

Sis, we don't always get the credit, love, support, or space to do and be us. At the 24th annual White Privilege Conference (WPC) in 2023, that's changing. The Ellipsis Institute for Womxn of Color (Ellipsis) has been invited to host our own Summit within the conference for Black womxn, girls, and femmes with a focus on celebrating and healing our experiences in structurally and culturally white spaces.

The vibe and space will center on Black womxn, girls, femmes, and those who are socialized as such. We welcome participants who identify otherwise but it is these identities and experiences that will be centered.

### **Request For Proposals**

**White Privilege Conference 24** ([www.theprivilegeinstitute.com](http://www.theprivilegeinstitute.com))

April 12-15, 2023, 2022 in Mesa, AZ.

Theme: The State of (In)Security 2.0

#SaveTheDate #WPC24Mesa

### **Ellipsis Institute for Womxn of Color**

Theme: Mothers, Daughters and Queens Of The Universe

We are seeking presenters, creatives, and curators to help shape this space. You are invited to submit a short (250-words) proposal for an interactive workshop, film screening or artistic performance/presentation.. Your proposal should clearly uplift the Ellipsis theme, match the vibes of both the Ellipsis Institute and the WPC, and follow the guidelines below for **Presenter/Creative Expectations** and **About Ellipsis and WPC** for more information.

**Submission Deadline: December 15, 2022.**

You'll receive a follow-up email by January 15th, 2023.

Registration will open on MLK day 2023!

Submission is by invite only. Please do not share this document or the RFP link.

**RFP Link:** <https://forms.gle/fUWU9GzUpUedw3CFA>

### **About WPC**

The WPC is a yearly opportunity to collectively examine and explore issues of white supremacy, white privilege, and whiteness, through a lens of intersectionality, as they intersect with other social identities such as ethnicity, nationality, socioeconomics, education, family structure, gender identity/epression, sexual orientation, religion, spirituality, etc. The WPC fits in perfectly with the issues you fight for every day. The WPC is not about "beating up on white folks." We are committed to challenging, interrupting, disrupting and dismantling white supremacy, white privilege and oppression. WPC draws a diverse group of participants from various segments of society including, but not limited to education, business, faith, healthcare, mental health, community activists, and Moore. Our attendees expect supremacy and privilege to be addressed comprehensively and through a lens of intersectionality, every session, every day.

#Moore2Remember:

The WPC is neither a diversity nor an academic conference. We're Both! We insist presenters weave together sound research, interactive activities and action oriented content. Most importantly, every workshop session, every day, examines and explores issues of white supremacy, white privilege and other forms of privilege and oppression.

### **About Ellipsis**

The Ellipsis Institute for Womxn of Color in the Academy is a research center that uses intersectionality as a core feminist practice to create space for womxn of color students, staff, and faculty. By establishing intersectionality as a core feminist practice, the Ellipsis Institute for Womxn of Color in the Academy intentionally creates space for womxn of color as we build relationships across lines of difference in a unified pursuit of advocacy efforts for all womxn, in all roles. [Click to learn more!](#)

By joining the force that is WPC, Ellipsis is able to extend its reach and connections beyond academia to the WPC family, centering those who identify as womxn, girls, and femmes, comrades who desire to learn from and contribute to a community focused on our growth, learning and liberation.

### **Summit Theme**

The theme is based on a Keynote Address that will be given by Dr. Arki titled, *Mothers, Daughters and Queens Of The Universe: A Pan Africanist Feminist Vision For Obtaining Liberation*

### **Elaboration of Theme**

Let's explore and examine the complementary roles of mother and queen as a sociopolitical contour of Pan African Feminism. If we think of Pan African feminisms as a derivative of Patrica Hill Collins' Black Feminist Thought, we can explore the impacts of imperialism and colonialism on the roles of mother and queen in the west and how this has affected all Pan African womxn, specifically those who may identify as descendants of those who survived the maafa (the holocaust of African enslavement).

Employing auto/ethnographic practices and a framework of intersectionality, we see a connection of the five tenants of Black Feminist Thought (Bloodmothers, othermothers, and womxn centered networks; mothers, daughters, and socialization for society; community othermothers and political activism; motherhood as a symbol of power; the view from the inside: the personal meaning of mothering) with what it means to identify as a Black queen. Reclaiming our indigenous pedigree, Pan African feminists must use motherwork as pedagogy in conjunction with the identity of Queen Mother as an essential armament in the liberation of Black womxn, and all oppressed people, worldwide.

In short, Black Feminist Thought paired (and Pan African Feminisms) can teach us what a queen should look like, sound like and feel like, as queendom in the west has been traditionally reserved for those who are prim and proper, affluent and most of all, white.

### **Session Tags**

When you submit your proposal, you will select a “track” for your proposal. In keeping with the vibe and focus of the theme, each track focuses on a Queen Mother. Along with aligning to the theme, your proposal should focus on the sentiments of one of the queen mothers. You do not have to reference her directly, but proposal reviewers should be able to see the connection in your description. Here are the Queen Mother tracks you can choose from:

- Nana Yaa Asantewaa~ Queen Mother of the Ejisu, Ashanti Empire, Ghana  
*“We Will Fight Till The Last of us Falls in the Battlefield.”*  
This track focuses on ancestral mothering and warriorship.
- Maya Angelou~poet, memoirist, Civil Rights activist  
*“I do my best because I’m counting on you counting on me.”*  
This track focuses on artistic expression, healing, and generational curse breaking.
- Maxine Waters~Auntie, politician, activist  
*“Reclaiming my time!”*  
This track focuses on how we take up space and decide the narratives for how we engage with and are seen in the world.
- Alicia Garza~activist, BLM cofounder  
*“Black people I love you, I love us, our lives matter.”*  
This track focuses on self-love for Black womxn.

