

CONVOCATION CALENDAR

Fall 2017

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

- 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
 - Newlin Hall – orchestra 250; grand tier 1180
 - Weisiger Theatre – 350
 - Vahlkamp Theater – 170
 - Young Hall Auditorium (Room 113) -- 188

Opening Convocation

Sunday, August 27, 2017 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)

Centre students, faculty, and staff gather to celebrate the start of a new academic year. Dr. Steven Beaudoin and Dr. Melissa Burns-Cusato will be the speakers.

Cancer in Kentucky: From Disparities Come Great Opportunities

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Dr. Nathan Vanderford, Assistant Professor in the Department of Toxicology and Cancer Biology; Assistant Director for Research at Markey Cancer Center; Director of Administration at the Center for Cancer and Metabolism, and Assistant Dean for Academic Development at the College of Medicine at University of Kentucky is the featured speaker. Kentucky has the highest all-site cancer incidence and mortality rates in the United States with the highest burden of cancer localized to the Appalachian region of the state. Residents of Appalachian Kentucky also experience other health, socioeconomic, and education disparities, which may contribute to the high cancer burden in the region. This Convocation will provide an overview of the cancer burden in Kentucky and highlight ongoing research and outreach/education activities being conducted at the University of Kentucky's Markey Cancer Center that are meant to address and eventually decrease the cancer burden in the Commonwealth.

Constitution Day Convocation

Thursday, September 7, 2017 – 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Leslie Abrams, U.S. District Judge, for the Middle District of Georgia, will be the featured speaker for the annual Convocation celebrating the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

Breakneck Julius Caesar

Tuesday, September 12, 2017 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Barnstorming actor/director Timothy Mooney brings his one-man, one-hour performance of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar to the Weisiger Theater stage. *A Question and Answer session with the performer will follow.*

Interfaith Spirituality in Post-Religious America's Asian Century

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Dr. Jeff Richey, Professor of Asian Studies at Berea College, questions the cultural-historical moment in which contemporary U.S. religious culture finds itself. He will explore the emergence of post-religious spiritual identities and communities that deliberately engage more than one religious tradition in ways that mirror what may be seen in other contemporary, developed societies, such as those of China and Japan, and explore the implications of these developments for both North American and East Asian societies.

Poetry and Migration: A reading and conversation with Javier Zamora

Monday, September 18, 2017 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)

The poet Javier Zamora, a 2016-2018 Wallace Stegner Fellow at Stanford University, will read from his recent poetry collection "Unaccompanied" and discuss his work. Born in El Salvador, Zamora immigrated to the United States when he was nine. His poetry deals with the personal and political stories of race, migration, war, and the links between

Central America and the United States. He earned an MFA from New York University and his work has been honored and supported by institutions such as the National Endowment from the Arts and the Poetry Foundation.

Multilingualism and Hybridity: The Case of Cameroon
Thursday, September 21, 2017 – 7:30 (Newlin Theatre)

Dr. Marie Noussi, Assistant Professor of French and Francophone Studies at Linfield College, will present general components of her research past, present and future, with an emphasis on cultural hybridity and multiculturalism. Second, there will be an open forum for students to ask critical questions and share aspects of their own cultural hybridity.

First year Book Convocation
Monday, October 2, 2017 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Colson Whitehead, author of the First-Year Book, *The Underground Railroad*, will be the featured speaker and awarded an honorary degree during the Convocation. Mr. Whitehead is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of *The Underground Railroad* (an Oprah's Book Club selection and winner of the National Book Award and Pulitzer Prize), *The Noble Hustle*, *Zone One*, *Sag Harbor*, *The Intuitionist*, *John Henry Days*, *Apex Hides the Hurt*, and one collection of essays, *The Colossus of New York*. His reviews, essays, and fiction have appeared in a number of publications, such as the *New York Times*, *The New Yorker*, *New York Magazine*, *Harper's* and *Granta*.

He has received a MacArthur Fellowship, A Guggenheim Fellowship, a Whiting Writers Award, the Dos Passos Prize, a fellowship at the Cullman Center for Scholars and Writers, and was a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize for *John Henry Days*. A book signing will follow the Convocation.

