-based coursework at the graduate and undergraduate levels; (3) the Women Who Rock Digital Oral History Archive, a collection of oral histories and other digital artifacts that documents the work of women and their allies in the creation of cultural and music scenes that anchor social justice movements (housed at the University of Washington Library); and (4) short documentaries and sound stories that capture the project and the women who have contributed to the archive.

CONFERENCES AND INVITED ENGAGEMENTS

Academic Conference Presentations

- “Ecologies of Pleasure: Visionary Fiction as a Method of Social Justice Community Building,” National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Virtual, September 1, 2021.
- “Rage Against the Growth Machine: Hip Hop Battles the Global City,” American Association of Geographers, Denver, CO, April 6-10, 2020. (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- “From the Golden Age to the Post-Hip Hop Generation: (Trans)gressive Racial and Gender Expressions in Hip Hop,” Caribbean Philosophical Association, The Virgin Island, April 1-4, 2020. (cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- “Women Who Rock the Archive: Punk & Hip Hop Feminist Dialogues & Archives in the Digital Age (Invited Roundtable),” Hip Hop and Punk Feminisms Symposium, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, December 6, 2013.
- “Problematizing ‘Agency’ in the Lyrical Discourse of Nicki Minaj,” Paper to be presented at National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Oakland, CA, November 10, 2012.
- “Third World Wide: Transnational Narratives of Resistance Amidst Seattle’s Growth Machine,” Paper presented at the EMP Pop Conference, Clive Davis Institute of Recorded Music, New York University, March 24, 2012.
- “Politics of Intersectionality: Applying Anzaldúan Theoretical Approaches to Women’s Hip-Hop Activism,” Paper presented at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Denver, CO, November 12, 2010.
- “Women-Centered Space: A New Topography of Race, Gender & Sexuality in Hip-Hop,” Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Oakland, CA, April 8, 2010.
- “Hip-Hop & the Growth Machine: Impacts of Gentrification on Urban Cultural Production,” Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Oakland, CA, April 10, 2010.

- “Doing Social Justice: Feminist Epistemologies & the Praxis of Emancipatory Thought,” Paper presented at the 14th Annual Lewis University Philosophy Conference (“Talking Back: On bell hooks and Emancipatory Thought”), Lewis University, Romeoville, IL, February 23, 2009.
- “Sociological Contributions to the Study of Hip-Hop” Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Meeting, Portland, OR, April 12, 2008.
- “Seeking Noah’s Arc: Jesuit Education and its Capacity to Accommodate Intellectual and Liberating Spaces for Queers of Color.” Co-presented at OUT THERE: Second National Conference of Scholars and Student Affairs Personnel Involved in LGBTQ Issues on Catholic Campuses, DePaul University, Chicago, IL, October 20, 2007.
- “You Better Work!: When the Dramaturgy of Black Queer Subjectivity Just Won’t Due.” Presented at the American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Philadelphia, PA, October 13, 2007.
- “Taking Urban Sociology Back to the Streets: A Community Action Project on Gentrification.” Co-presented at the 7th International Research Conference on Service-Learning and Community Engagement, Tampa, FL, October 7, 2007.
- “Urban Arts Activism and Community Building: The Case of Seattle’s Underground Hip Hop Community.” Presented at the Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, New York, NY, August 9, 2007.
- “Doin’ It “For the Love”: Urban Arts Activism in Seattle’s Hip Hop Communities.” Co-presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Oakland, CA, March 31, 2007.
- “Revitalizing a Critical Ethnography in the Study of Gentrification.” Co-presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Oakland, CA, April 1, 2007.
- “Promoting a Win-Win Model for Factoring Race into Faculty Performance and Student Learning Assessments.” Paper presented at the Race and Pedagogy National Conference, University of Puget Sound, Tacoma, WA, Sept. 15, 2006.
- “Negotiating Expectations for Tenure and Promotion as Women of Color Junior Faculty.” Roundtable discussion at the National Women’s Studies Association Conference, Oakland, CA. June 16, 2006.
- “Giving Voice to the Auteur: Industry Insiders and Their Perspectives on Cultural Production.” Paper presented at the Pacific Sociological Association Annual Conference, Universal City, CA, April 22, 2006.
- “Who Benefits? The Politics of Gentrification and Seattle’s Black Business Community.” Co-presented at the Association of Black Sociologists Annual Conference, Montréal, Quebec, Canada, August 9, 2006.
- “Subaltern to Canon? Critical Feminist Scholarship in Our Times.” Panelist on roundtable discussion at the Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Claremont, CA, June 16, 2006.
- “From the Street to the Boardroom: The Emergence of Hip Hop in the American Music Industry.” Paper presented at the 3rd Annual Cultural Studies Association, Tucson, AZ.
- “Homo Thugz in Hip Hop: Dismantling Homophobia or Commodifying the Queer ‘Other’.” Paper presented at the Popular Culture Association, San Diego, CA, March 25, 2005.

