



SYMPOSIUM:

# *Scholars' Voices Series*

---

*A Study of African American Culture and History*  
at

*Prairie View A&M University*

---

featuring

**NELL IRVIN PAINTER**

---

*October 16, 2018*  
*4:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m.*

---

**Julius W. Becton, Jr. Auditorium**

---

*Alvin I. Thomas Administration Building*

# *Symposium Context*



This Symposium is an intellectual discussion to examine the culture and history of Black people in the United States. More specifically, this exchange between noted scholars will focus on a set of questions: 1) Should there be a “classic” HBCU curriculum to study the culture and history of African Americans as well as people of the African Diaspora? 2) In developing this curriculum, how does one create an interdisciplinary program to include the arts and humanities, science and mathematics, religious traditions and family structures, military achievements and sports records? 3) What about the political, social, and economic contributions of African-Americans as seen and acknowledged throughout the world; and 4) What forms of technology should we use to best capture the diverse voices and memories of African Americans?

This dialogue is open for everyone to listen, learn and laugh.

# SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

---

*Welcome*

**Danny R. Kelley**

Dean, Marvin D. and June Samuel Brailsford College of Arts & Sciences

*Symposium Context*

**James A. Wilson, Jr.**

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs

*A Conversation on  
African-American Scholarship*

**Ruth J. Simmons**

President

&

**Nell Irvin Painter**

Edwards Professor of American History,  
Emerita, Princeton University

*Closing Remarks*

**James M. Palmer**

Interim Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

---

Join the Conversation Online

Tag us on all platforms @ PVAMU and use #ScholarsVoices



---

## Nell Irvin Painter

---

Edwards Professor of American History,  
Emerita, Princeton University

Professor Nell Irvin Painter, a leading historian of the United States, is the Edwards Professor of American History, Emerita at Princeton University. In addition to her earned doctorate in history from Harvard University, she has received honorary doctorates from Wesleyan, Dartmouth, SUNY-New Paltz, and Yale.

A prolific and award-winning scholar, her books include: *The History of White People* (W. W. Norton, 2010, paperback, March 2011); *Creating Black*

*Americans: African American History and Its Meanings, 1619 to the Present* (Oxford University Press, 2006); *Southern History Across the Color Line* (University of North Carolina Press, 2002); A second edition of *Standing at Armageddon: The United States, 1877-1919* (New York, W. W. Norton, 1987); *Exodusters: Black Migration to Kansas After Reconstruction* (Norton, 1979); a Korean translation of *Sojourner Truth, A Life, A Symbol* (New York, W. W. Norton, 1996); *The Narrative of Hosea Hudson: His Life as a Negro Communist in the South* (Harvard University Press, 1979).

She has served on numerous editorial boards and as an officer of many professional organizations, including the American Historical Association, the American Antiquarian Society, the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History, and the Association of Black Women Historians.

A Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Painter has also held fellowships from the Guggenheim Foundation, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the American Council of Learned Societies. She has served as president of the Organization of American Historians and the Southern Historical Association. Her presidential addresses have been published in the *Journal of American History* ("Ralph Waldo Emerson's Saxons" in March 2009) and the *Journal of Southern History* ("Was Marie White?" February 2008). The City of Boston declared Thursday, 4 October 2007 *Nell Irvin Painter Day* in honor of her Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center in 2006.

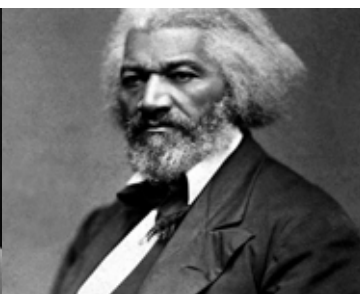
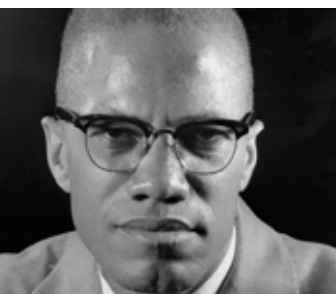
Painter is also a professional artist and holds an MFA from Rhode Island School of Design and a BFA from Mason Gross School of the Arts. Her most recent book is *Old in Art School: A Memoir of Starting Over* (Counterpoint Press, 2018). Her recent project, entitled *Odalisque Atlas*, combines imagery dealing with issues of beauty, sex and slavery that she discovered during research for *The History of White People*.



---

Join the Conversation Online  
Tag us on all platforms @ PVAMU and use #ScholarsVoices

---



# Notes

---

---

---

---

---

*"The humanities do not belong to some elitist group... knowledge as a whole should be embraced."*

**Ruth J. Simmons**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

*"What we can see depends heavily on what our culture has trained us to look for."*

**Nell Irvin Painter**

---

---

---

---

---

---

SYMPOSIUM:

*Scholars' Voices Series*



*A Study of African-American Culture and History*

*at*

*Prairie View A&M University*