

# Keynote Speaker: Lance Williams, Ph.D.

*presented by the Black Heritage Committee*



Lance Williams, Ph.D.

Lance Williams, Ph.D., is Assistant Director of Northeastern Illinois University's Jacob H. Carruthers Center for Inner City Studies and an Associate Professor of Inner City Studies Education. Dr. Williams also serves as the National Coordinator of the African American Male Initiative for the President's Roundtable and the Board Chair of the Lupe Fiasco Foundation. He is the author of *Culture and Perceptions of Violence Related Behaviors Among Adolescents* and co-author (with Natalie Moore) of the book titled *The Almighty Black P Stone Nation: The Fall, Rise and Resurgence of an American Gang* (Lawrence Hill).

At Northeastern Illinois University Dr. Williams teaches a critical analysis of hip hop culture, the history and culture of ethnic groups, elite theory and American democracy, and inner city organizations and institutions. Lance Williams is dedicated to helping youth understand the influences of popular culture. He has presented to students, educators, families, faith organizations and community resource persons at local and national conferences. Dr. Williams serves on committees dedicated to improving the education and outlook for inner-city youth.

Dr. Lance Williams has developed a workshop format that uses hip-hop music and videos to focus on the mass media's influence on adolescent behavior. In the workshop, Dr. Williams will provide a historical context of the evolution of hip-hop from a once socially conscious art form to its current state of negative images. The workshop will document the overwhelming impact the current media has on the self-esteem of youth. A goal of the workshop is to provide information that educators can use to help their students review and critique the impact of hip-hop pop culture on self-identity and self-esteem, decision-making about school and the value of education, criminality and risky behavior.

Event Champion: Alice Pennamon

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**Thursday, February 2, 2012 • 3:00 p.m. - 4:05 p.m. • Alumni Hall**

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For Additional Information  
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