

Hip-Hop and African American Literature Scholar to Discuss His Two New Books at Rhodes College

Adam Bradley, scholar of hip-hop studies and African American literature, will present two lectures at Rhodes College this week.

On April 1, he will discuss and sign copies of his *Book of Rhymes: The Poetics of Hip Hop* (Basic Civitas, February 2009). Free and open to the public, the [lecture](#) begins at 7 p.m. in Blount Auditorium of Buckman Hall. According to Bradley, “Hip hop extends a tradition of lyricism that spans continents and stretches back thousands of years. Artists like Lil Wayne and Nas do what so much of today’s literary poets do not, namely satisfy our innate desire for rhythm and rhyme.” The book features lyrics and techniques of Run-DMC, Rakim, William Shakespeare, Emily Dickinson, De La Soul, Langston Hughes, The Notorious B. I. G., Robert Frost, Tupac, W.B. Yeats, Kanye West, Derek Walcott, and Lil Wayne, among others.

On April 2, Bradley will discuss *Three Days Before the Shooting*, which is a 1,200 page collection of the manuscripts relating to Ralph Ellison’s never-finished second novel. *Three Days* extends the small portion of the second novel published in 1999 as *Juneteenth*. Bradley is co-editor of the volume, part of Random House’s Modern Library series. Free and open to the public, the lecture begins at 7 p.m. in Tuthill Performance Hall. Bradley earned a Ph.D. in English from Harvard University. He is associate professor of Literature at Claremont McKenna College. His presentations at Rhodes are sponsored by the Department of English, the African American Studies Program, the Mike Curb Institute for Music, and the Black Student Association.

Those with specific inquiries can contact Dr. [Scott L. Newstok](#) at 901-843-3135.

