

BEREA COLLEGE CONVOCATIONS PRESENTS

STEPHENSON



FALL 2023 MEMORIAL CONCERT SERIES

Check www.berea.edu/convo for updates as performance dates draw near.

8:00 p.m. • Phelps-Stokes Auditorium • Berea, KY

ALL OF THESE EVENS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND FREE OF CHARGE.

Farah Siraj

Jordanian virtuoso Farah Siraj fascinates global audiences with her original compositions, fusing Middle Eastern music, flamenco, jazz, Bossa nova and pop with lyrics in Arabic, Spanish and English.



SEPT
14TH

OCT
12TH



The McCrary Sisters

This gospel trio melds traditional with contemporary and incorporates their influences of classic soul, Americana, blues, rock, and R&B music.

NOV
9TH



Fubuki Daiko

This ensemble reinvents traditional Japanese drumming with their eclectic and energetic performances that are part martial arts athleticism, part meditation, and all rhythm.

BEREA COLLEGE CONVOCATIONS

This fall term, Berea College students are expected to attend **seven** convocations. All convocations take place in Phelps Stokes Auditorium on Thursdays, unless otherwise indicated beforehand. As events are subject to cancellation, please refer to email announcements or the Convocations homepage for a notice of change.

FALL 2023 EVENTS (8 daytime, 3 evening)

AUG•31
3:00
Seabury Center

DR. CHERYL L. NIXON *One Community. One Circle. One Blood.* Berea College faculty and students will usher in the 2023-24 school year with this first Convocation of the season, featuring comments from the College's tenth president, Dr. Cheryl Nixon. **Opening Convocation.**

SEPT•7
3:00

DR. ELLEN FURLONG *Is My Dog Happy?: The Science of Your Best Friend's Happiness.* In her talk, Dr. Furlong, a psychology and neuroscience professor at Transylvania University, will ask you to ponder a question that can sometimes be uncomfortable: Is your dog happy? Many people balk when asked this question: "Of course my dog is happy! I feed him. I take her for walks. I attend to medical needs." But research into dog cognition and behavior suggests that dogs' needs run deeper than many people suspect. During her talk, Dr. Furlong will discuss ways in which recent research on dog cognition can help us ensure that our dogs lead good, happy dog lives. **Crowden Lecture.**

SEPT•14
8:00

FARAH SIRAJ *World Peace Music.* Named Jordan's Musical Ambassadors, virtuoso Farah Siraj performs original compositions, fusing influences of Middle Eastern music, flamenco, jazz, bossa nova and pop with lyrics in Arabic, Spanish and English. A humanitarian, she has toured many countries, spreading a message of peace through her music. **Stephenson Memorial Concert.**

SEPT•21
3:00

DR. CHARLES CRABTREE *Morality and Politics.* What is the relationship between morality and political attitudes? In his talk, Dr. Crabtree, an assistant professor of Government at Dartmouth College, will draw on the results of several observational and experimental studies to discuss the links between morality, religion and politics, as well as the consequences of these relationships for how we think about diversity and inclusion in the U.S. **Begley Van Cleve Lecture.**

SEPT•28
3:00

GAME ON NATION *Presenting with Confidence.* Steve Shenbaum is a former actor and founder/CEO of Game on Nation, a communication, leadership and business consultancy. Game on Nation is best known for its highly interactive approach to connecting with collegiate audiences across the country. During this career convocation on presenting with confidence Steve promotes best practices for day-to-day communication, as well as a framework for successful and engaging public speaking, helping us recognize the power of words and actions through increased self-awareness and proactive preparation, so participants leave with a renewed sense of creativity, confidence and clarity. Co-sponsored with the Office of Internships & Career Development.

