



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The August Wilson Society's 2021 "Virtual" Biennial Colloquium *August Wilson on the Margins –Understudied and Underrepresented Aspects of the American Century Cycle*

Washington, DC -- The August Wilson Society (AWS) is thrilled to host its 2021 Biennial Colloquium, August Wilson on the Margins: Understudied and Underrepresented Aspects of the American Century Cycle. This not-to-be-missed two-day virtual event will be held from 10-3 p.m. on Friday, March 12 and on Saturday, March 13, 2021. Despite being forced to postpone last year's event, we are certain that the fresh responses to this year's theme will push August Wilson Studies into uncharted areas that, thus far, have been treated tangentially or completely neglected. Colloquium participants will include an even wider range of voices and topics from artists, educators, community leaders, authors, activists, scholars, etc. who will offer thought-provoking panels and roundtable discussions, and workshops.

Acclaimed Wilsonian actress, producer, and director Michele Shay, will deliver AWS's 2021 Colloquium Keynote Address titled "August Wilson 2021: Exorcising Racism." Perhaps best known for her Tony Award-nominated performance as "Louise" in August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*, Shay will share her personal experiences of interpreting culture encoded in August Wilson's American Century Cycle and reveal the power of his words to exorcise racism.

Additional AWS Colloquium Highlights

- Archives and Special Collections Curator William Daw will offer attendees a virtual guided tour of the University of Pittsburgh's newly acquired August Wilson Archives along with a wealth of little known details about the contents of this collection.
- A Who's Who of noted directors, including Pittsburgh Playwright Theatre's Founder and Artistic Director Mark Southers, will host a discussion on directing August Wilson's American Century Cycle plays.
- During the appropriately titled session, #TeachersMatter: Critical Pedagogy and Curriculum Development," a panel of new and seasoned educators will share best practices in teaching August Wilson to educate and inspire citizenship and activism among today's youth.

To register for the August Wilson Society's 2021 Colloquium, August Wilson on the Margins –Understudied and Underrepresented, click on <https://awscolloquium21.eventbrite.com> or visit. For more information, email info@augustwilsonsociety.org.

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About the August Wilson Society:

augustwilsonsociety.org

The **August Wilson Society (AWS)** was founded within Howard University's College of Arts and Sciences in Spring 2006, shortly after the passing of August Wilson at age 60. This group defines itself as an interdisciplinary learning community of instructors, students and theater lovers who remain dedicated to commemorating August Wilson's legacy by promoting the studying, teaching, researching, performing and, ultimately, the safeguarding of the rich narrative of the African American past that Wilson has bequeathed to us in the form of 10 plays that chronicle the stories of African Americans from 1904 to 1997. To learn more and donate, visit www.augustwilsonsociety.org