

Behavioral Science Colloquia Fall 2021



IDA B. *the* QUEEN

THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE AND LEGACY OF IDA B. WELLS

Michelle Duster

Tuesday, Oct. 19, 2021
2-3:30 p.m. • Room J-108

In 1862, Ida B. Wells was born enslaved in Holly Springs, Miss. In 2020, she won a Pulitzer Prize. Wells committed herself to the needs of those who did not have power. In the eyes of the FBI, this made her a “dangerous negro agitator.” In the annals of history, it makes her an icon. *Ida B. the Queen* tells the awe-inspiring story of a pioneering woman who was often overlooked and underestimated – a woman who refused to exit a train car meant for white passengers; a woman who brought to light the horrors of lynching in America; a woman who cofounded the NAACP. Written by Wells’ great-granddaughter, Michelle Duster, the book is a unique visual celebration of Wells’ life and of the Black experience. A century after her death, Wells’ genius is being celebrated in popular culture by politicians, through song, public artwork, and landmarks. Like her contemporaries Frederick Douglass and Susan B. Anthony, Wells left an indelible mark on history – one that can still be felt today. As America confronts the unfinished business of systemic racism, *Ida B. the Queen* pays tribute to a transformational leader and reminds us of the power we all hold to smash the status quo.

Michelle Duster is an author, professor, public historian, and champion of racial and gender equity.

She has written, edited or contributed to over a dozen books. Her most recent, *Ida B. the Queen: The Extraordinary Life and Legacy of Ida B. Wells*, was released on Jan. 26 by Atria/One Signal Publishers (division of Simon & Schuster). She cowrote the popular children’s history book, *Tate and His Historic Dream*; coedited *Impact: Personal Portraits of Activism*; *Shifts: An Anthology of Women’s Growth Through Change*; *Michelle Obama’s Impact on African American Women and Girls*; and edited two books that include the writings of her paternal great-grandmother, Ida B. Wells. She has written articles for *TIME*, *Essence*, *HuffPost*, *Teen Vogue*, *People*, *Glamour*, *Daily Beast* and the *North Star*. She has appeared on MSNBC, CNN, WTTW, CBS and CW, as well as numerous radio shows.

Please reserve your seat by Oct. 11, 2021.

**For more information and to RSVP, please email
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