



Edwidge Danticat Visit



Edwidge Danticat

Haitian American author **Edwidge Danticat** will deliver KU's **2018-2019 Common Book Lecture** on Thursday, 6 September, at 7:00 pm in the Lied Center, an event entitled "An Evening with Edwidge Danticat." According to Howard Graham of KU's Office of First-Year Experience, Danticat's book, *Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work* (2010), was chosen as this year's Common Book because it resonates with so many contemporary concerns. A collection of essays and memories, the work "champions artistic production in the face of political and social strife" and "invites critical reflection on the nature of identity and belonging. Danticat's personal journey from Haiti

to the United States and her attempts to navigate her own competing identities prompt readers to consider their allegiances, exiles and sense of belonging in conflicting spaces." Danticat "uses tales of her native Haiti and her identity as an artist to highlight creativity and courageous reading as avenues for making sense of crisis, injustice and oppression." Danticat rose to artistic prominence with her early novels *Breath, Eyes, Memory* (1994) and *The Farming of Bones* (1998) and has continued to write in a variety of forms (short and long-form literary fiction, including YA fiction; memoir; essays and criticism; biography; and travel writing) since then. She has also taught creative writing at New York University and University of Miami.

Publications

Baldwin, Martha

"Stoicism and the Servants: Philosophy and the Periodical Press," *Victorian Periodicals Review* (Summer 2018).

Dennis, Megan

"'The Castle on the Hill': Lincoln High, Racial Uplift, and Community Development during Segregation," *The Pendergast Years: Kansas City in the Jazz Age and Great Depression*, pendergastkc.org.

Biographical articles. "N. Clark Smith," "Hugh Oliver (H.O.) Cook," "Chester Arthur Franklin," and "Sarah Rector," *The Pendergast Years: Kansas City in the Jazz Age and Great Depression*, pendergastkc.org.

Presentations

Bergeron, David

"Geometry in John Webster's *The Duchess of Malfi*," Mediterranean Studies Association international conference, Sorrento, Italy, 29 May.

Grund, Peter J.

"Function-to-Form Mapping in Historical Pragmatics: Past, Present, and Future." Invited paper for the workshop "English Historical Pragmatics: The state-of-the-art" at ICEHL 20, International Conference of English Historical Linguistics, University of Edinburgh, UK. 27-31 August.

(With Matti Peikola, Johanna Rastas, and **Wen Xin**) "Is it 'very' or 'uery'? The Dynamics of the 'u' and 'v' Alternation in Early Modern English." ICEHL 20, International Conference of English Historical Linguistics, University of Edinburgh, UK. 27-31 August.

(With Erik Smitterberg) "I dare say *however* that what I have got is enough': Conjoint Placement in Nineteenth-Century English." ICEHL 20, International Conference of English Historical Linguistics, University of Edinburgh, UK. 27-31 August.

Sousa, Geraldo

"Shakespeare's Mediterranean: Half Within, and Half Without the Borders of Europe," 21st Annual Mediterranean Studies Association International Congress, Sant'Anna Institute, Sorrento, Italy, 30 May-2 June.

Calendar

R 6 KU Common Book Lecture by **Edwidge Danticat**, author of *Create Dangerously: The Immigrant Artist at Work*, 7:00-8:30 pm, Lied Center.

F 7 Common Book Q&A with **Edwidge Danticat**, 10:30 am, Spencer Museum of Art.

Nature & Culture Seminar, "Animal Value and the Failure of Advocacy in Peter Mathiessen's *Far Tortuga* and Richard Powers' *The Echo Maker*," **Arnab Chakraborty**, English, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

SAGE Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4076 Wescoe.

T 11 Voting Department Meeting, 4:00 pm, 4051 Wescoe.

R 20 English Advisory Board Fundraiser, 5:30-8:30 pm, Kansas City, MO.

Reading and Book Signing by **Michelle Tea**, memoirist, 20 September, 6:00 pm, Lawrence Arts Center Auditorium.

