



## **Hiphop Literacies 2017: Hiphop Justice**

**March 30-31, 2017  
John Jay College of  
Criminal Justice/ CUNY**

The late critical historian,  
Manning Marable, always  
called the years after the  
Black Freedom  
Movements of the 1960-

1970s the Second Post-Reconstruction. Like with the First Post-Reconstruction a century before (the era immediately after the emancipation of enslaved Africans), the white backlash against the relative gains in freedom and sovereignty for Black masses was swift and unrelenting. The second Post-Reconstruction, achieved most significantly by the campaigns of Ronald Reagan and Margaret Thatcher, arguably witnessed the birth of Hiphop. Hiphop, however, was more than a mere reaction to or resistance against the global oppressions of Reaganomics and Thatcherism when these regimes unleashed the IMF, World Bank, global warming, and a host of calculated attacks on Brown and Black peoples worldwide. Hiphop was a radical (re)vision and (re)valuing of life and cultural survivance. This year's Hiphop literacies conference urges us to see the writing on the wall: we are now entering the Third Post-Reconstruction. Let's take Papoose's argument seriously when he lays down his freestyle with Remy Ma at Funk Flex's Freestyle #027: "just yesterday, we was Obama-ed up, now we all stuck with Ronald McDonald Trump." This year's Hiphop literacies conference therefore compels us to ask: what is Hiphop's ongoing (re)vision and (re)valuing of Black life and culture in the Third Post-Reconstruction? How do Brown and Black peoples who are threatened by Trump's walls get ready to respond to and resist through Hiphop culture? How does Hiphop *stand with* Standing Rock and *stand against* colonization set in motion centuries ago? What are the heteropatriarchal scripts that Hiphoppas must keep relentlessly rewriting? How will we sustain, maintain, and thrive as a legacy of our cultural survivance?

The purpose of the Hip-hop Literacies conference is to bring together scholars, educators, activists, students, artists, and community members to dialogue on pressing social problems. This year our working conference theme is Hip-hop Justice (Hip-hop in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Reconstruction). Participants of the Hip-hop Literacies Conference join a community of those concerned with African American/Black, Brown and urban literacies who are interested in challenging the sociopolitical arrangement of the relations between institutions, languages, identities, and power through engagement with local narratives of inequality and lived experience in order to critique a global system of oppression. Literacies scholars who foreground the lives of Hip-hop generation youth see Hip-hop as providing a framework to ground work in classrooms and communities in democratic ideals.

This year's Hip-hop Literacies Conference will be hosted by John Jay College of Criminal Justice of the City University of New York. We want to keep the momentum rolling forward from previous conference themes where we have examined the intersections of Hip-hop, critical education/literacies, the current BlackLivesMatter movement, activism-



artistry, social stratification, globalization, popular culture and technology.

*Possible topics this year include:*

*Radical Histories / Herstories of Hip-hop*

*Hip-hop, Social Awareness, and Political Consciousness*

*Hip-hop Activism*

*Collective Empowerment, Self-Determination, and Social Justice*

*Hip-hop and Transnational Justice*

*Hip-hop Literacies as Critical Practice*

*Deejay Literacies as Critical Practice*

*Hip-hop Rhetorics and Counter-Publics*

*Hiphop Aesthetics and Revolution*  
*Hiphop Feminism(s)/ Womanism (and Counterpolitical Expressions of White Femininity)*  
*Hiphop Feminist Education/ Outreach*  
*Black and Brown Queer (femme, feminine etc.) and Trans Identities in Hiphop*  
*BlackQueer Hiphop Studies*  
*Graf Writing as New Literacies/ New Media*  
*Bgirling/ Bboying as Movement Studies*  
*Sound Studies and Sonic Philosophies*  
*Hiphop and Race-Disability Studies*  
*Hiphop Sociolinguistics and Nation Language*

In addition to scheduled talks and workshops by renowned scholars, activists, cultural workers, artists and educators, the conference will host presentations and performances by scholars, students and community members. The conference will also feature a performance by a nationally recognized Hiphop artist (TBA).

Abstracts of 300 words for 20-minute paper presentations are welcome as well as other formats (i.e., ethnodrama, performance, poetry, autoethnography, and fiction). We are also seeking regional and local talent to perform on the bill with a national artist (TBA) on the final night of the conference.

Send abstracts for papers and other formats to [Hiphopliteracies@gmail.com](mailto:Hiphopliteracies@gmail.com) by January 15, 2017. Acceptances will be notified by January 29, 2017. Please include your name, (institutional affiliation) contact information, including email address, and phone number. Local/regional performers should send a link to their brief performance video and a bio (with contact info) to [Hiphopliteracies@gmail.com](mailto:Hiphopliteracies@gmail.com) by January 15, 2017 (put "performer" in subject line). **All details will be posted at the conference website: [hiphopliteracies.com](http://hiphopliteracies.com). For updated information about the conference organizers, the final program, confirmed speakers and performers, hotel arrangements, and local attractions, please stay tuned at [hiphopliteracies.com](http://hiphopliteracies.com).**