

## [Finding the Sun in a Sunless Place](#)

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Call for Papers

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June 19, 2021

Subject Fields:

Black History / Studies, Digital Humanities, Ethnic History / Studies, Indigenous Studies, Women's & Gender History / Studies

**#FindtheSun #FindtheLorde**

**Finding Sun in a Sunless Place**

**CUNY Lehman College**

**Conference Date: Saturday, June 19th, 2021**

**CALL FOR PAPERS DEADLINE: MAY 31, 2021**

**Organizer: Chanta Shenell Palmer**

**“I had to examine, in my dreams as well as in my immune-function tests, the devastating effects of overextension. Overextending myself is not stretching myself. I had to accept how difficult it is to monitor the difference. Necessary for me as cutting down on sugar. Crucial. Physically. Psychically. Caring for myself is not self-indulgence, it is self-preservation, and that is an act of political warfare.” - Audre Lorde**

**The Combahee River Collective and Audre Lorde’s ideologies intersect at many points but one that has resonated with me throughout my time in academia is that radical politics stem from our own intersectional identities. As we journey through these academic spaces, our identities and self-awareness have the power to transform our lives and the fields in which we study.**

**In an ever-evolving world, self-preservation is paramount. Historically, people of color have maintained survival through the instruments of community building and prioritization of wellness. Finding the Sun in a Sunless Place aims to foster a safe space for conversations of wellness, and give participants the tools to advocate for and facilitate discussions on wellness and academia in their own communities. This conference aims to answer several questions: How do we turn Audre Lorde’s praxis on self-preservation into practice in**

**Academia? How do we approach graduate school holistically in an American society that has aimed to both divide and conquer, and dehumanize since its inception? How do we use the external (resources) to liberate the internal (physical, emotional, spiritual wellness)?**

**Proposal and abstract submissions are due by May 31st, 2021 11:59pm**

**Please send a title and a 150-250 word abstract (1-2 paragraphs) to [this google form.](#)**

**We encourage interdisciplinary departments like the Digital Humanities, Anthropology We invite Undergraduates, Graduates, and Post-Doctoral students with intersectional BIPOC experiences to submit Individual Abstracts, Panels, or “Kitchen Table” Conversation on the following topics:**

- **Black Feminist Methods**
- **Queer Wellness**
- **Black Girlhood**
- **Black Digital Humanities**
- **Intersectional Feminisms**
- **Indigenous Wellness Practices**
- **Self-Care for People of Color**
- **Audre Lorde**
- **Combahee River Collective**
- **Decolonized Approaches to Self-Preservation**

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<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1DXUJFbEcrox3Q5xuZkE7UqhPHSxrM0-p/view?usp=sharing>