



CENTER FOR BLACK STUDIES RESEARCH

# MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024

[cbsr.ucsb.edu](http://cbsr.ucsb.edu)

## FROM OUR DIRECTOR



Dear CBSR Community,

As the year comes to a close, the Center for Black Studies Research reflects on the importance of gratitude, community, and empathy. This holiday season, we are reminded to extend kindness and compassion to those who may face challenges and to embrace the spirit of resilience and generosity that defines our shared work.

### Upcoming Events

#### Open House

We are delighted to invite you to our Open House on Tuesday, December 10, 2024 from 2-4 pm where we will celebrate the achievements and milestones of this past year. Join us in our collaborative space to connect with colleagues, enjoy refreshments, and envision what lies ahead for CBSR.

#### Documentary Film Screening: Banished

Also on December 10, 2-4 pm (concurrently with the Open House) we will present the second film in our Fall 2024 documentary series, *Banished*. This powerful film explores the history of racial expulsion in America, providing a poignant reminder of the importance of understanding and confronting our collective history. The screening will include popcorn and beverages.

### Spotlight on Postdoctoral Scholars Achievements

We are proud to highlight the remarkable contributions of our postdoctoral scholars who have recently shared their research on national platforms:

- Dr. Ebenezer Larnyo presented at the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2024 conference Annual Meeting, where he delivered a compelling presentation exploring the health information needs of older adults with dementia. Dr. Larnyo also showcased a poster investigating digital literacy and cancer prevention in older adults.
- Dr. Charles Terry recently attended the History of Education Society's (HES) Annual Conference, where he presented his work on the struggles for literacy faced by enslaved African Americans.

Their contributions exemplify the Center's mission to foster impactful research that addresses critical social issues and uplifts historically marginalized voices.

## Seasonal Reflections

As we celebrate this season, we are deeply grateful for the dedication and passion of our faculty, staff, students, and community partners. Together, we continue to build a space where scholarship meets advocacy, and where reflection fuels progress.

Let us embrace this time of togetherness and use it as an opportunity to reaffirm our commitment to empathy, equity, and justice. We look forward to welcoming you to our December events and continuing our shared journey in the year ahead.

We would like to extend our heartfelt gratitude to Dr. Joseph Incandela and his dedicated team for their unwavering support of the Center for Black Studies Research. Dr. Incandela's generosity, thoughtfulness, and steadfast commitment have been instrumental in enabling our mission to advance scholarship, community engagement, and advocacy. His willingness to provide resources, guidance, and encouragement has created opportunities for growth and collaboration that have greatly enriched our work.

The graciousness of Dr. Incandela and his team exemplifies the spirit of partnership and mutual respect that is vital to our collective success. Their contributions have not only supported our current initiatives but have also laid a strong foundation for the Center's future endeavors. We are deeply thankful for their efforts and look forward to continuing this meaningful collaboration with the Office of Research. (Tettegah & Open AI, personal communication, November 25, 2024)

Warmest wishes for a joyful and meaningful holiday season,

Dr. Sharon Tettegah, Director  
Center for Black Studies Research  
UC Santa Barbara

## FOSTERING DIALOGUE WITH WENDY ELEY JACKSON

The Center would like to extend its gratitude to Wendy Eley Jackson for her collaboration on and moderation of the inaugural screening in our documentary film series, *Slavery By Another Name*. Her thoughtful guidance and deep commitment to uncovering the historical truths of systemic oppression provided an essential framework for understanding this powerful film. Wendy's reflections remind us of the critical importance of acknowledging our past to build a more just and equitable future.

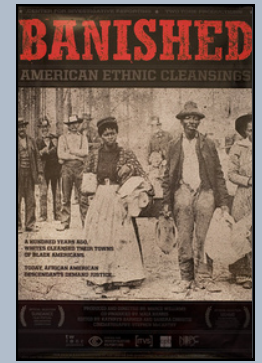


“It was an honor to moderate the screening of *Slavery By Another Name*, a powerful documentary that exposes the enduring legacy of systemic oppression against African Americans. Understanding America's past—the painful truths of forced labor, racial violence, and institutionalized injustice—is essential to confronting the challenges we face today. Without this critical reflection, we risk repeating the mistakes of history.

