

BOWERS WRITERS HOUSE

FUNCTION

MISSION: "Where Curiosity Meets Creativity"

Founded in the spring of 2010, Bowers Writers House at Elizabethtown College is an interdisciplinary venue for expression, study, presentation and performance. Created to promote and support a culture of "creative curiosity," Bowers Writers House has brought to Etown a sense of excitement and enthusiasm for intellectual diversity to our on- and off-campus communities for 8 full years!



Etown students, Pres. Strikwerda and Scholar-in-Residence Bossenga with Woodrow Wilson visiting fellow Kathleen Kennedy Townsend.

Bowers Writers House is a four-bedroom, three-bathroom house situated just 50 yards off the E-town campus proper between Cedar and Cherry streets in Elizabethtown, Pa. Our public events – usually between 10 - 12 each academic semester -- offer a dynamic variety of enjoyable and formative experiences, from dramatic readings to musical performances to interactive panels. We pride ourselves on developing programming that complements, department by department, the identity of our college as a true liberal arts experience. Programming at Bowers Writers House is possible through campus-oriented and donor-supported efforts, but we need your involvement to keep the spirit alive. *We enthusiastically invite you to be a part of our invigorating activities!*



Actress and author Lisa Jakub (MRS. DOUBTFIRE, INDEPENDENCE DAY) reads from her second memoir, "Not Just Me: Anxiety, Depression, and How to Survive Your Weird."



Etown's own Dr. Justin Badgerow discusses piano practice theory and imagination/creativity while students and Drs. Pretz and Wittman look on.

PERSONNEL: Director, Jesse Waters

Jesse Waters is a winner of the River Styx International Poetry Contest, a runner-up for the Iowa Review Fiction Prize and a finalist in The Starcherone Prize, the DIAGRAM Innovative Fiction Prize and the Paul Bowles Fiction Award. Waters' first collection of poems, "HUMAN RESOURCES," was published by Inkbrush Press in 2011; his first collection of short fiction, "SO LET ME GET THIS STRAIGHT," was released by Paycock Press in 2018.



Noir and thriller writer Derek Nikitas talks about collaborating on a novel with James Patterson.

FUN FACTS

- Each event we hold a free book raffle or a chocolate fondue reception... often both!
- In the eight years Bowers Writers House has been a part of the Etown experience, we've hosted over 180 scholars for more than 275 events.
- Director Jesse Waters has had a variety of jobs; over the last 30 years he's delivered newspapers, planted clams on an aqua farm, bounced in a country bar, ran telemarketing rooms, captained fine-dining kitchens, reported for a regional news paper, and chauffeured long-distance limousines.

2017-2018 SUCCESSES

- Continuing three years of enriching creative writing for high school students, Camp ArtWorks is going strong, adding "Writing for Video Games" and "Video Game" design to our catalog of sessions.
- Bowers Writers House deepened its tradition of offering a variety of interdisciplinary scholarship and conversation with such guests as Bruce Levine (U. Penn cancer pioneer featured in "Time" magazine in 2017, internationally-renowned artist Sean Patrick Carney, Turkish journalist and editor now living in exile, Abdulhamit Bilici, and Fellow in Jewish-Muslim Relations at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America Haroon Moghul.
- Director Jesse Waters developed the "Cultivating an Inner Narrative" class, a one-credit lecture experience featuring over 13 Etown professors.
- Bowers Writers House provided financing, co-programming and/or admin. support to Alumni Affairs (Alumni reading at Homecoming), the Eng. Dept. (Jessica McCaughey), High Library (Meghan Kenny) and CGUP (The Peace Project).

2018-2019 OUTLOOK

FALL 2018 -- See our website for details, and more events!

www.etown.edu/writershouse

- Sept. 3: "Beyond the Dynamical Universe" w/ Drs. Stuckey, McDevitt, and Silberstein, a celebration of their amazing book with a three-person panel concerning the science of the time, collaboration in writing, and challenges working with a complex scientific topic.
- Sept. 20: "Up and Out of the Amazon," w/Harry Helmich -- former amazon.com senior data analytics (DA) manager now CEO of his own DA firm will offer a discussion of his own professional journey working for one of the titans of the global corporate experience.
- Oct. 16 and Oct. 20: "A Coney Island of the Mind": A viewing of the fantastic biopic of poet Lawrence Ferlinghetti and Q&A w/ writer-director Chris Felver (Oct. 16) Reading/Reception to celebrate the life of poet and editor Lawrence Ferlinghetti w/ readings of his work from Etown students, staff and faculty (Oct. 20).
- Nov. 1: "Superwomen: Gender, Power, and Representation" w/ Dr. Carolyn Cocca, scholarly expert in the presence of the female in modern super-hero narratives.
- Nov. 8th: "Running for Platform 9 3/4: A Harry Potter Panel Experience" with Dr. Tara Moore, Etown student Stephanie Miller, and Dr. Christina Phillips-Mattson, Harvard scholar on J.K. Rowling.