



GWENDOLYN BROOKS CENTER

BLACK LITERATURE AND CREATIVE WRITING

presents



**25th Black Writers Conference
Call for Proposals**

Call for Proposals
Oct. 17-18, 2025
Chicago State University

The Gwendolyn Brooks Center for Black Literature and Creative Writing invites scholars, writers, educators, and artists to submit proposals for the 2025 Black Writers Conference, inspired by the powerful words of Gwendolyn Brooks' poem "**The Second Sermon on the Warpland.**" This year's theme calls us to explore resilience, creativity, and flourishing amidst the turbulence of the modern world. This year's conference will have in-person and virtual options.

"We are the Last of the Loud."

These words by Gwendolyn Brooks challenge us to reflect on how Black writers and communities create, endure, and thrive within the chaos of societal change, racial injustice, and cultural evolution. The conference seeks to honor this call by centering dialogues around resistance, regeneration, and the transformative power of Black literature and art.

We welcome proposals that engage with the theme through lenses such as, but not limited to:

- Resilience: How do Black writers address survival, strength, and self-determination in their works?
- Creativity: How does creativity bloom in challenging times, and what is its role in reimagining the future?
- Activism: How has literature served as a tool for resistance and empowerment?
- Community: How can Black writers and thinkers foster collective growth and collaboration?

We invite proposals for:

- Academic papers and panel discussions
- Creative writing workshops and readings
- Roundtable conversations on contemporary literary and cultural topics
- Performances, multimedia presentations, and other creative expressions

Deadline for proposal submissions are Friday, May 2, 2025, 11:59pm.

CSU Dept. of English,
World Languages
and Literatures

Submit your
Proposals

NOW

