

# Clarke Forum

## for Contemporary Issues

DICKINSON

Fall 2024

All Events are Free and Open to the Public

Visit [www.clarkeforum.org](http://www.clarkeforum.org)  
for more information on our programs

**Tuesday, September 17, 2024 ♦**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**Winfield C. Cook Constitution Day**

**Conversation**

***Picturing the Constitution: Curators, Artists and Scholars in Conversation***

**Katherine Gressel**, curator

**Bang Geul Han**, artist

**Steven Mazie**, constitutional expert

How can artists help enhance our understanding of the United States Constitution, its interpretations throughout history, and our own political participation? Join Katherine Gressel, curator of the 2023 Picturing the Constitution exhibition at the Old Stone House in Brooklyn, participating artist Bang Geul Han, and Supreme Court correspondent and political scientist Steven Mazie for a joint presentation and panel discussion focused on artist' responses to the United States Constitution, including its origins, contents, and interpretations.

**Thursday, September 19, 2024**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

**The Bechtel Lecture**

***Boosting Human Capital in Africa: Why It's Needed, and How to Get It Done***

**Pascaline Dupas**, Princeton University

Boosting Africa's human capital—the health, knowledge, skills, and resilience of its people—is key to the fight against world poverty amidst climate change, but also to Africa's ability to harness its demographic potential. The lecture will discuss evidence-based policies that governments and international organizations can put in place to do a big push on human capital on the continent.

**Tuesday, October 1, 2024 \* ♦**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***A New Divide - The Possibility for Dialogue***

**Manu Meel**, BridgeUSA

There is a new divide, and it is not Left vs. Right. Join Meel as he outlines the importance of building bridges and constructive dialogue and shares a vision for how young people can transform our democracy for the better.

**Tuesday, October 8, 2024 + ♦**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 6 p.m.

**The Morgan Lecture**

***The Black Birthing Crisis: Why Understanding Slavery & Gynecology Helps Us All***

**Deirdre Cooper Owens**, University of Connecticut

For decades, the United States has been the most dangerous high-income earning nation for pregnant Black women and birthing people. The current birthing crisis didn't originate in a vacuum. With roots in colonial America, medical doctors and surgeons exceptionalized Black women's medical experiences and lives throughout slavery and Jim Crow. Cooper Owens will present on the layered history of American slavery, the birth

of gynecology, and the current U.S. birthing crisis offering insights and possible solutions to end this state of emergency.

**Thursday, October 10, 2024 +**

Stern Center, Great Room, 7 p.m.

***Puerto Rico - The 51st State? Explaining the Diminished Prospects for Puerto Rico Statehood***

**Carlos Vargas-Ramos**, Hunter College

This lecture discusses the territorial condition of Puerto Rico in relation to the United States and the unlikely prospects in the near future that Puerto Rico will be admitted to the Union as member on equal standing with other states.

**Thursday, November 7, 2024**

Anita Tuvín Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***Open Forum on the 2024 Election***

**Dickinson Community Forum with Faculty Panel**

Dickinson Faculty will discuss observations and analyses of the recent US Presidential election and take questions.

**Monday, November 11, 2024**

Stern Center, Great Room, 7 p.m.

**Molly and Wayne Borges Memorial Lecture**  
***Danger, Purity and the Holy Land Past and Present***

**Robin Darling Young**, Catholic University of America

To the holy city of Jerusalem and the land that surrounds it, three new and distinct assemblies laid claims of territorial and devotional holiness. This lecture explores the expression of those claims in discourse, in construction, and in demolition.

**Thursday, November 14, 2024**

Stern Center, Great Room, 12 p.m.

***International Perspectives on 2024 Election***

**Willibroad Dze-Ngwa**, Yaoundé, Cameroon

**Mario Guerrero**, Mendoza, Argentina

**Hilary Sanders**, Toulouse, France

**Konstantin Sonin**, Moscow, Russia

**Neil van Sieten**, Bremen, Germany

**Sarah Niebler** (moderator), Dickinson College

The US presidential election is being watched closely throughout the world. Colleagues from Dickinson's global programs will discuss the effects the results have for their countries and beyond. Lunch provided - please RSVP to [clarkeforum@dickinson.edu](mailto:clarkeforum@dickinson.edu) by 11/7/24 and mention any dietary restrictions.

**Monday, November 18, 2024 \* ♦**

Anita Tuvin Schlechter Auditorium, 7 p.m.

***Reinventing Germany, Again and Again***

**Janine Ludwig**, cultural historian of East Germany

**Anne Rabe**, playwright and novelist

**Matthias Rogg**, historian and colonel in the German army

**Antje Pfannkuchen** (moderator), Clarke Forum co-director

The history of modern Germany has forced continuous reorientations. On the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the Federal Republic of Germany and the 35th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall the panelists will discuss today's Germany and its global position.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT OUR WEBSITE



**FROM OUR MISSION**

The Clarke Forum for Contemporary Issues, founded in 1994 with a generous gift from Trustee Henry Clarke, brings the unique strengths of an interdisciplinary liberal arts perspective to the critical examination of pressing contemporary issues. The Clarke Forum believes that critical reflection and the informed exchange of divergent ideas across academic disciplines improves knowledge and understanding.

The Clarke Forum connects the students and faculty of Dickinson College and members of the broader community with scholars, practicing professionals, and activists through the use of lectures, seminars, and conferences. By encouraging engagement with these visitors in ways that allow for dialogue and critical reflection, the Clarke Forum helps prepare students to become knowledgeable, productive, and intellectually active citizens and leaders. The Clarke Forum also provides a space where faculty can come together to discuss ideas and solutions to social problems from many perspectives. With programs that are free and open to the public, the Clarke Forum is a vital part of the community, continually enhancing public awareness and understanding of critical contemporary issues.

**STUDENT INITIATED PROGRAMS**

Each semester the Clarke Forum student employees propose program ideas that address contemporary issues. Two programs are then selected by a group vote to be developed as events for the following semester.

+ Denotes a program initiated by Clarke Forum student employees

**2024-25 THEME  
ALTERNATIVE MODELS**

Having two directors is a novelty for the Clarke Forum and while we are still experimenting with this new approach, our events for the current year explore a range of alternative models that offer possibilities beyond the mainstream, investigate roads not taken and propose solutions expanding the traditional, be it in science and technologies, art and humanities, or business and politics. How can unconventional ideas reframe critical questions and promote innovative perspectives on contemporary issues?

♦ Denotes a program that is part of the theme

**LEADERSHIP IN AN AGE OF  
UNCERTAINTY SERIES**

The Clarke Forum established a series of programmatic events dedicated to the theme of leadership in an age of uncertainty. This initiative is grounded on the reality that today's generation of Dickinson students confronts a large number of intractable political, economic, and social problems. How Dickinsonians respond to these challenges presents us with an opportunity for reflection on the meaning of leadership in the contemporary world. This series is partially supported by a fund created by Betty R. '58 and Dan Churchill.

\* Denotes a program that is part of the series

For more information about our events, and to access interviews and past lectures visit:

**[www.clarkeforum.org](http://www.clarkeforum.org)**

This schedule is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, so please refer to the website for the most updated information.



Updated 9/12/24

