

Funeral Consumers Alliance—Keynote Announcement



We are delighted to announce a keynote presentation by Dr. Kami Fletcher, Associate professor of American & African American History at Albright College. Dr. Fletcher will address our online conference attendees on **Sunday, September 27, at 1 pm Eastern/10 am Pacific**. The meeting will be held on Zoom, and registration and program details are at funerals.org/conference-2020/.

African American Undertaking: History, Burial Rights and Deathwork

Specifically discussing her research about the earliest African American undertakers in Baltimore, Dr. Fletcher provides a history of African American undertaking and undertakers. Focusing on the rise of the Reconstruction-Era African American undertaker, Dr. Fletcher will show how race, racism and the autonomous black cemetery led to early 20th-century African American undertaking as a vehicle for wealth building and communal self-help. The talk will put special emphasis on how Black women undertakers used newspapers to subvert patriarchy and gender norms in order to thrive in death work that was dominated by men.

Dr. Kami Fletcher is an Associate professor of American & African American History at Albright College and president of the [Collective for Radical Death Studies](#). She is the co-editor of *Till Death Do Us Part: American Ethnic Cemeteries as Borders Uncrossed*, a comprehensive study of how burial customs highlight social status and class exploring why Americans separate their dead along race, faith, ethnicity and social standing.

Special Book Discount!

Dr. Fletcher and University Press of Mississippi have generously arranged a 30% discount for conference attendees on the anthology *Till Death Do Us Part American Ethnic Cemeteries as Borders Uncrossed*. The discount will be available from Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2020. [Visit the University Press of Mississippi's page for the book](#) and enter discount code FCA2020 when ordering.