

► Schedule of Events ◀

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

6:00pm-8:00pm

Pre-Summit Welcome Reception

 CAME Office
Innovation Square

Informal reception and performance of Passport to Dream: curated songs and conversation highlighting arts, migration and entrepreneurship with [José Valentino Ruiz](#) and accompanists.

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

8:30am-5:00pm

Conversations and Presentations

 UF Straughn Center

8:30-9:00am Arrival and Breakfast

9:00am Welcome & Introductions

[Osubi Craig](#), Director, Center for Arts, Migration + Entrepreneurship (CAME)

[Welson Tremura](#), Former CAME Associate Director; UF School of Music

[Kenneth Metzker](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance, UF School of Music

9:10am KEYNOTE PANEL

Meeting the Moment: Find our Footing through Curiosity, Creativity, and Community

[Juan Gilbert](#), Andrew Banks Family Preeminence Endowed Professor, UF Distinguished Professor & Department Chair

[Onye Ozuzu](#), Professor, UF School of Theatre + Dance; Former Dean, UF College of the Arts

[Jasmine McNealy](#), Professor, Department of Media Production, Management, and Technology, UF College of Journalism and Communications

[Marlon Barrios Solano](#), CAME Maker-in-Residence

10:00am Global Knowledge Flows Panel

This session will explore how cultural communities both define and challenge systems of power, redirect global flows of knowledge, and reimagine themselves through art and cultural exchange.

[Rujeko Dumbutshena](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

[Saidah Nash Carter](#), Bright Insights Global (Cape Town, South Africa)

[Emrah Sahin](#), UF Center for European Studies

[Amelia Winger-Bearskin](#), Banks Family Preeminence Endowed Chair and Associate Professor of AI and the Arts, UF Digital Worlds Institute

[István Tarrósy](#), University of Pécs (Hungary)

10:50am Creative Interlude

Through dance and storytelling, we share the experiences of two women diagnosed with Parkinson's Disease: Carrico's grandmother and Vedam-Mai's mother.

[Rachel Carrico](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance
[Vinata Vedam-Mai](#), UF College of Medicine

11:10am Centers and Peripheries Panel

The panel will consider the unique perspectives of artists in migration throughout time, exploring the challenges of creating within cultural centers and at the margins. The goal of this panel is to think broadly about artistic canons, how media shapes identities, and how notions of "center" and "periphery" permeate discourses of value.

[Porchia Moore](#), CAME Associate Director; UF School of Art + Art History
[Abigail Lindo](#), Ohio State University
[Giséle Manganelli Fernandes](#), São Paulo State University (UNESP)
[Michael Vincent](#), University of North Florida
[John Mugubi](#), Kenyatta University (Nairobi, Kenya)

12:00pm Lunch Break

University of Florida AI2 Center present information on faculty programs and resources

1:00pm AI and the Arts

The panel will focus on the innovative intersections of AI and the Arts as a space of creative possibility and critical practice. The goal of this panel is to excite cross-disciplinary collaborations and reimagine the role of diasporic and migrant communities in advancing new technology.

[Heidi Boisvert](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance
[Marlon Barrios Solano](#), CAME Maker-in-Residence
[María Luisa Angulo](#), Co-Director, Pangea.AI
[S. Ama Wray](#), University of California, Irvine
[Fatimah Tuggar](#), UF School of Art + Art History

1:50pm Migratory Entrepreneurship: Fusing Academic Research, Professional Practice, and Global Outreach through Music

The panel will focus on intersecting domains of musicianship, entrepreneurship, academic research, and creative communities. The goal of this panel is to explore music's role in driving creative economies, shaping communities, and connecting cultures.

[Osubi Craig](#), Director, UF Center for Arts, Migration + Entrepreneurship
[José Valentino Ruiz](#), UF School of Music
[Melvin Villaver](#), Clemson University
[Laila Fakhoury](#), Co-Founder, The How Bazar and Dion Dia Records

2:40pm Creative Interlude | Dance Break

[Christa Sylla](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

2:50pm Growing Grant-Funded Research Panel

The panel will focus on examples of CAME-supported projects that have blossomed through additional grant funding. The goal of this panel is to present compelling examples of growing grant-funded research, share strategies for scaffolding smaller initiatives, and explore the successes and challenges of nurturing fundable research.

[Jeremy Frusco](#), UF Center for Arts, Migration + Entrepreneurship

[Margarita Vargas-Betancourt](#), UF Smathers Libraries

[Angelos Barmpoutis](#), UF Digital Worlds Institute

[Dionne Champion](#), UF Center for Arts in Medicine

[Kishau Rogers](#), Founder & CEO, Time Study Inc.

