



Summer 2014 UIS Speaker Series Event Schedule*

All Events are Free & Open to the Public

June 9
Monday
6:00PM
Brookens Auditorium



Two Spirits Film Screening and Discussion



Co-sponsored by UIS Diversity Center & UIS
LGBTQ Resource Office

Moderator: Kerry Poynter
Director, LGBTQA Resource Office

Two Spirits interweaves the tragic story of a mother's loss of her son with a revealing look at a time when the world wasn't simply divided into male and female, and many Native American cultures held places of honor for people of integrated genders.

Fred Martinez was nádleehí, a male-bodied person with a feminine nature, a special gift according to his ancient Navajo culture. But the place where two discriminations meet is a dangerous place to live, and Fred became one of the youngest hate-crime victims in modern history when he was brutally murdered at sixteen. Between tradition and controversy, sex and spirit, and freedom and fear, lives the truth—the bravest choice you can make is to be yourself. <http://twospirits.org/>

Kerry Poynter has over fifteen years of experience working with LGBTQA students in higher education at a number of institutions including Duke University, Columbia University, New York University, and Western Michigan University. He has a M.A. in Administration of College Student Affairs in Counselor Education & Counseling Psychology. He also adjuncts in the Women & Gender Studies Department and teaches a peer education course that trains LGBTQ & heterosexual allied students to facilitate interactive activities across campus on LGBTQ topics. Recently he co-wrote and published a chapter detailing how to conduct a learning activity about the gender continuum called "Femininity and masculinity: An exploration of the relative elements of gender identity" in M. Murphy, & E. Ribarsky (Eds.), *Activities for Teaching Gender and Sexuality in the University Classroom*.

June 17
Tuesday
6:00PM
Brookens Auditorium



Pearl Fryar

Co-Sponsored by University of Illinois Extension

Planting Hope

In 1976 Pearl Fryar and his family moved to Bishopville, South Carolina where he began to fight the racial stereotype that "black people don't keep up their yards". He bought a house in a black neighborhood and began cutting every bush and tree in his yard into unusual, abstract shapes.

Pearl's artwork began to attract not only local, but national attention. He's now transformed over 300 plants into living artwork and has his own Topiary Garden. His garden, recognized world-wide for its creativity, now attracts visitors from around the world. His effect on local social change has been grass roots, both literally and figuratively.

During his discussion, Pearl will share his story and detail how he turns plants into living sculptures. Many of the plants in his garden were rescued from the compost pile at local nurseries in South Carolina. With patience and skilled hands, these "throw aways" have thrived and have been transformed into wonderful abstract shapes.

Pearl's artwork has been featured in national magazines and newspapers, including *The New York Times*, as well as several television programs such as CBS Sunday Morning. He's the subject of the 2006 documentary *A Man Named Pearl*, which aired on HGTV. <http://www.pearlfryar.com/>

July 8
Tuesday
6:00PM
PAC C Conference Room G

***Female Offending in the US:
Incarceration and Recidivism***



Juanita Ortiz, Ph.D.

Dr. Ortiz will provide a discussion of female offenders' representation and experiences in the U.S. criminal justice system. This will include examining female offenders' characteristics, as well as the experiences that typically bring women into the criminal justice system. This presentation will also address the challenges that women face while incarcerated and upon release from prison, including family reunification, substance abuse, employment, and other important issues. This event encourages students to challenge their perspectives on incarcerated women, their pathways into crime and incarceration, and what such women deserve in prison and upon their release to improve not only their lives and their families' lives, but the impact of female incarceration on our society as well.

Dr. Juanita Ortiz has been a faculty member in the UIS Criminal Justice department since 2008. She graduated from the University of Oklahoma, where she earned Bachelor's degrees in Sociology and Political Science and a Master's and Doctorate degree in Sociology, with emphases in Criminology and Stratification. Her teaching, research, and service areas include women and crime; prisoner reentry; and recidivism.

***Please note:**

- Schedule current as of June 4, 2014.
- Visit our website at <http://go.uis.edu/speakerseries> for the most up-to- date event schedule.
- For additional information contact speakerseries@uis.edu or Kimberly Craig at 217.206.6245.
- Video on Demand recordings are available for some events at <http://www.uis.edu/its/iss/webcasting-ecce.html>