



Sabrina Strings, UC Santa Barbara



**Bennetta Jules-Rosette, PhD
Distinguished Professor Sociology
Director, AAASRC and the African Studies Minor**

Sabrina Strings is Professor and North Hall Chair of Black Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her first book, *Fearing the Black Body: The Racial Origins of Fat Phobia* (2019), was a dynamic exploration of gender embodiment and racial stereotypes. It received worldwide recognition and became an inspiration for her current book *The End of Love: Racism, Sexism, and the Death of Romance* (2024). Her new book examines the intersectionality of gender, race, and class in terms of a mythologized ethos of romance that has faded from many contemporary gendered interactions, provoking fragile and temporary contingencies in a kaleidoscopic world. Professor Strings addresses the interface between ideology and the structure of feelings in the domains of race and class. She explores how structural barriers reinforce and reflect the transience of interpersonal relationships that characterize the impermanency of the postmodern condition. Professor Strings is an eloquent commentator on gender, race, and social change in contemporary society and a visionary whose insights stimulate profound thoughts about the future of intimacy within a changing social and cultural landscape.

UC San Diego

***African and African-American
Studies Research Center
31st Awards Banquet,
2025***

***UCSD Faculty Club
Friday, May 30, 2025,
5:00 p.m.***



Aida Muluneh: The 99 Series / Part Two, 2013.
(Photo reproduced with permission of the artist.)

*** *Awards* ***

Welcome to the 31st Annual Awards Celebration of the African and African-American Studies Research Center (AAASRC). Tonight is a very special occasion on which we shall honor the outstanding achievements of scholars, students, and administrators who have worked with our program over the years. A tribute will be presented to our keynote speaker, Sabrina Strings (UCSD PhD Sociology, 2012), expressing the broad impact and significance of her research and publications. Congratulations to all awardees.

Prelude and Introduction

Bennetta Jules-Rosette, Director, AAASRC

Opening Remarks

Letter from the Chancellor

Read by Dr. Ricardo Guthrie, Fisk University and AAASRC Board

Certificate of Staff Appreciation

Presented by Bennetta Jules-Rosette

Elizabeth Kelly, UCSD Faculty Club

Lifetime Tribute to AAASRC Board Members and Ancestors

Music by the Elimu Band

Nkosi Sikelel'i Afrika Commemoration

by the AAASRC Board and the Audience

“To Be Lost & Found in Black America”:

by Wallace G. Bullock, Vineyard Haven Playhouse

Read by Dr. Ricardo Guthrie, Fisk University and AAASRC Board

*** **Keynote Address** ***

The End of Love: Racism, Sexism, and the Death of Romance

Sabrina Strings, Professor and Chair of Black Studies, UC Santa Barbara

Teshome H. Gabriel Distinguished Award in Africana Studies, presented by Bennetta Jules-Rosette to Sabrina Strings

Tribute to Sabrina Strings by Ricardo Guthrie, AAASRC Board and Wanda Addison, National University and AAASRC Board

Award for Excellence in Teaching in Africana Studies

Presented by Provost Ivan Evans, Eleanor Roosevelt College & AAASRC Board and Bright Gyamfi, Department of History and AAASRC Board

Lamar Perry, Department of Theatre and Dance, UCSD

Award for Excellence in Teaching in African Literature and Cultures

Presented by Provost Ivan Evans, Eleanor Roosevelt College & AAASRC Board and Bright Gyamfi, Department of History and AAASRC Board

Gabriel Bámgbóşé, Professor of African and Comparative Literature

Award for Excellence in Staff Administration

Presented by Pamela Frugé, Assistant Dean of Undergraduate Education and Shanley Miller, MSO, Department of Sociology

Brenda Guzman, Department of Sociology

Dance & Music Interlude by The Elimu Band

and

Tango Performance by Eduardo Santana and Lyazzat Segizbayeva

Freestyle Dancing: “Bang! Bang!” Composed by Joe Cuba

Outstanding Ethnographic Film by a Graduate Student

Presented by Eduardo Santana, C.Phil., UCSD Communication

Department & AAASRC Board

Maya Machado, C.Phil., Sociology, *Panas & Palm Trees*

Award for Outstanding Undergraduate Papers: Special Recognition

Presented by Provost Ivan Evans, Eleanor Roosevelt College

Huda Ahmed, Thurgood Marshall College

Paige White, Eleanor Roosevelt College

Outstanding Undergraduate Papers

Presented by Provost Ivan Evans, Eleanor Roosevelt College and

Lea Marie Ruiz-Ade, M.A., Community Liaison, AAASRC

Outstanding Scholars, Artists, Composers, and Musicians

Presented by Lea Marie Ruiz-Ade, M.A., Community Liaison, AAASRC

Ricardo Guthrie and Wallace G. Bullock

The Elimu Band led by Gene Perry with Channing

Booth and Irving Flores

Outstanding Undergraduate Papers

*Presented by Provost Ivan Evans, Eleanor Roosevelt College & AAASRC Board and
Lea Marie Ruiz-Ade, M.A., Community Liaison, AAASRC*

Somali Ethnic and Inter-Ethnic Conflicts and Civil War

Huda Ahmed (Special Recognition)

Gender Inequality in Morocco

Sabrina Bennani

Amazighs and Morocco's Colonization

Chloe Braun

Religious Change Among the Igbo and the !Kung Communities

Esthela Chaidez

Gender Relations and Social Change in Kenya

Tmekei Peterson (Bailey Joan)

The Swazi People and Land Contestation

Eddie Russell

Sexual Violence in Congo (DRC)

Kayanna Spriggs

The Elasticity of Borders in Africa: Case Studies from Rwanda and Burundi

Paige White (Special Recognition)



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were submitted after the printing of this program.*

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**African Market by Professor Chuck Ambers, African Diaspora
Museum And Research Center**

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