

Cultural Events
at Lyon College

Fall 2011-Spring 2012

All events will be held on the Lyon College campus, and all events are free and open to the public except as noted.

Kresge Gallery Exhibition: Delita Martin

Aug. 22 – Sept. 30, Opening reception Thursday, Sept. 1, at 5 p.m.

Delita Pinchback Martin was born in Conroe, Texas, in 1972. She began her higher education at Texas Southern University, where she received a B.F.A. in drawing. After completing her undergraduate degree, she worked as an independent artist for several years. She later returned to school and earned a M.F.A. in drawing and printmaking from Purdue University. Her work has been exhibited both nationally and internationally, and her prints and drawing are included in several private and public collections. Currently, she teaches courses in drawing and art appreciation at the University of Arkansas at Little Rock and Pulaski Tech College. In addition to teaching, she is the founding director of Black Box Press, an open studio print shop in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Visiting Writers Series presents Jayne Anne Phillips, winner of the 2011–2012 Heasley Prize for Literary Excellence

Thursday, Sept. 15

Noon – 12:50 p.m. Writer’s Life Public Interview and Brown-bag Lunch, Alphin Board Room, Alphin Building

7:30 – 8:45 p.m. Public Reading, Heasley Prize Award Ceremony, and Book Signing, Bevens Music Room, adjacent to Brown Chapel

Jayne Anne Phillips was born and raised in West Virginia. Her first book of stories, *Black Tickets* (Delacorte Press/Seymour Lawrence, 1979), published when she was 26 and won the Sue Kaufman Prize for First Fiction awarded by the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. *Machine Dreams* (Dutton, 1984), Phillips’s first novel, was nominated for the National Book Critics Circle Award and chosen by the *New York Times Book Review* as one of twelve Best Books of the Year. She is also author of *Fast Lanes* (Dutton, 1987), a book of stories; the novels *Shelter* (Houghton Mifflin, 1994), which was awarded an Academy Award in Literature by the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters and chosen one of the Best Books of the Year by *Publishers Weekly*; *MotherKind* (Knopf, 2000), winner of the Massachusetts Book Award; and *Lark & Termite* (Knopf, 2009). Phillips’s works have been translated into twelve foreign languages. She is the recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship, two National Endowment for the Arts Fellowships, and a Bunting Fellowship from Radcliffe College. Her work has appeared most recently in *Harper’s*, *Granta*, and the *Norton Anthology of Contemporary Fiction*. She has taught at Harvard University, Williams College, and Boston University, and is currently Professor of English and Director of the M.F.A. Program in Creative Writing at Rutgers-Newark, the State University of New Jersey.

Convocation: Lance Weir, Canine Companions for Independence

Sept. 22, Nucor Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Lance Weir, a Walnut Ridge native, is a retired Marine Corps Reservist and a member of the Canine Companions for Independence Board. Weir, a quadriplegic after an accident at age 21, will talk about his personal story and the benefits that can be derived from an assistance dog. He will be accompanied by his own assistance dog, Satine.

Kresge Gallery Exhibition: Faculty show by Margaret LeJeune and Dustyn Bork

Oct. 3 – Nov. 4, Opening reception Thursday, Oct. 6, at 5 p.m.

LeJeune and Bork are assistant professors of art at Lyon College.

Band and Choral Concert: “Music of the High Renaissance”

Monday, Oct. 10, Christian Science Society, 7:30 p.m.

The Lyon College Concert Band and the Lyon College Concert Chorale delve into music of the Renaissance by offering settings of various vocal works – for both voices and instruments. Dr. Joel Plaa conducts both groups with organist Dr. Russell Stinson performing at the renowned Flentrop organ

Harlequin Theatre Fall Production:

“The Sweetest Swing in Baseball” by Rebecca Gilman

Oct. 21, 22, 24 at 8 p.m. and Oct. 23 at 2 p.m. in Holloway Theatre

A female artist adopts the persona of Darryl Strawberry, the former baseball star, with the coaching from her fellow mental patients. This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. All Lyon faculty, staff, and students are admitted free. Call 870-307-7510 for reservations.

