

DEMOCRACY DAYS 2020

An Interdisciplinary Forum Assessing the History, Health & Functioning of Democracy in America and Abroad

VIRTUAL SESSIONS FREE - OPEN TO THE PUBLIC



SEPTMBER 14 - SEPTMBER 17

MONDAY

10AM DISABILITY RIGHTS, EDUCATION & DEMOCRACY

Tracy Bono and **Paige George** explore disability rights, education and legislation. They will bring compelling examples of the fight for disability rights including Bono's personal story regarding her son.

11:30AM NO HOLDING BACK

E pluribus unum – out of many, one.

Chaz DeBord explores the significance of our traditional national motto: what does it mean to be one? Is there reason to believe that true unity is possible? If so, how might it be brought about?

1PM INSIDE ELECTIONS: THE ST. CHARLES COUNTY DIRECTOR OF ELECTIONS SPEAKS

St. Charles County Director of Elections **Kurt Bahr** will discuss safety measures at polling stations as well as absentee voting and early voting by mail, methods which are seeing significant increased usage this year.

WEDNESDAY

10AM POETRY AND DEMOCRACY IN THE AMERICAN TRADITION

How can poetry teach? And what does American poetry about democracy have to teach us in 2020, a year of acute challenge and change? **Michael Kuelker** will elaborate.

11:30AM CIVIC ENGAGEMENT IN THE WAKE OF 2020

Panelists **Lindsay Brand**, **Grace Moser** and **Audra Notgrass** with moderator **Bryonie Carter** will detail how instructors and students are pursuing activism, social justice, and service-learning projects in their remote and virtual classrooms.

1PM RACISM, POLICE AND THE BLACK LIVES MATTER MOVEMENT

Panelists **Dana Prewitt**, **Paul Roesler**, **Marvin Tobias** and **Grace Moser** address racism in the US and the Black Lives Matter movement from the standpoints of history, political science, sociology and psychology.

TUESDAY

10AM THE PANDEMIC AND MENTAL HEALTH

Vi Rajagopalan will examine key issues and precautionary measures that families and individuals can focus on to develop healthy coping mechanisms right now to prevent or curb further escalations in stress related responses.

11:30AM IT'S ALL OUR HISTORY

Marvin Tobias, **Dana Prewitt**, **Rachel McWhorter**, **Courtney Barrett** and Moderator **Grace Moser** examine how knowing and understanding African American history affects everything from accessibility of jobs and homeownership, to mental health and access to adequate medical care.

1PM 'YOU CAN'T AND I WON'T': THE CONTROVERSY OVER SOCIAL DISTANCING DURING THE 1918 INFLUENZA PANDEMIC

Stephen Randoll explores the history of the 1918 pandemic in America and its bearing upon our current health crisis.

THURSDAY

10AM THE STOCK MARKET INDEXES: NOT A MACROECONOMIC INDICATOR

William Baca-Mejia contests the mainstream view in economics that reduces democracy to a simple efficient resource allocation of the market.

11:30AM A CONVERSATION ON POLICE REFORM WITH SGT. HEATHER TAYLOR

Gabe Harper will introduce some calls to reform the police including the push by some activists to "defund" the police. **Sgt. Heather Taylor** will discuss policing in America and her observations on reform proposals.

1PM THE MYTH OF VOTER FRAUD

A panel of faculty from SCC's Political Science department will discuss allegations of voter fraud, including voter I.D. and concerns with absentee voting during a pandemic.

FOR MORE INFO, VISIT [STCHAS.EDU/DEMOCRACYMATTERS](https://stchas.edu/democracymatters)

ST. CHARLES COMMUNITY COLLEGE