



RUTGERS

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DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN'S, GENDER,
AND SEXUALITY STUDIES

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Plait/Form: A RAGE Lab Black Feminist Public Works Incubator



[Access Application Form](#)

Overview

What does Black feminism look like in public? Plait/Form, the inaugural Black Feminist Public Works Incubator offered by the Race and Gender Equity (RAGE) Lab at Rutgers University supports writers, academics, and content creators who are seeking to answer this question by doing Black feminist work in creative and publicly accessible ways. Much like the nightly plaiting practice that has shaped so much of Black communal intimacies, as Black women and girls got their hair cared for in preparation for the next day of school or work, Plait/Form offers space to intentionally bring together the strands of thinking, teaching, and creating that anchor Black feminist public life, and to think about the forms that such braiding together of ideas might take.

About RAGE Lab

The Race and Gender Equity (RAGE Lab), founded in 2023, is a multi-modal research incubator committed to producing Black feminist research on the social thriving of Black women and girls and making that research accessible to broad public audiences. RAGE Lab's Founding Director and Principal Investigator is Dr. Brittney Cooper, Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies and Africana Studies at Rutgers University.

Project Scope

We are especially interested in beginning or intermediate-stage projects that center Black feminist ideas *and* which do one or more of the following:

- innovate on new modes and methods of disseminating or translating Black Feminism to broad audiences
- connect new or underserved communities to Black Feminism
- and/or center collective and inclusive approaches to doing Black Feminism.

Projects include but are not limited to

- Books for broad audiences
- Digital knowledge projects
- Creative works
- Community Action Projects

Plait/Form: Session Highlights

This two-day intensive session will include master classes with Black feminist public scholars and thinkers, opportunities to meet agents, editors, and philanthropists, and group-based executive coaching designed to help you move your project to the next stage of implementation.

At the end of the workshop, you will complete an implementation plan and present it to the group.

Application Requirements

*You may apply **individually** or in **teams of two**.*

- Project narrative - Please submit a 1000-word project narrative that explains your work, its audience, and its connection to Black feminism. Your narrative must include a discussion of the project's current stage, and the ways participation in Plait/Form will advance your work.
- A short CV - no more than 2 pages.
- One work sample - This could include any one of the following:
 - draft book proposal or sample essay or chapter of no more than 25 pages
 - a link to a podcast interview or other digital product
 - any other documentation of a community action or creative project

Submit only **one** work sample. Our Lab is a small team, and we want to honor our capacity while engaging your work with the care it deserves.

Application Deadline

March 1, 11:59pm ET, 2024

Session Dates

May 30th – June 1st 2024

Location

New Brunswick, New Jersey.

Details will be provided upon acceptance.

Eligibility & Inclusive Amenities

- Participants must be based within the United States.
- Current undergraduate and high school students are not eligible to apply.
- Successful applicants will be provided with all meals, lodging and transportation.

For inquiries, contact ragelab@womenstudies.rutgers.edu

[Submit Your Application](#)