

Elizabeth S. Todd-Breland

Department of History (MC 198)
920 University Hall
601 South Morgan Street
Chicago, Illinois 60607-7109

Email: etoddbre@uic.edu
Phone: (312) 996-3729
Fax: (312) 996-6367

ACADEMIC POSITIONS

University of Illinois at Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2012-Present
Assistant Professor, Department of History
Affiliated Faculty, Department of African American Studies

Governors State University, University Park, IL, 2011-2012
Assistant Professor of History

Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 2010-2011
Mellon ACLS Postdoctoral Fellow, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL, 2009
Instructor, Comparative Race Studies Program, History Department

EDUCATION

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL
Ph.D. in History, 2010, Defended with Distinction
M.A. in History, 2005

University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA
B.A. with Distinction in History, magna cum laude, 2004

RESEARCH AND TEACHING INTERESTS

United States Urban and Social History; African American History; History of Education; Education Policy and Reform; Race and Inequality; Comparative Race and Ethnic Studies; Comparative Colonialism and Decolonization.

PUBLICATIONS

Book:

A Political Education: Black Politics and Education Reform in Chicago Since the 1960s (University of North Carolina Press, 2018).

Peer-Reviewed Articles and Book Chapters:

“Barbara Sizemore and the Politics of Black Educational Achievement and Community Control, 1963-1975,” *Journal of African American History* 100, no. 4 (2015): 636-662.

“Control and Independence: Black Alternatives for Urban Education,” in *Using Past as Prologue: Contemporary Perspectives on African American Educational History*. Eds., Dionne Danns, Michelle Purdy, and Christopher Spann (Charlotte, NC: Information Age Publishing, 2015): 253-274.

Scholarly Essays and Book Reviews:

- “The Janus-Faced Neighborhood School,” in *The Return of the Neighborhood as an Urban Strategy*, Ed. Michael Pagano, (Champaign, IL: University of Illinois Press, 2015), 133-137.
- Review of *Charter Schools, Race, and Urban Space: Where the Market Meets Grassroots Resistance*, by Kristen L. Buras, *Souls: A Critical Journal of Black Politics, Culture, and Society* 17, nos. 3-4 (2015): 325-328.

AWARDS AND FELLOWSHIPS

- 2016-2018 National Academy of Education/Spencer Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow
- 2016-2017 Woodrow Wilson National Fellowship Foundation Career Enhancement Fellow (declined)
- 2014-2015 Shirley A. Bill Award for Excellence in Teaching, UIC Department of History
- 2014-2015 UIC Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy Faculty Fellow
- 2010-2011 Andrew W. Mellon Foundation/ACLS Recent Doctoral Recipients Fellowship
- 2009-2010 Spencer Foundation Dissertation Fellowship
- 2008 University of Chicago John Hope Franklin Endowment Grant
- 2005-2007 Social Science Research Council Predoctoral Research Development Grants
- 2006 University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Prestigious Faculty Award
- 2004-2007 Ford Foundation Predoctoral Diversity Fellowship
- 2004-2009 Trustees Fellowship, University of Chicago
- 2004-2005 Honorary Mellon Fellow in Humanistic Studies
- 2002-2004 Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship

PRESENTATIONS AND PAPERS

Invited Lectures, Presentations, and Colloquia:

