WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE

2021 Keynote Memorial Lecture Featuring:
Gloria House, Poet, Essayist, Professor, Human Rights and Community Activist
Malik Yakini, Educator, Farmer, Food Justice Advocate, and Guitarist

Monday, January 18, 2021: 10:00 AM, Hill Auditorium
Gloria House, Ph.D. named the Kresge Foundation Eminent Artist of 2019, is a poet, essayist, educator and human rights activist who lives in Detroit. Dr. House completed her bachelor and master’s degrees at the University of California, Berkeley, in French and Comparative Literature respectively. Her doctorate in American Cultural History was earned at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor. Dr. House designed the major in African American and African Studies (AAAS) at the University of Michigan –Dearborn, and served as Director of the AAAS Program before retiring in 2014. She is Professor Emerita of Humanities and African American Studies at University of Michigan-Dearborn, and Associate Professor Emerita in Interdisciplinary Studies at Wayne State University, where she was a faculty member and advocate for racial equity for 27 years.


Malik Kenyatta Yakini is co-founder and Executive Director of the Detroit Black Community Food Security Network (DBCFSN). DBCFSN operates a seven-acre urban farm and is spearheading the opening of the Detroit People’s Food Co-op, a cooperatively grocery store in Detroit’s North End. Yakini views the work of DBCFSN as part of the larger movement for building power, self-determination, and justice. He is adamantly opposed to the system of white supremacy, capitalism and patriarchy. He has an intense interest in contributing to the development of an international food sovereignty movement that embraces Black communities in the Americas, the Caribbean and Africa. He is a co-founder of the National Black Food and Justice Alliance.
Moderated by U-M faculty Stephen Ward, PhD. Ward is a historian who teaches in the Residential College's Social Theory and Practice program (STP) as well as the Department of Afroamerican and African Studies (DAAS). His teaching and writing focus on two areas of recent American history. One is African American political thought and social movements, particularly the Black Power movement of the 1960s and ‘70s. The other area is the evolution of cities since World War II, with an emphasis on grassroots activism and community-based approaches to urban redevelopment. Much of his work focuses on the city of Detroit.

The Guild is a collage of renowned, Michigan-based artists that have collectively performed throughout the country. Approaching spoken word with an unapologetic style of storytelling, these artists are best known for their honest and original spoken word poetry, which centers around the principles of social consciousness, scholarship, diversity, love, community action, and education.

Incorporated in 2017, The Guild has remained steadfast to its mission of promoting education, empowerment, and unity through poetry. With each poet bringing their own unique style and coming from a diversity of backgrounds, The Guild is like no other poetry collective, creating a voice of their own.
PROGRAM OF EVENTS

Pouring Libations
Collaboration of members of the Detroit African Drum & Dance Collective

Opening Remarks
Dr. Robert M. Sellers, Vice Provost for Equity and Inclusion & Chief Diversity Officer

Welcoming Remarks
Dr. Mark S. Schlissel, President

Remarks from Keynote Event Cosponsors
Scott DeRue, Edward J. Frey Dean, Stephen M. Ross School of Business

Break
The GUILD Poetry Collective

Speakers Introduction
Sophee Langerman, BA, Dual Masters Candidate

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. 2021 Keynote Memorial Lecture:
Dr. Gloria House, Poet, Essayist, Professor, Human Rights and Community Activist, and Malik Yakini, Educator, Farmer, Food Justice Advocate, and Guitarist
Moderated by: Dr. Stephen Ward, Associate Professor

Message from Michigan Medicine

Provost Remarks
Dr. Susan Collins, Provost

Closing Remarks
Dr. Robert M. Sellers, Vice Provost for Equity, Inclusion & Chief Diversity Officer
Sponsors:

University of Michigan Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Symposium, Office of Academic Multicultural Initiatives, a unit in the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Stephen M. Ross School of Business with support from the William K. McInally Memorial Lecture Fund.

For an up-to-date list of 2021 MLK events, please visit: MLKSYMPOSIUM.UMICH.EDU