

THE **CRAFT** INSTITUTE

AT ATHE 2023

BUILDING FROM THE RUBBLE  
CENTERING CARE

AUSTIN, TX  
AUG 4 - 5, 2023

THE  
**CRAFT**  
INSTITUTE

@THECRAFTINSTITUTE  
WWW.THECRAFTINSTITUTE.ORG

# **THE CRAFT INSTITUTE AT ATHE 2023 ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

The CRAFT Institute developed two days of programming for the ATHE 2023 conference in an effort to reimagine new and existing structures and ways of working together during ATHE's annual convening. Participants are invited to engage with The CRAFT Institute throughout the conference and thereafter through the range of activities and resources CRAFT provides year round.

## **About The CRAFT Institute**

The CRAFT Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to curating culturally inclusive ecosystems throughout the world of arts and entertainment by transforming formal training and industry practices while promoting equitable access. Through curriculum and pedagogy, creative content development and production, networking opportunities and events, CRAFT's consultation, coaching, workshops and clearinghouse of resources amplify the work of people of the global majority and culturally specific institutions.

Instagram: @thecraftinstitute

Twitter: @craftinstitute

Facebook: The CRAFT Institute

[www.thecraftinstitute.org](http://www.thecraftinstitute.org)

# CRAFT AT ATHE 2023 CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, AUGUST 4

8:10 a.m.–8:20 a.m.

## **Call to Ancestors and Meditation**

Lonestar F

*The Call to Ancestors and Meditation is an opportunity for participants to gather, name our Ancestors and intentions we are setting forth for the day, the duration of the conference, as we reflect on the upcoming academic year/season, and the future of the field.*

with

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute

8:30 a.m.–10 a.m.

## **Policies for Transformation: Moving beyond DEI (Repair, Healing, Restoration)**

Lonestar D/E

*This interactive plenary session engages CRAFT affiliates and ATHE participants in dialogue and action-oriented strategies.*

with

Stephen Buescher, The CRAFT Institute & UC San Diego  
Dr. Monica White Ndounou, The CRAFT Institute & Dartmouth College  
Dr. Eve Graves, The CRAFT Institute & Clark Atlanta University  
Deen Rawlins-Harris, The CRAFT Institute & UT Austin  
Yunina C. Barbour-Payne, UT Austin  
Jeremy Rashad Brown, Brown Boy Productions

10:30 a.m.–12:30 p.m.

**CRAFT Lounge: Office Hours with CRAFT Representatives  
and Access to Resources**

Room 304

*CRAFT Representatives will hold open office hours with ATHE members, providing information and resources about CRAFT services, curated-sessions, and opportunities to get involved with fieldwide and interdisciplinary initiatives that align with CRAFT's mission.*

with

Dr. Eve Graves, The CRAFT Institute & Clark Atlanta University

Stephen Buescher, The CRAFT Institute & UC San Diego

Dr. Monica White Ndounou, The CRAFT Institute & Dartmouth College

Laura Morse, LPC

Faedra Chatard Carpenter, American University

**Dark Room / Plant Room**

Room 305

*A space designed for attendees to experience relaxation, stress relief, calm, and quiet designed.*

with

Eva Margarita

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute

1:30 p.m.–3 p.m.

**CRAFT Clinic: Legal Matters (Black Affinity Space)**

Lonestar F

*A legal presentation will be given for faculty, artists, and practitioners seeking specific knowledge about negotiating contracts and workplace interpersonal communication.*

with

Stephen Buescher, The CRAFT Institute & UC San Diego

Dr. Monica White Ndounou, The CRAFT Institute & Dartmouth College

1:30 p.m.–3:00 p.m.

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with

Katelyn Hale Wood, The CRAFT Institute & University of Virginia  
Emily Goes, The CRAFT Institute

**Dark Room / Plant Room**

Room 305

*A space designed for attendees to experience relaxation, stress relief, calm, and quiet. Masseur available for 20-minute chair massages (first come, first served) from 1:30 p.m.–3:30 p.m.*

with

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute  
Shelby Autry, BFREE YOGA

3:30 p.m.–5 p.m.

**CRAFT Clinic: Financial Matters**

Lonestar F

*Halliday Financial will meet with members interested in financial planning and money management.*

with

Dr. Eve Graves, The CRAFT Institute & Clark Atlanta University  
Katelyn Hale Wood, The CRAFT Institute & University of Virginia  
Miki Sobot, Halliday Financial

3:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.

