

**Dates and Deadlines:**

1. **Monday, February 28, 2017:** Proposal Abstracts must be received by 5:00 p.m.
2. **Monday, March 31, 2017:** Acceptances announced, and Invitation sent to presenters and panel leaders. These will be accompanied with terms of participation and hospitality
3. **Wednesday, May 02, 2017:** Acceptance of Invitation to present must reach the Task Force at the addressed provided.
4. **Thursday, June 09, 2017:** Submission of Draft Presentations **should** reach the Coordinator, Dr. Oyèláràn, ready to go to Facilitators and Discussants. It is critical that discussants receive your presentation no later than **July 01**. That will enable them prepare creative leads for productive audience participation.

*NB: Please, be on the lookout for updates to this “Call for Papers.” Updates will be posted on the NBTF official web site [www.nbtf.org](http://www.nbtf.org). You may also contact us.*

**Send your proposal to each of the following:**

**Dr. Olásopé O. Oyèláràn**  
Coordinator of NBTF-IC  
2870 Deerwood Drive  
Winston-Salem, NC 27103-3412  
Mobile: (336) 692-8660  
[Olasope@kzoo.edu](mailto:Olasope@kzoo.edu)

**Dr. Elwanda Ingram**  
2765 Reynolds Park Road  
Winston-Salem, NC 27107  
336-655-1839 (cell)  
[ingrame@wssu.edu](mailto:ingrame@wssu.edu)

Please, copy your submission to

**Ms. Kathryn Mobley** ([scribblers29@yahoo.com](mailto:scribblers29@yahoo.com))  
**Dr. Michael Dinwiddie** ([michael.dinwiddie@NYU.EDU](mailto:michael.dinwiddie@NYU.EDU)), and  
**Dr. Sandra G. Shannon** ([sshannon@howard.edu](mailto:sshannon@howard.edu));  
**Dr. Tanya E. Walker** ([walkerte@wssu.edu](mailto:walkerte@wssu.edu));

*National Black Theatre Festival*

*July 31 - August 5, 2017*

*<http://www.nbtf.org/>*

**2017 NBTF International Colloquium**

Theme:

***The Black Theater: Reflections of Citizenship, Access,  
Freedom and Criminal Justice***

**Winston-Salem, NC, U.S.A.**

**August 01-04, 2017**

**CALL FOR PAPERS**

## 2017 NBTF International Colloquium

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Winston-Salem, NC, U.S.A.

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### CALL FOR PAPERS

#### Notice

The International Colloquium of the biennial National Black Theatre Festival (NBTF-IC) has, since its inception in 1993, served as a key educational component of the NBTF. Since 2009, three institutions with vested interest, North Carolina Black Repertory Company (NCBRC), Winston-Salem State University (WSSU), and the Black Theatre Network (BTN) assumed collaborative responsibility for planning the International Colloquium. The Task Force that plans the NBTF-IC draws its membership from these institutions.

#### 2017 NBTF-IC Theme

The 2017 NBTF-IC will focus on the theme *The Black Theater: Reflections of Citizenship, Access, Freedom, and Criminal Justice*.

The Task Force planning the 2017 NBTF-IC invites individual presentations or clearly articulated panel proposals, which address this theme. We expect each presentation or panel proposal to offer a persuasive potential to engender the kind of lively discourse that will energize the audience at each session, and send them away to performances and other events of the NBTF, with heightened consciousness.

#### Some Relevant Thoughts

The laws and constitution of the United States, as of other nations, hold up ideals of citizenship implicitly as guarantees for the state's delivery of common good. These ideals include, but are by no means limited to unfettered access, freedom, and justice. Unfortunately, the existential experiences of individuals show, more often than not, that these ideals are either compromised or are downright denied.

If, indeed, art imitates life, the Black Theatre ought to provide us a guide to how these ideals have played out in the lives of the people in every society with a Black presence. What the Black Theatre reflects may also counsel how the upcoming generations should prepare to negotiate life in order to be able to optimize their potentials as citizens.

- When, for instance, individuals run foul against the laws that "regulate" society, laws that are expected to make the ideals of state benefit individuals, does the Black Theater reflect how equity and fair play break for all in the face of these laws?
- Does the exercise of these laws hold, for the individual, prospects of a wholesome rehabilitation without assuming that any personal attribute or social construct identifiable with the individual is prima facie pathological?
- What issues of "Access" are currently reflected on Black Theatre world stages? (How are Black Theatre artists and professionals concerned about disability, poverty, segregation, exclusion, life style orientation?)

- What is nature and impact of the depiction of Citizenship? Freedom? Criminal Justice?

The 2017 NBTF International Colloquium, like the ones before it, will provide a four-day forum where speakers, panelists and the general audience will engage in unfettered multidimensional conversations about how the Black Theatre reflects issues raised by the theme of this International Colloquium, in the United States and, on the testimony of participants, in other countries with a significant Black presence.

#### 2017 NBTF-IC Schedule:

The following schedule will prepare participants to go and experience performances of their choice and return to the IC the following day with enhanced perspectives.

Session Rubric [Session themes/titles determined by the thrust of presentations fielded]

1. **Duration:** 10:00 AM to 12:30 PM.
2. **Presentations** or panel discussion not taking more seventy five minutes
3. A minimum of one hour of audience engagement built into each session
4. Session facilitators monitoring and managing time to ensure optimal audience participation

Tuesday, August 01: Opening Session

1. Keynote Address
2. Discussants
3. Recognition of the up and coming Black Theater professionals.

Wednesday, August 02: Session II

Thursday, August 03: Session III

Friday, August 04: Session IV

#### Guidelines for Proposals

Author:

1. Full Name (First, Middle initial, Last)
2. Title
3. Institution and Department (if applicable)
4. Address, including city, state, zip code
5. Daytime telephone
6. Evening telephone
7. E-Mail Address
8. Résumé: **NOT** to exceed 200 words

Presentation Abstract or Panel Proposal

1. Title: Brief, unambiguous and thematically transparent;
2. Abstract/Proposal: Not more than 250 words
3. If proposing a panel: sub theme of the panel; attach participants; their bios, and specializations pertinent to the focus of the 2017 NBTF-IC.

Submission Guidelines:

1. Document Format: 12 point, Times New Roman; lines double spaced; top and bottom margins, 1 inch; left and right margins, 1.25 inches.
2. Electronic submission as **an e-mail attachment** only; must be in the format for **Microsoft Word Document**. We encourage you to also submit one hard or PDF copy to Dr. Oyèláràn.
3. Please, **do not** submit proposals or completed papers by fax or as e-mail message.

*Failure to adhere to these guidelines may be prejudicial to the acceptance of your proposal.*