

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

### *UCMLA 2013 CONFERENCE COMMITTEE:*

Prof. Randa Jarrar (Faculty Advisor)  
Dr. Samina Najmi (Faculty Advisor)  
Lena Zaghmouri (Conference Coordinator)

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ENGLISH DEPARTMENT'S 4TH ANNUAL

# UCMLA

UNDERGRADUATE CONFERENCE ON THE MULTIETHNIC LITERATURES OF THE AMERICAS

**APRIL 11-12, 2013**  
**CSU FRESNO**



# PROGRAM

## APRIL 11

3:00 - 5:00 PM

- A Craft Talk with **SAMIYA BASHIR** and **PATRICA ENGEL**  
Library Rm.# 2108

7:00 - 9:00 PM

- A Reading **SAMIYA BASHIR** with and **PATRICA ENGEL**  
Library Rm.# 2206

## APRIL 12

*All events on Friday, April 12 will be held in ED 140*

9:30 AM - 10:45 AM

### **I. Creating and Subverting Agency Through Art: Prose and Poetic Forms in the Contemporary World**

- Zoyer Zyndel, "Time Will Tell: The Dynamics of Social Change"
- Amrit Deol, "Brown and Black Turn Gray: 'Desi' Hip Hop in Post 9/11 U.S."
- Neama Alamri, "Multicultural Mess: Empathizing with the Subversive in Arab American Women's Literature"
- Jared Lemos, "Antonio's Resolution: The Shifts in Religion in *My Antonia*"

*Moderator: Cody Hoover (MA Literature)*

11:00 AM -12:15 PM

### **II. The Reverberations of Story and Myth in Times of Conflict**

- Cynthia Jones, "Sacred Breath, Sacred Words: Myth, Ritual, and Meaning in Leslie Marmon Silko's 'Prayer to the Pacific'"
- Andrew Chapman, "That Which Cannot Be Said: Visual Storytelling and the Trauma of 9/11"

# PROGRAM

- Erik Mortensen, "Going Nowhere Fast in Dagoberto Gilb's *Love in L.A.*"
- Mireyda Barraza Martinez, "Wendy Rose: Chronicling a Shared Struggle"  
*Moderator: Christina McGrath (MA Literature)*

**LUNCH BREAK: 12:15 PM - 1:15 PM**

1:15 PM - 2:30 PM

### **III. The Formation of Multiple Identities: The Weight of Encounters and Conflicts**

- Amelia Sarkisian, "Construction of Lucy"
- Manny Jacquez, "Great Power, Great Responsibility: A Multi-Ethnic Spiderman"
- Tiffany L. King, "Life Cycle of Pain in Helena Viramontes' *The Moths*"
- Jelsea Paredes, "Carlos Bulosan: The Tragedy of the Filipino American Experience"

*Moderator: Erin Alvarez (MFA Creative Nonfiction)*

2:45-4:00 p.m.

### **IV. On the Fringes of Inclusion: Responses to the Constructions of Femininity, Ethnicity, and Trauma in the Americas (Graduate Panel)**

- Yinka Reed Nolan, "Representations of Anger, Violence, and Native Trauma in Sherman Alexie's *Indian Killer*"
- Cody Hoover, "The Abject Tongue: The Female Body in Clarice Lispector's *The Hour of the Star* and Cristina Peri Rossi's *Solitaire of Love*"
- Miriam Fernandez, "Suspect Beauty: Biracial Purity and Promiscuity in Onoto Watanna's Writing"

*Moderator: Shane Wood (MA Composition)*

## SPEAKER, SAMIYA BASHIR



**SAMIYA BASHIR** is the author of *Gospel*, finalist for the Hurston/Wright Legacy Award and the 2009 Lambda Literary Award, and *Where the Apple Falls*, a Poetry Foundation bestseller and finalist for the 2005 Lambda Literary Award. Bashir is editor of *Black Women's Erotica 2* and co-editor, with Tony

Medina and Quraysh Ali Lansana, of *Role Call: A Generational Anthology of Social & Political Black Literature & Art*. Bashir's poetry, stories, articles and editorial work have been featured in numerous publications including, most recently and forthcoming, in *Poet Lore*, *Michigan Quarterly Review*, *Crab Orchard Review*, *Cura*, *The Rumpus*, *Literature: Craft & Voice*, *Callaloo*, and *Encyclopedia Vol. 2 F-K*. She is the recipient of two Hopwood Awards from the University of Michigan, as well as awards, grants, fellowships, and residencies from the Virginia Center for Creative Arts, where she was a recent NEA writer-in-residence, the University of California, where she served as Poet Laureate, the Astraea Foundation, the National Association of Pen Women, Community of Writers at Squaw Valley, Soul Mountain Writers Colony, The Austin Project, Alma de Mujer, the James Dick Foundation for the Performing Arts, and Cave Canem, among others. Her long poem, "Coronagraphy," was nominated for a 2013 Pushcart Prize. A long-time communications professional focused on editorial, arts, and social justice movement building, Bashir is a founding organizer of Fire & Ink, an advocacy organization and writer's festival for LGBT writers of African descent and a recipient of the 2011 Aquarius Press Legacy Award, given annually in recognition of women writers of color who actively provide creative opportunities for other writers. She currently lives in Portland, Oregon, where she teaches creative writing at Reed College.

## SPEAKER, PATRICIA ENGEL



**PATRICIA ENGEL** is the author of *Vida* and *It's Not Love, It's Just Paris*, forthcoming from Grove Press in August 2013. *Vida*, her acclaimed debut, was a *New York Times* Notable Book of 2010, a finalist for the PEN/Hemingway Fiction Award, New York Public Library Young Lions Fiction Award, and Paterson Fiction Award,

winner of the International Latino Book Award, Florida Book Award, and Independent Publisher Book Award, and long listed for The Story Prize and Dayton Literary Peace Prize. Additionally, *Vida* was a Barnes & Noble Discover Great New Writers selection, a *New York Times* Editors' Choice, and named a Best Book of the Year by NPR, Barnes & Noble, *Latina Magazine*, and *Los Angeles Weekly*. Patricia's fiction has appeared in *The Atlantic*, *A Public Space*, *Boston Review*, and *Guernica*, among other publications, and her nonfiction has appeared in *Black Book* and *Glamour*. Her stories have received awards including the Boston Review Fiction Prize, and fellowships from the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, Key West Literary Seminar, Norman Mailer Writer's Colony, Hedgebrook, Ucross, and the Florida Division of Cultural Affairs. Included in the "Best New Writers" series by *The Daily Beast*, Patricia was also named a "Latina Who Shaped 2010" by *The New York Daily News*, one of *Poder360 Business Magazine's* "20 Under 40 Up and Coming Latinos," and a "Top New Latino/a Author" by LatinoStories.com. Born to Colombian parents and raised in New Jersey, Patricia earned her undergraduate degree at New York University and her MFA at Florida International University. She teaches creative writing at the University of Miami.