- “Face and Embrace: Waking Up to Racial Equity in Education,” Invited keynote panel, Chicago Public Schools Department of Social Science and Civic Engagement, Chicago, IL, August 16, 2018.
- “A Political Education: Black Education Struggles in Chicago,” Annual Rudolph Byrd Lecture, United Negro College Fund/Mellon Summer Institute, Emory University, Atlanta, GA, June 7, 2018.
- “Looking at School Integration through an Equity Lens,” Invited Presentation and Facilitation, Forefront: Engaging for Impact, McCormick Foundation, Chicago, IL, April 5, 2018.
- “Racial Segregation and Racial Justice in Chicago Schools Today,” Invited Presentation, DePaul University, College of Education Fall Forum, Chicago, IL October 17, 2017.
- “Black Educators Matter: Black Teachers and Education Struggles in Chicago Since the 1960s,” Invited Lecture, Columbia University Teachers College, New York, NY October 11, 2017.
- “Who Fights for Our Schools? Organizing for Racial Equity in Education on the West Side,” Invited Panelist and Facilitator, Jane Addams Hull-House Museum, Chicago, IL, September 19, 2017.
- “Teacher Power: Black Teachers and Black Freedom Struggles in Chicago,” Invited Presentation, Chicago Teachers Union, Chicago, IL February 28, 2017.
- “Education in Historical Perspective: Sites of Inequality and Struggle,” Invited Panelist, Geographies of Justice Seminar: Education, Pedagogies and Epistemologies in Flux, Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar, University of Illinois at Chicago, January 27, 2017.
- “African American Studies Examines Pop Culture: Spike Lee’s *Chiraq*,” Invited Panelist, University of Illinois at Chicago, January 27, 2016.
- “The Praxis of Black Politics and Education Reform,” Invited Lecture, American Education Research Association, Chicago, IL, April 16, 2015.
- “Schooling the City: Teachers, Students, & Black Politics in Chicago,” Invited Lecture, Lake Forest College, Lake Forest, IL, April 2, 2015.
- “How Can Schools Catalyze Community Change?” Panelist, University of Illinois at Chicago Urban Forum, Chicago, IL, September 18, 2014.

- “A Hidden History: Teacher, Parent & Student Protest in Chicago Public Schools,” Invited Lecture, Chicago Freedom School, Chicago, IL, July 9, 2014.
- “Desegregation, Community Control, and the Politics of Black Achievement in Chicago,” Invited Lecture, Social Science Research Council-Mellon Mays Regional Lecture, Chicago, IL, April 10, 2014.
- “Collective Identities and the Uses of History: Labor History in Chicago,” Invited Keynote Panel, Midwest Labor and Working-Class History Colloquium, Chicago, IL, April 4, 2014.
- “Lessons from the 1963 Boycott for Education Organizing Today,” Lessons from the 1963 Boycott: Documentary Screening, Invited Panelist, DuSable Museum of African American History, Chicago, IL, October 2013.
- “A Challenging History: Chicago Schools as Sites of Political Struggle,” Invited Lecture, *Taking Teachers to Task: Facing Chicago’s Challenges Over Time*, Working Women’s History Project, Chicago, IL, March 2013.
- “A Striking History: Black Students and Chicago Education Reform,” Urban Education Speakers Series, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, November 2012.
- “Timuel Black and the History of Black Chicago,” *Panel: Chicago’s Southside as Sacred Ground*, Office of Civic Engagement, University of Chicago, October 2012.
- “Forum on African Americans, Education, and the Chicago School System,” Invited Speaker, ‘Facts of Blackness’ in Chicago, Northwestern University Department of African American Studies Speakers Series 2011, Evanston, IL, April 20, 2011.
- “A Lesson in Racial Politics: The Evolution of School Reform in Chicago,” Colloquium, Alice Kaplan Institute for the Humanities, Northwestern University. Evanston, IL, March 2, 2011.
- “Teaching Student Activism: Education and Civil Rights in Chicago,” Freedom For All, Teacher Seminar Series, McCormick Foundation Civics Program. Chicago, IL, February 5, 2011.
- “Correcting Historical Erasure: Margaret Garner in Secondary and Collegiate Classrooms and Curriculum” Margaret Garner in context, A Community Conversation: Human Rights and Slavery’s Legacy. Chicago Foundation for Women. Roosevelt University. Chicago, IL, October 7, 2008.
- “From Activists to Elected Officials: Political Authority in 1970s Washington, D.C. and Sources for African American History.” Talk for library staff. University of Chicago. Regenstein Library, Chicago, IL. February 21, 2006.