Homecoming '11

Oct. 21-23, Friday-Sunday, Lyon College campus

The Founders' Day convocation will be at 11 a.m. Saturday, Oct. 22, in Couch Garden. Honors will be bestowed upon the Patterson Decade Award Winners and Distinguished Alumnus, among others. The annual Club 50 luncheon for alumni who graduated 50 or more years ago will be held Sunday, Oct. 23. For more information, visit www.lyon.edu.

Kirkin' o' the Tartans Service

Sunday, Oct. 23, 10:30 a.m., Brown Chapel

Patterson Lecture: Nat Lea

Oct. 25, Nucor Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.

Nat Lea, vice president and general manager of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette, will present the 2011-12 Hugh B. Patterson Lecture on Journalism.

**Visiting Writers Series presents Natasha Sajé
Thursday, Oct. 27**

Noon – 12:50 p.m. Writer’s Life Public Interview and Brown-bag Lunch (Alphin Board Room, Alphin Building)

7:30 – 8:45 p.m. Public Reading and Book Signing (Bevens Music Room, adjacent to Brown Chapel)

Natasha Sajé was born in Munich, Germany, and grew up in New York City and Northern New Jersey. She earned a B.A. from the University of Virginia, an M.A. from Johns Hopkins, and a Ph.D. from the University of Maryland. Her first book of poems, *Red Under the Skin* (Pittsburgh, 1994), won the Agnes Lynch Starrett Prize and the Towson State Prize in Literature. She is also author of a second poetry collection, *Bend* (Tupelo Press, 2004), and numerous essays published in such places as *The New York Times*, *The American Voice*, and *The Writer’s Chronicle*. Her work has been honored with the Robert Winner and Alice Fay di Castagnola Awards, a Fulbright fellowship, the Campbell Corner Poetry Prize, and the Utah Book Award. Sajé is a professor of English at Westminster College in Salt Lake City, and has been teaching in the Vermont College M.F.A. in Writing Program since 1996.

Japan Lecture Series: Karen Kurka Jensen, independent artist

“The Spirit of Sumi-e:

Oct. 27, Derby Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

Karen Kurka Jensen has been studying and painting sumi-e for over 20 years. She discovered this art form while living in Minneapolis, MN, where she met Susan Frame and Susan Christie and began studying with them. Now as an American sumi-e artist with 20 years experience, including 10 years of classical lessons, her work has evolved becoming part of the growing exploration of a new wave of sumi-e artists. Grounded by the traditional methods and materials, she has applied new vision and perspective to create a bold unique style and expression. Sumi-e is the Japanese word for "ink picture." Every sumi-e artist uses the traditional materials to create their work: sumi-e ink, bamboo brush and Asian paper. The goal of sumi-e is not to reproduce the appearance of the subject but to capture its soul. To paint a flower, it is not necessary to paint every petal and leaf, but it is essential to convey its ‘spirit’, its liveliness, and fragrance. Deceptively simple in appearance, it can be a refuge of inner peace and self-enlightenment. Underlying the apparent simplicity and harmony of composition, there is first of all a philosophy, one that sees a unifying pattern of life in all natural forms. The sumi-e artist celebrates the simplest things on earth as representing continuing life.

**Concert: The Delta Symphony Orchestra
"Romantic Works for Orchestra"**

Saturday, Oct. 29, Brown Chapel, 7 p.m.

Under the direction of Dr. Neale Bartee, the Delta Symphony of Jonesboro will perform one of their "Music For a Lifetime" subscription concerts. Tickets: \$15 adults, \$10 seniors, \$25 families, \$5 students, free with Lyon I.D. A formal reception will precede the concert at 5:30 p.m. Tickets for the reception (\$15) or concert will be available several weeks before the concert from the Batesville Symphony League.

Performance and Lecture: Sara Grey and Kieron Means

Nov. 3, Bevens Music Room, Lecture at 2 p.m.; performance at 7:30 p.m.

Sara Grey and Kieron Means perform traditional folk music.

Kresge Gallery Exhibition: Dan Hernandez

Nov. 7 – Dec. 9, Opening reception Thursday, Nov. 10, at 5 p.m. Open lecture and critique Friday, Nov. 11.

