

A Black Love Conversation: Being B.A.D. *Embodying redemption through theatre*
Perspective Gallery, March 26 & 27, 2019, 4-5pm

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4pm

*A Black Love Conversation
Being B.A.D.
Embodying theatre through Redemption*

A solo performance by Brittney S. Harris followed by a talkback
featuring Yolanda Avent (3/26), Senior Director of Cultural Centers &
Andrea N. Baldwin (3/27), Assistant Professor Black Feminisms

Being B.A.D. is about personal acceptance and redemption from the cycle of abuse through self-love. This piece explores the lengths in which one decides to take that power back after years of physical and mental abuse at the hands of her family and romantic partner. Talkback immediately following featuring Yolanda Avent (3/26), Senior Director of Cultural and Community Centers and Andrea N. Baldwin, PhD, Assistant Professor Black Feminisms (3/27).

Brittney S. Harris, Theatre Faculty, instructs Acting and Collaborative Techniques in the School of Performing Arts at Virginia Tech. She holds a Master of Fine Arts in Acting and Performance Studies from the University of Georgia. Brittney's research efforts are supported by the methodology of PaR (Performance as Research). Her areas of expertise are in Activist Theatre, Diversity/Inclusion, and youth-based Cultural Enrichment programming.

Yolanda L. Avent currently serves as the Senior Director of Cultural and Community Centers at Virginia Tech. Prior to joining Virginia Tech she served as Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs at Virginia Commonwealth University, and the Director for Institutional Equity, Diversity and International Student Services at Penn State University, Altoona campus. She received her Bachelor's degree in History from Virginia Tech, a Master's degree in Criminal Justice from Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, GA, and is currently completing work on her PhD in Curriculum and Instruction from Virginia Tech. Her research interests include the black church's role in education, student identity & intersectionality, racial fatigue of college students on predominantly white campuses and the role of hip hop in social justice. She has worked in the area of higher education, staff development, leadership development, diversity for over 17 years. She is old school hip hop enthusiast and loves black love!

Andrea N. Baldwin joined the Sociology Department this fall as an Assistant Professor in Women's & Gender Studies and Africana Studies. She is an attorney-at-law who also holds a MS in International Trade Policy and a PhD in Gender and Development Studies. Dr. Baldwin has several publications including her most recent works published last November entitled "Moving Forward and Looking Back: Transnational Feminist Spaces - Margins, Methods and Modalities," in *Outside In: Voices from the Margins of Academe*, edited by Barbara Baker and Joyce de Vries. Dr. Baldwin was born and raised on the small Caribbean island state of Barbados and considers herself an all-around Caribbean woman who loves everything coconut and soca.

Sponsored by: Perspective Gallery, Virginia Tech Women's Center, School of Performing Arts, Virginia Tech Cultural and Community Centers, Sociology Department, Women's & Gender Studies, Africana Studies.