3:40pm Break

3:50pm We Are SPARC: Partnership and Best Practices for Creative Placemaking and Community Wellbeing

The SPARC352 Project is an initiative founded on the idea that arts are at the core of vibrant and healthy communities. This panel explores the lessons, opportunities, and impacts of the SPARC model, highlighting the role of institutional partnership, arts programming, and best practices in community-engaged research to cultivate relationships that center creativity and community wellbeing.

[Alana Jackson](#), Director, Arts & Wellness, Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts

[Porchia Moore](#), CAME Associate Director, UF School of Art + Art History

facilitators, in conversation with community members, collaborators, and project staff:

Carla Lewis, Terri Cook Bailey, Turbado Marabou, Jacob Larsen, Rhonda Wilson, Ravyn Gale, Essence Thomas, E. Stanley Richardson, Oriana Sheffield, Cherie Kelly, Brandy Stone, and Commissioner Desmon Duncan-Walker

5:20pm Closing Remarks

7:00pm-9:00pm

Museum Nights & Poetry Festival

 Harn Museum of Art

Summit participants are invited to gather for networking and discussion at the [Harn Museum's Art After Dark | Museum Nights](#). The program will feature the Bard & Broadside North Central Florida Poetry Festival with E. Stanley Richardson and an exhibition of work from the Spelman College Museum of Fine Art.

FRIDAY, APRIL 11

8:30am-12:30pm

Research and Tech Demos



8:30-9:00am Arrival and Breakfast

8:50am **Welcome**

[Porchia Moore](#), CAME Associate Director; UF School of Art + Art History

9:00am **Sound Weaving**

[Heidi Powell](#), UF School of Art + Art History

Sound Weaving is both a visual artwork and an interactive sonic tapestry where scanned sounds intertwine, when engaged with collaboratively to form spontaneous harmonies and ever-evolving sonic patterns. As visual artwork, it represents the sounds we carry within while the fragments of audio when scanned collaboratively with others thread together unpredictably, creating a free-flowing composition that shifts with each interaction. No two moments are the same—each experience is a unique blend of serendipity and structure, where randomness births unexpected beauty. Like strands in a loom, the sounds merge and separate, weaving an ephemeral composition that exists only in the present.

9:15am **Born in Latent Space**

[Marlon Barrios Solano](#), CAME Maker-in-Residence

Performance-lecture in collaboration with synthetic intelligences

This performance-lecture blends web-based interaction, AI, video, and live engagement to explore memory, emotion, and speculation. Barrios Solano uses AI-powered web apps to weave together storytelling, movement, and digital objects to explore questions of cybernetics, lost ancestors, time travel, queer longing, recursion, and migration through algorithmic playfulness.

9:30am **Rapping Migration in Europe**

[Armin Langer](#), UF Center for European Studies

This project explores how hip-hop artists from migrant backgrounds use rap as a medium to express identity, resistance, and belonging in European societies. The presentation highlights key artists and lyrics that challenge exclusionary narratives and redefine European cultural spaces.

9:45am **Global Jazz and Intercultural Collaboration**

[Payam Yousefi](#), UF School of Music
[Mark Lomanno](#), University of Miami

Global Jazz serves as a space for artist empowerment and transnational collaboration, particularly within Afro-Diasporic and post-colonial communities. This presentation connects cultural production with social impact through musical and social empathy, illustrated here at the intersection of jazz and diasporic traditions.

10:00am **Man + Machine = Partners in Repair**

[Saidah Nash Carter](#), Cofounder and Chief Innovation Officer, BIG Labs for Good

This thoughtspark talk explores the power of training data and the importance of intentional data curation for machine learning. BIG Labs and Snake Nation are connected to a robust ecosystem and GLOBAL network of collaborators across multiple initiatives and sectors.

10:15am

Migratory Drag

[Manuel Simons](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

Migratory Drag is an avant-garde performance piece exploring survival, positionality, and resistance. Drawing inspiration from the migratory behavior of the dragonfly species Anax junius, which skillfully avoids flying over open waters to evade predators, the performance invokes this natural phenomenon as a metaphor for navigating barriers to social justice.

10:30am

Break

10:45am

Performance of Care

[Jashodhara Sen](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance
[Millicent Johnnie](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

This performance explores the intersections of migration, digital storytelling, and third-world feminism through an intimate act of care—cooking. Inspired by my mother’s act of “radical care,” I will imagine her kitchen and prepare “phuchka”, a well-known pan-Indian snack, in 10 minutes. As I share my migration stories alongside my mother’s, weaving in the tale of phuchka, her favorite songs and colors, and reflections on care, I recognize how she has embodied care as a form of “radical care” throughout her life. Integrating AI into performance complicates the exploration of memory, identity, and cultural heritage.

