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Call for Papers: The Politics of Reconciliation

John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation

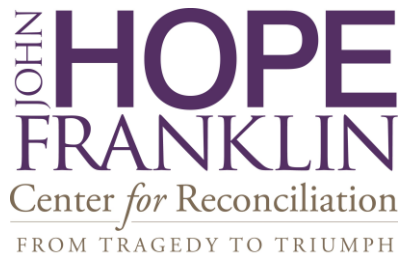
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CALL FOR PAPERS

“The Politics of Reconciliation”

May 30 – June 1, 2012, in Tulsa, Oklahoma

The John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation (the “JHF Center”) cordially invites you to submit a session proposal for its third annual *Reconciliation in America* national symposium, “The Politics of Reconciliation.” Occurring during the 2012 election year, the Symposium will explore current academic research and community projects that address the general theme of reconciliation in America, with a special focus on the political dynamics of reconciliation. Defined broadly as the complex of relations between and among people, “politics” raises such questions as: (1) How is “reconciliation” defined and how is that definition a political construct?; (2) What aspects of politics are critical to reconciliation efforts?; (3) What political skills are necessary to successful and sustainable reconciliation efforts?; and (4) What role does partisan politics play in the ability of communities to reconcile?

The JHF Center seeks to transform society’s divisions into social harmony through the serious study and work of reconciliation. Consistent with that mission, the symposium will highlight the study of historic events around which reconciliation is needed and offer insights into “best practices” that foster hope and healing.

By convening scholars and practitioners, the JHF Center hopes to promote a dialogue among those who work to bridge societal divides. Symposium sessions will fall into two categories:

- ***Current Research on the politics of reconciliation.*** Important scholarly work continues to emerge on the historical implications of racial, ethnic, and other identity-based fissures in America. The Symposium, intentionally scheduled near the 91st anniversary of the devastating 1921 Tulsa Race Riot (May 31-June 1, 1921), will include sessions reflecting the latest research on the politics of reconciliation in America and beyond.
- ***Focus on Progress in the realm of reconciliation.*** Community reports on national and international reconciliation efforts offer us hope. These sessions, with a special focus on the politics of reconciliation, will address the always-relevant question: Where do we go from here? Tulsa’s John Hope Franklin Reconciliation Park and the various projects initiated by the JHF Center constitute part of Tulsa’s answer to that provocative question. Tulsa has begun to navigate the politics of reconciliation, acknowledge its own tragedy, and take steps to repair the deep divisions left in its wake. The Symposium encourages sharing community narratives about grassroots reconciliation projects that make a difference.

Please send your Symposium session proposal by January 31, 2012, to Hannibal B. Johnson, Esq., Chair, National Advisory Committee, John Hope Franklin Center for Reconciliation, Inc., 121 North Greenwood Avenue, Suite A, Tulsa, Oklahoma, 74120, or via e-mail to hjohnsonok@aol.com

Please join us in Tulsa on May 30 – June 1, 2012, to honor the legacy of Dr. John Hope Franklin.