F 21 Red Hot Research featuring **Dhanashree Thorat**, IDRH, and representatives from WGSS; Health and Disability Policy Studies; American Studies; Film & Media Studies, 4:00 pm, The Commons, Spooner Hall.

Announcements, Notes, & News

• **New Graduate Students:** The Department welcomes the following new MA students: *Literature Track:* **Alex Burdge** (BA, University of Kansas); **Aundrea Davis** (BA, Missouri State University, Springfield); **Danny Jalilpoor** (BA, University of Kansas); **Demetra McBrayer** (BA, Southeastern Oklahoma State University); **Arielle Raymos** (BA, Austin Peay State University); *Rhetoric & Composition Track:* **Elizabeth Schurman** (BA, UMKC).

The Department also welcomes the following new MFA students: **Saveeda Ahmad** (BA, University of Houston; BA and MA, University of Northern Iowa); **Kathryn Auner** (BA, Drury College; MA, Missouri State University, Springfield); **Kristin Emanuel** (BA, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville); **Lucia Iglesias** (BA, Brown University); **Korbin Jones** (BA, Northwest Missouri State University); **Tracy Lien** (BA, University of Technology, Sydney); **Hannah Soyer** (BA, University of Iowa); **Annie Trinh** (BA, University of Nevada, Reno; MA Mississippi State University); **Nadine Worley** (BA, DePaul University).

The Department also welcomes the following new PhD students: *Literature Track:* **Sandra Jacobo** (BA, Rutgers University; MA, Brooklyn College); **Josh McKnight** (BA and MA, Wichita State University); *Creative Writing Track:* **Jason Baltazar** (BA, Art Institute of Pittsburgh; MFA, University of Kansas); **Lisa Favicchia** (BA, College of Wooster; MFA, Bowling Green State University); **Kim Kankiewicz** (BA, University of Kansas; MA, Colorado State University); **Brett Salisbury** (BA, University of Kansas; MFA University of Nevada, Las Vegas); *Composition & Rhetoric Track:* **Giovana Hill** (BA, University of Kansas); **Taylor Irwin** (BA, University of Missouri, Columbia; MA, Belmont University); **Yee-Lum Mak** (BA, University of Southern California); **Faith Scheidemantle** (BA, Missouri Southern State University).

KU and Regional Events

• **CTE Workshop**, “How to Make Student Group Work Work,” Andrea Greenhoot, CTE/Psychology; Doug Ward, CTE/Journalism and Mass Communications, 5 September, 12:00-1:00 pm, 135 Budig.

• **Gender Seminar**, “Gendering Indian Law: The Emergence of Indigenous Feminist Jurisprudence,” Sarah Deer, WGSS, 6 September, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **The Urban Experience Seminar**, “Suburban and Urban Education: Two Sides of a National Metropolitan Coin,” John Rury, Educational Leadership & Policy Studies, 13 September, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Humanities Grant Development Workshop**, Faculty Workshop I, 12 September, 12:00-1:00 pm. Student Coaching Session, 14 September, 12:00-1:00 pm, Hall Center for the Humanities.

• **Digital Humanities Seminar/Medieval and Early Modern Seminar**, “The Uncanny Valley and the Ghost in the Machine: A Discussion of Analogies for Thinking about Digitized Medieval Manuscripts,” Dot Porter, Manuscript Studies/Special Collections, University of Pennsylvania, 17 September, 3:00-4:30 pm, Hall Center Seminar Room.

• **Hall Center Public Event**, “An African American and Latinx History of the United States,” Paul Ortiz, History, University of Florida, 19 September, 7:00 pm, Hall Center Conference Hall.

• **MAMA (Mid-America Medieval Association) Conference XLII**, “Skins,” 22 September, UMKC. Co-sponsored by KU’s Hall Center for the Humanities.

• **Atha Graduate Student Seminar**, “Creative Culture in 18th-Century Britain,” 12 October, 10:30 am-12:00 pm, Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, 45th & Oak, Kansas City, MO.