**CONVOCATION CALENDAR**

**Spring 2019**

*All full-time students enrolled at Centre for the full academic year are required to earn a total of 12 Convocation credits.*

***To receive Convocation credit, students must have their ID card scanned, be seated before the program begins, remain present throughout the full program, and scan their own ID card immediately following the event.***

*For the entire Convocation policy, refer to the* ***Student Handbook****. Students may access their Convocation attendance record at any time through CentreNet.*

*If you have questions, please contact Megan Noltemeyer at 238.5341 or email* [*megan.noltemeyer@centre.edu*](mailto:megan.noltemeyer@centre.edu)

* Events that have an admission charge to the public are marked with an asterisk (\*). Students are not charged for these convos.
* *Please note that seating may be limited for some events. It is wise to arrive early to all Convocations to ensure that your ID card is scanned and you have a seat. If all seats are taken, students will not be allowed to enter the Convocation.*
* *Seating capacities:*

*Chowan – approximately 200*

*Evans Lively Room of Old Carnegie – approximately 90*

*Vahlkamp Theater – 170*

*Young Hall Auditorium (Room 113) -- 188*

*Weisiger Theatre – 350*

*Newlin Hall – orchestra 250; grand tier 1180*

**From Hymnals to Hip-Hop**

**Tuesday, February 5, 2019 – 11:30am (Newlin Hall)**

This Creative Conversation features Trey McLaughlin, other members of The Sounds of Zamar, and Centre faculty. The provocative nature of the program theme allows for a discourse of race, religion and spirituality through a musical through-line; respecting differences and honoring traditions.

**Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar**

**Wednesday, February 6, 2019 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

Trey McLaughlin & The Sounds of Zamar have transcended cultural boundaries with their fresh adaptations of contemporary gospel, pop, and musical theater hits - the group’s music is sung all over the world. Thanks to their viral videos and millions of loyal YouTube followers, they are one of the brightest new groups on the gospel scene today.

**The Battle for our Better Angels**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2019 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Presidential historian and author, Jon Meacham, will offer the 2019 Press Distinguished Lecture, based in part on his latest book, The Soul of America: The Battle for our Better Angels. Mr. Meacham will receive an honorary degree during the program. This special event will be part of the College's bicentennial celebration.

**Future Folly: A New US-Russia Nuclear Arms Race?**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019 – 7:00pm (Young 113)**

Ambassador Carey Cavanaugh's career and experience with the Foreign Service uniquely qualify him to present a convocation on the threat of a renewed nuclear arms race between the United States and Russia following the U.S.'s announcement of intent to withdraw from the Intermediate-Range Nuclear Forces (INF) Treaty. His Foreign Service career centered on conflict resolution, arms control, and humanitarian issues. He has served in Berlin, Moscow, Tbilisi, Rome, and Bern, and advanced peace efforts involving Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cyprus, Georgia, Greece, Moldova, Tajikistan, and Turkey. Amb. Cavanaugh is currently Chairman of A International Alert, a London-based peacebuilding NGO working directly with those affected by international conflict on projects designed to prevent the outbreak of conflict, build support for approaches to peace, and facilitate reconciliation, and is currently a Professor at the Patterson School at UK.

**Shanghai Opera Symphony Orchestra**

**Wednesday, February 20, 2019 - 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

Established in 1956 with the construction of the famous Shanghai Opera House, the Shanghai Opera Symphony Orchestra has built a repertoire of the world’s most historic masterpieces. The orchestra makes its North American debut with classics from Beethoven, Tchaikovsky, Dvorak, and more, while also playing the works of famous Chinese composers such as Xian Xinghai’s Yellow River and He Zhanhao & Chen Gang’s Butterfly Lover.

**Is Paris Still Burning?**

**Thursday, February 21, 2019 – 7:00pm (Young 113)**

Since its release in 1990, Jennie Livingston’s “Paris is Burning” has been a beacon for queer communities who want to celebrate diversity while acknowledging the racist, homophobic, and misogynistic structure of power shaping the American society. Shot in the mid-to-late 80s in the queer communities of New York facing extinction in front of the AIDS crisis and the complete lack of political support, the documentary focuses on the drag competitions organized by mainly black and latin communities. Focusing on the culture of these competitive “Balls”, the documentary depicts how queer communities survive in a homophobic society by reinventing networks of support and kinship by crossing racial and sexual barriers. Suggesting that racism and homophobia rely on the essentializing of images and appearances, Paris is Burning reveals it’s performative functioning and the potentially subversive power of imitation, performance, and voguing. Dr. Carol Taylor-Shim, Bias Incident Response Coordinator at the University of Kentucky will introduce the film and lead a discussion following the film viewing.

