The 2008 Civil Rights Symposium would not be possible without these generous sponsors:

- Office of the President
- WAC Alliance
- GPSA Equity & Inclusion Committee
- Department of English/Rhetoric & Writing Program
- College of Arts and Sciences
- Office of the Provost
- Office of Equity & Inclusion
- Office of Student Affairs
- Office of Equal Employment
- African American Student Services
- Africana Studies
- Women’s Resource Center
- CAPS
Program Schedule for the 2008 Civil Rights Symposium

**Featured Speaker:** Keith Gilyard, Distinguished Professor of English, Pennsylvania State University

**Program Chair:** Michelle Hall Kells, Associate Professor of English, University of New Mexico

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**Thursday, September 25, SUB Lobo A & B:**

“Civic Literacy: Turning Ideas into Action”

12:30-1:15
Welcome & Program Agenda: Dan Cryer, WAC Events Coordinator
Opening Remarks: Scott Carreathers, Director, African American Student Services

Voting & Civil Rights Discussion Panel:
- Gabriel Sanchez (Political Science)
- Ed Desantis (University Honors)
  Introductions & Facilitators: Bernadine Hernandez & Dianne Bechtel

1:15-1:30: Q&A / Refreshments
1:30-3:00
Panel Discussion and Q&A: The Youth Vote and Racial Dynamics
  - Michael Rocca – Political Science Department
  - Gabriel Sanchez – Political Science Department
  - Matthew Haney – Obama Campaign Representative
  - Ivette Barajas – McCain Campaign Representative
  - Moe Maestas (D) – New Mexico House of Representatives
  - Dan Foley (R) – New Mexico House of Representatives

3:00-4:00
Roundtable Discussion: What civic & social issues affect you and your community?
  How do I put my ideas into action?
  Professors Keith Gilyard (Penn State), Carlos Salinas and John Scenters-Zapico (UTEP).
  Facilitators: Lindsey Ives & Katie Denton
  Introductions: Dianne Bechtel

4:00-5:30
Creative Arts Performance: Creative Voices in Action: How do creative voices influence social change?
  Featured Poets: Hakim Bellamy, Lisa Gill, Jack Trujillo, and Margaret Randall
  Facilitators: Heather Campbell and Dianne Bechtel

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**Friday, September 26, SUB Ballroom C:**

“Civic Literacy Across Communities: A Public Forum”

1:00-2:00
Welcome, Agenda & Acknowledgements: Dan Cryer, WAC Events Coordinator
Greetings from the Office of Equity & Inclusion: Felisha Herrera
Opening Remarks: Sherri Burr, Africana Studies; Sonia Gipson Rankin, Africana Studies

Key Note Address: Professor Keith Gilyard, “Hate Acts, Public Rhetoric & Civil Rights Activism: 40 Years Since Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.”

2:00-2:30
Keynote Q&A, Facilitator: Dan Cryer
2:30-2:45: Refreshments
2:45-3:00
Film: “Martin Luther King, Jr.”
  Commentators: Jewell Hall and Andrew Lipman, MLK Multicultural Council
  Facilitator: Bernadine Hernandez

3:00-4:15
Roundtable Discussion: Your Voice: Civic Literacy in Our Community
  Facilitator: Dan Cryer

4:15-4:30
Closing Remarks: Harold Bailey, Director, NM Office of African American Affairs

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The 2008 Civil Rights Symposium has been fostered, in its organization and its spirit, by the Writing Across Communities (WAC) initiative at UNM. Through the Symposium and ongoing events sponsored by the WAC Alliance, WAC aims to create a campus- and community-wide dialogue about writing as an essential tool for both educators and citizens in our current cultural moment, in which information and communication are vital to any kind of individual or collective movement. To find out more about WAC, visit www.unm.edu/~wac/.

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**Keith Gilyard** is a native of New York City and holds graduate degrees from Columbia University and New York University. Gilyard has lectured widely on language, literature, and education. He has read his poetry at numerous venues and was a featured writer on the award-winning Annenberg/CPB television series The Expanding Canon. Author of numerous publications, Gilyard's books include Voices of the Self: A Study of Language Competence (1991), for which he received an American Book Award; Let's Flip the Script, An African American Discourse on Language, Literature and Learning (1996); Liberation Memories: The Rhetoric and Poetics of John Oliver Killens (2003); and Composition and Cornel West: Notes toward a Deep Democracy (2008). To find out more about Dr. Gilyard, visit http://english.la.psu.edu/facultystaff/Bio_Gilyard.htm.

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