

CONVOCATION CALENDAR

SPRING 2020

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 upon entry, be seated before the program begins, remain present throughout the full program, and scan their own ID card immediately upon exiting the event.

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

If you have questions, please contact Lisa Curlis at 859.238.5288 or lisa.curlis@centre.edu.

- Please note that seating may be limited for some events. Students are encouraged to arrive early to ensure that they have enough time to scan their IDs and secure a seat prior to the start of the program. *Admission will not be permitted once the venue reaches capacity and/or the event is underway.*
- *Seating capacities:*
 - Evans Lively Room of Old Carnegie – approximately 90*
 - Newlin Hall – orchestra 250; grand tier 1180*
 - Weisiger Theatre – 350*
 - Vahlkamp Theater – 170*
 - Young Hall Auditorium (Room 113) -- 188*

* Events marked with an asterisk have an admission charge for the public. Students are not charged for these events.

(D & I) Events marked with a D address topics related to diversity.
Events marked with an I address topics related to inclusion.
The Convocation Committee seeks to have at least 1/3 of convocations during the academic year be related to issues of diversity & inclusion.

Press Lecture: Talking About the Past^(D&I)**Thursday, February 13, 2020 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Annette Gordon-Reed is the Charles Warren Professor of American Legal History at Harvard Law School and a Professor of History in the Faculty of Arts and Sciences at Harvard University. Gordon-Reed won sixteen book prizes, including the Pulitzer Prize in History in 2009 and the National Book Award in 2008, for *The Hemingses of Monticello: An American Family* (W.W. Norton, 2008). In addition to articles and reviews, her other works include *Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings: An American Controversy* (UVA Press, 1997).

The Chieftains - "The Irish Goodbye"***Saturday, February 15, 2020 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

After 57 years of making some of the most beautiful music in the world, The Chieftains remain as fresh and relevant as when they first began. The six-time Grammy Award winners have been highly recognized for reinventing traditional Irish music on a contemporary and International scale. Their ability to transcend musical boundaries to blend tradition with modern music has notably hailed them as one of the most renowned and revered musical groups to this day. Come see them perform at what will be a memorable evening of music, song and dance.

Mathematics for Human Flourishing**Thursday, February 20, 2020 – 7:30pm (Young 113)**

For many, math is lifeless and meaningless; a bunch of rules to follow; a way to separate people rather than a way to bring them together. It's no wonder that many have anxiety over their math experiences. Dr. Francis Edward Su, Benediktsson-Karwa Professor of Mathematics at Harvey Mudd College, advances a different vision: that more people would love math if they could see how it is intimately tied to what it means to be a human being and live a more fully human life. Dr. Su will explain how math can (or should) meet basic desires that all human beings share and builds virtues that serve each person well no matter what they do in life. A prison inmate has helped him see this more clearly than ever before.

Pathways to Diversity^(D&I)**Monday, February 24, 2020 – 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

A facilitated, but unfiltered, panel discussion amongst Black alumni and current Black students regarding their experiences at Centre College, preceded by a description of the "Pathways to Diversity" project. This project seeks to develop and sustain a website of materials and oral histories related to desegregation at select southern institutions. Student interns will present highlights from the curated archival collection. The interviews and archival works include interviews of the first black students' experiences integrating Centre and the panel discussion will continue that conversation by engaging later generations of Black Centre students on the experience of attending a predominantly white college. The perspectives on diversity and inclusion at Centre are of critical importance and this convo will allow for reflection on how generational

(classes from 1964-1980 vs. 2020), regional (KY compared to Boston) and ethnic (US born, West Indian, African) differences do or do not make a difference.

ODK Life Stories

Tuesday, February 25, 2020 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Professors Mark Lucas, Dan Stroup, and Kerry Paumi will speak about the paths they have taken in their personal lives. Speakers may give a chronological overview of their lives or may speak around a central theme. Topics include family, faith, love, civil rights, Centre College, disease, failure, perseverance, and many more. Each presenter will have 15 minutes followed by a question-and-answer period. The event will last one hour.

Cirque Flip Fabrique – BLIZZARD*

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Through the lens of their very special and intimate relationship with winter, Cirque FLIP FabriQue: "BLIZZARD" takes audiences on a crazy, fun, poetic, and tender journey through winter, inviting them to get lost in a moment of white wonder. "BLIZZARD" is a new gravity defying spectacle featuring acrobatics, juggling, and aerialist techniques in this high-flying cirque sensation. With some of the most exciting circus performers of the moment, original live music, and breathtaking visual poetry, Cirque FLIP Fabrique: "BLIZZARD" is taking the stage by storm!