OCT•5
3:00

DR. ARADHNA TRIPATI *Bringing Together Diverse Perspectives on Water.* Although the availability of freshwater is a major factor influencing humans and ecosystems, the ways in which water availability will change in many parts of our warming world in the future is unknown. Dr. Tripati, a professor in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability at UCLA, will describe a research project that braids together different strands of research from multiple disciplines on the water cycle and climate in the water-stressed Southwestern U.S. **Science Convocation.**

OCT•12
8:00

MCCRARY SISTERS *Run On.* The McCrary Sisters sing gospel that melds traditional with contemporary music and incorporates influences of classic soul, Americana, blues, rock, and R&B music. Central to their work is their boundless joy in singing, and a desire to spread hope, love and healing. Celebration of Traditional Music kick-off. **Stephenson Memorial Concert.**

OCT•19
3:00

DR. TODD STINEBRICKNER *The Berea Panel Study after 25 Years.* The Berea Panel Study (BPS) is a novel survey project, which was initiated at Berea College in 2000 to provide a new understanding of how important decisions/outcomes are determined in the college and the early post-college periods. Dr. Stinebrickner will discuss the initial motivation for the BPS and the new types of analyses that were made possible by the unique data that were collected. Co-sponsored with the Department of Economics & Business.

OCT•26
3:00

REV. DANA GONSAL *Setting the Captives Free.* Rev. Gonsal is Senior Protestant Chaplain at the Nashua Street Jail in Boston and President and CEO of the Classic Shoe Shine Corporation that serves New England. In his presentation, Rev. Gonsal will share his spiritual journey from being homeless to becoming an accomplished entrepreneur and community advocate. Sponsored by the Willis D. Weatherford, Jr. Campus Christian Center. **Accent on Christian Faith.**

NOV•9
8:00

FUBUKI DAIKO *Japanese Drumming.* In ancient Japan Taiko drums were used to frighten invaders, inspire troops in battle, and call the gods. The core members of this spirited group have more than 25 years of Japanese Taiko drumming experience that is part martial arts athleticism, part dance, and all rhythm. **Stephenson Memorial Concert.**

NOV•16
3:00

PROF. MARK GODSEY *Blind Injustice: Wrongful Convictions and Criminal Justice Reform in America.* University of Cincinnati law professor Mark Godsey is the co-founder and director of the Ohio Innocence Project, which to date has freed from prison 42 wrongfully convicted Ohioans. Accompanied by one of his exonerated clients, Prof. Godsey will discuss flaws in the criminal justice system that lead to wrongful convictions and suggest solutions to remedy this problem. **Woods Lecture.**

PURPOSES OF THE CONVOCATIONS

A significant part of students' educational experience at Berea College is offered through lectures, concerts and the performing arts. These events enliven the intellectual, aesthetic and religious life and perform an important educational role. Convocations also provide common experiences for students, faculty, and staff leading toward the establishment of a supportive and challenging academic community.

Visit www.berea.edu/convo for information concerning the speakers and performing artists in the Convocation series, including links to homepages and other sites with related information. Any changes in the calendar schedule will be posted as soon as possible.

For nearly 100 years, Berea College Convocations has made lectures and the performing arts available without charge to their students and the public. Persons wishing to assist in the continuation of this tradition are invited to contact the Development Office, CPO 2216, Berea College, Berea KY 40404.



CO-CURRICULAR CONVOCATIONS

Berea students can receive up to a **total of three Convocation credits during the academic year for attending one theatre event, one musical event, and one dance event** chosen from among the groups below (and the ones to be announced for Spring Term). Qualified events occur only on the dates specified below for the theatre, dance and musical performances. To receive Convocation credit, the Berea student ID must be scanned upon leaving the venue. Dates for musical ensemble performances are subject to change. Please see email announcements or postings on the Convocations website to confirm the date, time, and location of the performance.

Theatre Laboratory. La Cage aux Folles written and composed by Jerry Herman. Deborah Martin, director. Wednesday & Friday, November 1 & 3, 8:00 p.m. McGaw Theatre, Jelkyl Drama Center. **Tickets required.** 859.985.3300 or www.berea.edu/thr.

Wind & Jazz Ensembles. Fall Concert. Colby Norton & Doug Drewek, directors. Tuesday, October 24, 7:30 p.m. Presser Hall, Gray Auditorium.

Black Music Ensemble. Fall Concert. EJ Stokes, director. Saturday, November 18, 1:30 p.m. Union Church.