



SYMPOSIUM:
Scholars' Voices Series



*African American Culture and History
at
Prairie View A&M University*

featuring

CORNEL WEST

Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy
Harvard University

*January 18, 2019
4:00 p.m.*

**Willie A. Tempton Sr.,
Memorial Student Center**

Opal Johnson Smith Auditorium

Symposium Context



The African American Studies Program initiative at Prairie View A&M University focuses on providing an interdisciplinary study of the experiences of the people of African descent in America and abroad. Scholarly activities provide students, faculty and the PVAMU community with a fundamental understanding of the social, economic, cultural and historical issues framing the contributions of African American communities in America. These activities expand the knowledge of the full PVAMU community about the innumerable significant achievements made by descendants of Africa in literature, technology, social and natural sciences as well as art and music, enhancing the focus on humanities at an 1890's Land Grant University. The Scholars' Voices Series promotes intellectual awareness and sensitivity to the dynamic experiences of the descendants of Africa in America and abroad.

SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Presiding

Melanye Price

Endowed Professor, Political Science
Prairie View A&M University

Welcome and Symposium Context

Melanye Price

Introduction of Dr. Cornel West

Ruth J. Simmons

President
Prairie View A&M University

Lecture

Cornel West

Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy
Harvard University

Question and Answer

Moderator

Ruth J. Simmons

Closing Remarks

James A. Wilson, Jr.

Associate Provost for Academic Affairs
Prairie View A&M University

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Tag us on all platforms @PVAMU and use #PVScholarsVoices



Cornel West

Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy
Harvard University

Cornel West is an American philosopher, political activist, social critic, and author. He currently serves as a Professor of the Practice of Public Philosophy at Harvard University and holds the title of Professor Emeritus at Princeton University. He has taught at Yale, the University of Paris, and, most recently, Union Theological Seminary. He graduated Magna Cum Laude from Harvard in three years and obtained his MA and Ph.D. in philosophy at Princeton.

He has written 20 books and has edited 13. He is best known for his classics *Race Matters* and *Democracy Matters*, as well as his memoir, *Brother West: Living and Loving Out Loud*. His most recent book, *Black Prophetic Fire*, offers an unflinching look at nineteenth and twentieth-century African American leaders and their visionary legacies.

A provocative democratic intellectual, West frequently appears on the Bill Maher Show, CNN and C-Span.

West made his film debut in the *Matrix*—and was the commentator (with Ken Wilbur) on the official trilogy released in 2004. He also has appeared in over 25 documentaries and films including *Examined Life*, *Call + Response*, *Sidewalk*, and *Stand*.

West has made three spoken word albums including *Never Forget*, collaborating with Prince, Jill Scott, Andre 3000, Talib Kweli, KRS-One, and Gerald Levert. His spoken word interludes were featured on *Terence Blanchard's Choices* (which won the Grand Prix in France for the best Jazz Album of the year of 2009), *The Cornel West Theory's Second Rome*, Raheem DeVaughn's Grammy-nominated *Love & War: Masterpeace*, and most recently on Bootsy Collins' *The Funk Capital of the World*. Cornel West has a passion for communicating Martin Luther King, Jr.'s legacy of telling the truth and bearing witness to love and justice to a vast variety of publics.

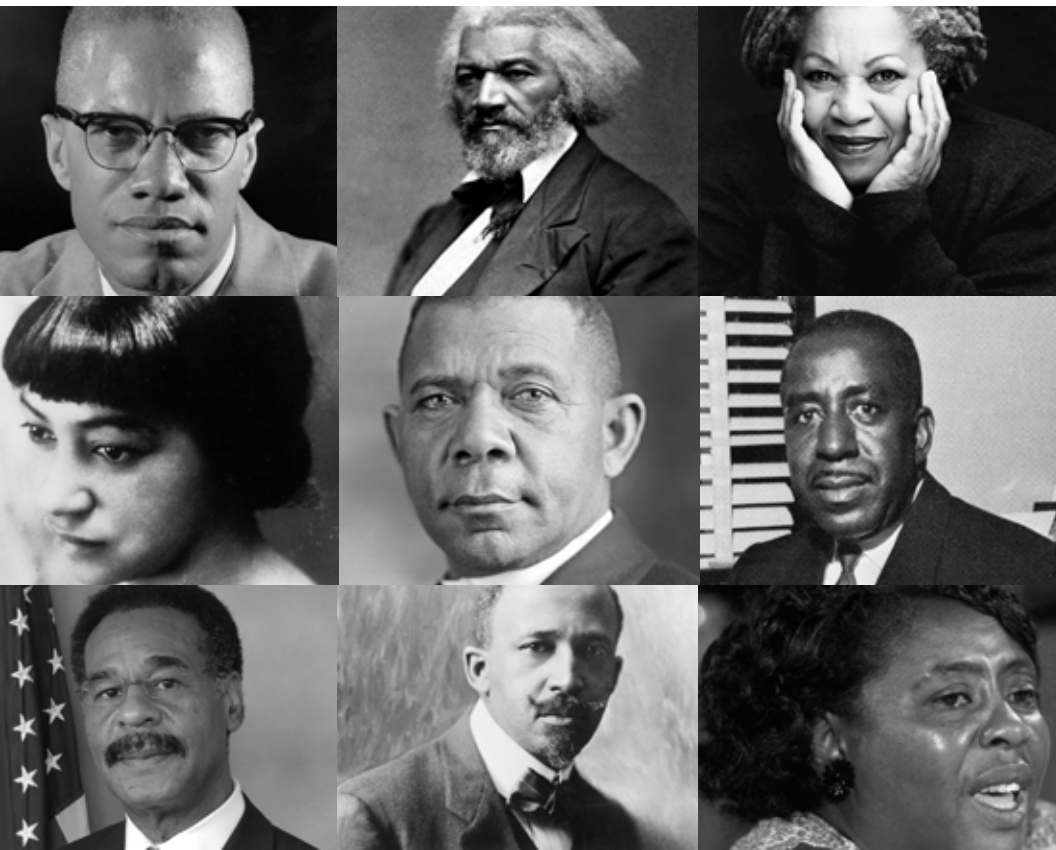


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Notes

"If you are the kind of person who listens to conservative advice, you may do okay in life, but you probably won't ever be a fantastic leader. You have to take risks, and you also have to go against conventional wisdom, because conventional wisdom doesn't make for startling advances in society."

Ruth J. Simmons



"Empathy is not simply a matter of trying to imagine what others are going through, but having the will to muster enough courage to do something about it. In a way empathy is predicated on hope"

Cornel West

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