

Boston University School of Theology

ANNA HOWARD SHAW CENTER

Volume 35 • Issue 1 • Fall 2018

Women and Healing Traditions



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In This Issue

3rd Annual Multi Cultural Expo	<i>3-5</i>
Hazel Johnson	
African American Women and the Healing Tradition: One Woman's Experience	<i>6</i>
Rev. Dr. Karen Coleman	
Healing and Collective Memory	<i>7</i>
Leticia Trujillo, M.Div. '19	
Seeing God's Goodness, Power and Grace: Healing in the Christian Science Tradition	<i>8</i>
Kelsey Lyon, M.Div. '19	
Meet New STH Staff	<i>9</i>
Fall Lunches	<i>10</i>
Save the Date	<i>11</i>



**THE BU SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY'S
3RD ANNUAL MULTICULTURAL
EXPO**

OCTOBER, 18 2018

5:45PM- 7:30PM

**745 COMMONWEALTH AVENUE
BOSTON 02215**

B23-B24 (BASEMENT)

3rd Annual MultiCultural Expo

Honoring the Anna Howard Shaw Center's commitment to promoting and encouraging structures and practices that create and empower diversity, the 3rd Annual Multicultural Expo brought together various domestic and international students to share stories, eat delicious food and build community across cultures.

We were honored to have both students and faculty from the BUSTH

community and students from Harvard University and Northeastern University share their experiences, gifts and culture. From the beautiful art of Liberia to the delicious food of Egypt, participants were taken on a journey around the world. During the "trip", guests stopped to in India to learn about the Feminine Divine.

3rd Annual MultiCultural Expo

The journey included a trip to “The Pearl of Africa” as attendees heard about the festivals of the Indigenous community in Uganda. Before participants got back on the train around the world, they were blessed with the melodic sounds of Dr. Teddy Hickman-Maynard, Associate Dean of Community and Student Life. Dr. Teddy shared his family’s Afro-Caribbean Heritage and invited the community to sing along.

The music was engaging and provided a time of joy and laughter. The journey around the world made a stop in the

Congo where guests learned about the 200 tribes in the country. Traveling over 11,000 miles across the world, the community gathered to witness a traditional Hawaiian Dance offered by Nani Calvillo and her lovely daughters. During the final stop to Singapore, guests were encouraged to be grateful for and challenged by the ways they consume culture. It was both a gift and an invitation to love deeper, see clearer and live more full lives.



3rd Annual MultiCultural Expo

The Shaw Center is grateful to have had so many wonderful people journey around the world with us and we look forward to our next “world tour.”

THANK YOU to our videographer and editor Christina Richardson (M.Div., '19). Please enjoy the [VIDEO!](#)

Thank you to our speakers, performers and supporters!

Tresor “Trey” Selenga- Congolese Speaker

Christina Richardson- Liberian Speaker

Mugerwa Martin- Ugandan Speaker

Sagar Ragpal- Indian Speaker

Jaira Koh- Singaporean Speaker

Fatima Elbakoury- Egyptian Speaker

Sadiq Delaney- Prayer

Dr. Teddy Hickman Maynard- Singer

Nani Calvillo and Daughters- Hula Dance

Tory Dillard- Tech Support

Event Hosts: Uche Awa and Hazel Johnson

African American Women and the Healing Tradition: One Woman's Experience

I am the grand daughter of a pharmacist. I am the daughter of a pharmacist. I am the god daughter of two physicians. Physical healing came in the form of a consultation in the Merck's Manuel Health Book a must have for the medical professional. My journey toward my own healing and wholeness came when I was living in New York City frequenting the East West Book Store and becoming an avid practitioner of Kundalini yoga. On my spiritual journey I met my first Spiritual Director, Tzipora (although I didn't have the language to define her as that at that time). Tzipora not only guided me on my spiritual path but also taught this urban kid about the path of nature. I learned that there were certain herbs one could make teas with for colds, sore throats and to calm down at the end of a busy day. She taught me to open my eyes to the wonder of nature, even in New York City.

Later, my definition of "healing" expanded to looking at ways that I pray and live my life on the spiritual plain. Every Monday during the school year an Ecumenical Evening Prayer service is held at 5:30. This offers a time of prayer and meditative reflection to faculty, staff and students. Near the end of the service we recite a version of the Lord's Prayer from the New Zealand Prayer Book. I am always struck with the following lines:

"With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever."

My healing comes from my time in prayer both in community and alone. My healing comes from my monthly Saturday gathering of my Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority sisters. My healing comes when I get out of myself to help another out of love for a fellow human being. My healing comes from sitting amongst the elders who still refer to me as a child. My healing comes from the sharing of a meal.

My healing comes from God.



