



## A CALL FOR PAPERS

### 18TH NATIONAL BLACK WRITERS CONFERENCE (NBWC2025)

#### Honoring Black Middle Grade and Young Adult Storytelling

#### Conference Honorees: Rita Williams- Garcia and Tony Medina

The Center for Black Literature at Medgar Evers College, CUNY (CBL), presents the **18th National Black Writers Biennial Symposium, “Honoring Black Middle Grade and Young Adult Storytelling.”** This Symposium is a culturally enriched literary gathering of writers, educators, literary professionals, and the general public.

Scholarly papers will be presented virtually on March 28, 2025 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

Scholars, poets, writers, and students are invited to submit proposals on the work of Conference Honorees Rita Williams-Garcia, Tony Medina, or on one of the themes listed below.

- Expanding voices in MG and YA speculative fiction
- The role of gender and identity in MG and YA literature
- The matter of Black lives in MG and YA literature
- The presence of joy, courage, and healing in MG and YA literature

### CALL FOR PAPERS SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

**Deadline:** Friday, January 17, 2025 | **Acceptance:** By Friday, February 14, 2025

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](mailto: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 18th NBWC” in the subject line. Scholars’ panels will be held virtually on Friday, March 28, 2025 (10:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. ET).

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