Views on Coups - When is a Coup a Coup and Why Does it Matter? ^(D & I)

Thursday, February 27, 2020 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

2019 was an eventful year with notable protests erupting in Algeria, Bolivia, Chile, Sudan, Iran, and Hong Kong. However, while states like Chile have seen the president grant significant concessions in an effort to quell protests, others like Sudan, Algeria, and Bolivia have seen the removal of the head of state, with the military playing at least some role. But how should we label such events and why does it matter? Two civil-military relations experts, Dr. Jonathan Powell, Associate Professor at the University of Central Florida and Dr. Rebecca Schiel, a postdoctoral researcher at the Chr. Michelsen Institute and University of Central Florida, tackle these questions. Using contemporary and historical cases, they explain 'when a coup is a coup' and explore the conditions under which these events may usher in democracy and when the trajectory is more uncertain. Dr. Faulkner and Dr. Johnson will also join to answer questions about ongoing civil-military relations crises.

Classical Music and the African American Experience^(D&I)

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 – 11:30am (Weisiger Theatre)

This panel discussion will feature members of the McGill/McHale Trio and composer Valerie Coleman. The discussion may include a brief demonstration of their music to help conceptualize the discussion. Classical music remains a fairly homogenous art form; western European musicians performing western European compositions to primarily older white audiences. This discussion will help demonstrate how classical music is breaking through its homogenous glass ceiling with incredibly talented musicians and composers and new music representing more diverse individuals and themes. The featured work for the public performance (not part of this convocation) is a work based on lesser-known poetry by Langston Hughes in celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Harlem Renaissance. Many of the musicians on this panel have also broken through glass ceilings (race, ethnicity, gender) and will be sharing their individual stories.

McGill/McHale Trio with Special Guest Valerie Coleman*^(D&I)

Tuesday, March 3, 2020 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Join the McGill/McHale Trio and Kentucky composer Valerie Coleman for an evening of inspired poetry and music. Demarre McGill, principal flutist for the Seattle Symphony, and younger brother Anthony McGill, principle clarinet of the New York Philharmonic, joined with Irish pianist Michael McHale in 2014, to form the McGill/McHale Trio. The program's focal work, "Suite: Portraits of Langston," is composed by Coleman and based on selected poems by Langston Hughes, which will be recited before their corresponding movements by Centre College students. The six-movement suite combines poetry and music to marry classical and jazz sounds into the spirit of the 1920s Harlem.

Field Work in Tropical Forests: What to Expect and Challenges

Wednesday, March 4, 2020 – 8:00pm (Young 113)

Dr. Sugumaran Manickam, a plant biologist from Malaysia, will discuss the wonders and challenges of doing field research in tropical forests, particularly those in Southeast Asia. He will be joined by Olivia Murrell ('19) a student who completed summer research abroad with Dr. Manickam, and together the two will describe what you might expect while doing field research in the tropical forests of Malaysia and beyond: encountering unexpected (sometimes dangerous) organisms; figuring out what it takes to discover and identify new species; and returning home safely. Tropical Southeast Asia is one of the hottest of biodiversity hotspots, and Dr. Manickam will offer his experience and expertise to convey the richness and wonder, the vulnerability and fragility of these special forests during a time of intense land use conversion and habitat degradation.

Grassroots Conservatism^(D&I)

Thursday, March 5, 2020 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

This talk will discuss the rise of conservatism in modern America, focusing on the diversity of conservatisms that have driven right-wing actors, activists, and their followers since 1945. Rather than a monolithic force responding and reacting to liberalism, international communism, or civil rights, the talk emphasizes the varieties of conservatism that, concurrently and interdependently, rose first as an outsider ideology in the 1950s and 1960s before capturing national and institutional power in the last decades of the twentieth century. Drawing insights from his book, *Blue-Collar Conservatism: Frank Rizzo's Philadelphia and Populist Politics*, Dr. Lombardo's talk will draw special attention to the way different grassroots conservatisms were shaped by factors like race, class, and place. Timothy Lombardo is assistant professor of history at the University of South Alabama.

