

THE PAN AFRICAN STUDIES PROGRAM AT SAC STATE  
PRESENTS

**OUR ANCESTORS' WILDEST  
DREAMS: AN UNDERGRADUATE  
RESEARCH SYMPOSIUM ON  
BLACK LIFE AND CULTURE**  
**REGISTER TO ATTEND:**



**PLEASE RSVP BY APRIL 21ST**

**APRIL 22, 2025. TIME: 10:00 AM TO 3:00 PM**

ELDERBERRY/BEETLE ROOM IN  
RIVERVIEW HALL

In Collaboration With:  
Cooper-Woodson College  
Enhancement Program  
Martin Luther King Jr. Center  
University Housing Services-Black  
Cultural Excellence Community  
The BSI Workgroup



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On behalf of the organizing team, we extend our deepest gratitude to everyone who contributed to the success of Our Ancestors' Wildest Dreams: An Undergraduate Research Symposium on Black Life and Culture, held on April 22, 2025, in the Elderberry/Beetle Room at Riverview Hall.

To the incredible planning committee— Dr. Martin Boston, Dr. Clarence George, Dr. Nicole Richards, Dr. Jasmin Wade, Kaifa Yates, Azriel Jones, Ciara Bess, and Mikayla Ray—thank you for your tireless dedication, creativity, and passion. Your vision and commitment brought this powerful gathering to life.

To our undergraduate presenters and performers, and local business owners—Tikia Shelby, Majanique Anderson, Jean-Pierre Papouloute, Valdy Ngassam, Mikayla Ray, Robin Kelly-Dunton, Veronica Perez, Tessa Irwin, Obasi Green, Ri'Quan Sandefur, Berta C. Zepeda & Kayli Koger, Sharnette Destiny Brooks Davis, Kevin Way Jr, Ashlee Green, Tobyn Hiatt, Maria F. Villanueva, and Shumala Alexander, Adwoa Akyianu, Absclothing Line—thank you for sharing your brilliance, courage, and creativity. You are living proof that our ancestors' dreams continue to grow and evolve in beautiful, powerful ways.

Your research, art, and performances explored vital intersections of Pan-Africanism, race, class, and gender, amplifying voices too often silenced, and centering experiences essential to understanding our society's fullness. You've transformed this symposium into more than an academic showcase, you've made it a space of liberation, truth-telling, and transformation.

To our sponsors—Cooper-Woodson College Enhancement Program, the Martin Luther King Jr. Center, and University Housing Services–Black Cultural Excellence Community—thank you for your steadfast support and belief in the importance of student-led scholarship and cultural celebration.

This symposium reminds us that the future is in capable, visionary hands. Thank you for dreaming boldly, researching deeply, and presenting unapologetically.

With appreciation and pride,

Ashe!



# **“Our Ancestors’ Wildest Dreams: An Undergraduate Symposium on Black Life and Culture”**

## **Agenda**

### **Session #1: 10 AM – 12PM**

**10:00 AM - 10:10 AM: Welcome & Libations Ceremony** (Elderberry)

- Opening remarks & Libations
- Guests invited to bring altar offerings

**10:10 AM – 11:00 AM**

- 10:10-10:40 **RESEARCH PAPER PANEL #1**
  - Mikayla Ray, “Double Consciousness,” and Veronica Perez, “Permeating Ancestry: Conceptualizing Free Will as Shown Through Descendants of Revolutionaries” (Elderberry)
- 10:45-11 **Slide Presentations**
  - Berta C. Zepeda & Kayli Koger, “Unveiling African Origins: The Vision of Chikh Anta Diop” (Beetle)
  - Sharnette Destiny Brooks-Davis, “Healing and Liberation: A Case Study of the PACE Program” (Elderberry)

**11:00 AM - 11:10 AM: Performance #1 – Tikia Shelby, “A Change Is Gonna Come-Sam Cooke”** (Beetle)

**11:10 AM - 11:50 AM:**

- 11:10-11:20 **Slide Presentation** - Ashlee Green, “Chemen Libète: A Study of Haiti's Colonial Legacy, Environmental Degradation, and Sociopolitical Dynamics” (Beetle)
- 11:25-11:35 **Video Project** - Tobyn Hyatt, “Africa Myth and Realities: The Modern Falsification of History” (Elderberry)
- 11:25-11:35 **Digital Canva Posterboard** – The CSUS Sankofa Exhibit (Beetle)
- 11:40 – 11:50 **Slide Presentation** - Ri’Quan Sandefur, “Awareness and Wisdom” (Beetle)