The Odd Couple, The Female Version
Wednesday, October 4, 2017 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)
Thursday, October 5, 2017 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)
Friday, October 6, 2017 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)
Saturday, October 7, 2017 5:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Unger and Madison are at it again! Florence Unger and Olive Madison, that is. Instead of the poker party that begins the original version, Ms. Madison has invited the girls over for an evening of Trivial Pursuit. The Pidgeon sisters have been replaced by the two Constanzuela brothers. But the hilarity remains the same. Written by Neil Simon, directed by Jonathan Hunt (Class of 2018).

The Opioid Epidemic
Monday, October 9, 2017 – 7:00pm (Young 113)

Hiram C. Polk, MD, commissioner of the Department of Public Health, will speak about recent efforts to address issues surrounding the current opioid epidemic. Dr. Polk has led the charge in establishing and expanding preventative programs such as early childhood education programs that stress the negative consequences of drug use. The PHC has also launched a mobile pharmacy that distributes Narcan, a drug that instantly reverses the lethal effects of opiate overdose, and offers testing for hepatitis C and HIV, saving lives across the commonwealth of Kentucky. Hiram Polk is an alumnus

of Millsaps College and Harvard Medical School. He served as the Chair of Surgery at the University of Louisville for over 30 years. He has authored or co-authored more than 450 papers and journal articles, 152 textbook chapters, and 11 books. Polk trained more than 400 surgical residents, all of whom achieved board certification in general surgery.

***Orpheus Chamber Orchestra with Andre Watts
Saturday, October 14, 2017 – 8:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

A standard-bearer of innovation and artistic excellence, Orpheus Chamber Orchestra is one of the world's foremost chamber orchestras. Founded in 1972, Orpheus has recorded 71 albums, including the Grammy® Award-winning *Shadow Dances: Stravinsky Miniatures*, and premiered over 40 commissioned works. For their Norton Center debut, Orpheus is joined by superstar pianist André Watts who returns to the Norton Center after 27 years. Watts burst upon the music world at 16, when Leonard Bernstein chose him to make his debut with the New York Philharmonic in their *Young People's Concerts*, broadcast nationwide on CBS-TV. Much-honored, Watts has played before royalty in Europe and heads of government all over the world; was awarded the Avery Fisher Prize in 1988; and at age 26, was the youngest person ever to receive an Honorary Doctorate from Yale University. Watts brings his elegant luster to Mozart's first great Piano Concerto, No 9, the "Jeunehomme."

**Interfaith Dialogue Panel
Monday, October 16, 2017 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

Four speakers, each representing a different faith (Judaism, Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam), will talk about the nuances and links between their religions. In conjunction with the Religious Life Office, Muslim Student Association, Centre Faith, and Jewish Student Organization, students have invited panelists to speak about their faith in a contemporary context and discuss their faith with the other faith leaders as well as the student body.

**Renewable Energy in Kentucky and Beyond
Wednesday, October 25, 2017 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)**

Every year, Centre College hosts a convocation related to campus sustainability and Centre's commitment to mitigate climate change. This year we welcome Matthew Partymiller, the General Manager of Solar Energy Solutions (SES), the company that installed solar panels on Chowan during the 2017 summer. Partymiller has led the development of SES since its inception in 2006. He is primarily focused on project implementation and design. Since the inception of SES, Partymiller has installed renewable projects in all four corners of Kentucky and expanded SES into surrounding states. Partymiller has led the company in the design and installation of more than 300 projects, including installations of photovoltaic, solar thermal, and wind renewable energy. In this talk, Partymiller will discuss some of the challenges of renewable energy, from the technological to the political, explaining how Centre's solar response to carbon emissions is part of a larger pattern here in Kentucky and around the world.

Flip FabriQue: Catch Me!*Thursday, October 26, 2017 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)**

Flip FabriQue, a Quebec-based circus troupe of seven acrobats committed to joy, playfulness, and friendship, makes their Norton Center debut with a high-spirited production called *Attrape-moi (Catch Me!)*. *Catch Me!* is a gravity defying spectacle featuring acrobatics, a trampo-wall, hula hoops, juggling, and aerialist techniques in a crowd-pleasing cirque sensation for adults and children alike. This troupe of incredible artists performs amazing feats of agility and skill in a fastpaced, innovative show that has been lauded for its technical ability and panache. Veterans of esteemed companies such as Cirque du Soleil and Cirque Éloize, the Flip FabriQue troupe, says the New York Times, “projects an irrepressible spirit of fun and, yes, it’s catching.”

