

CONVOCATION CALENDAR

Spring 2018

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

Exploring War and the Human Condition Through an Artistic Perspective

Thursday, February 8, 2018 – 11:30am (Weisiger Theatre)

The panel discussion includes the members of the acclaimed American String Quartet, National Book Award winner Phil Klay, and award winning journalist and poet Tom Sleight. These world-renown authors and musicians will discuss the more personal and emotional side of serving in the trenches of war as soldiers while also observing from a distance as bystanders and as family members. Phil Klay is the author of *Redeployment*, winner of the 2014 National Book Award and selected as one of the Best Books of the Year by The New York Times and The Washington Post. Tom Sleight is the author of *Station Zen: Poems*, among others, and is the winner of the American Academy of Arts and Letters Updike Award. The American String Quartet is internationally recognized as one of the world's foremost quartets. Their ensemble work has been described by critics as "miraculous."

***Personal Reflections of War: The American String Quartet, poet Tom Sleight and author Phil Klay**

Friday, February 9, 2018 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

In a unique and timely program, the American String Quartet will perform iconic pieces created in response to war, featuring Bach, Barber, Bartok and Shostakovich, in rotation with poems and short stories written and presented by National Book Award winning author and US Marine veteran, Phil Klay, and award-winning poet and war correspondent, Tom Sleight. In this groundbreaking program, entitled "Personal Reflections of War: In Words and Music," the artists will examine the effects of war on individuals - their hearts, minds and souls.

Not Just A Service Movement

Tuesday, February 13, 2018 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

Bobby Hackett, President of the Bonner Foundation, will talk about the importance of going beyond the service movement to one focused on solving problems confronting our communities. College students all across the country are encouraged to do community service because of the impact they can have on those communities. Bobby Hackett has been part of this movement for 35 years and has seen it transform thousands of students and hundreds of campuses. But he's not convinced that we have transformed the communities in which we are serving. He's proposing that we build on our longstanding relationships with community partners to focus on solving problems. He believes colleges and universities are uniquely positioned to leverage the energy and idealism of young people with their intellectual and technical training to understand the programs, systems, and policies that are at play in the community, and work in partnership with local community leaders to bring about lasting change.

Ain't Nobody Got Time for That: Addressing Racism and Personal Identity on College Campuses

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 – 11:30am (Newlin Hall)

With more students of color attending colleges and universities every year, schools such as Centre need an updated lens to talk about race and diversity on campus. This participatory workshop breaks down stereotypes, uses 'conscious comedy', and engages students, faculty, and staff in new conversations about race, identity and privilege. Using videos, break-out discussions, and facilitating honest conversations, students will be given social tools to deconstruct interpersonal, as well as institutional patterns of oppression, so as to heal and proactively address concerns as young agents of change. The Convocation will be led by members of the musical groups Las Cafeteras and Orkesta Mendoza as part of GlobalFest.

Gallery Talk for exhibit: "Americans Who Tell the Truth"

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 - 7:00pm (Young 113)

Artist and activist Robert Shetterly will be in residence at Centre College as a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow the week of February 19-23, 2018, when he will meet with students and exhibit his artwork. His extensive, ongoing portrait series, "Americans Who Tell the Truth", highlights citizens who "courageously address issues of social, environmental, and economic fairness." The portraits are painted in a realistic manner and inscribed with a relevant quote from the person. Sixteen portraits will be on display in the Aegon Gallery of the Jones Visual Arts Center on Centre's campus. Along with well-known figures, many portraits are of unsung heroes, who work for what their conscience tells them is right. Issues in the following fields are addressed by those in the exhibit: human rights, civil rights, politics, peace, armed forces, domestic violence, health care, environmental damage, education, workers rights.

***Las Cafeteras and Orkesta Mendoza in globalFEST on the Road: The New Golden Age of Latin Music**

Wednesday, February 21, 2018 – 7:30pm (Newlin Hall)

The New Golden Age of Latin Music is being forged right here in the US with Mexican-American communities emerging as hotbeds of musical creativity, blending upbeat styles that reflect shared cultural identities. Orkesta Mendoza and Las Cafeteras are two of today's most exciting groups forging inspired new paths for Latin and Latin-American music. The infectious indie-mambo band Orkesta Mendoza mixes a multitude of Latin styles like cumbia, merengue, and ranchera through a funky mambo and post-punk prism, creating a truly one-of-a-kind sound. Alternative Chicano band Las Cafeteras recreate traditional Afro-Caribbean Son Jarocho music in a wildly vibrant style. Their rousing socially-conscious messages, in English and Spanglish, tell stories of a community that is looking for love and fighting for justice, and have audiences dancing in their seats.