Visiting Writers Series presents Gabrielle Burton

Tuesday, Nov. 8

Noon – 12:50 p.m. Writer's Life Public Interview and Brown-bag Lunch, Alphin Board Room, Alphin Building

4:00 – 6:00 p.m. Screening of *Manna from Heaven* (location to be announced)

7:30 – 8:45 p.m. Public Reading and Book Signing, Bevens Music Room, adjacent to Brown Chapel

Gabrielle Burton is the author of the novels *Impatient With Desire* (Hyperion/Voice, 2010) and *Heartbreak Hotel* (Scribner, 1986, and Dalkey Archive Press, 1999), which won both the Maxwell Perkins Prize and the Great Lakes Colleges Association New Writer's Award; the memoir *Searching for Tamsen Donner* (University of Nebraska Press, 2009); a nonfiction book about the Women's Movement titled *I'm Running Away From Home But I'm Not Allowed To Cross The Street* (Know Books, 1972); and four screenplays, including *Manna From Heaven*, which was produced by Five Sisters Productions and chosen as a Critic's Pick by the *Washington Post*. For screenwriting, Burton won the Mary Pickford Prize from the American Film Institute, and her work was selected for Equinoxe in Bordeaux, France, and was awarded the prestigious Nicholl Prize from the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences. Burton's articles, essays, and reviews have been published in the *Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *Family Circle*, and *Ms. Magazine*, and her blogs appear in *The Huffington Post* online. She lives in Venice, California.

Lyon Christmas Festival featuring Handel's *Messiah*

Friday, Dec. 2, 6:45 p.m. – Front Steps of Brown Chapel; 7:30 p.m. – Brown Chapel

The festivities will begin with hot apple cider served while the Lyon Concert Band

under the direction of Dr. Joel Plaag plays familiar tunes during the annual tree lighting. Next, Dr. Russell Stinson, and the warmth of Brown Chapel, will beckon audience members inside with carols from the Holtkamp Organ, as the Band plays arrangements of magical Christmas Favorites in preparation for the combined Batesville Choral Society and Lyon College Concert Chorale finish the evening with a performance of the Christmas portion of Handel's *Messiah*.

Festival of Lessons and Carols

Sunday, Dec. 4, 4 p.m., Christian Science Society, College and 18th streets

A Batesville tradition, this annual event features traditional Christmas music, interspersed with Scripture readings. The performers include organist Russell Stinson and the Lyon College Flute Choir, under the direction of Laura Stinson. The program will showcase the church's neo-baroque Flentrop organ.

Music Department Student Recital

Tuesday, Dec. 6, Bevens Music Room, 7:30 p.m.

Private lesson students from the studios of Dr. Stinson, Dr. Plaag, Laura Stinson, Amanda Lucy, Martha Healey, and Meredith Doster will perform selections from their individual lesson studies.

Kresge Gallery Exhibition: Melissa Gill

Jan. 9 - Feb. 10. Opening reception Thursday, Jan. 26, at 5 p.m.

Juried Student Art Show

Feb. 13 - March 16, Kresge Gallery. Opening reception TBA.

An annual competition juried by an external artist, this show gives Lyon College students a chance to compete for monetary awards and prestige, including the Presidential Purchase Award.

Japanese Lecture Series: The Beginnings of Japanese Food

By Dr. Samuel Yamashita

Feb. 23, Derby Lecture Hall, 7 p.m.

Dr. Samuel Yamashita, the Henry E., Sheffield Professor of History at Pomona College, received his Ph.D. in Japanese history at the University of Michigan in 1981 and was a postdoctoral fellow at the Reischauer Institute of Japanese Studies at Harvard University and a senior tutor in East Asian studies there before he moved to Pomona. A Confucian specialist with mastery of both classical Chinese and classical Japanese, Dr. Yamashita has written extensively on early modern and modern Japanese intellectual and cultural history, and his first book, *Master Sorai's Responsals*, a translation of Ogyū Sorai's *Sorai Sensei Tōmonsho*, was published by the University of Hawaii Press in 1994.

He recently published *Leaves from an Autumn of Emergencies: Selections from the Wartime Diaries of Ordinary Japanese* (University of Hawaii Press, 2005; currently in its third printing) and has given book talks all over the country since the fall of 2005 and was interviewed by Scott Simon (National Public Radio) and Kitty Felde (KPCC-Pasadena).

He is currently working on two food projects: the first is a history of Pacific Rim fusion cuisine, and he recently delivered "The Significance of Hawaii Regional Cuisine in Postcolonial Hawaii" at the annual meeting of the Association for Asian American Studies. The second project is a history of Japanese food, and "Licking Salt for the Nation: Food and Diet in Wartime Japan, 1937-1945" will be included in Theodore Bestor's *Cuisine, Consumption and Culture: Food in Contemporary Japan* (University of California Press, in preparation).

