MAR/APR 2017

AUTHOR AND SOCIAL HISTORIAN JEFF CHANG COMES TO DU

Join us at the AHSS Harper Distinguished Speaker Series featuring Jeff Chang, social historian and writer on the intersection of race, art, and civil rights and the socio-political forces that guided the hip-hop generation.

Thursday, April 13, 2017
5:30 p.m., Reception (light appetizers)
7 p.m., Lecture, We Gon’ Be Alright | Race and Resegregation in Today’s America
Davis Auditorium, 2nd floor, Sturm Hall

Free, but registration is required online or by calling 303-871-2425.

After a summer of unrest and tragedy—in Dallas, Minnesota, Baton Rouge and across the nation—how can our communities heal? And with a new administration, what can we expect for race relations in a changing, polarized America? In this talk, Jeff Chang will discuss the thoughts and ideas set out in his new book, We Gon’ Be Alright: Notes on Race and Resegregation, which The Washington Post calls “the smartest book of the year.” Chang explores the meaning of diversity in an era of racial and economic resegregation—the increasing division of black and white people across housing, education and more—and examines ways in which America can be a thriving, prosperous and equitable place for all.

Register today!

ALUMNI RECEPTION AND LIVINGSTON LECTURE

Return to campus in May for the free AHSS alumni reception and John C. Livingston Lecture. Connect with AHSS alumni, faculty and students during the reception. Then hear from psychology Professor Howard Markman on current trends in relationships and marriage.

Monday, May 8, 2017
Davis Auditorium, Sturm Hall
2000 E. Asbury Avenue

5:30 p.m. – AHSS alumni reception, hors doeuvres and open bar provided
6:45 p.m. – Presentation of the annual AHSS Alumni Achievement Awards
7:00 p.m. – Lecture, “Unraveling the Mysteries of Marital Happiness: Lessons Learned through Research and Practice,” presented by Howard Markman, professor of psychology

Free! Registration is required.

Markman is a John Evans Professor and co-director of the Center for Marital and Family Studies in the department of psychology at the University of Denver. He will show examples using video of real couples from over 35 years of research that reveal the predictors of relationship success, problems and divorce. He will also share some of the key relationship skills and principles taught in his Prevention and Relationship Education Program (PREP), used in over 10 countries and the U.S. Military.

Learn more and register.

NEWS BRIEFS

A few recent achievements of our faculty and alumni:
Eleni Sikelianos, professor of English, was interviewed on Colorado Public Radio's “Colorado Matters” program to discuss her new book, *Make Yourself Happy*, which includes pages that are meant to be torn out and turned into three-dimensional art.

VICE News interviewed Adrienne Russell, associate professor of media, film and journalism studies, on the way journalism and activism have evolved online and the relationship between the media and the public.

Joshua Wilson, associate professor of political science, co-wrote this op-ed piece, *What Christian Colleges Stand to Gain with Trump*, for *Real Clear Education*.

Steven Dunn (BA ’14, English) co-founded the Art of Storytelling reading series at the Collection Gallery in Aurora, CO, for people of color in Denver's literary scene. Read the story in *Westword*.

Marcelina Rivera (BA '83, economics, political science) was named one of this year’s 25 most powerful women by the Colorado Women's Chamber of Commerce.

Crisanta Duran (BA ’02, Spanish, public affairs) was named Colorado’s first Latina Speaker of the House. Read the story in *5280 magazine*.

### PROFESSOR LEADS DEBATE TEAM FOR 18th YEAR

Darrin Hicks is convinced there is no better way to become a truly critical thinker than debate. As director of the DU debate team for 18 years, he has helped students employ the fine skills of argumentation and persuasion on the debate floor. He has also seen how those skills prepare students for successful careers after college.

“Our students learn an incredible amount from debating. Besides the vast content knowledge about current affairs, political and moral philosophy and economics they have from debating, they learn how to really think critically,” said Hicks, professor of communication studies. “They learn how to construct logically valid arguments, how to formulate those arguments in vivid and persuasive terms, and how to sift through competing arguments to invent a compelling framework for making decisions.”

This year’s team consists of 40 undergraduate students. “Our debaters do the same kind of reading than a PhD student; they do the same kind of persuasive speaking as a lawyer or politician. This is what makes our debaters so successful after college,” said Hicks, who has taught at DU since 1993.

### FRENCH ALUM HELPS THOUSANDS AS ANESTHESIOLOGIST

If you ask the parents of Dr. Kevin Fitzpatrick, he has wanted to be a doctor since he was five years old. He also liked the sound of spoken French. And he wanted to experience living abroad.

That unique combination of interests landed him a scholarship at DU to study French and chemistry before he headed to medical school at the University of Colorado.