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with

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Dr. Monica White Ndounou, The CRAFT Institute & Dartmouth College

**Dark Room / Plant Room**

Room 305

*A space designed for attendees to experience relaxation, stress relief, calm, and quiet.*

with

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute

(Schedule continued on next page)

SATURDAY, AUGUST 5

8:10 a.m.–8:20 a.m.

**Call to Ancestors and Meditation**

Lonestar F

*The Call to Ancestors and Meditation is an opportunity for participants to gather, name our Ancestors and intentions we are setting forth for the day, the duration of the conference, as we reflect on the upcoming academic year/season, and the future of the field.*

with

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute

8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

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with

Dr. Eve Graves, The CRAFT Institute & Clark Atlanta University

Deen Rawlins-Harris, The CRAFT Institute & UT Austin

Stephen Buescher, The CRAFT Institute & UC San Diego

**Creative Retreat: Writing and Envisioning**

Room 305

The Creative Retreat is a designated space and time for participants to engage in writing, envisioning, strategizing individual and collective reimagining through their chosen mode of expression and creativity.

with

Ashley McKinnies, The CRAFT Institute

8:30 a.m.–10:00 a.m.

**CRAFT Clinic: Recentering and Reimagining Career Care for the Academician (Black Affinity Space)**

Lonestar F

*Laura Morse, LPC will discuss signs and symptoms of burnout, compassion fatigue, boundaries, self care, communicating needs, etc.*

with

Laura Morse, LPC

10:30 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

**Professional Development, Networking, and Mentoring: Two-Year Colleges, HBCUs, Graduate Students and Practitioners**

Lonestar D/E

*This interactive plenary session engages CRAFT affiliates and ATHE participants in dialogue and action-oriented strategies with special emphasis on 2-Year Colleges, HBCUs, and Grad Students.*

with

Faedra Chatard Carpenter, American University

Dr. Eve Graves, The CRAFT Institute & Clark Atlanta University

Katelyn Hale Wood, The CRAFT Institute & University of Virginia

Zachary Dailey, Director of Theater, Lamar State College

1 p.m.–2:30 p.m.

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## MEET THE CRAFT @ ATHE TEAM



DR. MONICA WHITE NDO (she/her) is an Associate Professor of Theater at Dartmouth College and the founding Executive Director of The CRAFT Institute and the founding President and CEO of The International Black Theatre Summit. She is also the past President of the Black Theatre Association (BTA) (2016-2018), immediate past Vice President of Advocacy for the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE) (2019-2021) and served on the inaugural executive board of The August Wilson Society. She was a founding member of the National Advisory Committee of The Black Seed, a national strategic plan to create impact and thriving for Black theater institutions and initiatives. Dr. Ndounou's interdisciplinary research projects span a broad range of topics. She is the author of several publications as well as an actor, director, and alumnus of Spelman College and The Black Arts Institute. She frequently writes for popular audiences and presents the findings of her work at national and international conferences. Her award-winning book, Shaping the Future of African American Film: Color-coded Economics and the Story Behind the Numbers (Rutgers University Press), serves as the foundation of The International Black Theatre Summit's mission and programming. She is a creator and co-curator of Echoes of Us, produced by the African Diasporic Network a special initiative of The CRAFT Institute in collaboration with the African-American Shakespeare Company and Support Black Theatre. She is also a co-founder of CreateEnsemble.com, a digital platform for creative artists of color. Professor Ndounou is currently working on several projects including but not limited to a book, Acting Your Color: The CRAFT, Power and Paradox of Acting for Black Americans which includes a multi-media project exploring black American contributions to developing acting theories and practices.

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DR. EVE GRAVES (she/her) is a graduate of Spelman College. She began her professional academic career at The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, VA., where she received several awards, published several articles, and was elected to head a national professional organization. Dr. Graves was awarded a Teaching Fellowship from the Carnegie Center for Teaching and Learning at Stanford University. At the end of her final residency at the Carnegie Foundation, Dr. Graves decided to pursue work as an intercultural pedagogue by accepting a teaching position at the prestigious Xiamen

University in China. She lived and successfully taught Western Theatre History and Literature in China for four and a half years.