**Josefina Báez, "As Is E" Reading and Dialogue**

**Thursday, February 21, 2019 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

DominicanYork poet, writer and performer Josefina Báez will give a reading from a selection of works from her anthology "As Is E'" which addresses themes of race, language, migration and belonging. Afterwards there will be a moderated discussion with Báez about her work and influence and time for questions from the audience. Born in the Dominican Republic, Josefina Baez is a storyteller, ArteSana, performer, writer, theatre director, educator, and devotee. She's the founder and director of Ay Ombe Theatre and developer of Performance Autology©, a creative process based on the autobiography and wellness of the doer.

**Alfredo Martinez and Pedrito Rodriguez Duo**

**Sunday, February 24, 2019 – 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

Both Martinez and Rodriguez bring a different approach to the collaboration. A protégé of Quincy Jones, who took him under his wing when he defected to the US in 2009, pianist Rodríguez was schooled in the rigorous classical conservatories of Havana. His riveting artistry is informed as much by Bach and Stravinsky as it is by his Afro Cuban and jazz roots. Percussionist and vocalist Martinez’s musical training came directly from the streets of the Cayo Hueso neighborhood of Old Havana in which he was raised and he has subsequently performed with artists such as Sting, Paul Simon, and Wynton Marsalis. Together, these two master musicians take listeners on a unique and exciting journey.

**A Social Justice Activist’s Perspective on Call-Out Culture, Identity Politics, and Political Correctness**

**Tuesday, February 26, 2019 – 8:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Over the last century, social justice activism has played a crucial role in challenging prejudice and promoting equity for women, people of color, people with disabilities, LGBTQIA+ people, and other marginalized groups. While most of us profess support for these past accomplishments, we may nevertheless resist newer expressions of social justice activism, or dismiss them as examples of “call-out culture,” “identity politics,” or “political correctness” run amok. In this talk, Julia Serano addresses this discrepancy. Julia has written (particularly in her books Excluded and Outspoken) about how social justice movements sometimes become too exclusive, inflexible, or counterproductive—tendencies that likely contribute to resistance toward contemporary activism, and for which Julia has suggested potential remedies. Julia also discusses how the general public’s lack of awareness about how prejudice and discrimination actually work, and how activists can effectively counter them, is a major factor driving this resistance. Striving to generate more light than heat, and to remain accessible to activists and non-activists alike, Julia will discuss the purpose of social justice activism and its limitations.

**Steel Magnolias**

**Thursday, February 28, 2019 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

Within the walls of Truvy’s beauty shop, set in the deep Bayou of Louisiana, six strong women’s lives increasingly hinge on the existence of one another. Together, they absorb the passing seasons, just like the weathered wooden structure of the salon “home” that they share. What if, like these six women, we didn’t have to go it alone? What if the comfort we’ve been searching for has always been there, right in our own backyard?

**Fashion as Activism**

**Thursday, February 28, 2019 –7:00pm (Combs Center Warehouse)**

Soreyda Benedit Begley, a fashion designer from Lexington, Kentucky will speak about her life and work in activism. Mrs. Begley is a fashion designer, community organizer and activist originally from Honduras. She is the co-founder of the Lexington Fashion Collaborative. Because of her experience working in sweatshops as a teenager in her native country, Soreyda is an advocate for fair trade, women’s rights and sustainable development. She is known for using unconventional recycled materials in her work, including paper, plastic bags and even tree bark. Soreyda has won many awards for her fashion design work and has been featured in national and international fashion and art publications. Mrs. Begley will be speaking while hosting a fashion show showcasing her designs that were inspired by the Garifuna people's of Honduras.

**An Evening With Silas House**

**Tuesday, March 5, 2019 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

Acclaimed author and activist Silas House will read from his new novel, SOUTHERNMOST, and other works. Silas House is the nationally known author of five novels - CLAY'S QUILT, A PARCHMENT OF LEAVES, THE COAL TATTOO, ELI THE GOOD, and SAME SUN HERE, co-authored with Neela Vaswani. House's work has appeared in TIME MAGAZINE, THE OXFORD AMERICAN, and THE NEW YORK TIMES. He is the recipient of the Nautilus Award, an EB White Award, the Appalachian Book of the Year Award, the Jesse Stuart Award, and the Lee Smith Award. A book signing and reception will follow the convocation.