### **Presenter/Creative Expectations & Information**

- You should identify as and be socialized as a Black womxn, girl, or femme
- You should have experience bringing your full multicultural self into white spaces and employing cultural pedagogies and practices that can be modeled and shared with others
- You AND your co-presenters must attend a 45 minute virtual vibe & prep session prior to the conference (if your proposal is accepted)
- All presenters and creatives are expected to facilitate one 90-minute session
- All presenters+creatives are expected to facilitate and guide an interactive learning process. All spaces must be informative, interactive, challenging, practical and action-oriented, with concrete take-aways. Remember, there may be high school kids in the audience. All workshops and presentations must examine and explore issues of white supremacy, white privilege and other forms of oppression through a lens of intersectionality. This must be reflected in the workshop title (preferably) and abstract content (mandatory).
- Please submit your proposal by December 15, 2022. You'll receive a follow-up email by January 15th. The final decision is made by the founder and program director and will be based on whether the content is informative, interactive, challenging, practical and comprehensive.
- WPC is a place to share your work and do your work. We have **limited space** and only speakers/workshops following the guidelines will be accepted.
- You may have up to one co-presenter.

### **Keep in Mind**

When preparing your proposal:

- Your proposal should clearly reflect the theme and identify which tracks/tags it aligns with.
- Focus on things Black womxn, girls, and femmes would care about. The thing you know you've GOT to speak on, speak on it!
- Start from where you are and create a space for that reflection and learning. What do you need to hear or express? What do you wish younger you would have known sooner? What kind of experience do you want fellow femmes to walk away with? Build that!
- You have the liberty to be expressive, to move, to emote, to shout, to laugh, to cry, to heal and create space for others to do the same.
- You have the liberty to not use a PPT or create a formal presentation (if you choose).
- Your offering should give participants something to "take" with them, whether it be a renewed spirit, a collectively created resource, or a personal action plan.
- Due to limited space and to support developing proposals, we may combine your proposal with another similar/aligned proposal for a co-presentation.

### **Session Categories/Types:**

Your proposal/offering should fall into one of the following categories

- An **interactive workshop** is an engaging learning experience that is informative, challenging, practical, and action oriented
- A **film screening** should include time for viewing and time for engaging in meaningful discussion, reflection, and forward thinking action. Reminder: sessions are 90 min. Consider screening a short (film or documentary) or a series of trailers. All screenings must include at least 20 minutes of structured reflection/dialogue with participants.
- **Artistic performances/presentations** can be something you create and bring to share and invite participants to reflect on/with you OR or a guided process for participants to create and express.

### **Level of Offering:**

Please carefully consider the level of your proposal

- *Beginner*: appropriate for Femmes who may have spent little to no time exploring their own intersectional Black femininity. You may have little or no knowledge about privilege, anti-racism, oppression, and intercultural issues. These workshops stress fundamental concepts and approaches, and offer participants time to grapple with this new information in a supportive environment. Individuals who have just begun to learn about privilege, racism and other intercultural issues, and who are first-time participants at the White Privilege Conference are the target audience for beginner spaces and offerings.
- *Intermediate*: appropriate for Femmes who have a working knowledge of privilege, anti-racism, oppression, and intercultural issues and have done some work to understand their own intersectional and Black femme identity. These workshops stress the interconnection between fundamental concepts and new knowledge, techniques, methodologies, and skills. Individuals who are seeking to

discover what to do with their new knowledge about privilege; racism, etc. are the target audience for intermediate workshops.

- *Advanced*: appropriate for Femmes who have deeply and continually engage with their intersectional Black femme identity. Educators, facilitators, practitioners and leaders in areas of cultural diversity who have a highly developed understanding of privilege, anti-racism, oppression, and intercultural issues are the intended audience for these types of spaces and offerings. These workshops offer ways in which advanced participants can deepen their knowledge through high impact experiential activities and acquaintance with new theories. Also, these workshops offer advanced practitioners ways to share insights, refine their knowledge, and sharpen their already-developed skills.

### **Presenter Perks**

- Waived registration fees (in exchange for 8 volunteer hours). More information to come in January on the [WPC website](#). (Travel, lodging, food, and other costs will be at the expense of the presenter)
- Opportunity to network and connect with scholars, activists, and organizers during the conference
- A lil' swag to take with you and remind you to carry the energy from this space forward

### **Real Talk/Special Note**

WPC and Ellipsis are convening spaces where we openly engage and challenge white supremacy cultural and institutional norms. We know that these spaces to engage with our Black femininity and the role of privilege in our society are so important to our personal growth and liberation. And, we know not everyone agrees. Presenters should be aware of the potential for personal and professional backlash and opposition. Taking an opportunity like this may make you vulnerable to hate speech and scrutiny from less radical thinkers. We will take steps to care and protect the peace of our presenters as much as possible including:

- holding space before, during, and after for processing tough emotions,
- Providing resources for racial+intersectional trauma and battle fatigue,

*Thank you in advance for your time and submission. We look forward to connecting with you and building OUR space!*

**Let's get it! #ElxWPC24MESA**