Conference Papers and Presentations:

- “New Directions in African American Midwestern History,” Midwestern History Association Conference, Grand Rapids, MI, June 6, 2018.
- “Teachers in the Struggle: The Growth and Decline of Black Educators in Chicago,” National Academy of Education-Spencer Foundation Fall Forum, Washington, DC, November 10, 2017.
- “Black Women, Teacher Activism, and the Politics of Representation in Chicago,” History of Education Society Conference, Little Rock, AR, November 3, 2017.
- “Crises in Black Teaching: The Rise and Fall of Black Teachers in Chicago,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, Cincinnati, OH, September 30, 2017.
- “Dr. Barbara Sizemore and Black Women Educators as Theorists,” Berkshire Conference on the History of Women, Genders, and Sexualities, Hempstead, NY, June 2, 2017.
- “Martin Luther King’s Campaign to ‘End Slums’ 50 years Later,” Urban History Association Conference, Chicago, IL, October 14, 2016.
- “Good Kid, Mad City: The Politics of ‘The Good Kid’ in 1980s Chicago,” American Studies Association Conference, Toronto, Canada, October 8, 2015.
- “Barbara Sizemore and the Politics of Black Educational Achievement,” Association for the Study of African American Life and History Conference, September 25, 2015.
- “Black Politics and School Reform in Harold Washington’s Chicago,” American Historical Association, New York, NY, January 5, 2015.

- “Community Control in Chicago: Public-Private Partnerships in the War on Poverty,” Urban History Association, Philadelphia, PA, October 11, 2014.
- “Impact of School Policy and Neighborhood Change on Desegregation and Re-Segregation in Chicago,” Organization of Educational Historians Annual Conference. Chicago, IL, October 2012.
- “Black Teachers, Public Service Employment, and Urban Middle-Class Politics,” Presenter and Session Organizer, “Re-Thinking Desegregation,” American Education Research Association Annual Meeting. Vancouver, BC, April 2012.
- “School Desegregation in America’s ‘Most Segregated’ City,” American Studies Association Annual Meeting, Baltimore, MD, October 22, 2011.
- “Reform Within the System: The Woodlawn Experimental Schools Project and Community Control in Chicago” Presenter and Session Organizer, “Post-World War II Black Education Organizing” American Education Research Association Annual Meeting, New Orleans, LA, April 12, 2011.
- “Black Politics and Educational Organizing in Post-Civil Rights Chicago,” Presenter, and Session Organizer, “Politics and Policy in the Post-Civil Rights City,” American Historical Association Annual Meeting. Boston, MA, January 8, 2011.
- “Integration Now, Integration Tomorrow, Integration...: The Chicago Urban League and the Continued Push for School Integration,” History of Education Society Annual Meeting. Cambridge, MA, November 5, 2010.

Workshop Papers and Responses:

- Respondent for John Shelton, “Dropping Dead: Teachers, the New York City Fiscal Crisis, and Austerity” The Newberry Seminar in Labor History, Chicago, IL, March 6, 2015.
- “Education and Social Mobilization: Changing the Stereotyped and Segregated Spaces of Communities of Color,” University of Illinois at Chicago Institute for Research on Race and Public Policy and College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Brownbag, February 9, 2015.
- “The Politics of Black Achievement in the Wake of the Desegregation Paradigm,” UIC History Department Brownbag, February 2013.
- “South Meets North Symposium: The Shaping of a New Narrative of the Civil Rights Movement,” Discussant, Center for African American History, Northwestern Univ, Evanston, IL, May 6, 2011.
- “Reform Within the System: The Development of Community Control in Chicago and The Woodlawn Experimental Schools Project.” Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL, May 13, 2010.
- Respondent for the paper: “Extreme Makeovers in a Chicago High School? Transforming At-Risk Youth into Young Latino Professionals” Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL, October 8, 2009.
- “African American Activism and Education in Chicago: Civil Rights and Beyond” Race Studies Grant Symposium, University of Chicago. Chicago, IL, May 23, 2009.
- “To Reshape and Redefine Our World: African Americans Organizing For Education, 1968-2004,” Reproduction of Race and Racial Ideologies Workshop. University of Chicago. Chicago, IL, May 8, 2008.
- “Havana, Cuba: Race in the ‘Special Period.’” University Scholars. University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, PA. November 21, 2003.
- ““The Shelf Life of a Segregated Institution: The History of the Wabash Avenue YMCA, 1910-1940.” Mellon Minority Undergraduate Fellowship Program, University of Pennsylvania, Office of the Vice Provost for University Life, Philadelphia, PA. November 11, 2003.

