



**W.E.B. DU BOIS CENTER FOR THE STUDY  
OF THE BLACK EXPERIENCE**

Martin Luther King Jr. Communication Arts Center, Room 0216  
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Theme: The Civil Rights Movement and the African American Quest for Freedom

Proposals are being accepted for a one-day interdisciplinary symposium at Bowie State University's Du Bois Center for the Study of the Black Experience (CSBE) in Bowie, Maryland, titled, "The Civil Rights Movement and the African American Quest for Freedom," planned for April 4, 2025. This symposium seeks to examine the efforts by African Americans to secure their rights as citizens of the United States.

Although the Thirteenth Amendment abolished slavery, except as a punishment for a crime, the record of the United States shows that the realities of freedom for African Americans has been elusive since the end of the Civil War. If the hope for Black equality came to be grounded on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Amendments, the Civil Rights Act, 1866 and 1875, and the landmark Civil Rights Act, 1964 etc., the evidence further shows that African American rights, privileges and immunities, due process and equal protection of the laws have been unremittingly abridged and curtailed up to the present. It is against this background that we must understand the evolution of those social, economic, and political forces and reform movements aimed at eradicating forced segregation, Jim Crowism, injustice, discrimination, and disenfranchisement.

In commemoration of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act and the 57<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., the BSU W.E.B. Du Bois Center welcome proposals from early career and senior scholars, as well as graduate students which speak to the social, economic, and political forces, and reform movements pioneered by African American leaders, communities, and groups since the end of slavery to the present era.

Please submit your proposals (max 500 words) to [duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu](mailto:duboiscenter@bowiestate.edu) by Nov. 15, 2024 with "Symposium" in the subject heading. Proposals should be accompanied by a two-page CV.