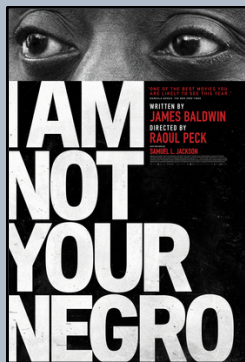
These stories, no matter how difficult, must continue to be told, for they shape our culture and illuminate the resilience and contributions of African Americans. Sharing these truths is not just a call for justice but a collective responsibility to create a better, more equitable future.” - *Wendy Eley Jackson, MFA*

# CBSR FALL OPEN HOUSE & FILM SERIES SHOWINGS II & III

On December 10th, 2024 from 2:00-4:00 p.m. in 4603 South Hall, we will be hosting the second showing in our documentary film series, *Banished*, as well as our Fall 2024 Open House. This documentary looks at three Southern U.S. cities that violently forced African American families to flee in the post-reconstruction era. We invite all community members to join us for both of these events, where you can come learn more about what happens at the Center and gain insight on African American history.



Food and beverages will be served.



On January 15th, 2025 from 2:00-3:30 p.m. in 4603 South Hall, we will be showing the next film in the series, *I Am Not Your Negro*. This film explores the history of racism in America through the unfinished manuscripts of James Baldwin, connecting his reflections on civil rights leaders Medgar Evers, Malcolm X, and Martin Luther King Jr. to present-day racial issues.

Popcorn and beverages will be served.

## CBSR TEAM UPDATES

### DR. EBENEZER LARNYO, POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR

“I had the privilege to attend the Gerontological Society of America (GSA) 2024 Annual Scientific Meeting in Seattle, WA, from November 12-16, 2024. This conference brought together over 4,000 experts in aging, providing an opportunity to engage with global leaders like Dr. Peter Lichtenberg and Dr. Walter R. Boot, and to explore innovative research on health disparities in aging. The sessions and workshops aligned with my focus on health equity in the African Diaspora, expanding my professional network and enhancing my ability to contribute to improving healthcare access and outcomes for older Black adults in the U.S. and Sub-Saharan Africa.” - *Dr. Ebenezer Larnyo*



### Using Social Media Posts to Understand the Health Information Needs of Older Adults with Dementia

Ebenezer Larnyo, Ph.D.\*, Karim Benyassine, and Natasha Preece  
\*Postdoctoral Scholar, Center for Black Studies Research, University of California, Santa Barbara





Additionally, Dr. Larnyo recently led his informative “Building a Healthcare Utilization Framework: Concepts, Data, and Practical Insights” workshop. This workshop equipped participants with the skills to build and apply a healthcare utilization framework, and explored essential concepts, influential factors, and practical tools for designing frameworks that drive informed decision-making and policy development. Through hands-on exercises, participants learned how to apply these insights to real-world healthcare settings to improve patient outcomes and optimize resources. To view the presentation and resources from the workshop click [here](#).

## DR. CHARLES TERRY, POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR

Dr. Charles Terry continues his impactful work at the CBSR. In the upcoming quarter, he will be forming a Writing Group aimed at supporting early-career Postdoctoral Scholars, Lecturers, and Assistant Professors at UCSB. This group will convene weekly on Wednesday and Friday from 4-6 p.m. in 4603 South Hall to focus on academic writing. If you’re interested please reach out to [cterry@ucsb.edu](mailto:cterry@ucsb.edu).

Dr. Terry is also collaborating with his undergraduate research group, which includes two students: Kamaya Jackson, a sophomore majoring in Black Studies, and Zitong Xi, a senior studying Statistics and Data Science. Together, they are working on upcoming journal projects.

Additionally, Dr. Terry is revising his book proposal “A Rebellious Education: Slave Rebellions, Enslaved African Americans, and the Fight for Literacy” based on reviewer feedback from Palgrave MacMillan.

Lastly, from November 7-11th, he attended the History of Education Society (HES) Conference in Chicago, where he presented his research on the literacy struggles of enslaved African Americans. His presentation was part of the “Black Educational Issues—19th and 20th Century” panel, chaired by Dr. Michael Hines of Stanford University. While at the conference, Dr. Terry connected with fellow scholars and is now collaborating with them to plan a conference on historical African American literacy, tentatively scheduled for Spring 2025.

A REBELLIOUS  
EDUCATION:  
ENSLAVED AFRICAN  
AMERICANS AND THE  
FIGHT FOR LITERACY

CHARLES TERRY  
UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA,  
SANTA BARBARA





# DECEMBER RECOGNITIONS



Click on each holiday below to learn more!

Hanukkah



Christmas



Bodhi Day



Ōmisoka



Kwanzaa



Dongzhi Festival



Yule