Television, Radio, & Documentary Commentary

- “ASU Professor Shares Her 2 Core Principles for Gender Equality,” Featured commentator, iHeartRadio Mix 96.9 (Phoenix, AZ), March 8, 2021, <https://mix969.iheart.com/featured/mathew-priscilla-in-the-morning/content/2021-03-08-asu-professor-shares-her-2-core-principals-for-gender-equality/>.
- “Points Of View: Why Minorities Are Hit Worst By Coronavirus,” Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM

- (Phoenix, AZ), April 20, 2020, <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/1536306/points-view-why-minorities-are-hit-worst-coronavirus>.
- “Year 4 – Where Does the Women’s March Stand?,” Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), January 17, 2020, <https://theshow.kjzz.org/content/1400101/year-4-where-does-womens-march-stand>.
- “Women’s March Faces Criticism For A Lack of Inclusivity,” Featured commentator, KJZZ 91.5 FM (Phoenix, AZ), January 18, 2019, <https://kjzz.org/content/750358/womens-march-faces-criticism-lack-inclusivity>.
- “It’s Time We Talked About The Term ‘Pelo Malo’,” by Kelsey Castañon, Featured Commentator, *Refinery29*, October 11, 2017, <https://www.refinery29.com/en-us/2017/10/166300/latin-american-hair-pelo-malo-meaning-history>.
- “Beyonce and Feminism,” Featured commentator, Fuse TV News, Dec. 18, 2013.
- “Northwest Women in Hip-Hop,” Featured guest on *Voices of Diversity*, KBCS 91.3 FM (Seattle, WA), Jun. 3, 2009.
- “Women on Real National Security State,” Featured guest on “Live From Main Street with Laura Flanders” (co-produced with The Media Consortium), Nov. 27, 2008, <https://www.radioproject.org/2008/10/live-from-main-street-seattle-women-on-real-national-security/>.
- “Cultural Impact of Racial and Economic Community Change,” Featured guest on *Voices of Diversity*, KBCS 91.3 FM (Seattle, WA), February 6, 2008.
- “Ebony Chunky Love: Bitch Can’t Get a Date,” documentary directed by Lonnie Tristan Renteria, 2007 (Torelore Productions/Logo TV), Featured commentator.

Invited Presentations, Public Lectures & Panel Discussions

- Keynote panelist, 2022 CWA Human Rights Conference, Communications Workers of America, AFL-CIO, August 7, 2022.
- “Ghostly Trajectories: Ecologies of Black Health in Arizona,” Keynote address, Lived Black Experience Conference, Northern Arizona University, June 3, 2022.
- “Moving DEI From Critical Conversations to Everyday Actions,” Prospanica Conference & Career Expo (Virtual), September 30, 2021.
- “Strategies for Transformational Leadership,” Prospanica Conference & Career Expo (Virtual), October 1, 2021.
- “Building Relational Equity to Inclusivize Organizations,” Diversity Bootcamp (Virtual), National Diversity Council, August 19, 2021.
- “Metamorphic Liberation: Notes from the Black Feminist (Under)commons,” Extraction, Disposability and Resistance: Black Ecologies Discussion 1 (Virtual), Arizona State University, March 31, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BHnSgp9rMUA&t=5015s>.
- “On Pleasure Activism for Women of Color in the Academy: A Discussion Between adrienne maree brown and Dr. Mako Fitts Ward” (Virtual), Faculty Women of Color Caucus, Arizona State University, March 25, 2021.
- Discussant, IHR Distinguished Lecture featuring adrienne maree brown, Arizona State University, March 25, 2021, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=X1WUScrJypM>.
- “Metamorphic Liberation”: Radical Self-Care and the Biopolitical Agency of Black Women,” Invited Speaker, Black History Month Celebration (Virtual), USC Rossier School of Education, University of Southern California, February 26, 2021.
- “Ethics of Care and Partnership: Changing How We Work,” Keynote Speaker, ASU CSW/SC Professional Development (Virtual) Conference, Arizona State University, October 11, 2020.