11:00am

Multimodal Manuscripts and Evoking the Complexity of Black Lives in Florida

[Amanda Concha-Holmes](#), Founder and Director of IRIE (Innovative Research and Intercultural Education) Center

To evoke the complexity of Black lives in the U.S. South, and especially Florida, I will show the multimodal manuscript that The Collaboratory has been crafting. It integrates text, videos, podcasts, audio, and artwork to offer a more interactive experience that highlights joy, entrepreneurship, and success as critical moments of African diaspora collective journeys during times of race-based violence.

11:15am

Harmonic Resurgence: Reimagining Sonic Narratives through Hip Hop and Marching Band Performance

[Melvin Villaver](#), Clemson University

This research demonstration and listening exercise examines Harmonic Resurgence, a Hip Hop mixtape that engages archival recovery, diasporic sonic memory, and the aesthetics of marching band traditions. The presentation will explore how the mixtape was reinterpreted into a live halftime performance by the Clemson University Tiger Band, offering critical insights into the intersection of digital music production, large-scale ensemble performance, and Black musical storytelling. By bridging Hip Hop’s technoscientific innovations with historically Black collegiate and mainstream marching band traditions, this project rethinks authorship, sonic agency, and the pedagogical possibilities of interdisciplinary music-making.

11:30am

Exploring Radical Chic Frug: Virtual Production, Social Justice, and Artistic Innovation

[Millicent Johnnie](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

This presentation delves into the creative and technical process behind Radical Chic Frug, a large-scale virtual production set to launch in late summer or fall of 2025. The project, a collaboration with Ryan Hope Travis and Darius Brown, revisits the 1970s Manhattan soirée where famed conductor Leonard Bernstein hosted the Black Panthers. Inspired by Tom Wolfe’s iconic article Radical Chic: That Party at Lenny’s (published in New York Magazine in June 1970), the production examines the intersections of privilege, activism, and identity during a pivotal moment in American social history.

Through music, dance, and film, Radical Chic Frug uses cutting-edge virtual production techniques to explore the ongoing relevance of the cultural tensions that Wolfe satirized. The project also situates these dialogues within a contemporary framework, reflecting on modern movements for equity, social justice, and the role of privilege in cultural spaces.

11:45am Creative Interlude

[Christa Sylla](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance, and dance students

12:00pm BeNative: Stories, Territory, and Belonging

[Fabio Garcia](#), Director, The StoryLab

A framework for developing belonging with stories, rituals and fantastic realism.

12:15pm Migration of Self: A Spiritual Integration of Intuitive Indigenous Sound & Ancestral Movement

[Blanche "Jahmie" Williams](#), Owner, Greatness By Design

Expressing an authentically conscious exploration of our migratory journeys mapped using indigenous sound and ancestral movement. An improvisational participatory ritual that incorporates Afro-indigenous spirituality using various attunement instruments, spoken word, praise, dance and imagery. A playful invitation to fellow affiliate faculty family to participate and become part of a sacred container sanctified by our collective destinations, revelations, and transformative voices.

12:30pm-2:30pm

Student Research Showcase

12:30pm Lunch

12:45pm Student Research and Pitch Presentations: Innovation Room

1:35pm Student Project Exhibits and Networking: Exploration Room

2:20pm Faculty/Student Panel: Design and the Creative Process: Innovation Room

[Natalia Guerrero](#), UF MFA and PhD Astronomy Candidate

[Millicent Johnnie](#), UF School of Theatre + Dance

2:50pm Break

3:00pm-5:00pm

The CAME Cipher

 **Innovation Room**

Visioning Session followed by roundtable discussions on areas of growth for Center research projects and programming.

Conference Respondent: [Raquel Monroe](#), Associate Dean of Graduate Education and Academic Affairs




Note: CAME Affiliate Faculty only.