Voices from Mariel: Oral Histories of the 1980 Cuban Boatlift^(D&I)

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – 11:30am (Vahlkamp Theater)

This is a 50 min talk with time for questions afterwards. The lecture includes clips from the documentary film "Voices from Mariel" by Dr. Jose Manuel Garcia. On April 1 of 1980, five individuals seeking political asylum crashed a bus through the gates of the Peruvian embassy in Havana, Cuba. Over the next several days up to 10,000 people stormed that embassy's grounds. Fearing that continued civil unrest might cause further violence or even a coup d'état, Fidel Castro proclaimed that any Cuban who wished to immigrate to the United States could board a boat at the nearby port of Mariel. Thus were born "Los Marielitos." Told through the previously unheard stories of ten Cuban-American families, "Voices From Mariel" brings new insight into the lives of over 100,000 Cuban-born immigrants who came to the United States thirty years ago as the survivors of the "Mariel Boatlift." "Voices From Mariel" explores the legacy of the brave and committed people who risked their lives for a new chance in the United States. Where has that short but dangerous 90-mile sail across the Straits of Florida taken "Los Marielitos?" In 1980, Dr. Jose Manuel García was 13 years old and came to the U.S. as part of the Mariel boat lift from Cuba. He wrote "Voices from Mariel" and participated in the filming of the documentary of the same name, in order to give voice to other "Marielitos" as well as family and friends who remained in Cuba.

Che Malambo*^(D)

Tuesday, March 10, 2020 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Presenting a thrilling, percussive dance and music spectacle, Che Malambo's work celebrates the unique South American gaucho tradition. The Argentine-based company excites audiences through precise footwork, rhythmic stomping, drumming of the bombos, and singing and whirling boleadoras. Danced solely by men, the "Malambo" began in the 17th century as competitive duels that would challenge skills of agility, strength, and dexterity. Che Malambo brings these fiery traditions and virtuosic dancing to the contemporary stage for an exhilarating and entertaining show that is perfect for the entire family.

SGA Debate

Tuesday, March 17, 2020 – 8:00pm (Newlin Hall)

Candidates for Student Government Association President, Speaker of the House, Student Activities Council President, and Student Senate President will present their platform and ideas for the upcoming school year and answer questions from the student body. A representative from The Cento will be the moderator for the debate. Questions will be pre-determined by the SGA President and the Editor-in-Chief of The Cento with input from the student body.

Bounties of War, Aesthetics of Exile, and Reimaginings of Justice in Global Sri Lankan Cinema^(D & I)

Thursday, March 19, 2020 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

Through a study of films including *Shadows of Silence* by Pradeepan Raveendran and *Dheepan* by Jacques Audiard, Dr. Nalin Jayasena examines legacies of the Sri Lankan civil war as captured by diasporic and international filmmakers. While mainstream cinema turns migrants' trauma into a spectacle and commodity, alternative cinematic modes represent a muted aesthetic that disrupts the pleasure of visualizing migrant bodies. Dr. Jayasena investigates how the displaced populations from the Sri Lankan conflict are ushered into the discourse of neoliberalism where market logics determine the migrant subject's necessity and survival in the West. He relates contemporary migration policies—that are increasingly restrictive yet no less opportunistic—to the global security industry, paying attention to such issues as the privatization of criminal justice system and border enforcement.

Populism and Brazilian Foreign Policy

Monday, March 30, 2020 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

Dr. Amâncio Oliveira, Professor of International Relations and Coordinator of the Center for Studies of International Negotiations at the University of São Paulo in Brazil, will speak about the new wave of populism in Brazil and its effects on foreign policy. President Jair Bolsonaro, elected in 2018, has followed in President Donald Trump's wake and broken with long-standing practices of foreign policy in Brazil with his right-wing populist rhetoric and policies. This will have direct implications for such policies as free-trade agreements with China and the European Union, and further integration with Latin America, and the long-term effects remain unclear. Dr. Oliveira's research focuses on South American regional integration, Brazilian foreign policy, and international negotiation.

Venezuelan Emigration and Regional Responses^(D&I)

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 – 11:30am (Vahlkamp Theater)

João Carlos Jarochinski Silva will give an overview of the history of Venezuelan emigration and its recent spike amid the current political and economic crisis in Venezuela. He will then place Brazilian immigration policy in a comparative perspective, showing how emigration in Latin America is affecting countries besides the United States, and comparing the response of one such country to the response of the U.S. Dr. Jarochinski Silva is a Professor of International Relations at the Federal University of Roraima in Brazil. He will be a Research Fellow at American University starting December 2019. Dr. Jarochinski Silva's research focuses on Venezuelan migration to Brazil, analyzing both immigration policy and the reception of these migrants, particular in the border state of Roraima.

