



D4PG 2023 Day 1: Thursday, November 2, 2023

Schedule (all times in CST)

**Subject to change*

9:00 am	Kagin Ballroom: Hana Dinku Intro & Welcome <i>Welcome, Greetings & Salutations from Macalester College</i>			
9:05 am	Kagin Ballroom: Aasim Shabazz and Marika Pfefferkorn <i>Welcome to D4PG 2023 from Twin Cities Innovation Alliance</i>			
9:15 am	Introduction of Speaker: Marika Pfefferkorn			
9:20 am	Kagin Ballroom: Dr. Stevie Chancellor <i>AI & Mental Health: AI for mental health and how we can envision a future of AI that is useful and compassionate of peoples' needs in these vulnerable situations</i>			
9:55 am	Audience Q&A with Dr. Stevie Chancellor			
10:25am	Break			
11:00am	Bryson Berry Black Prosperity: Finding a Way Forward <i>This brief body of work aims to examine the barriers to Black wealth, including their effects on present day outcomes of Black people. Furthermore, this work incorporates perspectives that ask what would societies look like for Black people under more equal opportunities and under an afrofuturist framework. I use a StoryMap the beginning of what will be a larger body of research on the wealth inequality experienced by Black Americans in different regions Around the US. Future work will be completely to develop a more comprehensive understanding of wealth inequality, using more qualitative and quantitative methods, and considering more Afrofuturist visions of cities designed for the Black diaspora.</i> Room CC 206	Robert Jackson Ownership and Agency <i>What does it look like when we are the ones creating the safe spaces for our data and what does it look like for us to monetize our data based on our own interests.</i> Room CC 207	Ed Vogel and Miriam Bhimani FOIA is for Everyone: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) <i>The Freedom of Information Act creates one pathway for requesting information from our government while simultaneously socializing our public officials to enact better transparency. From understanding how students are treated in schools, to how our government uses surveillance tools in our public spaces, we can insist this data be available for public scrutiny. How our government operates and the records it keeps are open to public inspection but we must make formal requests for the records and data we need so we can create the demands we deserve. We will discuss the basic tenets of the FOIA law, why it's important to include in organizing and policy work and how to file a first request.</i> Room CC 215	Dr. Ceema Samimi Safety and Mutual Aid in the Digital Age <i>What is mutual aid and what does it have to do with digital justice? This workshop will define mutual aid and provide an overview of mutual aid throughout history. After discussing virtual and "real life" mutual aid projects, attendees will develop their own definitions of community strategy and brainstorm ways mutual aid can support it. Time for reflection, questions, and resource sharing will be included.</i> Room CC 216



12:00 pm	Transition from Workshops & Lunch
1:00 pm	Transition back to programming – Stop by the Art Gallery <i>Announcements made by Marika Pfefferkorn</i>
1:15 pm	<p> Kagin Ballroom Panel: Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls</p> <p>Minnesota recently made history with its creation of the Task Force for Missing and Murdered Black Women and Girls. But the MMAAW Task Force is important for another reason: providing a model of community research in the public interest. Research In Action (RIA), a firm led by Dr. Brittany Lewis, coordinated and executed the data collection and research for the legislative report. This report laid the foundation to enact a law creating the nation's first Office of Missing and Murdered African American Women and Girls in May 2023. It has also inspired federal legislation to remedy flaws in data collection and reporting that lead Black women and girls to fall through the cracks.</p> <p><i>Presented By: Lakeisha Lee, Tiffany Roberson, Artika C. Roller</i> <i>Moderated by Dr. Catherine Squires</i></p>
2:15pm	Quick Break
2:20pm	<p> Kagin Ballroom Co-Powering Communities of the Future: Comics, Data, and Future Narratives</p> <p>Join us for an interactive and empowering session at this year's conference, where we delve into the captivating intersection of comics, storytelling, and reshaping public narratives. In "Co-Powering the Future" participants will explore how comic books and data can serve as potent tools for reclaiming and reframing the stories of historically marginalized communities.</p> <p>In this workshop, participants will collaborate with each other to challenge existing, deficit narratives surrounding communities, and brainstorm strategies to tell different stories about what is possible using comics and future-oriented perspectives as a guide. Through engaging discussions and hands-on activities, participants will learn how to merge the artistry of comic books with the power of data, inviting community members to craft their own stories authentically and on their own terms.</p> <p>We will emphasize the significance of community-driven narratives, encouraging attendees to collaborate, share experiences, and inspire each other.</p> <p><i>Presented by Dr. Michael Dando</i></p>
3:30pm	<p> Kagin Ballroom The In-Justice System Writ Large</p> <p>Police surveillance tools such as gunshot detection, social media surveillance, facial recognition technology, predictive policing software, and camera networks have proliferated, and have drawn criticism for unreliability, bias, and privacy infringement. This panel discusses whether current frameworks adequately safeguard racial equity, privacy, community consent, and reliability. Where existing systems fall short, upfront assessment of such technologies through community oversight laws and other avenues may offer more promise.</p> <p><i>Panelists: Clarence Okoh, Mitha Nandagopala, Liliana Zaragoza, Moderated by Marika Pfefferkorn</i></p>
4:35pm	Closing Day 1