The Politics of Dead Ancestors in the Postwar Period: Memory, Public Healing and Civil War in Eastern Africa**Wednesday, November 1, 2017 – 7:30pm (Young 113)**

This convocation explores the history and practice of ancestral veneration during Uganda’s Civil War during the 1980s. As Uganda’s central government and dissenting military guerrilla operatives engaged in a six-year conflict, communities in the precolonial Kingdom of Buganda—where the majority of the war unfolded—prayed to and were possessed by their dead ancestors to secure consolation and public healing during a period when the state had largely collapsed and when medical technologies were largely absent. This Convocation shows how local communities under military threat and displacement publicly performed and theatrically represented public healing during moments of considerable economic and cultural rupture. The presenter is Mr. George Mpanga, who is a current research associate for the University of Virginia’s project on the anthropology of alcoholism and conflict in urban Uganda. His work in the past has included conducting research with, although not limited to, the Universities of Cambridge, Edinburgh, Chicago and Michigan. His most recent work is featured on the BBC documentary series, *Who Do You Think You Are?* Mr. Mpanga was also the co-director of the Centre-in-Eastern African program for 2014 and 2016.

Sexual Assault Prevalence & Prevention with Attorney General Andy Beshear**Thursday, November 2, 2017 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)**

Since his swearing-in in January 2016, Kentucky Attorney General Andy Beshear has firelessly fought for sexual assault and rape survivors. After discovering a backlog of more than 3000 untested rape kits in Kentucky, General Beshear pledged to test every kit and has since tested 1000+. Last year the Kentucky legislature approved \$4.5 million to alleviate the backlog and General Beshear’s office allocated \$50,000 to researchers at the University of Louisville to ensure a rape kit in Kentucky never goes untested again. His Office of Victims Advocacy works closely with organizations like the Center for Women and Families and the Bluegrass Rape Crisis Center here in Danville. General Beshear truly personifies what it means to be an advocate and is passionate about sexual assault prevention and justice for survivors. Tonight, he discusses with us the prevalence of sexual assault on college campuses across the nation and what we can do here to make positive change. You’ll hear from SPEAC about ways Centre is growing a caring community committed to addressing sexual misconduct and ensuring all students feel safe where they work, live, and study.

Life and Death in the Ancient Maya City
Thursday, November 2, 2017 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Mary Miller, Sterling Professor of the History of Art at Yale, and Centre's Phi Beta Kappa Visiting Scholar for 2017-2018 will be the speaker. What was the purpose of an ancient Maya city? How did it enshrine both the practices of the living, and the veneration of the dead? In this talk, Maya architecture will come to life, in both palaces and pyramids, alongside the open spaces for markets and performances. Rulers and servants, men and women, dwarves and children, all played roles in the city, eventually to be interred within city foundations. Archaeological remains at some of the most monumental of Maya cities, particularly Copan, Tikal, and Palenque, will be evaluated in light of the cities' achievements and the lifeways of their people.

Healing the Planet One Plate at a Time
Tuesday, November 7, 2017 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Though it seems simplistic to think that a bite of food can have such a big effect on the future, the fact is that we are where we are because of the kinds of food bites people have been taking for a long time. We can change our trajectory only when we appreciate the launch pad—our plates. This Convocation will focus on the importance of what we eat. Joel Salatin, who calls himself a Christian libertarian environmentalist capitalist lunatic farmer and is co-owner of Polyface Farm in Swoope, Virginia as well as author of 9 books, will address the link between what we eat and the landscape legacy we bequeath to our unborn children. Joel's farm was featured in the New York Times bestseller *Omnivore's Dilemma* and award-winning documentary *Food Inc.* and services more than 5,000 families, 50 restaurants, 10 retail outlets, and a farmers' market.

