

15th Annual American Studies Conference at Macalester

St. Paul, Minn. - This year's conference with the theme, "Mixed Race America: Identities and Culture" features **two** keynote speakers: **Laura Kina**, a visual artist, curator and Vincent de Paul Associate Professor of Art, Media, & Design at DePaul University, will talk about "Mixed Race Asian American Art: On Becoming and Unbecoming a 'Happy Hapa,'" and **Ralina L. Joseph**, associate professor in the University of Washington's Department of Communication and in the Departments of American Ethnic Studies and Gender, Women, and Sexuality Studies, will talk about "Does 'Mixed' Mean Post-Race? - An Examination of 21st Century Media Representations of African American Multiraciality."

The two keynote talks are Thursday, February 27, at 6 p.m., in the Alexander G. Hill Ballroom, Kagin Commons, 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, Minn. They are free and open to the public.

On Friday, February 28, author **Shannon Gibney**, Minneapolis teacher, writer, and activist and formerly the editor of the *Minnesota Spokesman-Recorder*, the state's oldest Black newspaper, and Macalester students will lead an evening of readings and performances in Weyerhaeuser Memorial Chapel, at 7 p.m., 1600 Grand Ave., St. Paul, Minn. This event is free and open to the public.

Held every February during Black History Month, the conference brings renowned scholars to campus to present their work and engage with faculty, staff, students, alumni and Twin Cities' residents. The conference seeks to highlight the links between scholarship, activism and civic engagement. Each year a different theme is selected based on pertinent issues.

The American Studies Department, which sponsors this conference, serves as the academic focal point for the study of race and ethnicity in a national and transnational framework.

Macalester College, founded in 1874, is a national liberal arts college with a full-time enrollment of 2,011 students. Macalester is nationally recognized for its long-standing commitment to academic excellence, internationalism, multiculturalism, and civic engagement. Learn more at [macalester.edu](http://www.macalester.edu) (<http://www.macalester.edu/>)

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Ricardo Levins Morales artwork

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