What Can Archaeology Tell Us About New Technologies?

Thursday, February 22, 2018 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Dr. Lauren Herckis, research scientist and instructor at Carnegie Mellon University, will discuss how archaeologists learn about the lives and cultures of ancient people by studying the things they left behind. Archaeological methods, which were developed to study technological change in the past, can be used to understand technological innovation in the present. The emergence, form, and social roles of today's cutting-edge technologies are shaped by the same forces which affected the maintenance of water management technologies in northern Africa 3,000 years ago, the development of pottery in the American southwest 1,500 years ago, and the emergence and disappearance of electric cars in the U.S. a century ago. Archaeology gives us a way to understand how technological innovations take root or fade from memory. Examining how gadgets are produced, used, reused, repaired, and discarded helps us better understand the relationship between labor, the exploitation of available resources, and the emergence, transformation, and diffusion of technological traditions.

Dealing with an Unruly Ally: China, North Korea, and the Nuclear Crisis

Monday, February 26, 2018 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Dr. Michael Chambers, professor of political science at Indiana State University, will discuss the interesting and complicated relationship between China and North Korea. In the 1950s, thousands of Chinese "volunteers" died protecting North Korea during the Korean War, and these allies have described their friendship as being "as close as lips and teeth." More recently, China has come to view its neighbor as unruly, even going so far as to vote in favor of United Nations sanctions on North Korea as punishment for their nuclear weapons tests. In light of increasing US pressure on China and rumors of a preemptive strike on North Korea, this talk explores China's impact on the prospects for a peaceful resolution to the North Korean nuclear crisis.

Kai Roberts: Mental Health through Music

Wednesday, February 28, 2018 – 7:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Kai Roberts' presentation, "Active Mic: Mental Health through Music" is an original interactive performance created to promote mental health awareness in an entertaining and educational way. Kai tells the story of his battle with anxiety and panic disorder through interactive dialogue and hip-hop music. From the beginning, the audience is engrossed in the origins of his anxiety, gradually taking the journey into his emotions, through his disorder, and into his recovery.

***The Tierney Sutton Band: The Sting Variations**

Thursday, March 1, 2018 – 7:30pm (Weisiger Theatre)

Enjoy an evening with Grammy®-nominee Tierney Sutton as she focuses her Norton Center performance debut on her latest album, *The Sting Variations*. Expect to hear pop Sting and the Police classics such as "Message in a Bottle," "Driven to Tears," "Walking in Your Footsteps," "Fragile," and "Every Breath You Take," among many other hits and surprises.

Creating a Confederate Kentucky

Wednesday, March 7, 2018 – 7:00pm (Young 113)

Dr. Anne Marshall, class of 1998, is an Associate Professor of History at Mississippi State University. Her book, *Creating a Confederate Kentucky: The Lost Cause and Civil War Memory in a Border State*, demonstrates how Kentucky came to be thought of and to identify itself as a supporter of the Confederacy. Dr. Marshall will discuss her book and how the Lost Cause continues to exist in Kentucky today.

Human Trafficking Awareness Week: Kentucky Edition

Thursday, March 8, 2018 – 7:00pm (Young 113)

STAND - one of Centre College's student service organizations - is excited to welcome Gretchen Hunt to speak on campus during the Human Trafficking Awareness Week. Mrs. Hunt heads the Office of Victims Advocacy within the Kentucky Office of the Attorney General Andy Beshear. Over the past 15 years, she has been influential in victim advocacy including the passage of Kentucky's Human Trafficking Victims Rights Act. Her articles have been published in prestigious legal journals, and she is the recipient of many national awards for her work. Mrs. Hunt will be sharing her expertise on this global issue and its impact on the Commonwealth during her time at Centre. Audience members can expect to walk away with a greater understanding of this international and local crisis and of their potential to enact positive change.

SGA Debate

Tuesday, March 13, 2018 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)

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.

Affrilachian Poetry Celebration and Workshop

Monday, March 26, 2018 – 8:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

As part of the Creative Commons series, Centre will host several Affrilachian poets, to include Frank X Walker and Dorian Hairston among others, as they present an evening of poetry on the theme of "Identity and Place." Each poet will read from a body of work and engage questions from the audience, while also discussing process and form. All faculty, staff, student, and community participants will then have the opportunity to work directly with these celebrated poets to develop their own poetry on "Identity and Place." In the weeks prior to the event, the library will gather student feedback regarding the theme of "Identity and Place" via a large whiteboard posted at the front entrance of the library. Campus responses will be shared at the exhibition on March 26 as well as via large displays in the Vahlkamp Theater. The week after the workshop, event participants are invited to gather and present their own poetry in the library for a public reading that will also be marketed to the community.

