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March Newsletter

A warm welcome to returning friends and new subscribers – thank you for joining us!

To stay updated on our upcoming events, feel free to add our calendar here:

Add BCaT Google Calendar

Follow us on Bluesky

Announcements

Programming resumes for the Black Homeplaces CO(LAB) with our new workshop season - open to all, join us as we learn skills and tools relevant to the project.

We are excited to begin our second DISCO CO(LAB) bookclub, led by Dr. Catherine Knight Steele on “Automating Black Joy”!

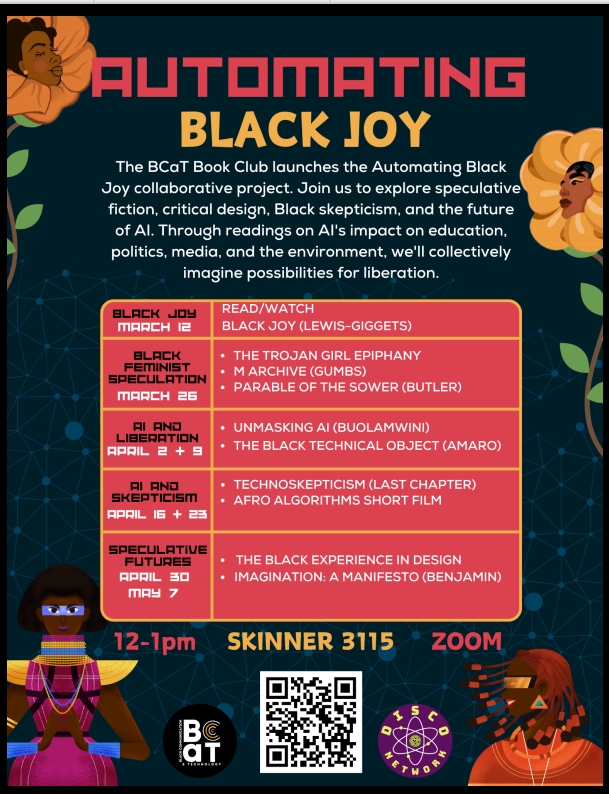


Upcoming Events

Lab Open Hours:



- Tuesdays 10-3pm - Open Lab
  - Podcast Room available
- Wednesdays 10-3pm - Open Lab
  - Black Homeplaces workshops 10-12pm selected Wednesdays
  - Automating Black Joy BCaT Bookclub 12-1pm
  - BCaT Applies on March 26th from 3pm-5pm
  - BCaT Eats on March 26th from 5pm
- Thursdays 10-3pm - Writing Lab
  - Undergraduate drop-ins 10-12pm
  - Hybrid co-writing sessions from 1-3pm



New DISCO CO(LAB): Automating Black Joy

The *BCaT Book Club* is the first component in the *Automating Black Joy* collaborative project.

Join us every wednesday from 12-1pm to explore speculative fiction, critical design, Black skepticism, and the future of AI.

Learn More

Upcoming Events



Black Homeplaces DISCO CO(LAB) Workshop:

Black Soundscapes

In this workshop Dr. Martin demonstrates strategies for considering the ethics of soundscape recording and composition in digital and artistic projects.

When: **Monday March 10th 10-12pm**
Where: **BCaT Lab (Skinner 3115) & Zoom**

Registration

BCaT Applies:

Social Media Scraping for the Tech-hesitant

Join us on **Wednesday, March 26th** from **3-5pm** for our hybrid BCaT Applies Session, where we will be offering an introduction to a user-friendly data scraping method, for the researcher who is not particularly tech-savvy.

Zeeschuimer can capture data from TikTok, Instagram, X and more, for analysis using the **4cat** interface, which offers a toolkit for processing and analysing your data.

Click here for pre-workshop installation instructions



Registration

BCaT Eats

Join us for a fun night of board games, food, and movies!

When: Wednesday March 26th 5pm
Where: BCaT Lab (Skinner 3115)



Spotlight On…

Black Homeplaces DISCO CO(LAB) Microgrant Awardees

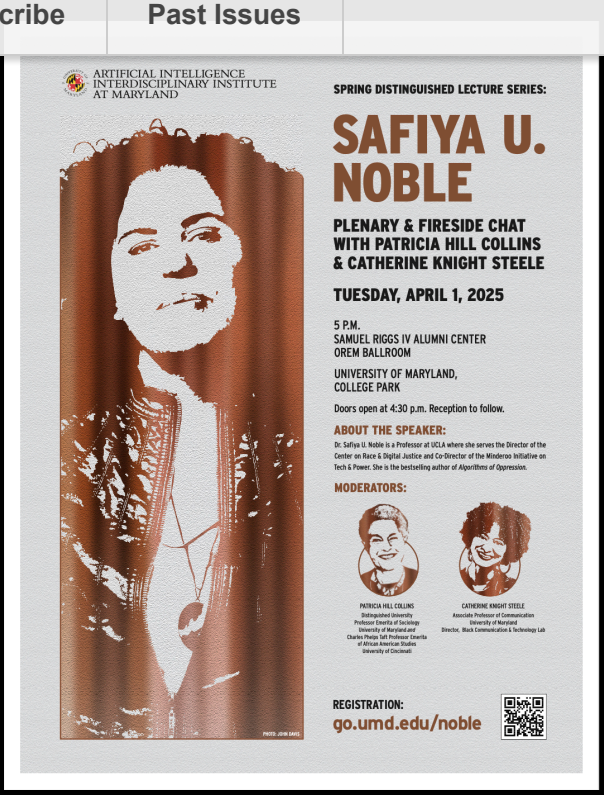
We're delighted to announce our first cohort of DISCO CO(LAB) participants! We had a gratifying amount of interest, receiving almost 40 *outstanding* applications to this round of microgrants.

Over the coming year, we will support 18 projects comprised of 32 awardees in creating innovative digital outputs to be housed in a publicly accessible XR project that visualises the diasporic *Black Homeplace*.

Congratulations, we are so excited to be working with you!



Black Homeplaces



AIM Distinguished Lecture: Safiya U. Noble

Dr. Safiya U. Noble is the David O. Sears Presidential Endowed Chair of Social Sciences and Professor of Gender Studies, African American Studies, and Information Studies at the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). She is the Director of the Center on Race & Digital Justice and Co-Director of the Minderoo Initiative on Tech & Power at the UCLA Center for Critical Internet Inquiry (C2i2).

Dr. Noble is the author of the best-selling book Algorithms of Oppression: How Search Engines Reinforce Racism. In 2021, she was recognized as a MacArthur Foundation Fellow for her ground-breaking work on algorithmic discrimination.

Tuesday April 1st, 5pm, doors open at 4.30pm with a reception to follow

Samuel Riggs IV Alumni Center Orem Ballroom (hybrid event, RSVP for Zoom link)

RSVP Here

express ideas. In alignment with these values, we have decided to step away from X (formerly Twitter) and transition to Bluesky! Join us on our new platform and stay connected: @bcatlab.bsky.social

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