**Adult Literacy and Child Mortality in Ghana: An evaluation of the National Functional Literacy Program**

**Thursday, March 7, 2019 – 7:00pm (Young 113)**

In this talk, Dr. Hugo Blunch, Professor of Economics at Washington and Lee University, evaluates the National Functional Literacy Program (NFLP) as a potential vehicle to decrease child mortality in Ghana. The NFLP is a World Bank funded literacy program targeted at adults in rural areas of Ghana, where participants obtain, at no fee, functional literacy in a Ghanaian language, numeracy skills, and participation in income generation programs. While the main emphasis of the talk is on the impact of the NFLP, Dr. Blunch will also speak to the role of the World Bank in development and its particular approach to program evaluation. The talk will be interspersed with Dr. Blunch’s own experiences working for the World Bank – including visits to some adult literacy programs in rural villages in Ghana.

**Confronting Demons: Sex Abuse in the Catholic Church**

**Monday, March 11, 2019 - 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

Dr. Jennifer Haselberger is a canon lawyer who received her licentiate degree in canon law from the Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium, in 2004, and a Doctorate in Philosophy from the University of London, England. She is a member of the Canon Law Society of America and served as Chair and as a member of the Resolutions Committee of that Society. She has practiced as a canon lawyer in the United States and internationally. Following the completion of her academic work, Dr. Haselberger returned to the United States and accepted a position as Judge on the Metropolitan Tribunal of the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis. She later became Director of the Tribunal of the Diocese of Crookston as well as Director of the Diocesan Safe Environment Program. After serving as the Bishop's Delegate for Canonical Affairs in the Diocese of Fargo, Dr. Haselberger returned to the Archdiocese of Saint Paul and Minneapolis to serve as Chancellor for Canonical Affairs, a position she held until resigning in April of 2013 in protest of the Archdiocese's handling of accusations of clergy sexual abuse. She was selected as the 2013 Person of the Year by the National Catholic Reporter and received the Michael J. Ehrlichmann Public Service Award from the Minnesota Association of Justice in August of 2014. In September, she received the 2014 Trivison Award for demonstrating visionary leadership in the Catholic Church.

**SGA Debate**

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

The SGA debate is an annual event where all candidates for the positions of President, Speaker of the House, President of SAC, and President of the Senate field questions from The Cento, Centre College's student newspaper. Each candidate will give an opening statement, answer questions, and then give a closing statement. Students will be asked to submit questions to the Cento to potentially be asked at the debate.

**“Can the Refugee Speak? Refugee Life Narratives in French Asylum Courts”**

**Friday, March 29, 2019 – 7:30pm (Combs Center Warehouse)**

“Can the Refugee Speak? Refugee Life Narratives in French Asylum Courts” Or, “Refugee Life Stories in French Asylum Courts: South Asian Narratives” The convocation event will take place with two main components. First, Susmitha Udayan will present components of her research past, present and future. Second, there will be an open forum for students to ask critical questions and share aspects of their own interests in asylum narratives. Udayan is a doctoral candidate at the University of New Mexico, defending spring 2019. Her research focuses on twenty-first and twentieth-century Francophone literature, cultural studies, and immigration. Udayan is a published scholar conducting key humanitarian research in both France and the U.S.

**Centre and Slavery: Understanding Our Past**

**Monday, April 1, 2019 – 7:30pm (Young 113)**

Dr. Tara Strauch and students from her 2018 class on the history of American slavery will lead a lecture and discussion on how Centre was intertwined with the system of slavery. As a college in a border state, Centre faculty and students had a wide variety of opinions about and involvement with the system. Dr. Strauch and her students spent time researching individuals at Centre throughout its early history and look forward to sharing the complicated and contradictory realities of our past.

