

Spring 2020



Community Event Schedule

All events are free and open to the public*

- ❓ For additional event information contact speakerseries@uis.edu or call 217.206.6245.
- ❓ Like us on Facebook - <https://www.facebook.com/ECCESpeakerseries/>
- ❓ Follow us on Twitter - <https://twitter.com/ECCESpkrSeries>
- ❓ For additional information about the UIS ECCE Speaker Series program or to propose an event, contact Kimberly Craig at 217.206.6245 or craig.kimberly@uis.edu

*If you plan to bring a large group to an event, please contact us in advance so we can make appropriate seating arrangements.

<p>January 30 Thursday 7 p.m. Student Union Ballroom</p> <p>Presentation / Workshop</p>	<p><i>Beyond the Status Quo: Finding Your Non-Traditional Interfaith Identity</i></p>  <p>Parth Bhansali</p>	<p>No matter your profession or faith, in order to develop and sustain a collegial and productive work environment, it is important to understand your own faith-based beliefs, and to be aware and understanding of the faith-based beliefs of your peers in the field in which you work.</p> <p>Parth Bhansali will present and examine interfaith challenges from a Hindu perspective, the importance of interfaith work in non-faith-based professions, and discuss ways to empathize and educate those who do not know much about different faiths.</p> <p>The workshop component of this event will explore the challenges of religious identity in the workplace. Participants will discuss interfaith scenarios in small groups, navigate issues of religious and professional identities, and expand their awareness of interfaith challenges.</p> <p>Parth Bhansali is a Chicago-based first-generation Indian-American. He became involved with interfaith work while a student at Benedictine University, where he co-founded the <i>Movement of Students Achieving Interfaith Cooperation</i> (MOSAIC). He aspires to transform interfaith conversation into something that transcends the faith-based community and hopes to inspire you to do the same.</p>
<p>Event Cancelled</p> <p>February 4 Tuesday 7 p.m. Brookens Auditorium</p> <p><i>Co-Sponsored by: College Republicans at UIS</i></p> <p>Lecture & Discussion</p>	<p><i>Springfield's Connection to Understanding the First Amendment: Janus v. AFSCME</i></p>  <p>Mark Janus</p>	<p>Event Cancelled</p> <p>Mark Janus of Springfield will discuss his journey to the United States Supreme Court in a case that shaped the first amendment. Mark will explain how it was his belief that he should not be forced to pay union dues in a public sector job and how he was able to prevail at the nation's highest court.</p> <p>Mark Janus is a fellow with the Liberty Justice Center. Prior to this position, he worked the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Mark is known for challenging compulsory union dues at the Supreme Court of the United States in the case Janus v. AFSCME. He has lived in - Springfield his entire life, graduating from Illinois College in 1975. Mark works to advocate for government employees and educate others about their first amendment rights.</p>

<p>February 10 Monday 6 p.m. Brookens Auditorium</p> <p><i>Co-Sponsored by the UIS Visual Arts Gallery and the Chicago Artists Coalition</i></p> <p>Panel Discussion</p>	<p><i>Locational Identity: Moving from Trauma to Freedom</i></p>  <p>Mark Blanchard Cass Davis kwabena foli Kelly Kristin Jones</p> <p>Jeff Robinson (Panel Moderator)</p>	<p>Jeff Robinson will moderate a panel discussion with Chicago-based artists Mark Blanchard, Cass Davis, kwabena foli, and Kelly Kristin Jones. Through their artwork, these artists engage with place in order to clarify personal and collective identity, promote a sense of belonging, and spark agency and resistance against an alienation that results from attempts to erase difference and homogenize space. The conversation will center around each artist's practice and how their artwork relates to these themes. The panel discussion will be followed by a question and answer session with the audience. This discussion will coincide with an exhibition of work from all four artists in the UIS Visual Arts Gallery. The gallery will be open for a light closing reception following the ECCE Speaker Series event and will offer an opportunity to experience the artworks on display to supplement and enhance the conversation surrounding the ideas addressed by the panel.</p> <p>Mark Blanchard, Cass Davis, kwabena foli, and Kelly Kristin Jones are Chicago-based artists and current artists-in-residence at Chicago Artists Coalition. Blanchard received an M.F.A. at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. His work explores identity within the framework of considering the misrepresentations applied to persons of color propagandized through mainstream media in the US. Davis examines their Midwestern Evangelical upbringing in order to understand relationships between redemption, resurrection, embodied trauma, and the failure of the American dream. They hold an M.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. foli holds an M.A. in Performance Studies from SIU Carbondale. He uses visual poetics & performance to address trauma, health, pop culture and social life, and works to fight against erasure and silence. Jones uses her photo-based installation work as a vehicle to explore competing narratives within urban cultural landscapes. She received an M.F.A. from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.</p>
<p>February 20 Thursday 6 p.m. Brookens Auditorium</p> <p><i>Co-Sponsored by the UIS New Voices in Racial Justice Series (Series organizer: Dr. Roxanne Marie Kurtz), UIS Diversity Center, UIS Women's Center, and UIS Department of Philosophy</i></p> <p>Film & Discussion</p>	<p><i>Cori Bush: "I Am the People I Serve": A Film and Conversation on the Pursuit of Social Justice</i></p>  <p>Cori Bush</p>	<p>In 2018, an unprecedented election took place: never had an election year seen so many incumbents challenged from within their own parties by candidates running for office from diverse backgrounds. Cori Bush was one of these inspiring candidates. The day after the U.S. presidential election, filmmaker Rachel Lear began her work to document the journeys of four women who entered politics to fight for justice for their communities: Cori Bush, Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, Paula Jean Swearengin, and Amy Vilela. Lear's efforts culminated in the inspiring Sundance award-winning documentary, <i>Knock Down The House</i>, a powerful film that both captured this incredible moment in our political history and provides insight on the importance of pursuing political office to advance social justice moving forward.</p> <p>Join us for a public screening of <i>Knock Down The House</i> and the opportunity to participate in a deep and candid conversation with featured speaker Cori Bush about her own experience, the goal of getting diverse voices into political office, and why these voices matter to real representation.</p> <p>A native St. Louisan, Cori is a single parent, a registered nurse, a pastor, an activist, and a community organizer. Cori emerged as a community leader through her work on the frontlines of the Ferguson movement as a protester, as clergy, as a medic, and as a victim of police assault. In 2018, Cori received national recognition for her aspirational campaign, centering everyday people, as she sought to become the first black congresswoman from her state. As a result of her bold leadership, and the strength of her challenge to the incumbent, Cori's campaign was featured in the documentary <i>Knock Down The House</i>. To help bring her community through so much adversity — racism, sexism, misogyny, inequality, and corruption — the strength of Ms. Bush's commitment to a bold fight for justice, equality and equity for all shines clear.</p>