Rev. Dr. Karen Coleman, Episcopal Chaplain at BU



Healing and Collective Memory

“I am grateful that our collective family memory has served to indicate that we cannot stop at where we are.”

Healing is a painstakingly slow process, if you ask me. Nothing feels more impeding than constantly remembering and recalling the ways in which I have been hurt. And these memories do not only pertain to myself as an individual, but are connected to the family pain that has carried on for generations. Since my undergraduate years I have learned that healing can often times feel like a process afforded only to the privileged. I started going to therapy after my father’s deportation because as a college student I had access to these resources. In comparison to my mother, she has had to work ceaselessly to make up for the loss of my father’s income, thus inhibiting the process of mourning, which is instrumental to the process of healing.



Leticia “Lety” Trujillo MDiv. ‘19

So while remembering how much my family has gone through feels really burdensome, I am grateful that our collective family memory has served to indicate that we cannot stop at where we are.

As a person with comparative privilege, I had the opportunity to travel to Mexico and meet my mother’s side of the family for the first time. The greatest heartbreak was knowing that my mother was not with me to make this trip. She has been living in the United States, undocumented, for over 25 years and without seeing them. While it was simultaneously one of the greatest joys to finally be with my tias, primas, abuela, and sobrinas, it was also incredibly challenging to not cry over the brokenness of our family. We are separated by an imaginary line, a murderous border ignoring the cries of generations, spirits no longer with us and souls trying to keep alive. I am grateful for what my family taught me this summer about love, perseverance, laughter, and how to keep the fight alive. Collectively, we find healing in memory and in practices that may not make it to the headlines, but allow us to survive, and push for what is yet to come.

“Healing nurtures unbreakable bonds despite broken borders.”

- Anna Howard Shaw Center Staff





Kelsey Lyon, MDiv. '19

Seeing God's Goodness, Power and Grace: Healing in the Christian Science Tradition

My involvement with healing has been a lifelong journey and one that I expect to never cease. I had my first memorable healing around the age of 4. I had smashed my finger which caused the fingernail to fall off. For about a week, I got the finger cleaned and bandaged while having a Christian Science practitioner pray for healing. Eventually, the nurse contacted the practitioner to notify her that my finger was starting to smell which indicated that it was rotting and I might need to have my finger removed. This alerted the practitioner to need for dedicated prayer time. She spent the night in earnest prayer and by the next day the condition of the finger was substantially better and healing soon followed. This instance in my life set an early precedent for me that God does heal and we, as his children, can expect to be healers and to be healed.

I certainly had different times in my life when I was more or less interested in what God was doing. At times, I felt connected and on fire about learning all there was about who God is and what that means for creation and there were other times when I struggled to feel any sort of presence. But there was one moment in my life when I really committed to being a Christian Scientist. For almost a decade, I struggled with a physical problem that limited my mobility. I had prayed here and there about it, but had been unwilling to expect any major transformation. Finally, it got to a point where it looked like I would never be able to get around fully unless I went the medical route. As I thought long and hard about it, I saw a vision of myself as an old woman. I considered whether I

could have a good and productive life with limited mobility and I saw myself helping and praying for others with a love and tenderness that far exceeded what I was currently experiencing. I decided that I could have a great life even if I couldn't get around everywhere, but I wouldn't be myself or live out my life fully without Christian Science. From then on I substantially dedicated myself to working life out with a Christian healing perspective. I worked every day with a practitioner and saw the full healing in about a month or two and have been free from any mobility issues for years now.

To me, Christian Science isn't so much of a religion as a way of life. It certainly has the religious institutional aspects to it, which allow the ideas to move throughout the ages and provide a community for its followers. However, its main focus is to help guide thoughts and actions into unity with the divine so that all may know the kingdom on earth. It is a way to overcome dark thoughts, limiting notions, and self-defeating actions. I believe that Jesus not only healed people himself, but showed others how to heal. It was an expectation of his followers that they would not just preach the word, but cast out demons and heal the sick. I don't think he would have expected that if it wasn't possible and I feel that my life is a testament to the fact that it is possible.

"The healings that I have experienced have removed obstacles that stood in the way of me recognizing God's goodness, power, and grace."

