

THE BLACK STUDIES DEPARTMENT
PRESENTS
THE DR. AJ WILLIAMS-MYERS
BLACK HISTORY MONTH LECTURE

The Beauty of White Supremacy

by **Dr. Yaba Blay**

Dr. Yaba Blay is a scholar-activist, public speaker, and cultural consultant whose scholarship, work and practice centers on the lived experiences of Black women and girls, with a particular focus on identity/body politics and beauty practices. Lauded by *O Magazine* for her social media activism, she has launched several viral campaigns including *Locs of Love*, *#PrettyPeriod* and *#ProfessionalBlackGirl*, her multi-platform digital community.

In 2012, Dr. Blay served as a producer on CNN's television documentary, "Who is Black in America?," and has since been named one of today's leading Black voices by 'The Root 100' and *Essence* magazine's 'Woke 100.' She has appeared on CNN, BET, MSNBC, BBC and NPR, and her work has been featured in *The New York Times*, *EBONY*, *Essence*, *Fast Company*, *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, *Colorlines* and *The Root*, to name a few. Her commentary is featured in *A Changing America: 1968 and Beyond*, a permanent installation exhibited in the National Museum of African American History and Culture; and she is the author of the award-winning book *One Drop: Shifting the Lens on Race*.

Widely respected as one of the foremost thought leaders on Black racial identity, colorism and beauty politics, Dr. Blay is a globally sought-after speaker and consultant with an extensive client list of over two dozen academic institutions including Harvard University, Duke University, Spelman College, New York University, to name a few; and such corporate entities as Netflix, Unilever International, SheaMoisture, Estée Lauder Companies, Procter & Gamble's 'My Black is Beautiful' and the #MeToo movement.

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Dr. Yaba Blay earned a Master of Arts and PhD in African American Studies (with distinction) and a Graduate Certificate in Women's Studies from Temple University. She also holds a Master of Education in Counseling Psychology from the University of New Orleans. The former Dan Blue Endowed Chair in Political Science at North Carolina Central University, she has also taught on the faculties of Lehigh University, Lafayette College, and Drexel University, where she served as the Director of the Africana Studies program.

**Tuesday,
February 21**

**6:30 p.m.
Lecture Center 100**

If you have accessibility questions or require accommodations to fully participate in this event, please contact Weldon McWilliams, 845-257-2765 as soon as possible prior to the event.