**Gideon Alorwoyie and his Afrikania Performing Troupe Workshop**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019 – 5:30pm (Combs Warehouse) Workshop**

**Tuesday, April 2, 2019 – 7:00pm (Combs Warehouse) Performance**

African Master Drummer Gideon Alorwoyie and his Afrikania Performing Troupe, consisting of approximately ten musicians, will perform traditional Ghanaian drumming and dance pieces. Mr. Alorwoyie originally taught at University of Ghana and was the master drummer with whom American composer Steve Reich studied prior to writing many of his most influential works. He is director of the African Percussion Ensemble at the University of North Texas, professor of music, high priest of the Yewe (that’s his title, midawo), and chief (or Torgbui) of his native region in Ghana. The percussive rhythms and forms Alorwoyie knows are not written down; they’ve been passed from generation to generation through practice and performance with such master drummers as himself. Before teaching at UNT, Alorwoyie was chief master drummer of the Ghana National Dance Ensemble, touring Europe, China, the former USSR, the Caribbean, South Korea and Hong Kong.

**Creating Community Through the Arts in Eastern Kentucky**

**Dr. Joy Gritton, Associate Professor of Art History, Morehead State University**

**Wednesday, April 3, 2019 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

The pendulum of popular perception of Eastern Kentucky has long swung between a “strange land” and “peculiar people” characterized by isolation, violent feuds, moonshine (or drugs), and poverty, and misty mountain landscapes populated by self-reliant backwoods men and women with a rich history of weaving, quilting, woodworking, basketry, and home-grown music. Since the Progressive era the second stereotype has been proffered as a solution to the first. It was and is an unspoken imperative that any training initiatives or funding opportunities related to the arts must have an economic development component to be seriously considered. But in a place where people live surrounded by both beauty and hardship, the arts are being used to foster and express hope, healing, resilience, cooperation, empowerment, and pride on a daily basis. And while you can’t eat hope and pride may not pay the rent, it goes a long way toward building communities that are finding their way in a dominant society that seems at times indifferent to the many marginalized peoples of our country. This discussion will highlight diverse ways Eastern Kentuckians are using the arts to work toward a better future for themselves and their neighbors.

**Environmental Writing for our Time**

**Thursday, April 4, 2019 – 8:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)**

Camille Dungy will be only the second poet (and creative writer) to offer the English Program's Bastian lecture, which will be on the topic of redefining nature poetry. Professor Dungy publishes poetry and non-fiction that emerges out of the intersection of ecology, culture, and race. She is editor of the groundbreaking anthology, Black Nature: Four Centuries of African-American Nature Poetry, and is also the author of five books of poems, most recently Trophic Cascade. Her first work of creative non-fiction, published earlier in 2017, is A Guidebook to Relative Strangers: Journeys into Race, Motherhood, and History, which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. Dungy has received numerous awards and accolades, including two NAACP Image Award nominations, two Hurston/Wright Legacy Award nominations, fellowships from the Sustainable Arts Foundation, and fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts in both poetry and prose. She is currently a Professor in the English Department at Colorado State University.

**Human Rights in Europe Today**

**Tuesday, April 9, 2019 – 7:30pm (Young 113)**

Dr. Marko Bosnjak, Judge on the European Court of Human Rights, will address the status of human rights in Europe today. Are they under threat? What role does the international community play in upholding human rights? What penalties should countries that violate the basic human rights of prisoners, the press, and political opponents face? Dr. Bosnjak will explore these themes using examples from the Court's recent decisions - explaining the role of the Court in upholding human rights, as well as the nature of the public discourse about human rights in Europe today.

**Exhibiting Knowledge: Power, Creativity, and Aesthetic Experience in the Arts of Africa**

**James W. Barton RICE Symposium Lecture**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

Christine Mullen Kreamer is Deputy Director and Chief Curator at the National Museum of African Art, Smithsonian Institution, where she has worked since 2000. In recognition of her outstanding achievements in the fields of art history and museum practice, Christine was named the Smithsonian Institution’s 2018 Distinguished Scholar in the Humanities. She is married to Ross G. Kreamer, class of 1976. Dr. Kreamer states, “One of the threads woven into my research and scholarly pursuits has been a passion for communicating through art-centered exhibitions and publications Africa’s contributions to the history of knowledge. Africa has often been left out of this history, overlooked or overshadowed by the privileging of Western systems of thought that continue to impact perceptions about the history and accomplishments of the continent. The arts can challenge those perceptions.”

