



COLORADO COLLEGE

Office of Communications

14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

For Immediate Release

Contact:
Leslie Weddell
(719) 389-6038
lweddell@coloradocollege.edu

ACCLAIMED WRITER ROXANE GAY HEADLINES CC's CORNERSTONE ARTS WEEK

This year's theme: 'Can We Get Real?'

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo. – Jan. 16, 2019 – Colorado College's Cornerstone Arts Week 2019 kicks off Monday, Jan. 29 with a faculty reading and open mic session and wraps up Sunday, Feb. 3 with Samuel Beckett's play "Come and Go." In between are a series of free talks, film screenings, performances and exhibits that examine this year's theme: "Can We Get Real?"

CC's annual Cornerstone Arts Week focuses on a theme, posed as a question, that is examined through exhibitions, performances, special events and interdisciplinary courses. This year's question invites the Colorado College community, the Colorado Springs community, and guests to consider what it means to "get real" with one another and with one's tightly held "universal" truths.

Writer, professor, editor and commentator Roxane Gay will deliver the keynote address on Friday, Feb. 1. She is the author of *The New York Times* best-selling essay collection "Bad Feminist," as well as the short story collection "Ayiti," the novel "An Untamed State," the short story collection "Difficult Women" and the memoir "Hunger." Her writing appears in *Best American Mystery Stories 2014*, *Best American Short Stories 2012*, *Best Sex Writing 2012*, *A Public Space*, *McSweeney's*, *Tin House*, *Oxford American*, *American Short Fiction*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review* among others. She is a contributing opinion writer for *The New York Times* and in July 2016 was named, along with poet Yona Harvey, as writers for Marvel Comics' "World of Wakanda," making them the first black women to be lead writers for Marvel.

Other Cornerstone Arts Week events include a talk by Oglala Lakota poet, writer, and artist Layli Long Soldier; an art show featuring the works of CC students; the screening of the Indigenous film "We Shall Remain"; and a talk by cultural arts worker and Native



COLORADO COLLEGE

Office of Communications

14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

American visual artist and curator Jaune Quick-to-See Smith. The week wraps up with performances of Beckett's short play "Come and Go" and a theater production of Mike Bartlett's play "Contractions."

This year's keynote speaker, Gay, joins a long line of renowned Cornerstone Arts Initiative speakers, including last year's Robert Sapolsky and Lynda Barry, as well as previous speakers Camille Paglia, Sandra Bernhard, David Henry Hwang, Tony Kushner, Jane Krakowski, Toni Morrison, Amy Tan, Maz Jobrani and Art Spiegelman.

The Cornerstone Arts Initiative is an 18-year-old program in the creative arts departments of Colorado College that stresses collaborative interdisciplinary arts teaching linked by current and developing technologies. Below is a schedule of the Cornerstone Arts Week 2019 events. Note all events listed are free and open to the public, although tickets are required for the Roxane Gay keynote address.

Schedule of events:

Monday, Jan. 28

- Kick off Cornerstone Arts Week with readings by Steve Hayward, Natanya Ann Pulley and Jane Hilberry of CC's English Department; Michael Sawyer of CC's Race, Ethnicity and Migration Studies; and Jessy Randall, CC archivist and curator of special collections. Open mic slots available for sign-up at 4:40 p.m. Readings from 5-7 p.m., Celeste Theatre, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.
- "We Shall Remain," an Indigenous film screening with CC's Native American Student Union, 7:30 p.m., Screening Room, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.

Tuesday, Jan. 29

- Poetry reading by Layli Long Soldier, who holds a B.F.A. from the Institute of American Indian Arts and an M.F.A. from Bard College. Her poems have appeared in *POETRY Magazine*, *The New York Times*, *The American Poet*, *The American Reader*, *The Kenyon Review Online*, *BOMB* and elsewhere. She is the recipient of an NACF National Artist Fellowship, a Lannan Literary Fellowship, a Whiting Award and was a finalist for the 2017 National Book Award. Most recently, she received the 2018 PEN/Jean Stein Award and the 2018 National Book Critics Circle Award. She is the author of the chapbook "Chromosomory"



COLORADO COLLEGE

Office of Communications

14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

and the poetry collection “Whereas.” She lives in Santa Fe, New Mexico. 7 p.m., Music Room at the Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, 30. W. Dale St.