The Transformative Power of Undergraduate Research

Tuesday, March 31, 2020 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Low unemployment rates across the country indicate that current college students can expect to find full-time work after graduation. What's hidden in those optimistic numbers, though, is the fact that half of recent college graduates are working in low-skilled jobs (i.e., are underemployed), unable to access meaningful career opportunities and many too burdened by debt to afford graduate or professional school. A 2018 study, *The Permanent Detour*, indicates that it's difficult to recover financially from a low-skilled first job out of college—that graduates who do not get on a career track early earn far less income long-term than their peers who did. The bright spot in the data is that we know what makes the difference, namely, that graduates who participated in undergraduate research are at a distinct advantage post-graduation and for the rest of their careers. Not only do student-researchers develop the specialized skills prized in professional fields and graduate school, but, even more importantly, they gain invaluable proficiencies in communication, collaboration, and real-world, creative problem-solving that employers and graduate advisors value most. Students who engage in the high-impact learning afforded by mentored research transform their experience as undergraduates, as they report deeper satisfaction with their undergraduate careers than do their peers who did not participate in research. Research also transforms students' prospects for the futures they desire, including by boosting their earning potential up to 20%.

Is There an Anti-War Literature?

Wednesday, April 1, 2020 – 7:00pm (Young 113)

Generations of readers have remarked on the relevance of Joseph Heller's *Catch-22* to their time, whether to the Vietnam War, the Gulf War, or the long wars of the twenty-first century. *Catch-22* can be about every war because it isn't about war at all; it's about one white man's struggle for self-knowledge. This is the arc of almost every antiwar novel and film, from *Apocalypse Now* and *Going after Cacciato* to *The Hurt Locker* and Kevin Powers's *The Yellow Birds*. But can a novel or film in which the hero achieves enlightenment through war also be against it? Joseph Darda is an assistant professor of English and comparative race and ethnic studies at Texas

Christian University. He is the author of *Empire of Defense: Race and the Cultural Politics of Permanent War* (University of Chicago Press, 2019).

Investigating Respiratory Health in Eastern Kentucky

Tuesday, April 7, 2020 – 7:30pm (Crouse 301)

Beverly May RN, MSN, DrPH is a nurse with 30 years experience working in Appalachian Kentucky, 20 of these as a family nurse practitioner caring for rural, uninsured and mental health populations. She received her DrPH from the University of Kentucky in 2019. Since 2015, she has served as the project manager for the Mountain Air Project, a NIEHS funded a community-based participatory study of environmental and behavioral contributors to respiratory health in Letcher and Harlan Counties. Her research interests are asthma, COPD and coal dust mining lung disease. This event is supported by the Environmental Studies program.

From Ohio Physician to Manhattan Proslavery Crusader:

The Strange Career of John Van Evrie^(D)

Tuesday, April 14, 2020 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Dr. Michael Woods (Marshall) will discuss the "strange career" of John Van Evrie, a nineteenth-century newspaper editor, author, doctor, and pseudo-scientist who penned some of the era's most virulent proslavery propaganda and popularized the slogan "white supremacy." Canadian by birth and a longtime resident of Ohio and New York, Van Evrie's role as a prominent proslavery ideologue demonstrates slavery's long reach into the northern states and the deep connections between southern cotton and New York commerce. Van Evrie's role as a political propagandist and slavery's leading spokesman in the north will encourage participants to think outside of the basic "southerners were evil, northerners were good" narrative that can sometimes exist in discussions of the Civil War and will challenges us to think about the ways that average Americans created political and affinity groups in the 19th century.

Writing Genocide—Diasporic Imaginations of an Irretrievable Homeland^(D&I)

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

Sri Lankan American writer V.V. (Sugi) Ganeshanathan reads from her novel *Love Marriage* (Random House, 2008) and her current work-in-progress while critically reflecting on politics of mediating memories and trauma of genocide as a diasporic woman writer. Her fiction probes "model-minority" experiences in Asian America that are haunted by memories of the 1983 Black July genocide and the subsequent twenty-six-year civil war in Sri Lanka. Drawing upon her expertise as a journalist and professor of fiction/non-fiction writing, she investigates ethics of representation of survival testimonies in contesting the official archive of the civil war. Key to her inquiry is the intersectional use of feminist research, journalism, fiction and non-fiction in an endeavor to grant historical justice to a subaltern community betrayed by their own nation state.