Beethoven's *Ode to Joy* (Symphony No. 9)

Saturday, Feb. 25, 8 p.m., and Sunday, Feb. 26, 3 p.m. at Robinson Center Music Hall, Little Rock

The Lyon Concert Chorale combines with several other Arkansas colleges and universities to present Beethoven's masterwork, *Ode to Joy*, under the direction of Philip Mann and the Arkansas Symphony Orchestra. Tickets are available at 501-666-1761 or <http://tickets.arkansassymphony.org>.

Lyon College Concert Band presents "Music of the Emerald Isle"

Friday, March 16, Lyon Building Rotunda, 7:30 p.m.

In this unusual concert space, the Lyon Band celebrates St. Patrick's Day with Irish folk tunes and melodies.

Kresge Gallery Exhibition: Senior Art Exhibitions

March 19 - April 27. Opening reception March 23 at 5 p.m.

Candidates for a B.A. in studio art showcase their work.

Harlequin Theatre Spring Production:

"The Laramie Project" by Moises Kaufman

March 22 - 24 at 8 p.m. and March 25 at 2 p.m. in Holloway Theatre

This play depicts the true story of the murder of a gay man, Matthew Shepard, which resulted in the passage of the Hate Crime Law. All Lyon faculty, staff, and students are admitted free. Call 870-307-7510 for reservations.

Bach Birthday Bash

Sunday, March 25, 4 p.m., Christian Science Society, College and 18th streets

In celebration of the composer's 327th birthday, Lyon faculty and students will perform instrumental and vocal works by J. S. Bach. The program will conclude with

a semi-staged performance of the delightful “Coffee Cantata,” featuring baritone Joel Plaag as Schlendrian, mezzo-soprano Diana Turnbo as Schlendrian’s scheming daughter Lieschen, and tenor Joshua Palmer as the narrator. Coffee and Bach birthday cake will be served to all immediately following.

11th Annual Ozark Foothills FilmFest

March 25 – April 1, various venues in Batesville, including Lyon College.

Lyon College is one of the founding sponsors of north Arkansas’ premier film festival. Watch for more information about the film festival at www.ozarkfoothillsfilmfest.org.

Concert: Mozart’s *Requiem*

By the Batesville Choral Society and the Lyon College Concert Chorale

Tuesday, April 3, Brown Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Drs. Plaag and Stinson lead the combined choruses in a performance of Mozart’s last work, in preparation for the upcoming Good Friday holiday.

The 33rd Arkansas Scottish Festival

Friday-Sunday, April 13-15, Lyon College campus

FREE ADMISSION.

The Arkansas Scottish Festival celebrates Lyon’s Presbyterian and Scottish roots. The opening ceremony Saturday will feature the Parade of Clans and Bands. Festival highlights include competitions for pipe bands, individual bagpipers, drummers, dancers and Scottish athletics, sheepdog demonstrations, Scottish food, music and a traditional Feast and Ceilidh on Saturday night. The Iona Worship Service will be held Sunday morning. For more information, call (870) 307-7473 or visit www.lyon.edu/scotfest.

Lyon College Flute Choir Spring Concert

Sunday, April 22, 4 p.m., Bevans Music Room

Under the direction of Laura Stinson, this ensemble performs masterworks from the classical repertory.

Studio Recital with the Lyon College Concert Band

Tuesday, April 24, Brown Chapel, 7:30 p.m.

Private lesson students from the studios of Dr. Stinson, Dr. Plaag, Laura Stinson, Amanda Lucy, Martha Healey, and Meredith Doster will perform selections from their individual lesson studies. The Lyon Concert Band will perform a set of patriotic music to close the concert.

Ashley Lewis / West Endowed Concert: ETHEL

Thursday, April 26, 7:30 p.m., Bevens Music Room

Hailed by the New York Times as “extraordinarily skilled, passionate musicians,” and acclaimed as America’s premier postclassical string quartet, ETHEL invigorates contemporary concert music with refreshing exuberance, fierce intensity, imaginative programming, and exceptional artistry. The group performs an all-acoustic program in a space ideally suited to chamber music.