<p>Black History Month Event</p> <p>February 24 Monday 6 p.m. Brookens Auditorium</p> <p><i>Co-Sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of Women and Gender Studies, Diversity Center, Black Student Union, UIS Black History Month Academic Ad Hoc Committee, Brookens Library, Department of Political Science, Global Studies, and the UIS Office of Access and Equal Opportunity</i></p> <p>Lecture & Discussion</p>	<p><i>College Students and Reparations: A Georgetown University Slavery Descendant's Story</i></p>  <p>Mélisande Short-Colomb</p>	<p>What are arguments for and against reparations for slavery, and what might restitution look like? How are some of America's finest universities and college students closely connected to slavery? UIS welcomes Mélisande Short-Colomb, who was recently informed that her ancestors were two of 272 enslaved people owned by the Jesuits of Georgetown U. and sold in 1838 to keep the university afloat. Granted legacy status and enrolling at Georgetown, she joined students in documenting the university's slavery history, grappling with the reparations question, organizing and voting for a semesterly restitution fee, and debating how to best use the fees. Learn about and discuss this concrete example of college students, alumni, a campus community and restitution with "Mel".</p> <p>Mélisande Short-Colomb is a descendant of Abraham Mahoney and Mary Ellen Queen, two of the 272 enslaved people sold by the Society of Jesus in 1838. The profits of that sale helped to save Georgetown University by paying down the crushing debt that threatened the school. She learned of her ancestors' connection to Georgetown when she was contacted by a genealogist working on tying the descendants of enslaved people to the Georgetown Jesuits. In 2017, Mélisande Short-Colomb became a freshman at Georgetown U. at age 63, an activist, and a passionate student of History. Mélisande grew up in Louisiana, where her ancestors were "sold down the river" from Maryland, worked as a professional chef, and is a survivor of Hurricane Katrina. She and her remarkable story and perspective have been featured on CNN, Forbes Magazine, the Washington Post, the New Yorker, and Full Frontal with Samantha Bee.</p>
<p>March 2 Monday 6 p.m. Brookens Auditorium</p> <p><i>Co-Sponsored by the University of Illinois Press, UIS Department of Sociology and Anthropology, Department of Women and Gender Studies, and UIS Diversity Center</i></p> <p>Lecture & Discussion</p>	<p><i>Pleasure & Politics of Latino Popular Music: University of Illinois Press Latino Book Series 15th Anniversary Celebration</i></p>  <p>Frances Aparicio</p>	<p>What do you know about Latino popular music? How can we enjoy music while listening critically? Please join Frances Aparicio, former director of the Latina and Latino Studies Program at Northwestern University, in a celebration of the 15th Year Anniversary of the University of Illinois Press <i>Latinos in the Chicago and the Midwest Book Series</i>. As its founding editor, Professor Aparicio will share the history and impact of this groundbreaking series and her passion for Latina/o popular music. Through guided listening to music, she will introduce us to Latino music forms as we learn how to be music critical listeners. Through entertainment, we will explore the politics of sonic traditions, the construction of Blackness, and the role of women in popular music. She will reveal the ways that local music traditions help Puerto Ricans' grief and healing after Hurricane Maria in the midst of colonial neglect and abandonment.</p> <p>Dr. Frances Aparicio is Professor Emeritus of Spanish and Portuguese and was Director of the Latina and Latino Studies Program at Northwestern University. She is author of the award-winning <i>Listening to Salsa: Gender, Latin Popular Music and Puerto Rican Cultures</i> (Wesleyan 1998), and co-editor of various critical anthologies, including <i>Musical Migrations</i> (Palgrave, 2003). A founding editor of the <i>Latinos in Chicago and the Midwest Book Series</i> at the University of Illinois Press, she has facilitated and fostered book publications and new research on Latino/as in the Midwest. Her recent book in this series, <i>Negotiating Latinidad</i> (2019), explores the lives of "intraLatino/a subjects" in Chicago, individuals who are of two or more national Latin American origins.</p>