

This fall term, Berea College students are expected to attend **five (5)** convocations, fewer than usual due to the covid-19 pandemic. Convocations take place in Phelps Stokes Auditorium on Thursdays, unless otherwise indicated beforehand. As events are subject to cancelation, please refer to email announcements or the Convocations homepage for a notice of change. Everyone who attends fall convocations must be masked and vaccinated against Covid-19.

FALL 2021 EVENTS

8 daytime, 3 evening

AUG. 26 3:00 PM

SEABURY CENTER

PRES. LYLE ROELOFS *Berea Stories*. It has been said that Berea consists of 1600 great stories, stories of challenge, accomplishment and triumph. That is certainly true—every Berea student has a compelling story—as do all other Bereans, faculty, staff, alumni, and retirees, who together constitute our wonderful community. Opening Convocation 2021 is a celebration of all those stories and how they connect and reinforce one another. First-year and senior students will process, as will faculty and staff. Special music will be part of this convocation.

SEPT. 2 3:00 PM

DERBY OZIOMA CHUKWUDI, '19 *The Road Less Taken: Charting the Journey to a Dynamic Career*. Ms. Chukwudi is a successful recent Berea graduate with degrees in Economics and Business Administration & Finance who is now employed as a Global Markets Strategy Analyst at JPMorgan Chase. In her presentation on career development opportunities, Ms. Chukwudi will chart her own journey, which has involved a wide range of experiences—such as placing high in an international speech contest and competing in the Miss New Jersey USA pageant—to inspire others to pursue their own paths. For her, career development involves taking action to become a better person, a better advocate, and a light to her generation, and she recommends that students challenge themselves to acquire critical life and work skills through their own dynamic experiences. Co-sponsored with Internships & Career Development.

SEPT. 9 8:00 PM

JOE TROOP *Borrowed Time*. Joe Troop is a multi-instrumentalist hailing originally from Winston-Salem, North Carolina. The founder of the Grammy-nominated string band Che Apalache, Troop's music is deeply embedded with and inspired by his activism. *Borrowed Time* is his first proper solo album. The worldly songs and instrumentals are influenced by his time spent living in Argentina as well as his upbringing as an openly gay bluegrass musician in rural North Carolina. **Stephenson Memorial Concert.**

SEPT. 16 3:00 PM

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SEPT. 23 3:00 PM

DR. NEIL SHUBIN *Your Inner Fish*. Dr. Shubin, the paleontologist and University of Chicago Professor of Organismal Biology and Anatomy who co-discovered *Tiktaalik*, the “fish with hands,” tells the story of our bodies as you've never heard it before. By examining fossils and DNA, he shows us that our hands actually resemble fish fins, our heads are organized like long-extinct jawless fish, and major parts of our genomes look and function like those of worms and bacteria. *Your Inner Fish* makes us look at ourselves and our world in an illuminating new light. This is scientific inquiry at its finest—enlightening, accessible and told with irresistible enthusiasm. **Science Convocation.**

SEPT. 30 3:00 PM

RENEE SHAW *Connecting: Reflections on Journalism, Public Affairs, Social Change, and Unsung Heroes.* Celebrated public affairs journalist Renee Shaw reflects on her decades of work amplifying the voices of unsung heroes and shining light on important social and political issues of our time through television journalism. This Service Convocation will recognize the 2021 Berea College Service Award recipients and is sponsored by the Center for Excellence in Learning through Service (CELTS). **Service Convocation**

OCT. 7 3:00 PM

REV. GAIL BOWMAN *Love and Inconvenience.* What shall we do with our marvelous lives, our marvelous brains, and our marvelous hearts? Is humanity a whole new thing or just an ancient thing in better clothes? Does it matter, and what might religion, including Christianity, have to do with any of us, now? In her talk, Rev. Bowman, a Birmingham, Alabama-based author, historian, and former director of the Berea College Campus Christian Center, will explore all these questions. **Accent on Christian Faith**

OCT. 14 8:00 PM

JOHN MCCUTCHEON *Back in Berea: Songs Live.* John McCutcheon is an American folk singer-songwriter and multi-instrumentalist who has produced 41 albums since the 1970s. He has brought his music into the lives and homes of one of the broadest audiences any folk musician has ever enjoyed. People of every generation and background seem to feel at home in a concert hall when John McCutcheon takes the stage with what critics describe as “little feats of magic,” “breathtaking in their ease and grace...,” and “like a conversation with an illuminating old friend.” Celebration of Traditional Music (CTM) kick-off. **Stephenson Memorial Concert**

OCT. 21 3:00 PM

DR. JONATHAN MARKS *Conservatives on the Quad.* It’s true what they say: left-liberals rule our colleges and universities. Yet it wasn’t so long ago that the conservative quarrel with higher education could be described as a lover’s quarrel. Today, we have a nasty break-up, and the dominant strain in contemporary conservatism is more keen on murdering its ex than to try to win them back. In his talk, Dr. Marks, a political science professor at Ursinus College in Pennsylvania, will argue that conservatives should not give up on liberal education, whose aim is to shape reasonable people. Marks is the author most recently of *Let’s be Reasonable: A Conservative Case for Liberal Education.*

OCT. 28 3:00 PM

DR. WILLIAM TURNER *Between Birmingham and Black Mountain in Kentucky: The Harlan Renaissance in Central Appalachia’s Coalfields.* *The Harlan Renaissance* is a heart touching, witty memoir by Dr. Turner, a Black Harlan County, Kentucky native and former Distinguished Professor of Black and Appalachian Studies at Berea College. In his book, Dr. Turner dispels the myth about the whiteness of Appalachia together with other creations, illusions, and untruths about the region. Growing up as the son and grandson of coal miners, Turner tells the story of how Black coal mining families built and maintained a supportive community structure in which people thrived despite the odds. He contends that the U.S. could draw lessons from their experience and believes that the nation has lost its sense of community to corrosive individualism and the cherishing self-seeking above common values, thereby imperiling democracy. **Woods Lecture.**

NOV. 4 3:00 PM

DR. VALERIE HUDSON *The First Political Order: How Sex Shapes Governance and National Security Worldwide.* Might the security and stability of nation-states be related to the security and situation of women in its society? Is there a prior, first political order between men and women in a society that shapes and molds its governance, peace, prosperity, health, progress, and environment? The U.S. Department of Defense provided over a million dollars of funding to Dr. Hudson’s research team to find out. Dr. Hudson, a political science professor in the Department of International Affairs at Texas A & M, invites her audience to explore with her

why she and her colleagues have concluded, “What you do to your women, you do to your nation-state.” **Begley Van Cleve Lecture.**

NOV. 11 8:00 PM

PHILADELPHIA BRASS *From Fanfare to Bach and Jazz*. Formed in 1988 by professional musicians, the Philadelphia Brass has pursued these common goals: to perform the best of brass quintet literature of all periods and styles, and to educate the public to the pleasures, subtleties, and complexities of chamber music. The ensemble has toured extensively in the U.S. and abroad and has collaborated in performances with bands, choruses, organists, and dancers. Critics and audiences alike have praised the quintet for the appealing diversity of its repertoire, technical virtuosity, and superb musicality. **Stephenson Memorial Concert.**

THEATRE

Noises Off! by Michael Frayne

Directed by Adanna Barton

8pm Wednesday November 17 & Friday, November 19 McGaw Theatre

(859) 985 3300 for ticket reservations

www.berea.edu/thr

MUSIC

(to be announced)