STEPHEN BUESCHER is a director, choreographer, actor, EDI strategist, and Professor of Movement at the University of San Diego. He is currently directing the development of York Walker's play Soul Records at the Vineyard theater in NYC. Stephen will choreograph the play Babbitt for La Jolla Playhouse in the Fall. As an EDI strategist Stephen has worked with various theater departments, individuals, and is going on his third year as a freelance member of the Craft Institute. Stephen is currently collaborating with the University of San Diego Medical School and The Sanford

Institute of Empathy and Compassion to create equity-based training as part of UCSD's Undergraduate Medical curriculum. Stephen was recently named the Arthur and Molli Wagner Endowed Chair of the Department of Theater and Dance at UCSD. Stephen is a graduate of CalArts and the Dell'Arte International School of Physical Theater.

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KATELYN HALE WOOD is an associate professor of Theatre History at the University of Virginia and the author of [Cracking Up: Black Feminist Comedy in the Twentieth and Twenty-first Centuries United States \(2021\)](#). Their writing has also been published in Performance Matters, Theatre Topics, QED, and Departures in Critical Qualitative Research. Katelyn is the director of the Pay it Forward Mentorship Program at the CRAFT Institute.



FAEDRA CHATARD CARPENTER (B.A., Spelman College; M.A. Washington University; Ph.D. Stanford University) is a freelance dramaturg and an associate professor of theatre at American University in Washington, DC. She has served as a developmental and production dramaturg for professional venues such as: Mosaic Theatre Company, Round House Theatre, Olney Theatre Company, Theater J, Dance Place, The Kennedy Center, Baltimore Center Stage, Theater Alliance, the African Continuum Theatre Company, Crossroads Theatre Company, and Arena Stage.

Dr. Carpenter's scholarly analysis can be found in a number of anthologies and peer-reviewed journals, and she is the author of *Coloring Whiteness: Acts of Critique in Black Performance*.



DEEN RAWLINS-HARRIS (they/them) is a theatremaker, teacher, and organizer from Boston, MA. They received their bachelor's degree from Bucknell University majoring in education and political science. Currently, Rawlins-Harris is a MFA student at The University of Texas at Austin in the Theatre and Dance Department, specializing in Drama and Theatre for Youth and Communities. In their work, Rawlins-Harris regularly designs and implements dynamic art and culture events with the support of youth leaders. They are the current co-chair of American Alliance for Theatre and

Education's Research Network Committee and board member for TC Squared Theatre Company (Cambridge, MA). A few of Rawlins-Harris' recent awards include the Point Foundation BIPOC Scholar Award (2022-2023), Texas Educational Theatre Association Founders Scholar Award (2022-2023), and Planet Texas 2050 Artist Fellowship Award (2022-2023). Their professional experience includes creating Company One's BosTEEN Artist Nights (Boston, MA), programming the 2019 Arts & Culture Apprentice & Intern Fair with Shakespeare Theatre Company and Arena Stage (Washington, D.C.), and organizing Philadelphia's 2018 Youth Pride hosted by the Mazzoni Center. Deen is currently creating and facilitating the Youth Producer Program with Fusebox Festival (Austin, TX), an immersive youth leadership training program in which youth program a city-wide festival for youth by youth. To connect with them and learn more about their work please visit [www.deenrawlinsharris.com](http://www.deenrawlinsharris.com).



F.D. ASHLEY is a Ghanaian-American literary and visual artist. As a literary enthusiast, she utilizes her BA in English (Comparative Literature) and MA in English (Rhetoric and Composition) in her work as a dramaturg. She has also worked with the American Theatre Wing as a Research Assistant. In 2022, her writing was performed in *Echoes of Us*, a series of curated monologues, directed by Tony Award nominee Michele Shay. Ashley is a Primary Editor for *The Banyan Review* and a 2023 Craft Fellow. She facilitates creative writing workshops and is a consultant for the Authors Roundtable of Florida.



YUNINA BARBOUR-PAYNE is a Ph.D. candidate in the Performance as Public Practice program at The University of Texas at Austin. Her research and practice focus on performance ethnography, Afrilachian aesthetics and the intersections of Performance, Africana and Appalachian Studies. She holds a B.A. in Integrated Studies from Northern Kentucky University and an M.A. in Performance Studies from Texas A&M University. Her scholarship appears in *"Appalachia Revisited: New Perspectives on Place, Tradition, and Progress"* (University of Kentucky Press, 2016).