**11:50 AM - Noon: Performance #2: Chef of X, Jean-Pierre Papouloute, “@CHEFOFX”** (Beetle)

**Noon: Brazil Documentary Screening - Nicole Fowler** (Elderberry/Beetle)

### **Session #2: 1PM – 3 PM**

**1:00 PM - 1:10 PM: Performance #2 – Valdy Ngassam, “Tapping into my African Culture”** (Elderberry)

**1:10 PM - 2:00 PM:**

- 1:10-1:40 **RESEARCH PAPER PANEL #2**
  - Tessa Irwin, “A literary illustration of the significance of Black motherhood through oppressive systems and resistance” and Robin Kelly-Dunton, “Faith, Identity, and Isolation: The Psychological and Social Impact of Religious Cult Conversion on the Black Community” (Elderberry)
- 1:45-2:00 **Video Presentation**
  - Shumala Alexander, “Malcolm X’s - The Ballot or The Bullet” (Elderberry)

**2:00 PM - 2:10 PM: Performance #3- Woken Words: Majanique Anderson, “Rise Up”** (Beetle)

**2:15 PM – 2:45 PM**

- 2:15-2:25 **Video Presentation** - Maria Villanueva, “An Exploration of Robin D.G. Kelley’s Freedom Dreams: Third World Dreaming” (Beetle)
- 2:30-2:55 **Slide Presentations**
  - Obasi Green, “Black Feminist Dreams” (Beetle)
  - Kevin Way Jr. “Our Ancestors’ Most Ambitious Visions Related to the Pan African Movement” (Beetle)

**2:55 PM – 3:00 PM: - Closing** (Beetle)

# RESEARCH PAPER PANEL #1 - 10:10 AM - 10:40 AM

## Elderberry Room

Mikayla Ray

She/Her

Paper Title: “Double Consciousness”

Senior

Communication Studies

Veronica Perez

Paper Title: “Permeating Ancestry:  
Conceptualizing Free Will as Shown  
Through Descendants of Revolutionaries”

Class of 2024

Ethnic Studies



# Presentations - 11:10 AM - 11:50 AM



Berta C. Zepeda & Kayli Koger (Beetle Room)

Presentation Title: “Unveiling African Origins: The Vision of Chikh Anta Diop”

Junior/Senior

Nutrition & Food

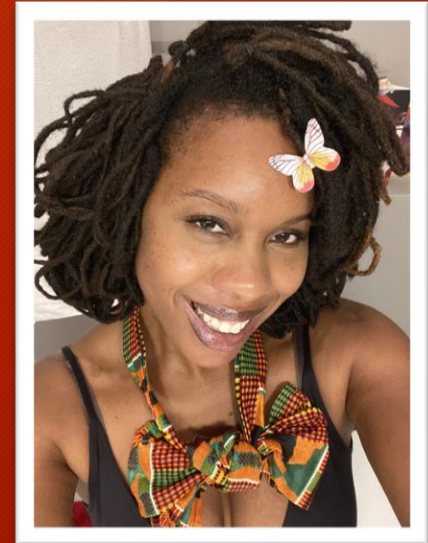
Sharnette Destiny Brooks-Davis (Elderberry Room)

She They/Them

Presentation Title: “Healing and Liberation: A Case Study of the PACE Program”

Junior

Social Work



# Performance: A Change Is Gonna Come by Sam Cooke

- Tikia Shelby
  - Junior
  - Deaf Studies
- 
- 11:00 AM - 11:10 AM (Beetle Room)



# Presentations - 11:10 AM - 11:35 AM

Tobyn Hyatt (Elderberry Room)

Presentation Title: “Africa Myth and Realities: The Modern Falsification of History”

Freshman

Film Major

Ashlee Green (Beetle Room)

She/Her/Hers

Presentation Title: “Chemen Libète: A Study of Haiti's Colonial Legacy, Environmental Degradation, and Sociopolitical Dynamics”

Senior

History





# Presentations - 11:25 AM - 11:50 AM



The CSUS Sankofa Exhibit (Beetle Room)

Digital Canva Posterboard

Multiple Students - Varying Class Levels

Multiple Students - Varying Major Fields of Study

Ri'Quan Sandefur (Beetle Room)