The Colombia Peace Process

Wednesday, March 28, 2018 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

Dr. Jennie Lincoln, Centre class of 1971, is the director of the Carter Center's Latin America and Caribbean Program and a professor at the Sam Nunn School of International Affairs at the Georgia Institute of Technology, where she teaches Latin American politics and U.S.-Latin American relations. Dr. Lincoln will be talking about the end of the Colombia civil war and the peace accords and the process in which she has personally participated.

The Secret History of Jane Eyre

Thursday, March 29, 2018 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

In this close reading of both Jane Eyre and her creator Charlotte Brontë's experiences, Professor John Pfordresher of Georgetown University finds striking parallels that illuminate Brontë's inspirations and motivations. He shows us new ways to understand the novel and adds to what we know of Brontë's relationships with her father and brother, her experiences as a governess, and her passion for a married man. Professor Pfordresher's lecture will be the English program's annual Bastian Lecture, which honors our late colleague Carol Bastian.

Deafinitely Dope: A Unique Story of ASL and Deaf Culture

Monday, April 2, 2018 – 7:00pm (Young 113)

Have you ever wanted to learn more about American Sign Language (ASL) and Deaf culture? Join us for an exciting night with Matt Maxey, CEO of Deafinitely Dope and concert interpreter for Grammy winner, Chance the Rapper. Matt will tell us about his life story, including growing up Deaf. ASL has been rooted in Centre's history since John A. Jacobs, a Centre graduate, founded the Kentucky School for the Deaf in 1823. Since then, Deaf culture has become commonplace in Danville. We hope you join us for an informative and interesting presentation about Matt Maxey's unique story.

Building Allies in Defense of Civil Liberties

Tuesday, April 3, 2018 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)

Civil rights lawyer and Muslim rights activist, Roula Allouch, will discuss the current state of civil rights advocacy in the United States. Drawing on her own experiences as a Muslim American and her work defending Muslim American civil liberties, she will explain the current rise in intersectional alliances among marginalized groups. Her talk will highlight important ways that Muslim rights activists have increasingly worked more closely with women's rights groups, Jewish Americans, and LGBTQ communities to help defend common civil liberties. Roula Allouch is a licensed lawyer in Kentucky and Ohio, a graduate of the University of Kentucky College of Law, and currently serves as Chair of the National Board of Directors of the Council on American-Islamic Relations.

From War to Healing to Forgiveness: How We Move On

Thursday, April 5, 2018 – 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)

This convocation includes viewing the acclaimed film, "Fambul Tok," and a panel discussion focusing on healing and forgiveness post-conflict. Drawing from examples depicted in the current Norton Center art exhibition, "War is Only Half the Story", the

panel features the filmmaker, artist and activist, Sara Terry, and others from the Centre community. An award-winning documentary photographer best known for her work covering post-conflict stories, Sara Terry is a 2012 Guggenheim Fellow in Photography. Her first long-term post-conflict body of work, "Aftermath: Bosnia's Long Road to Peace," led her to found The Aftermath Project in 2003 on the premise that "War is Only Half the Story." Terry's film, "Fambul Tok" centers around the people of Sierra Leone trying to heal wounds caused by civil war by returning to an old tradition of bringing together victims and offenders for ceremonies of truth-telling and forgiveness.

Lady Pink: Be Loud and Be Large

Monday, April 9, 2018 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theater)

In the late 1970s, Lady Pink was known as one of the only females who could compete with male artists in the graffiti subculture of New York City. She had her first solo show at the age of 21 at the Moore College of Art. As a feminist, she continues to challenge the contemporary art world, which is still comprised primarily of white males. Her work has since entered the collections of the Whitney Museum, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, and the Brooklyn Museum. Today, she runs a mural company with her husband, creating large, graffiti-based work around New York City. She is a passionate advocate for locating public art in culturally neglected communities. She also shares her more than 20 years of experience as an artist and feminist by holding mural workshops and lecturing at colleges throughout the country.

Language variation in Kentucky: Exploring you guys', y'all's, and you all's speech

Monday, April 9, 2018 – 7:30pm (Young 113)

Kentucky is located at a particularly interesting crossroads in the dialect landscape of the United States. This talk by Professor Jennifer Cramer of the Linguistics Department at the University of Kentucky will introduce listeners to the specific linguistic situation of the state and its many diverse regions. A major portion of the talk will focus on Louisville, and on how Louisvillians produce and perceive their regional identities through the language they speak. We will also go beyond Louisville to understand the folk beliefs Kentuckians have about the varieties of English spoken across their state, including in the Appalachian region. In the process, we will discover how varied the Englishes of Kentucky can be.