***A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder**
Wednesday, November 8, 2017 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Set in London in 1907, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* centers on Monty Navarro, a penniless clerk who is informed after the death of his mother that he is ninth in line to inherit the earldom of Highhurst, controlled by the wealthy D'Ysquith banking family. After the imperious ruling Lord dismisses Monty's claim of being a relative, the eight D'Ysquiths ahead of young Mr. Navarro begin dying in natural and unnatural ways. (A single actor plays all the not-so-nice D'Ysquiths, adding to the merriment.) Meanwhile, Monty is trying to woo money-minded Sibella Hallward—until he finds himself drawn to young Phoebe D'Ysquith. How will all these convoluted storylines come together?

Afro-Peru: Race, Gender and the Transformative Power of Art
November 9, 2017 – 7:30pm (Combs Warehouse)

Mónica Carrillo Zegarra, an Afro-Peruvian activist, journalist, author and performer, is known for her appearance in Henry Louis Gates Jr.'s PBS documentary *Black in Latin America* and for founding the organization LUNDU, a non-profit concerned with the visibility and equal rights of Peru's most marginalized citizens. Born and raised in Lima, Peru, Carrillo works on a local as well as international level for the rights of the Afro-Peruvian community, women and youth. She recently completed a documentary on Afro-Peruvian life funded by the Ford Foundation and recently published a book on Afro-Peruvian women's experiences with racism and sexism. Her talk at Centre will

describe the intersectionality of race and gender in the sociopolitical status of Afro-Peruvian citizens and illustrate the transformative role of Afro-Peruvian art.

Cloud 9

Thursday, November 9, 2017 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Friday, November 10, 2017 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Saturday, November 11, 2017 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Sunday, November 12, 2017 – 2:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Written by Caryl Churchill, directed by Patrick Kagan-Moore. This time-shifting comedy is both parody and spoof of the Victorian Empire and its rigid attitudes, especially toward sex. A marvelous send-up and a non-stop round-robin of sexual liaisons.

Reckoning with Anti-Semitism Today

Tuesday November 14, 2017 – 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Opening with the paradoxical situation of Jews in the age of Trump, and putting this into a larger historical context, Professor Jonathan Judaken, Spence L. Wilson Chair in Humanities, Professor of History at Rhodes College, will consider the forces that have spurred a significant increase in violence against Jews and Jewish institutions in Europe and globally since 2000, most notoriously in the coordinated spectacle of terror that linked Charlie Hebdo and Hyper Cacher in January 2015 in France. Dr. Judaken will assess the post-Holocaust threats from the Left and the Right and from militant Islamists and anti-Zionists. He will also reflect on the ways in which the new Judeophobia is framed by the punditocracy and how they often distort our understanding of the reality on the ground.

Kuumba Lynx

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

Coming to Centre for our annual Poverty and Homelessness Week, Kuumba Lynx will educate us about the realities of urban poverty and violence in Chicago through spoken word, photography, beat box, graffiti arts, and dance. Kuumba Lynx is an urban arts youth development organization in Chicago. It was launched in 1996 by three female artists who wanted to address the lack of art programs in the Chicago school system. Many teens view Kuumba Lynx as “a second home” and believe it’s a forum for their “voices to be heard.” Convinced that “bullets take lives, but words change lives,” Kuumba Lynx has empowered thousands of young people for two decades. Alongside many of Chicago’s artists, activists, educators, and youth communities, Kuumba Lynx has honed art that presents, preserves and promotes hip-hop as a tool to reimagine and demonstrate a more just world. Kuumba Lynx is not only a safe haven for youth, but the organization allows youth to find their authentic voice and provides them with the resources and platform to express that truth artistically. As a result, Kuumba Lynx has cultivated more than 10,000 youth artists since its inception.

CentreJazz Concert

Wednesday, November 29, 2017 – 7:30pm (Combs Warehouse)

CentreJazz, under the direction of Doug Drewek, will perform a variety of tunes from the early big band era to contemporary funk and jazz. Come get your groove on at this exciting concert.

Rhythm Fusion/African Drumming Concert
Thursday, November 30, 2017 – 7:00 pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Join the fun as these two student ensembles perform on a variety of percussion instruments. Rhythm Fusion, under the direction of Tripp Bratton, will feature a variety of percussion and other instruments while the African Music Ensemble, under the direction of Justin Balcor, performs music primarily intended for dance and ritual on authentic drums made in Western Africa.