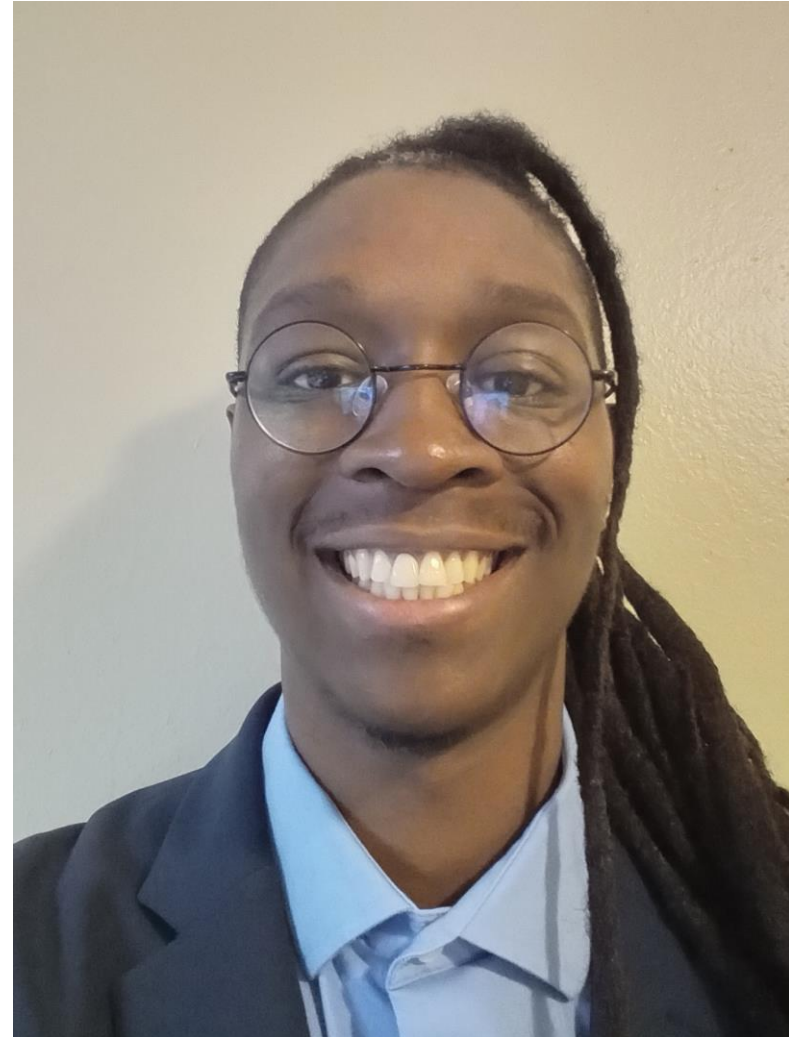
Presentation Title: "Awareness and Wisdom"

Sophomore

Undeclared

# Performance: @CHEFOFX

- Jean-Pierre Papouloute
  - He/Him/His
  - Junior
  - Electrical Engineering
- 
- 11:50 AM - Noon (Beetle Room)



# Brazil Documentary Screening

- Director: Nicole Fowler
- Media Production Specialist
- Sac State Marketing & Communications
- Noon (Elderberry/Beetle Room)





# Performance: Tapping Into my African Culture

- Valdy Ngassam
  - He/Him/His
  - Junior
  - Political Science
- 
- 1:00 PM - 1:10 PM (Elderberry Room)



# RESEARCH PAPER PANEL #2 - 1:10 PM -1:40 PM

## Elderberry Room

Tessa Irwin

She/Her

Paper Title: “A literary illustration of the significance of Black motherhood through oppressive systems and resistance”

Senior

Ethnic Studies

Robin Kelly-Dunton

She/Her

Paper Title: “Faith, Identity, and Isolation: The Psychological and Social Impact of Religious Cult Conversion on the Black Community”

Senior

Ethnic Studies





# Video Presentation - 1:45 PM - 2:00 PM

Shumala Alexander (Elderberry Room)

Presentation Title: “Malcolm X’s - The Ballot or The Bullet”

Sophomore

Kinesiology





# Performance: Rise Up!

- Majanique Anderson
- Junior
- Communications
- 2:00 PM - 2:10 PM (Beetle Room)



# Video Presentation - 2:15 PM - 2:25 PM

Maria F. Villanueva (Beetle Room)

She/Her

Presentation Title: “An Exploration of Robin D.G. Kelley’s Freedom Dreams: Third World Dreaming”

Senior

Ethnic Studies

# Slide Presentations- 2:30 PM -2:55 PM

## Beetle Room



Obasi Green

Him

Presentation Title: “Black Feminist Dreams”

Junior

Ethnic Studies

Kevin Way Jr.

He/Him/His

Presentation Title: “Our Ancestors’ Most Ambitious Visions Related to the Pan African Movement”

Senior

Film Studies