D4PG 2023 Day 2- Friday, November 3, 2023

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<p>9:00am</p>	<p>Kagin Ballroom: Aasim Shabazz and Marika Pfefferkorn <i>Day 1 Recap and Day 2 Vision Casting</i></p>
<p>9:10am</p>	<p>Introduction of Speaker: Aasim Shabazz</p>
<p>9:15am</p>	<p>Kagin Ballroom Keynote: Dr. Tanya Clark <i>Aspirations of an Afrofuturist Educator: Creating and Imagining Black Futures through Literature</i></p>
<p>10:05am</p>	<p>Audience Q&A with Dr. Tanya Clark</p>
<p>10:30am</p>	<p>The Wakanda Design Group: Its History and Ongoing Mission</p> <p>This session will share the history of African American scientific achievement in the twentieth century with a special emphasis on the institutions and individuals who made major technological breakthroughs between 1921 and 2001. Detailed analysis of the "Black Brain Belts" -- communities that featured high percentages of African American scientists and technicians -- will provide models for the expansion of organizations like the Wakanda Design Group, as featured in the Marvel Studios' films 'Black Panther' and 'Black Panther 2: Wakanda Forever.'</p> <p>Room: Old Main 400 Lounge</p>
<p>11:00am</p>	<p>Kagin Ballroom Blue Beetle: A Different Kind of Origin and Journey</p> <p>Throughout our superhero narratives, we see again and again the theme of loss, alienation and trauma. Superman's home world was destroyed, Batman witnesses the murder of his family, Peter invariably loses Uncle Ben (it's canon that it happens to all peters, right?). This narrative is underpinned by our deep-rooted reliance on individualism. Don't tell me who you are, tell me the pain you've gone through. People of color and advocates fighting for justice know this burden well through the trauma porn reliant news industry and glorification of struggle and objection as the necessary starting point for a rebirth as someone more. The event will explore a different approach to the origin and Hero's Journey cycle, where family and community is not presented as an expendable resource to be sacrificed for the creation of a stronger individual, but rather a core part of the hero's identity and rebirth process. We'll explore what the journey looks like when you don't need to go alone.</p> <p>Panelists: Marika Pfefferkorn, Aasim Shabazz, Moderated by Gabriel Rodriguez</p>





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12:00pm	<p>📍 Kagin Ballroom Lunch and Fireside Chat with Elizabeth Swanzy-Parker</p>
1:15pm	<p>📍 Kagin Ballroom Miles Morales’s Journey: How Ecosystems Give Us Power and Move with Us</p> <p>Reinterrogating as its basis, the “educator” or “mentor” in the Hero’s Journey as well as explicating the operation of the phrase “people closest to the problem are closest to the solution.” This session will use Miles Morales’ encounters with other Spidermen across the multiverse to explore the role that technologists trained in law, specific technical domains, design etc. can and should play in an ecosystem alongside community leaders. The spider verse heroes are in partnership--they are co-powering the fight for justice, they leverage their unique strengths and learn from one another. We’ll discuss how this is a more effective model for thinking about change than frameworks like the hero’s journey (i.e., the mentor doesn’t just airdrop in to build capacity) and highlight places where communities are building authentic ecosystems through things like technical assistance partnerships.</p> <p><i>Panelists: Robert Jackson, Aasim Shabazz, Moderated by Gabriel Rodriguez</i></p>
1:15pm	<p>Training the Next Generation of Computer Scientists to Mitigate Bias in Software</p> <p>Software is increasingly playing a bigger role in our everyday lives. From things that are fun such as playing video games to more serious applications such as identifying qualified job candidates. There is no doubt that software has improved the quality of life for a segment of the world population, especially in the global north. Unfortunately, these gains have come at a cost for some marginalized communities, especially people underrepresented in the computer science field. From wrongly accusing people of crimes, they did not commit to incorrectly denying applicants mortgages, bias shows up and has a harmful impact. In this talk, we will examine the role of computer science education in mitigating bias in software and make the case that more needs to be done to better train the next generation of computer scientists to mitigate bias in software.</p> <p><i>Presented by Getiria Onsongo</i></p> <p>Room CC 207</p>
2:15pm	Break



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<p>2:30pm</p>	<p> Kagin Ballroom Black Panther: Why it Matters Who Makes Technology and Controls Wealth</p> <p><i>Perhaps more than any other superhero, Black Panther most explicitly represents a fundamentally different sociopolitical and industrial future. This is built on multiple forms of wealth: unique resources and technology, deep cultural practices, and a recognized relationship with the environment. In the modern digital economy, human attention, habit, and pattern are resources to be used or exploited—from Amazon enforcing inhumane delivery times on a driver to endless scroll and monitoring your every click or Ring footage being shared with police. Our Hero’s Journey and technology in the main are both devoted to maximizing our contributions to other people’s wealth under the mask of convenience. But what if it could be different? Not all our relationships with technology are bad; the same camera that can take endless selfies has also been a crucial tool for holding the powerful (police, dictators, war criminals, etc.) accountable. How can we sort out what is valuable from what is harmful? Work that defends our values and properly values multiple forms of wealth (cultural, social, environmental etc.)</i></p> <p>Panelists: Marika Pfefferkorn, Dr. Tanya Clark, Dr. Walter Greason, Aasim Shabazz Moderated by Gabriel Rodriguez</p>
<p>3:30pm</p>	<p>Transition Break</p>
<p>3:45pm</p>	<p> Kagin Ballroom Closing Day 2: Recap, What's Next, & Thank you for Attending!</p>