

**TONI MORRISON: LITERATURE AND PUBLIC LIFE**

**A Symposium Celebrating  
the 70<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Toni Morrison's Cornell University MA Degree (1955)**

**September 18 – 21, 2025**

**Schedule**

**Thursday 9/18 A.D. White House**

- 3:00-3:15            Opening
- 3:30 – 4:30        Session 1: Conversation with filmmaker Louis Massiah, Mendi and Keith Obadike
- 5:00                Zalaznik Poetry Reading: Kevin Young
- 7:00                Session 2 Film: “The Foreigner’s Home” w/commentary by Louis Massiah

**Friday 9/19        Africana Center**

- 9:00 – 11:00      Session 3 Panel: Toni Morrison and the Question of Criticism
- 11:30 – 1:00      Session 4 Brunch/Conversation with Autumn Womack and Kevin Young  
                         moderated by Carolyn Rouse
- 2:00 – 3:30      Session 5 Keynote: Autumn Womack on archival work for “Sites of Memory”
- 5:00                Session 6 Keynote: Farah Jasmine Griffin

**Saturday 9/20 Toni Morrison Hall Multipurpose Room**

- 8:00                Breakfast in Morrison Dining Hall
- 8:30 – 10:30      Session 7 Panel: The Creative-Theoretical Toni Morrison
- 10:45 – 12:15     Session 8 Roundtable: Toni Morrison: Memory, Creation, and Fiction
- 12:30 – 2:00      Presentation of mural by HS students and Lunch (Ithaca High School & B’klyn  
                         high school students’ mural for TM Hall)
- 2:15 – 3:45      Session 9a Young Scholars Panel: The Revolutionary Legacy of Toni Morrison's  
                         Novels (Winthrop Univ grad students)
- Session 9b Young Scholars Panel: Cornell grad students
- 4:00 - 5:30      Session 10 Panel: Toni Morrison and the Word-Work of Her Nonfiction
- 5:30 – 6:00      Buffet dinner
- 6:00 – 7:30      Session 11 Roundtable: Writers and Public Life, Tayari Jones, moderator

**Sunday 9/21        A.D. White House**

- 8:30 – 9:00      Continental breakfast
- 9:00 – 9:30      The Toni Morrison Society
- 9:30 – 11:30     Session 12 Panel: Cornell’s and CNY’s Toni Morrison