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

University of Illinois at Chicago (2008-Present):

History of Chicago

Race and Education Since *Brown v. Board*
Seminar on American History (Graduate Course)
Colloquium on American History Since 1877 (Graduate Course)
Re-Thinking the Urban Crisis (Graduate Course)
Modern America: From Industrialization to Globalization
African American History to 1877

Governors State University, University Park, IL (2011-2012):

American Urban History
U.S. History I
U.S. History II
Foundations of Social Justice
World History: Concepts and Interpretations

University of Chicago, Chicago, IL (2005-2009):

Race and Public Education Since *Brown v. Board*
Colonizations III (Teaching Intern)
The Peopling of America 1900-Present (Teaching Assistant)

Student Advising (2012-Present):

Dissertation Committee Member:

Sharaya Tindal Wiesendanger, History PhD, in process
Marla McMackin, History, PhD, in process
Jeffrey Wheeler, History, PhD, in process
Jennifer Ash, History, PhD, in process
Anne Brixius, History, PhD, in process
Adam Mertz, History, PhD, in process
Kyle Westbrook, Educational Policy Studies, PhD, in process
Louis Mercer, History, PhD, in process
Ian Darnell, History, PhD, in process
Erik Kalweit, History, PhD, in process

Undergraduate Advisor:

Gerald Munoz, UIC Honors College Capstone Supervisor, 2015.
Ashley Wilson, UIC Summer Research Opportunities Program Advisor, 2013-2014.

Other Teaching Experience:

UChicago Charter High School Woodlawn, Chicago, IL, 2006-2010
Social Studies Instructor and College Counselor

University of Chicago Collegiate Scholars Program, 2005-2009
Developed and instructed college preparation, application, and transition courses and workshops for Chicago Public Schools students

ACADEMIC SERVICE AND PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Professional Service:

2018-Present American Historical Association, Local Arrangements Committee Member.
2018-Present Vivian G. Harsh Society, Timuel D. Black, Jr. Fellowship Administrator and Coordinator.

- 2016-Present "Making the West Side: Community Conversation on Neighborhood Change," Jane Addams Hull-House Museum/National Endowment for the Humanities Project, Chicago, IL, Project Advisor.
- 2015-Present Black Metropolis Research Consortium, Faculty Advisory Committee.
- 2015-Present Chicago SNCC History Project, Advisory Board Member.
- 2018/2016 Social Science Research Council/Mellon Mays, Graduate Writing Seminar, Invited Resource Faculty Member and Mentor, Cape Town, South Africa.
- 2016-2017 Andrew W. Mellon Sawyer Seminar Working Group, UIC.
- February 2017 "Applying for Funding Opportunities," presenter at Social Science Research Council, Mellon-Mays Graduate Initiatives Postdoctoral Fellows Retreat.
- 2015-2016 Chicago SNCC History Project, Black History Conference, Planning Committee.
- 2014-2015 Chicago SNCC History Project, *Civil Rights Yesterday, Today, & Tomorrow*, Conference Planning Committee.
- March 2015 Social Science Research Council/Mellon Mays, Proposal Writing and Dissertation Development Seminar, Invited Resource Faculty Member, Charlotte, NC.
- Spring 2014 Black Metropolis Research Consortium, Fellowship Jury Panel.
- March 2013 Social Science Research Council/Mellon Mays, Proposal Writing and Dissertation Development Seminar, Invited Resource Faculty Member, Chicago, IL.
- 2011 *Journal of Social History*, Reviewer.
- 2011 *American Education Research Association*, Division F: History of Education, Reviewer.
- 2006 "Race-ing the Academy" Conference, Conference Co-Chair, University of Chicago.

