

A Lost History: An Ethnography of the Historic Dunbar Theatre

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Abstract: This research explored sense of place and generational values of an African American cohort from Wichita, Kansas, that experienced the Historic Dunbar Theatre during the 22-years following its opening in 1941. Utilizing narrative inquiry and semi-structured interviews, the cohort described their individual lived experiences and memories in the community. Results show a strong sense of place among the cohort reinforced by a sense of belongingness and a generational value that emphasizes the importance of community and human relationships. Issues of social justice and further research are also presented.