



A CALL FOR PAPERS
17TH NATIONAL BLACK WRITERS CONFERENCE (NBWC2024)

“All That We Carry: *Where Do We Go From Here?*”

in the work of
**Bernice McFadden, Paul Coates, Peniel Joseph,
Percival Everett, and/or John Oliver Killens**

The Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College, CUNY (CBL), presents the 17th National Black Writers Conference, “*All That We Carry: Where Do We Go From Here?*” This is a public gathering of writers, scholars, literary professionals, theater and film luminaries, students, and the public. The dates are March 20, 2024–March 23rd, 2024. Honorees for the 17th National Black Writers Conference are author Bernice McFadden, publisher Paul Coates, scholar Peniel Joseph, and writer Percival Everett.

CBL invites proposals on the work of Bernice McFadden, Paul Coates, Peniel Joseph, Percival Everett, and/or John Oliver Killens. **Papers should examine the following:**

- The ways in which Black writers draw from oral histories and ancestral stories to craft stories that evoke memory, respond to present-day realities, and inspire visions of more liberatory futures.
- Using themes from Peniel Joseph’s work as a guide, examine how Black writers’ commentaries and perspectives of the Civil Rights, Black Power, and Black Lives Matter movements have shifted and evolved. How are a new generation of Black writers grappling with what bell hooks expressed as “white supremacist, capitalist, patriarchy”?
- How the idea of “All That We Carry: Where Do We Go From Here?” is connected to the Black experience or culture and how it is expressed or expanded in the works created by the writers and scholars Paul Coates, Bernice McFadden, Peniel Joseph and Percival Everett.

CALL FOR PAPERS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Deadline: Friday, January 19th. | **Acceptance:** By Friday, February 2nd, 2024.

Please submit electronically an abstract/proposal of 300–500 words, a list of related references for the presentation, and the thesis or question you plan to explore. **Do not send manuscripts.** Submissions must be authentic and original and should not have been published previously or be under consideration for publication while being evaluated for this event.

Please submit the following to info@centerforblackliterature.org:

1. Your name and contact information on the title page.
2. Title of proposed talk
3. Institutional affiliation
4. Short academic bio of no more than 50 words

NOTE: Include your name and “Call for Papers 17th NBWC” in the subject line. Scholars’ panels will be held virtually on Thursday, March 21, 2024 (11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. ET).