**"Latest Results from the Proximity Orbits of Juno at Jupiter and Cassini at Saturn"**

**Wednesday, April 10, 2019 – 7:30pm (Young 113)**

Dr. Timothy Dowling will talk about the two largest planets in the Solar system and show the latest amazing images of giant wind storms and folded jet streams. The deep atmospheres and interiors of Jupiter and Saturn are now being probed in unprecedented detail using proximity orbits by the space probes Juno and Cassini. He will discuss the latest results on the depth and structure of the jet streams and vortices and look beneath Jupiter’s clouds and compare the remarkably different cyclone dynamics found in the polar regions of these amazing planets. Dr. Dowling is a Professor of Physics and Astronomy at the University of Louisville. He studies planetary atmospheres and specializes in atmospheric dynamics and thermodynamics. He is the Principal Investigator on the development of the EPIC Atmospheric model funded by NASA and NSF. He and his students analyze Voyager, Galileo, Cassini and Hubble Space Telescope data of the gas giants.

**The Past Is a Foreign Country: Ancient Native Cultures of Kentucky’s Bluegrass Region**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2019 - 7:00pm (Young 113)**

In the context of Centre’s Bicentennial celebration, it is appropriate to acknowledge the diverse Native peoples who once occupied this region. Their story extends across the millennia. Before the appearance of European settlers, the ancient peoples of the Bluegrass left behind a rich archaeological record of their lifeways and technologies in their settlements and ritual sites. In this convocation, Archaeologist A. Gwynn Henderson of the Kentucky Archaeological Survey informs us about the ancient human past of the Bluegrass Region. In doing so, she raises awareness of the diversity of human culture in this area. Her presentation dispels the convenient myth of Kentucky as the unsettled “Dark and Bloody Ground” only transiently visited by hunters and raiders before Europeans arrived. It affirms the deep time depth of human occupation and modification of the Bluegrass environment, which began with the advent of the first Native people over 11,500 years ago.

**James and the Giant Peach**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2019 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

**Friday, April 19, 2019 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

**Saturday, April 20, 2019 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

A delightful stage adaptation of Roald Dahl's widely read children's story James and the Giant Peach.

**Documentary and Dialogue: "I Come From"**

**Wednesday, April 24, 2019 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

Documentary Screening of the Film “I Come From.” This documentary is about Voices Inside, a program sponsored by Pioneer Playhouse at Northpoint Training Center, a medium-security prison located in Boyle County. The Voices Inside program provides playwriting workshops to “inmates drawn to self-expression through creative writing. The emphasis of these one-on-one workshops is to focus on the process of turning each inmate’s personal journey into a scripted, communicated narrative.” I Come From showcases the stories and the creative work of inmates in Kentucky correctional facilities. Robby Henson, the artistic director at the Pioneer Playhouse, conducts the Voices Inside program at Northpoint. He also directed, produced, and edited I Come From. Mr. Henson will be present after the viewing to speak about the documentary, the Voices Inside program, and to answer any questions.

**Centre Symphony Orchestra and Wind Ensemble**

**Saturday, April 27, 2019 - 1:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

The Centre Symphony Orchestra and Centre Wind Ensemble present their annual Spring Concert featuring chamber music as well as large ensemble pieces.

**John C. Young Symposium**

**Sunday, April 28, 2019 – 1:30pm-Session #1 (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

**Sunday, April 28, 2019 – 3:30pm-Session #2 (Vahlkamp Theatre)**

John C. Young Scholars for 2018-2019: Irma L. Chavez, Patrick A. Dome, Sebastian C. Duncan, Olivia G. Murrell, Trong H. Phung, Kersey A. Reynolds, and Veronique Similien.

Each JCY scholar will give a 20-minute presentation on their work and take questions for 10 minutes. Four presentations will occur in the morning session and three presentations will occur in the afternoon session. *Students may receive one convo credit for attending all of the presentations in the morning session and/or one convo credit for attending all of the presentations in the afternoon session.*

**CentreJazz**

**Wednesday, May 1, 2019 - 7:00pm (Combs Center Warehouse)**

CentreJazz is the premier ensemble at the college and features a wide range of jazz repertoire.

**Centre College's Spring Dance Performance**

**Thursday, May 2, 2019 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

The annual Centre College Spring Dance Performance culminating in the student's presentation of their own choreography and dance productions.

**Honors Night**

**Tuesday, May 7, 2019 - 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Annual student achievement celebration with two senior speakers.