“Teaching in the Wake of Racial Violence: A Conversation with Carol Anderson, Ayanna Thompson and Mako Ward,” Panel Facilitator, ASU Humanities, Social Sciences and the Institute for Humanities Research Virtual Event, August 12, 2020.

“Identifying and Addressing Pervasive Barriers to Inclusion,” Invited Panelist, Leadership Academy Symposium (Virtual), Arizona State University, August 3, 2020.

“Policing the Black Body,” Invited Presenter, Freedom School 2020, Virtual (Zoom), July 28, 2020.

“Gender 101,” Invited Facilitator, U.T.O.P.I.A. Seattle Tautua Leadership Cohort Retreat, Virtual (Zoom), July 11, 2020.

“Racism is Not New: Tackling Systemic Racism in 2020,” Invited Panelist, Committee for Campus Inclusion (Virtual), Arizona State University, July 9, 2020.

“Media, Language and Representation,” Invited Panelist, The Outspoken: Women in Triathlon Summit, Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ, November 17, 2019.

“*Miss Representation* Screening and Panel Discussion,” Invited Panelist, Tempe Union High School, Tempe, AZ, October 1, 2019.

“How to Get Your Ideas Heard,” Co-Presenter, Prepared for Women in Mining, Arizona Science Center, Phoenix, AZ, September 20, 2019.

“Investing in Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in SET Industries,” Co-Presenter, Midsize Enterprise Summit, Scottsdale, AZ, September 17, 2019.

“Intersectionality on the Ground: Expanding Voices in Women’s Leadership, Advocacy & Organizing,” Keynote Presenter, 2nd Women’s Empowerment Summit, Mesa Community College, Mesa, AZ, March 9, 2019.

“Reflecting on Patrick Phillips’ *Blood At the Root* in the Trump Era,” Presenter, Literati Book Club, Vista Grande Library, Casa Grande, AZ, November 7, 2018.

“Social Justice Parenting: Teaching Kindness as Acts of Radical Change,” Keynote Speaker, Ben’s Bells Kindness A to Z Arizona Speaker Series, The Loft Cinema, Tucson, AZ, January 25, 2018

Keynote Speaker, Hip Hop and Feminism Symposium, California State University at Northridge, Northridge, CA, February 9, 2012

“Institutionalizing Intersectionality: Reflections on the Structure of Women’s Studies Departments and Programs,” Paper presented at the Dialoguing Difference Conference, UW Women of Color Collective, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, May 14, 2010.

“Special Session: Global Hip Hop and Economic Recovery Roundtable,” Panel participant, 2010 EMP Pop Conference, EMP Museum, Seattle, WA, Apr. 16, 2010.

“Organizing and Activism,” Workshop Facilitator, 2009 Women of Color Symposium: Art, Advocacy, Activism, Washington State University, Pullman, WA, March 6-7, 2009.

UNIVERSITY, COLLEGE & ACADEMIC UNIT SERVICE (Arizona State University)

University

Co-Curricular Lead and Reviewer, “To Be Welcoming,” Starbucks Global Academy, President’s Initiative (2019)

Vice President of Programming, Faculty Women of Color Caucus (2019-2021)

Faculty Advisor, Woman As Hero (2015-2018)

College

Justice, Equity, Diversity, Inclusion (JEDI) Committee, The College (2020-2021)

Academic Unit (School of Social Transformation)

Committee Member, Undergraduate Curriculum Committee (2021-present)

Faculty Head, African and African American Studies, School of Social Transformation (2020-2021)

Chair, Social Transformation Initiatives Ad Hoc Committee, School of Social Transformation (2020-2021)
Committee Member, Graduate Curriculum Committee, Women and Gender Studies (2018-2020)
Committee Member, Events Committee, Women and Gender Studies (2016-2017)
Co-Chair, Online Task Group Ad-hoc, School of Social Transformation (2014-2015)

Awards

Catalyst Award, Committee for Campus Inclusion, Arizona State University, 2020

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE

Reviewer for Peer-Reviewed Journals – *Meridians: Feminism, Race, Transnationalism; Black Camera; Social Justice: A Journal of Crime, Conflict and World Order; Women & Music: A Journal of Gender & Culture; Australian Feminist Studies; Gender & Society; Journal of Popular Music Studies; Sexuality and Culture; Sociological Perspectives; Urban Studies*

Editorial Board, *Contexts* (2013-2017)

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