



HBW Presents Nikki Giovanni



Nikki Giovanni

The Project on the History of Black Writing is the lead sponsor for the visit of poet **Nikki Giovanni** to KU this coming week. Giovanni, University Distinguished Professor of English at Virginia Tech University, will speak on Tuesday, 4 April, at an event entitled “Poetry, A New Conversation: An Evening with Nikki Giovanni.” Her presentation will begin at 6:00 pm in Woodruff Auditorium of the Kansas Union. For half a century, Nikki Giovanni has been making waves and earning plaudits with her poetry. She came to

prominence in the Civil Rights and Black Arts eras with collections like *Black Feeling*, *Black Talk* (1967), *Black Judgment* (1968), and *Re: Creation* (1970). From the beginning, her writing prioritized social engagement. In the fifty years since, according to Hall Center publicity, “she has published more than thirty books, including poetry, children’s literature, nonfiction essays, and edited collections, in addition to sound recordings. Her most recent works of poetry are *Chasing Utopia: A Hybrid* (2013) and *Bicycles: Love Poems* (2009).” Among her many awards are twenty-five honorary doctorates, the Langston Hughes Award for Distinguished Contributions to Arts and Letters, the Rosa Parks Women of Courage Award, and the Maya Angelou Lifetime Achievement Award. In the KU news release about Giovanni’s appearance, Director of HBW **Maryemma Graham** states, “She took poetry to new heights with a voice that never wavered. . . . Students who don’t know her now will definitely take away a powerful message from this visit.”

Publications

McKitterick, Chris

“Foreword,” *Saving the World through Science Fiction: James Gunn, Writer, Teacher, Scholar*, by Michael Page, McFarland & Co. Inc., 2017.

Presentations

Conrad, Kathryn

“‘Quite Exploded’: The Bomb at the Terminus of Wilde’s Trivial Comedy, *The Importance of Being Earnest*,” University of Wyoming Department of English, 21 March.

“Teaching the Troubles: An Interdisciplinary Pedagogy Roundtable,” ACIS (American Conference for Irish Studies) National Meeting, UMKC, Kansas City, MO, 30 March.

“The Line is Material: Wilde’s Explosion of Form,” ACIS National Meeting, UMKC, Kansas City, MO, 1 April.

Accepted for Publication

Bergeron, David

“*Pericles: A Performance, a Letter (1619)*,” in *Performances at Court in Shakespeare’s Era*, ed. Sophie Chiari and John Mucciolo (Farleigh Dickinson University Press, forthcoming).

Calendar

N 2 Taproom Poetry Series with Jennifer Knox, Iowa State University, **Crystal Boson**, and **Pete Fey**, KU, 5:00 pm, Eighth Street Taproom.

M 3 Danny Caine, MFA Defense, 9:00 am, 3025 Wescoe (Drake, *Kaminski*, Knox).

Kate Russell, RDP, 1:00 pm, 3025 Wescoe (MCS, Lorenz, *Moriarty*).

T 4 Celebration of Books Published by Humanities, Social Sciences, and Arts Faculty in 2016, 4:00-6:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

The Project on the History of Black Writing presents “Poetry, A New Conversation: An Evening with Nikki Giovanni,” **Nikki Giovanni**, English, Virginia Tech University, 6:00 pm, Woodruff Auditorium.

R 6 Book Launch & Signing, *Little Green Men—Attack!* eds, Robin Wayne Bailey & Bryan Thomas Schmidt, and *Saving the World Through Science Fiction: James Gunn, Writer, Teacher, Scholar*, by Michael R. Page. Bailey, Schmidt, Page, and Gunn will attend, 6:00-7:30 pm, Jayhawk Ink Lounge, Kansas Union, Level 2. Sponsored by the Gunn Center for the Study of Science Fiction.

T 11 Humanities Lecture Series, “Age of Ambition: Chasing Fortune, Truth, and Faith in the New China,” Evan Osnos, Staff Writer for *The New Yorker*, 7:30 pm, Woodruff Auditorium; public conversation session, 12 April, 10:00 am, Hall Center Conference Hall.

Announcements, Notes, & News

- **Kij Johnson's** *The Dream-Quest of Vellitt Boe* has been nominated for the Nebula Award, given by the Science Fiction and Fantasy Writers of America. It also has been nominated for the Hugo Award, given by the World Science Fiction Society each year at WorldCon. These awards are two-thirds of the speculative-fiction Triple Crown. This is her sixth Nebula nomination and her sixth Hugo nomination.

KU and Regional Events

- **University Theatre** presents *Anon(ymous)*, by Naomi Iizuka, 31 March, 1, 4-6 April, 7:30 pm, 2 April, 2:30 pm, Inge Theatre, Murphy Hall.
- **CTE Coffee Hour**, 9:00-10:00 am, 135 Budig.
- **CODL Lunch & Learns**, "Online Learning from the Student Perspective," Samantha Montague, CLAS, and online students, 6 April; "Using Open Educational Resources at KU," Josh Bolick, Libraries, Abbey Dvorak, Music, 12 April. Both 12:00-1:00 pm, Budig 6.
- **Gender Seminar**, "Challenging Sexual Abuse: The Case of Theologian John Howard Yoder," Rachel Goossen, History, Washburn University, 6 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Hall Center Public Event**, "Holocaust Archaeologies: Approaches and Future Directions," Caroline Sturdy Colls, Forensic Archaeology and Genocide Investigation, Staffordshire University, 6 April, 5:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.
- **CODL Roundtable Session**, "Just the Basics – Getting Started with Online Courses," Renee Hewitt, CODL, 7 April, 2:00-3:00 pm, Budig 6.
- **Conflict & International Change Seminar**, "Ticket to Ride: The Beatles, U.S. Military Bases, and the Foundations of Globalization," Daniel Immerwahr, History, Northwestern University, 7 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Place, Race & Space Seminar**, "Fragmented Citizenship: Municipal Annexation and Incorporation in St. Louis County," Colin Gordon, History, University of Iowa, 10 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **2017 Faculty Coffee Talk Series**, 11 April, 3:00-4:00 pm, Sabatini Multicultural Resource Center, Room 116.
- **The Urban Experience Seminar**, "Policing and Protest in China," Yao Li, Center for East Asian Studies, 13 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.
- **Nature & Culture Seminar**, "International Law and Agroecological Integrity: Building New Legal and Institutional Foundations for a Global Transition to Natural-Systems Agriculture," John Head, School of Law, 14 April, 3:30-5:00 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

Calls for Papers, Conferences, Symposia, Etc. (Posted)

- **Sport Literature Association Conference**, 21-24 June, West Liberty University, West Virginia. Extended deadline: 15 April.

Fellowships, Scholarships, Awards, Contests, Etc. (Posted)

- **2017 Sexton Prize for Poetry** for an outstanding new collection of poetry from Eyewear Publishing. Judged by Kimiko Hahn. \$1000 honorarium and publication.
- **Center for Civic Responsibility and Social Responsibility Faculty Fellow 2017-2019**, KU's CCSR seeks a faculty member for a two-year term. See flyer or CCSR website for details. Deadline: 12 May.