I always end up with a greater sense of gratitude and love. It is this that I wish for the world. Healing another person for me is not about imposing my set of beliefs or idea of perfection on another, but allowing them to live up to who God created them to be. As Mary Baker Eddy writes in *Science and Health*, "Love for God and man is the true incentive in both healing and teaching." (454:17-18)

Meet New STH Female Faculty

Shively T.J. Smith

Assistant Professor of New Testament

Reverend Doctor Shively T. J. Smith, Assistant Professor of New Testament, is a sought after teacher, preacher, and writer. She completed her Ph.D. in New Testament Studies at Emory University as the first African American female degreed in that specialization. Furthermore, she recently published her first book called, *Strangers to Family: Diaspora and First Peter's Invention of God's Household* with Baylor University Press and is completing a commentary on Second Peter for SBL Press. Smith is an ordained itinerant elder in the African Methodist Episcopal Church where she proudly serves as member and resident scholar at the historic Cathedral of the AME Church, Metropolitan AME Church (Washington,



Nicolette D. Manglos-Weber

Assistant Professor of Religion and Society

Dr. Manglos-Weber writes and teaches about religion, immigration, and global politics. Most of her research is on religious congregations and their members in the U.S. and Africa. She is interested in what they do together, how they operate, and how they interact with their social and political contexts. She also writes and teaches about the larger questions of human motivation and belonging, seeking grounded, practical, and personal ways to move past the inequalities and divisions in society.

Holly Benzenhafer

Adjunct Instructor in Vocational Mentoring

Holly's research interests include spirituality and spiritual practices across traditions including dream studies, pilgrimage, medieval female mysticism, Celtic Christian spirituality and monasticism, intentional community, Sabbath practices, spiritual autobiography and life writing, spiritual direction, feminist/womanist spirituality, and forms of contemplative and prayer practices.



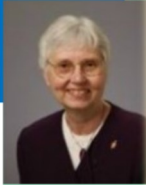
Anna Howard Shaw Center Lunches Fall 2018

Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"Faith in the Face of Fear"

Susan Hassinger
STH Lecturer and Bishop
in Residence



Thursday, Nov. 29
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320

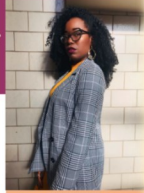


Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"Just because you are in the
Storm, does not mean the Storm
has to be inside of You."

Dashinika Poindexter
MDiv. '19



Thursday, Dec.
6th
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



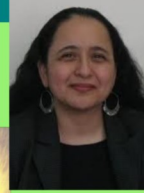
Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"Our Lady of Guadalupe as a resource for
Latinx Women"

Dr. Cristian
De La Rosa

BUSTH Director of
Contextual Education



Thursday, Sept. 20
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



Anna Howard Shaw Center

"Religious Art in Spain and The
Parliament of the World's
Religions"

Eileen Daily
Director of Doctor of
Ministry Program at
STH



Thursday,
Nov. 8
12:30-1:30PM
STH 320



Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"What I've Learned about Whiteness in
the Church from Exploring my own
White Identity"

Shelton Oakley Hersey
Interfaith Youth Initiative
(IFYI) Program Director



Thursday, Nov. 15
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



Anna Howard Shaw Center

"Seeking A Contented Peace:
My Faith Journey"

Kara
Jackman
BUSTH



Thursday,
Sept. 27
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320

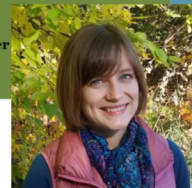


Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

Global Evangelical Churches
and their Ambivalence Towards
Women's Empowerment

Dr. Manglos-Weber
BUSTH



Thursday, Oct. 4
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"#ArianaGrande #MeToo
"Overlapping Oppressions in the
Church"

Rev. Karen
Coleman
Spiritual
Director, BUSTH



Thursday, Oct. 25
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320

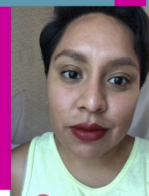


Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"Meeting my Mexican Family for the First
Time and the Unbreakable Bond Between us
Despite Borders"

Leticia 'Lety'
Trujillo
MDiv '19



Thursday, Oct. 18
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"What you don't know about the
Theology Library"

BU STH
Library



Thursday, Oct. 11
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320

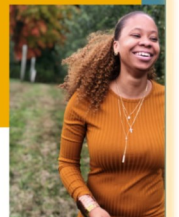


Anna Howard Shaw Center

Thursday Lunch Lecture:

"From Tragedy to Triumph"

Sadiqa Delaney
MDiv. Student



Thursday, Nov. 1
12:00-1:00PM
STH 320



Save the Date!

Women in the World Conference

Wednesday, April 10, 2019

“The Princess and the Trickster”

Women in Institutions

Co-sponsored by GBHEM (General Board of Higher Education and Ministry)

Community Center, Boston University School of Theology,
745 Commonwealth Ave. Boston, MA 02215

Since 1985, the Shaw Center has hosted an annual spring conference to explore experiences of women’s ministries in the church and society. The conference provides opportunities for women to hear women preach, share testimonies in ministerial and multicultural leadership, and develop networks of support with one another.



ANNA HOWARD SHAW CENTER NEWSLETTER

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