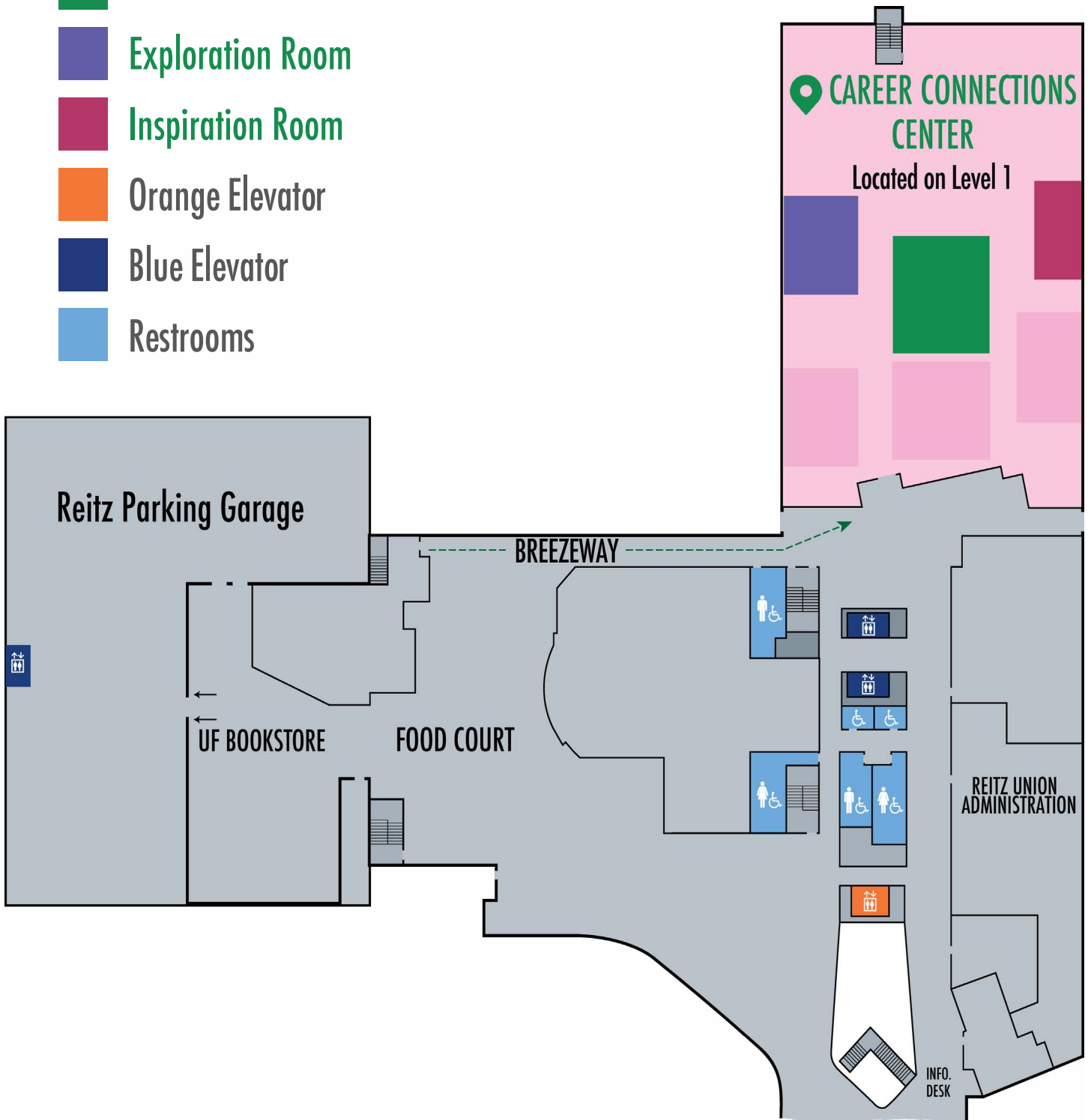
6:30pm-8:00pm

CAME Mixer & BIG Festival Block Party

 **The Bull
Downtown GNV**

Reitz Union: Level 1

-  Career Connections Center
-  Innovation Room
-  Exploration Room
-  Inspiration Room
-  Orange Elevator
-  Blue Elevator
-  Restrooms



SATURDAY, APRIL 12

9:00am-10:00am

Morning Community Walk

📍 Depot Park

Meet in the parking lot of the [CADE Museum](#) and enjoy a guided nature walk through Depot Park with Associate Director Porchia Moore

Note: CAME Affiliate Faculty only.

10:30am-12:30pm

Mapping the Future of CAME

📍 CAME Office
Innovation Square

CAME Innovations Summit will culminate in an organic facilitated process reflecting on the Summit and inform future growth and development of the Center

Note: CAME Affiliate Faculty only.

3:00pm-12:00am

BIG Culture & Arts Festival

📍 Downtown GNV

Enjoy performances, workshops, and arts/tech demonstrations at the [Big: Culture & Arts Festival](#) hosted by [The How Bazar](#) and [Dion Dia Records](#).

MAIN STAGE:

3:00pm **Remixing Joy: Hip Hop, Hope, and the Digital Imagination - A Conversation**
[Melvin Villaver](#) and [Kevin Winstead](#)

4:55pm **Power of Circle- African Music and Dance Sharing**
[Rujeko Dumbutshena](#) and [Kenneth Metzker](#)

5:40pm **Power of Circle- African Music and Dance Sharing**
[Rujeko Dumbutshena](#) and [Kenneth Metzker](#)



Scan here for a map of all CAME
Innovations Summit activities
with parking and accessibility information

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