University Service:

- 2018-Present Provost's Working Group on Academic Collaborations with School of Law, UIC
- 2016-Present Summer Research Opportunities Program Faculty Advisory Board, Graduate College, UIC
- 2014-Present Pipeline to Justice Scholarship Committee, Social Justice Institute, UIC.
- 2015-2017 College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Diversity Committee, UIC.
- 2015-2016 Black Student Success Taskforce, UIC.
- 2014-2016 African American Recruitment Enrollment and Retention Initiative, UIC.
- 2014 Operations Committee, UIC Urban Forum.
- 2013 UIC Graduate College Chancellor's Award, Reviewer.
- March 2013 Black Faculty New Student Recruitment Brunch, Faculty Panelist, UIC.
- 2011-2012 General Education Task Force, Governors State University.
- 2011-2012 Committee to Create a New History Major, Social Sciences Division, Governors State University.
- 2008-2010 National Science Foundation Alliance for Graduate Education and the Professoriate, Department Representative, University of Chicago.

Departmental Service:

- 2018-Present Graduate Advisory Committee, History Department, UIC.
- 2015-Present Steering Committee, Work, Race, and Gender in the Urban World Graduate Program, History Department, UIC.
- 2012-Present PhD/MA/MAT Comprehensive Exams Committees, History Department, UIC.
- 2014-2016 Program Committee, History Department, UIC.
- 2013-2014 Undergraduate Awards Committee, History Department, UIC.
- Spring 2014 Undergraduate Advisory Committee, History Department, UIC.
- 2012-2013 Program Committee, History Department, UIC.
- 2012-2013 Quorum Committee, History Department, UIC.

COMMUNITY AND CIVIC ENGAGEMENT

360 Nation, Instructor, 2017-Present

Collaborate with middle school students for an archival history project and exhibit on Sumner Elementary School and the surrounding community on the West Side of Chicago.

Vivian G. Harsh Society, Inc., Board Member, 2016-Present

Organization supports, protects, and improves the archives of the Vivian G. Harsh Research Collection of Afro-American History and Literature at the Chicago Public Library.

“North Lawndale History,” workshop for elementary school students at Village Leadership Academy High School, Chicago, IL, December 19, 2017.

Kartemquin Films, ‘63 *Boycott* Documentary, Historical Consultant, 2013-2018.

Local School Council Member, William C. Reavis Elementary School, Chicago, IL, 2015-2018.

“Reparations Won: A Case Study in Police Torture, Racism, and the Movement for Justice in Chicago,” Volunteer Curriculum Development Consultant, Chicago Public Schools, 2015-2017.

Metropolitan Tenants Organization, 2006-2014

Vice President of Board of Directors and volunteer; organized initiatives to improve the lives of renters in Chicago, preserve affordable housing, and decrease residential displacement.

Not in the Yearbooks Student Archive Project, 2012-2013

Conducted workshop in collaboration with Professor Jennifer Brier, History Moves, Hull-House Museum, and the Chicago Freedom School for a student-generated archive, oral history, and public history project.

Carter G. Woodson Institute, University of Chicago Urban Education Institute, 2007-2010

Committee that produced and organized professional development courses and workshops for K-12 teachers, youth workers, and students. Topics: Black Chicago, Segregation, Civil Rights, Hip-Hop and Youth Culture.