Barbour-Payne has studied and worked as an actor, playwright, director and arts educator. She was a National Endowment for the Humanities scholar in Shakespeare and performance. Additionally, she served as a Teaching Artist for the Young Performers Program at The Ensemble Theatre (Houston, TX). Barbour-Payne has performed on stages locally and regionally including: The Boulder Fringe Festival, The National Black Theater Festival, Boiling Point Players, Cone Man Running Productions and The National Underground Railroad Freedom Center. Her one woman show and oral history performance, Precious Memories, is available at the Odd Fellows Museum (Blacksburg, VA). Barbour-Payne serves as founder of The Affrilachian Memory Plays (AMP), a performative inquiry which centers experiences



JEREMY RASHAD BROWN is a local Austin artist who has been involved in the craft of theater and film acting for years. Jeremy also serves as Board President for the The Vortex Repertory Theater and has recently been selected to join the Austin StartOut Programming Board for 2019.

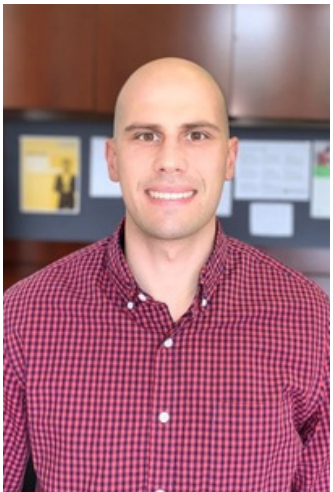
Originally from Waxahachie, TX, Brown has resided in Austin for over a decade and has solidified his creative home in the Capital of Texas. Currently working in the nonprofit world with the Survive2Thrive Foundation as Director of Creative Arts and Special Projects, Jeremy is now taking the leap into the world of creative production by founding Brown Boy Productions. BBP's mission is to provide a viable platform for underrepresented and marginalized artists to authentically tell their stories through various artistic mediums.

Brown Boy Productions inaugural project, RAP UNZEL, is a youth mental health and emotional intelligence stage production that is now being adapted into a YouTube series and brand called, REGGIE RAP'S ROOM. Visit [www.ReggieRapsRoom.com](http://www.ReggieRapsRoom.com) to learn more.

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ZACH DAILEY is the Director of Theatre at Lamar State College-Port Arthur. He recently received his PhD in Theatre and Interdisciplinary Fine Arts at Texas Tech University. His research and practice include American regional identities, socioeconomics on stage, social media performance, and intercultural theatrical adaptations. Besides theatre and fine arts, Zach also teaches cultural and identity studies, public speaking, and cinema. His writing has been featured in Texas Theatre Journal, and he has worked on the Journal of American Drama and Theatre. He has directed, devised, curated, performed, and written traditional theatre, performance art, and interdisciplinary arts events. He is a member of the LGBTQIA+ community, a fat activist, and a BIPOC ally. He lives in Beaumont, TX.



MILORAD (MIKI) SOBOT is a CFP® professional based on Long Island, New York. As a financial planner at Halliday Financial, Miki has built a well-respected and customer-oriented practice that focuses primarily on helping educators and their families build comprehensive financial plans.

He holds the designation CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER. This means that Miki has proven the depth of his financial knowledge, and maintains the highest professional standards by always acting as a fiduciary and in the best interest of his clients. Miki utilizes a goals-based approach to planning. Through a strategic planning process, Miki and his team help clients build and implement a comprehensive financial plan that helps with minimizing taxes, protecting principal, and providing a legacy for future generations to enjoy.

The conversations start by listening to what is most important to clients and their families. Whether it is income and expense planning, tax reduction strategies, beneficiary planning, or maximizing employer benefits, Miki welcomes the opportunity to help people benefit from the coordinated value of independent

advice. In his free time, Miki enjoys playing and coaching soccer in the NY Metropolitan area as well as serving as an event coordinator for a charity organization - Serbs for Serbs. He is also a proud Siena College alum! Go Saints!