“Med schools aren't just looking for smart people who score well on entrance exams. I think my well-rounded education and the fact that I studied abroad worked in my favor. Studying abroad in Aix-en-Provence, France is, to date, the best thing I have done in my life,” said Fitzpatrick (BA ’85, French).

In the twenty years since he finished school, Fitzpatrick has helped thousands of patients as their anesthesiologist. He is part of the Colorado Permanente Medical Group, a multi-specialty physician-run medical practice with more than 1,100 doctors.

### STUDENT DISCOVERS ALL THE WORLD’S A STAGE

Within a few years of moving to the U.S. from Ghana, Anthony Adu began to grow interested in theatre and performance. That interest grew to a love of performing as he began to study it full time at DU.

“I love that in becoming someone else, I am able to learn more about people and myself as a result, and why humans do what they do. I am most excited when I get to impact people and get them to think and feel things about life and all that comes with it,” said Adu, now in his third year as a theatre major.
Although he didn’t consider studying theatre full time until his first year at DU, Adu was inspired by the art of performance as a high school student. He participated in an area of speech and debate called Interpretation Events where he had to create a ten-minute monologue from a book or script and perform it in front of judges. In these competitions Adu learned that he enjoyed being in the spotlight and engaging audiences by tugging on their heartstrings. He began to imagine what he could do given more than a few minutes to perform.

FEATURED EVENTS

CONCERT: March 7, 7:30 p.m. — Lamont Symphony Orchestra, DU Honors Competition Winner
The orchestra performs the Beethoven Coriolan Overture, Sibelius’ The Swan of Tuonela and features the 2017 DU Honors Competition winner. Free ticket required. The concert will be in the Gates Concert Hall of the Newman Preforming Arts Center. Click here for more information.

OPENING RECEPTION: March 9, 5:00-8:00 p.m. — Storm Warning: Artists on Climate Change & the Environment
Storm Warning, at the Vicki Myhren Gallery, is a multimedia exhibition featuring artists looking at and thinking about climate change and environmental issues. The show includes installation works, photography, film, Instagram feeds, and other media. Storm Warning provides a platform for collaboration, both on campus and throughout the wider community for engagement with some of the most important issues facing us today. The exhibit runs March 9-April 30. Find more information here.

THEATRE: March 10-12, 17-19, 24-31; April 1-2, 7-9 — The Wave that Set the Fire
Join us for this Athena Project presented by the department of theatre. In the not-so-distant future, the justice system has been reduced to one woman in a rusty Chevy Impala. When civil society is on its deathbed, what constitutes crime and punishment? Buy tickets here. For more information, click here.

FACULTY LECTURE: April 6, 4:00 p.m. — Why Plato Thinks You Are Already Committed to the Existence of His Forms (and Why He Might be Right)
Plato describes his Forms using accessible geographical metaphors and transcendent literary images. These were celebrated by later monotheists in order to further their own agendas. All too often, Plato’s agenda was lost in this process. Today, many interpreters of Plato’s metaphysics create a caricature of Plato’s Forms by taking these explanatory devices literally and obscuring Plato’s best metaphysical contributions. At this lecture, we will examine Plato’s arguments for the existence of Forms and why he thinks they offer the most coherent justification for our belief that the world of perception can be explored inductively. Presented by Naomi Reshotko, professor of philosophy. Reception 4 p.m., lecture 4:30 p.m. in the Anderson Academic Commons Special Event Room. Register here.

OPERA: April 20-22, 7:30 p.m.; April 23, 2:30 p.m. — Strauss’ Die Fledermaus
Viennese opera at its finest, Die Fledermaus (The Bat) focuses on a Russian Prince’s magnificent masked ball attended by an eclectic collection of characters in assorted disguises. Humor and farce follow them on a journey from bedroom to ballroom ending with a hilarious romp in jail (performed in English). The performance will be at the Newman Center for the Performing Arts. Click here for more information on tickets and performance times.

FACULTY LECTURE: May 4, 4:00 p.m. — Implicit Cognition and the Science of Tacit Culture
Over the last several decades, technological advances have enabled psychologists to explore “implicit cognitions,” beliefs which people are largely unaware of possessing, yet drive much of their behavior. Implicit cognitions are thought to be the cause of many culture-level phenomena, ranging from race-based income disparities to Western patterns of unhealthy eating. But how do implicit cognitions become widespread in the first place? We will examine scientific findings that illustrate how the things that we all encounter, but rarely notice, give rise to culturally-widespread implicit cognitions. Presented by Max Weisbuch, assistant professor of psychology. Reception 4 p.m., lecture 4:30 p.m. in the Special Events Room, Anderson Academic Commons. Register here.

VIEW MORE AHSS EVENTS ONLINE

Apply to DU!  GIVE TODAY

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