On Gender, Justice, and Change: Muslim Women's Activism as Practice and Discourse^(D&I)
Thursday, April 16, 2020 – 7:00pm (Ewen Room)

Based on a decade of research on Muslim women's activism, both globally and in the U.S., this talk offers reflections on the relationship between activism as practice and the role of interpretation, especially of the Qur'an, as both discourse and practice. It considers notions of gender justice and equality in their relationship to the construction of Islam as tradition on one hand and the influence of feminist theory on the other. Examples include the work of Musawah, a transnational Muslim women's activist network, and domestic violence awareness work in the United States.

The Addams Family Musical

Wednesday, April 22, 2020 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Thursday, April 23, 2020 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Friday, April 24, 2020 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Saturday, April 25, 2020 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

They're creepy and they're kooky... and they're coming to Centre in this uproarious musical comedy! America's spookiest family is turned upside down when Wednesday begs them to give her one normal night hosting her fiancé and his parents for dinner. But with jealousy, secrets, potions, torture, and – yes, even love – in store, it turns out that “normal” just isn't on the menu. *The Addams Family, A New Musical* Directed by Dr. Jennifer Goff, with Musical Direction by Dr. Robert Seebacher.

I Think You're Wrong (But I'm Listening):

A Conversation with Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers of Pantsuit Politics^(D&I)
Thursday, April 23, 2020 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)

More than ever, politics seems driven by conflict and anger. Toxic political dialogue, hate-filled rants on social media, and agenda-driven news stories have become the new norm. It's exhausting, and it's too much. Sarah Stewart Holland and Beth Silvers of the *Pantsuit Politics* Podcast, two working moms from opposite ends of the political spectrum, contend that there is a better way. They believe that we can choose to respect the dignity of every person, choose to recognize that issues are nuanced and can't be reduced to political talking points, choose to listen in order to understand, choose gentleness and patience. As impossible as it might seem, people from opposing political perspectives truly can have calm, grace-filled conversations with one another—by putting relationship before policy and understanding before argument.

John C. Young Symposium^(D & I)**Saturday, April 25, 2020 - 9:30-11:30am and 1:00-3:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)**

John C. Young Scholars for 2019-20: Evan Aroko, Hannah Hooper, Jacob Potter, James Easton, Laney Taylor, Lorna Closeil, and Payton Howard.

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. Thus, students can earn two convo credits for attendance at both sessions (or 7 presentations). JCY students may also receive convo credit for participation and attendance.

Centre College Choirs in Concert**Tuesday, April 28, 2020 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Join the Centre College Treble and Bass Choirs, along with the Centre Singers, for a night of beautiful music. The transcendent arrangements will not only entertain, but inspire you to make the world a better place.

African Drums & Rhythm Fusion Concert^(D)**Monday, May 4, 2020 – 7:00pm (Combs Center Warehouse)**

Join us for an exciting concert that celebrates contemporary music with a rhythmic foundation, and highlights the beauty of African drumming. Students will play a variety of instruments, such as drums, bass, guitar and keyboard, along with traditional African Percussion. The Rhythm Fusion and African Drumming ensembles are under the direction of Tripp Bratton.

Honors Convocation**Tuesday, May 5, 2020 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Annual student achievement celebration featuring two speakers from the senior class. *Students will earn 2 credits for attending this convocation.*

Spring Dance Concert**Thursday, May 7, 2020 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

The annual Centre College Spring Dance Concert is a student-driven celebration of the diversity of dance, and a culminating performance offered through the dance classes at Centre. Students have the opportunity to present their own choreography, as well as to work with regional guest choreographers in this entertaining and multi-faceted dance production.

Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra*
Sunday, May 10, 2020 – 4:00pm (Newlin Hall)

The Cincinnati Symphony Orchestra, led by Music Director Louis Langrée, is one of America's finest and most versatile ensembles. With a determination for greatness and a rich tradition that dates back nearly 125 years, the internationally acclaimed CSO attracts the best musicians, artists and conductors from around the world to Cincinnati. Their 125th Anniversary Season is marked by the launch of new initiatives both on and off the stage that build on the CSO's legacy and affirm the Orchestra's core value to be a place of experimentation.