Laura Morse received a BA degree in Psychology from Spelman College in Atlanta, Georgia in 1992 and a Master's Degree in Community Counseling from Georgia State University in 1996. Laura has been a Licensed Professional Counselor or LPC since 2000. She is a psychotherapist and Certified Professional Clinical Supervisor currently in private practice but has worked in various settings to include a community service board, psychiatric hospitalization, and residential substance recovery agencies. In addition to professional counseling, Laura has served as a PTA President for three public schools in Dekalb County and participated as an executive board member for many organizations specific to mental health/substance recovery advocacy as well as public education with emphasis on parent/student involvement and youth sports.

Laura regularly shares her professional insight and expertise as a featured respondent with a number of media outlets, among them: NPR, Atlanta Journal and Constitution, several NBC news affiliates, Cox Media Group-WSBTV, The Source Magazine and Reader's Digest. In addition, Laura also serves as a mental and emotional wellness consultant with the Alliance Theater in Atlanta--supporting actors, directors and crew when wrestling with difficult creative content or interpersonal dynamics. Laura not only has a passion for her work in mental health advocacy, but a devotion to her friends and family; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated; and Spelman College.

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EMILY ANNE GOES (she/her), born and raised in East Side San Jose, is a Filipino New York-based performer and pathfinder. She currently co-conspires with The CRAFT Institute as the Director of Marketing and Communications and supports the marketing of [CreateEnsemble.com](https://www.createensemble.com) and #BlackTheatreDay. Previously, she proudly served as the Operations Manager for Broadway Advocacy Coalition, and now works as a consultant for their annual Arts in Action Festival. Emily attended New York University Tisch School of the Arts and completed her BFA in Drama in 2020. Emily

loves to perform and is an Artist Company Member of Kinding Sindaw, learning to assert and preserve Filipino indigenous traditions and reflect on the resilience and resistance of the Moro people against centuries of colonization under Spanish rule. Gratefully standing on the shoulders of those before her, Emily sees and feels her family with each breath.



Originally from South Central Los Angeles, EVA MARGARITA is an Afro-Latinx performance artist and scholar. Her performance works explore ritual and grief while her critical writings explore race and the census. As an artist, Eva Margarita is concerned with grief and wake work that allows us to accompany, blur lines, and spill all over each other. Her work is guided by the principle that the rituals of everyday life offer a way of existing that acknowledges familial, scholarly, and spiritual methods of becoming. She is currently a Phd Candidate at the University of Texas at

Austin and a Board Director at The VORTEX Repertory. Her performances have been featured in Meridians and Time Out New York and her recent work *Censual Spillage* was awarded Top Contributed Performance at the National Communication Association 2022 conference.

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SHELBY AUTREY is the owner and founder of BFREE YOGA Austin and Wellness. Shelby is a nationally certified therapeutic massage and bodywork specialist and has worked in sports injury rehabilitation for 20 years. Shelby incorporates breath, myofascial release, trigger point therapy, and functional movement to your session to leave you feeling revitalized, lighter, and deeply relaxed.

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# OTHER OPPORTUNITIES



**We invite you to have you participate in Black Theatre Day!**

The International Black Theatre Summit launched the inaugural Black Theatre Day on Sept. 17, 2021 to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the African Grove Theatre, the first known Black professional theatre company in the United States. Black Theatre Day increases visibility, amplifies Black

theatre institutions, and encourages year-round support for Black theatres. To participate in Black Theatre Day celebrations on Sept. 17, 2023, head to [www.thecraftinstitute.org](http://www.thecraftinstitute.org) for more information and follow @blacktheatreday.

Over the past two years the Black Theatre Day campaign has been led by The International Black Theatre Summit and The CRAFT Institute. With additional support from WACO Theatre Center, Project1Voice, and Plowshares. Over the years, additional participants have included: Black Theatre Network, National Association of Dramatic and Speech Arts, National Association of Black Theatre Building Owners, and more!



**Follow @createensemble on all social media platforms!**

Create Ensemble is a nurturing and inspiring ethos-driven platform for emerging and established creatives of color and organizations to support one another by coming together to create artistic projects for the love of the craft and our communities. It features many tools to strengthen your art and connect with other global artists, such as fundraising, job postings, circles, blogs, and so much more. You will want to join this platform as soon as it launches.



**[www.thecraftinstitute.org](http://www.thecraftinstitute.org)**  
**[info@thecraftinstitute.org](mailto:info@thecraftinstitute.org)**

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