CALL FOR PAPERS

20th Annual Black Theatre Association Debut Panel
“Curtains Up: Conversation Among Emerging Scholars”

to be held at the annual conference (on-site and remote)
of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE)
August 5-8, 2021
JW Marriott Austin, Austin, Texas

The Black Theatre Association (BTA), a focus group of the Association for Theatre in Higher Education (ATHE), in coordination with the American Theatre and Drama Society (ATDS), seeks essay submissions for its 20th Annual Debut Panel, “Curtains Up: Conversation Among Emerging Scholars.” BTA encourages assistant professors, contingent faculty, and graduate students working on black theatre and performance studies who have never presented at ATHE to apply. Papers may consider any aspect of black dramatic criticism, theatre history, plays, playwrights, performers, directors, designers, or any other topic related to black theatre and/or performance. We encourage, but do not require, that papers connect to the conference theme:

RE: ATHE: Re- the prefix complicates our reckoning. Its meaning includes “back from a point reached” and “back to the original place or position.” For the full description of this year’s theme, see: https://www.athe.org/page/21conf_theme.

Papers will be reviewed by a panel of theatre/performance studies scholar judges. Selected essays will receive feedback to help authors strengthen their work for the national conference presentation. Please include your name, paper title, affiliation and contact information on the first page of your essay. Essays will be evaluated for originality, the quality of writing and research, and critical/theoretical application. Essay submissions should be 8 to 10 typed pages in length, double-spaced, and use either Chicago or MLA style for citations. Accepted panelists will present their papers at the ATHE conference, August 5-8, Austin, TX either remotely or on-site.

Deadline for submissions is April 18, 2021. Receipt of your submission will be confirmed via email. You will be informed of the panel’s decision by May 10, 2021. Please e-mail your essay submission as an MSWord attachment to Leticia Ridley, BTA Debut Panel Coordinator, at lridley@umd.edu. Please type “2021 BTA Debut Panel” in the subject heading. All accepted panelists must register for the conference and be a member for the 2020-2021 academic year. The writer of the winning essay selected by BTA will receive a $200 grant towards conference membership or registration.

Black Theatre Association Officers 2020-2021

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