Undergraduate Research Convocation

Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 7:00pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)

Dr. Christopher Barton, class of 1989, Director of the University of Kentucky Appalachian Center, will discuss his applied research on reforestation in eastern Kentucky, with a particular focus on the role that students have played in this work. This talk will be of interest to anyone who would like to learn more about issues related to environmental sustainability, community well-being, and undergraduate research opportunities.

Musicians Showcase

Sunday, April 15, 2018 – 3:00pm (Newlin Hall)

The Musicians Showcase is a concert featuring individual performances by some of the most talented voice, instrumental, and composition students.

Twelfth Night*Wednesday, April 18, 2018 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)****Thursday, April 19, 2018 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)****Friday, April 20, 2018 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)****Saturday, April 21, 2018 – 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

Written by WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE, directed by JENNIFER GOFF.

The comedy centers on the twins Viola and Sebastian, who are separated in a shipwreck. Viola (who is disguised as a boy) falls in love with Duke Orsino, who in turn is in love with the Countess Olivia. Upon meeting Viola, Countess Olivia falls in love with her thinking she is a man.

Chemistry in the public interest: Chemistry, Law Enforcement and Counter-Terrorism**April 19, 2018 – 7:30pm (Vahlkamp Theater)**

Forensic science seeks to develop techniques and methods to answer questions related to law enforcement and defense investigations. The central concept of “chemistry in the public interest” can be used to guide and inform research activities in this area. John Goodpaster, director of forensic sciences at IUPUI, seeks to combine powerful chemical analysis methods with issues of acute social relevance such as law enforcement, public health and counter-terrorism. His laboratory investigations include work on explosives and IEDs, lifestyle markers, and trace evidence. Dr. Goodpaster will discuss the state of research in this area and its impact on the public interest.

Veiled Superheroes: Muslim Heroines in the World of Graphic Narratives**Tuesday, April 24, 2018 – 7:00pm (Young 113)**

In her latest book, Sophia Rose Arjana explores the world of graphic narratives - comic books, webcomics, and animation - and the Muslim superheroines who populate these texts. From the world of Marvel where we encounter a teenage superhero named Kamala Khan to the Burka Avenger of Pakistan, these Muslim girls and women are portrayed as independent, strong, and heroic. These characters also illustrate how religious clothing and superhero costuming can be used in ways that challenge stereotypes and recast veiling as a liberative practice. Sophia Rose Arjana is a scholar of religion at Western Kentucky University and has published three books on Islamic subjects.

OLIO: A Reading by 2017 Pulitzer-Prize winner in poetry Tyehimba Jess**Thursday, April 26, 2018 - 7:30pm (Chowan)**

A Reading by 2017 Pulitzer-Prize winner Poet Tyehimba Jess,” or, as we describe it, “Cultural Innovators of the 19th century African Diaspora as featured in Tyehimba Jess's OLIO.” The traditions in structure and form of pre-colonial African musical styles and African-American musical expression not only inform, but constitute the very framework with which Jess constructs these poems. Through his poem sequences imagined in different voices, combined with relevant descriptive quotations, Jess encourages readers to explore the history and experiences of a number of musicians and artists, including Scott Joplin, African American/Native American sculptor Edmonia Lewis, the Fisk Jubilee Singers, performer Blind Tom, and others. In one very thought provoking moment, Jess encourages us to rip a page from history (in the book) and own it,

confront it and mold and shape our perception thereof. In page after page he manages to dismantle Eurocentrism and reveal the richness of America's artistic tradition, so built upon the talents of post-colonial artistic strivings.

John C. Young Symposium

Saturday, April 28, 2018 – 9:30am (Vahlkamp Theatre)

Saturday, April 28, 2018 – 1:00pm (Vahlkamp Theatre)

John C. Young Symposium Morning and Afternoon Sessions

John C. Young Scholars for 2017-2018: Cameron Beach, Vrinda Desai, Jessica Haralu, Brendan Holly, Emily McGlone, Amaryst Parks and Elizabeth Williams

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.

Centre Symphony Orchestra

Saturday, April 28, 2018 - 4:00pm (Newlin Hall)

Director of Instrumental Ensembles Robert Seebacher conducts the Centre Symphony Orchestra in a concert of music the students have been working on all semester.

Honors Night

Tuesday, May 1, 2018 - 7:00pm (Newlin Hall)

Annual student achievement celebration.

The Politics of Dead Ancestors: Ritual, Representation and Public Healing during Uganda's Civil War

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 – 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.

Dance Concert**Thursday, May 3, 2018 - 8:00pm (Weisiger Theatre)**

This annual exploration of the joys of dance features students from the dance classes at Centre. Instructor Rebecca Stephenson is principal choreographer.