

# HOW IT SLIPS AWAY/WE STILL HERE: COLLECTIVE MEMORY AND PLANNING IN BLACK PORTLAND

**MONDAY  
OCTOBER 1**

5:30 PM

GARCIA HONDA AUDITORIUM,

GEORGE  
PEARL HALL

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With responses and commentary by  
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Portland's Black neighborhoods have been shaped by a history of exclusion and enclosure, and now are facing new forms of urban renewal. Gentrification has displaced people from their homes and community, not only physically, but emotionally. People struggle to re-structure relationships to place and collective memory as the city itself is restructured by capital for new residents. Dr. Bates works in a collaborative practice to surface family and community histories as important foundations for planning knowledge and methods. This work includes engaged inquiry, emancipatory planning processes, and place-responsive art to present Black life as an ongoing presence in these neighborhoods as alive and important, defying erasure in saying "we still here." By asking Black Portlanders to remember their generational presence and imagine, the planning creates a space for both a counter-narrative of community history and a pathway towards a more just future.