Mayor’s Condominium Conversion Task Force, City of Chicago, 2008-2011

Assessed the impact of condominium development and conversion on city residents and created policies to address problems associated with the loss of affordable rental housing.

Citywide Black Feminist Reading Group, Chicago, IL, Co-Organizer, 2006-2007

Organized monthly reading group to discuss scholarly and popular texts, films, and other media related to Black feminist theory, practice, and activism.

University of Chicago/Kenwood Academy Program of Academic Exploration, Group Leader, 2005-2006

Facilitated research program for Chicago Public Schools students; presented work at 2005 Feminism and Hip Hop Conference and the 2006 annual Rainbow/PUSH Coalition Conference.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

American Historical Association

Organization of American Historians

Association for the Study of African American Life and History

History of Education Society

Urban History Association

Berkshire Conference of Women Historians

MEDIA INTERVIEWS & POPULAR PUBLICATIONS

Guest Expert, “Black Kid’s Education: Can Millionaire’s Like LeBron James Rescue It?” The Takeaway, WNYC, NPR, August 9, 2018, <https://www.wnycstudios.org/story/black-kidss-education-can-black-millionaires-lebron-james-rescue-it>

“Despite LeBron’s Admirable Efforts, Most Black Millionaires Can’t Save Public Education,” The Undefeated, ESPN, August 7, 2018, <https://theundefeated.com/features/despite-lebrons-admirable-efforts-most-black-millionaires-cant-save-public-education/>

Interviewed for docu-series, *Teaching While Black*, directed by Latesha Dickerson (forthcoming), March 21, 2018.

Guest Expert, “Remembering Dr. Martin Luther King, 50 Years after his Death,” The 21st Show, Illinois Public Media, NPR, April 4, 2018, <https://will.illinois.edu/21stshow/program/remembering-dr.-martin-luther-king-50-years-after-his-death>

Interview with Kalyn Belsha, “Thousands of Black Students Leave Chicago for other Segregated Districts,” *The Chicago Reporter*, December 19, 2017, <http://www.chicagoreporter.com/black-cps-student-migration/>

Roundtable, Black Women and Transformations in Education Since the 1960s, C-SPAN, June 2, 2017, <https://www.c-span.org/video/?429335-4/black-women-leaders-education-since-1960s>

Panelist, “An Undefeated Conversation: Athletes, Responsibility, and Violence,” ESPN, August 25, 2016, <http://theundefeated.com/videos/an-undefeated-conversation-athletes-responsibility-and-violence/>

Interview with Claire Bushey, “The Rumble & Reversal: The Fight For a University of Chicago Adult Trauma Center,” *Crain’s Chicago Business*, April 11, 2016, <http://www.chicagobusiness.com/section/trauma-protest>.

Guest Expert, “Teachers Take Stands in Detroit, Chicago,” On Point Radio, NPR, WBUR Boston, January 26, 2016, <http://onpoint.wbur.org/2016/01/26/detroit-schools-teachers-unions-chicago-education>

Interview with AM 740 The Game, Orlando, Florida, On Race, Chicago communities, and Little League baseball, February 16, 2015.

“Jackie Robinson West & Black ‘Border-Jumping,’” February 13, 2015. <http://blackyouthproject.com/jackie-robinson-west-black-border-jumping/>

Guest Expert on Education Reform, The Cliff Kelley Show, WVON Chicago, Radio 1690 AM, September 17, 2012.

“Stand and Deliver: A Historical Perspective on Chicago’s Teachers Union Strike,” *Chicago Policy Review: Insights from Research and Practice*, October 30, 2012 <http://chicagopolicyreview.org/2012/10/30/stand-and-deliver-a-historical-perspective-on-chicagos-teachers-union-strike/>.

Guest Panelist, *Up Front With Jesse Jackson*, WORD Television Network, Rainbow/PUSH Coalition, Three Episodes 2012-2013.