Let’s Talk About the Humanities

Self-Fashioning, Resistance, & Resilience: Lessons From Our Literary and Activist Foremothers

September 28, 2022 at 1 PM ET

with Donna Aza Weir-Soley,
Florida International University

This talk will be a retrospective on the lives and work of Sojourner Truth, Audre Lorde and Jamaican Creole Poet, Louise Bennett-Coverley, three Black women whose creative and scholarly activism have shaped the speaker’s identity as a poet-scholar with a commitment to equity, justice, autonomy and creative exploration of the “self under construction.” All three women resisted attempts of the dominant culture to define and limit their selfhood and found ways to extend their influence beyond the limitations of race, gender, color, sexuality, culture, class and religion. This talk will highlight some of the ways in which their example and influence have helped to shape the speaker’s thinking, their work (as professor, scholar and mentor), and their complex identity as an educator, mother, poet and self-determined woman from working class Jamaican roots.

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