

A Different World

Symposium on Diversity, Change, and Appalachian Youth

November, 2006

Featured Speakers

November 2 - 3. Poet Marilyn Nelson will read from her books, including *Mama's Promises* (1985); and the multi-generational family collage, *The Homeplace* (1990), which won the 1992 Annisfield-Wolf Award and was a finalist for the 1991 National Book Award; her *New and Selected Poems* (1997), which won the 1998 Poets' Prize and was a finalist for the 1997 National Book Award; and from *Carver: A Life in Poems* (2001), named a Newbery Honor Book, a Coretta Scott King Honor Book, and a finalist for the 2001 National Book Award.

Nov. 6 - 10. Author and Researcher Ancella Bickley, one of the Rockefeller Scholars funded through CSEGA in 1999, Dr. Bickley retired as Vice President, Academic Affairs, West Virginia State University, and currently lives in Florida, where she continues to write and do research. With Dr. Lynda Ann Ewen, she co-edited *Memphis Tennessee Garrison: The Remarkable Story of a Black Appalachian Woman*, published by Ohio University Press. Dr. Bickley has authored several stories and articles for such magazines as the West Virginia history magazine, *Golden Seal*. During the week, she will visit classes and give presentations.

Nov. 10. Researcher and Professor Wilburn Hayden, author of studies of African Americans in Appalachia, coordinates the Master's of Social Work graduate degree program at the California University of Pennsylvania. He will conduct workshops on campus and do a presentation on how to change communities to make them healthier places for children and youth from diverse minority groups. A long-time active member of the Appalachian Studies Association, Dr. Hayden is an expert on rural social work practice. Among his many scholarly publications are articles on Black Appalachian families and on barriers to equality.

Nov. 10. Researcher Caitlin Howley will give the results of her research on students' perspectives on racism in Appalachian schools. Dr. Howley is research and education specialist at Edvantia (previously the Appalachia Education Laboratory) in Charleston, West Virginia. Dr. Howley won the 2006 Outstanding Dissertation Award from the American Education Research Association for her study entitled "Remote Possibilities:

Rural Children's Out of School Activities and Educational Aspirations." Dr. Howley will speak about children's perspectives on racism in school.

Nov. 28. Author *bell hooks*, one of the leading intellectuals of today's world, was so well-received on her first visit to Marshall University that the Harmony Institute has brought her back. This world-renowned speaker will discuss diversity and the need for change, offering her unique perspectives on the experiences and representations of African Americans and other minority groups in contemporary U.S. society. Currently Distinguished Professor in Residence at Berea College, she has taught at Yale University, Oberlin College, the University of California, Santa Cruz, and City College of New York. She has published on a broad range of interconnected topics: gender, race, teaching and the significance of media for contemporary culture.

Nov. 28 - 30. Presentations of Research Papers "Effecting Change through the Richness of Diversity." Papers selected from those submitted to a call for papers by Marshall University's Multicultural Affairs and The Harmony Institute. Readers and reading schedules will be publicized in early November.

Nov. 29. Poet Frank X. Walker—author of *Buffalo Dance* (which won the Lillian Smith award), *Affrilachia*, and *Black Box*, among other poetry books, and recent recipient of a Lannan Fellowship Award—grew up in Danville, Kentucky, and will help participants become more aware and appreciative of the lived experiences of African Americans in Central Appalachia. His poetry reading and writing workshop for college and high school students and their teachers will help both African American and white and Asian participants express their own ideas about race relations and their experience of them at school and in the community, whether a rural community or an urban one in Appalachia.

Nov. 30. Educator and Advocate Pedro Noguera, an urban sociologist and professor in the Steinhardt School of Education, New York University, will do a presentation on conditions that promote student achievement and reduce youth violence. Drawing on his experience, which includes several years as a K-12 classroom teacher, and membership on the U.S. Public Health Service Centers for Disease Control Task Force on Youth Violence, Noguera will, after his presentation, participate in a panel which will consider practical methods for implementing the recommendations and ideas represented by his talk and other presentations and workshop discussions during the month.

for times and locations of presentations
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