Wednesday, Jan. 30

- Opening of the CC Student Art Show, 5-8 p.m., Main Space, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.

Thursday, Jan. 31

- Jaune Quick-to-See Smith will share a survey of her own activist work and painting as well as images of some of the latest Native American art, much of which deals with technology, video, installation and ephemeral art. Changes have been happening fast in the past decade for young as well as elder Native artists. There have been more opportunities to exhibit, more available grants and fellowships, which offer greater encouragement as well as the ability to travel internationally. Native art is changing by leaps and bounds. 7 p.m., Celeste Theatre, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center, 825 N. Cascade Ave.

Friday, Feb. 1

- Keynote address by Roxane Gay, whose writing appears in *Best American Mystery Stories 2014*, *Best American Short Stories 2012*, *Best Sex Writing 2012*, *A Public Space*, *McSweeney’s*, *Tin House*, *Oxford American*, *American Short Fiction*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, and many others. She is a contributing opinion writer for the *New York Times* and the author of the books “Ayiti,” “Bad Feminist,” “Difficult Women” and “Hunger.” She also is the author of “World of Wakanda” for Marvel, has several forthcoming books and is at work on television and film projects. 7 p.m., Mohrman Theatre in Armstrong Hall, 14 E. Cache La Poudre St. Free but tickets required; tickets for the public will be available starting Tuesday, Jan. 22 at the information desk in the Worner Campus Center, 902 N. Cascade Ave.
- Theater production of Mike Bartlett’s “Contractions.” Emma's been seeing Darren. She thinks she's in love. Her boss thinks she's in breach of contract. Bartlett’s “Contractions” is funny and familiar, but intensely topical. This office satire explores corporate overreach, surveillance and the limits of human tolerance. Directed by **Emily Gardner '19** and performed by **Jessie Berger '21** and **Jolie Curran '22** of CC’s Theatre Workshop. 7:30 p.m., Taylor Theater in Bemis Hall, 920 N. Cascade Ave.



COLORADO COLLEGE

Office of Communications

14 E. Cache La Poudre St.
Colorado Springs, CO 80903

Saturday, Feb. 2

- Theater production of Mike Bartlett's "Contractions." Emma's been seeing Darren. She thinks she's in love. Her boss thinks she's in breach of contract. Bartlett's "Contractions" is funny and familiar, but intensely topical. This office satire explores corporate overreach, surveillance and the limits of human tolerance. Directed by **Emily Gardner '19** and performed by **Jessie Berger '21** and **Jolie Curran '22** of CC's Theatre Workshop. 7:30 p.m., Taylor Theater in Bemis Hall, 920 N. Cascade Ave.
- Theater production of Samuel Beckett's "Come and Go." Three women, Flo, Ru and Vi, sit on a bench and remember...what exactly? Considered by many one of Beckett's most "perfect" plays, Beckett agonized over each individual line until they exactly matched his creative vision. This 2-hour continuous performance installation (drop in and see it when you like!) explores Beckett's mysterious play in a new way. Directed by Associate Theatre Professor Andrew Manley, this play features three CC students. 8 p.m., outside the Mierow House, 1107 N. Cascade Ave., north side of Tutt Library. (Note that in case of inclement weather, the performance will be held in Studio C in the Cornerstone Arts Center.)

Sunday, Feb. 3

- Theater production of Samuel Beckett's "Come and Go." Three women, Flo, Ru and Vi, sit on a bench and remember...what exactly? Considered by many one of Beckett's most "perfect" plays, Beckett agonized over each individual line until they exactly matched his creative vision. This 2-hour continuous performance installation (drop in and see it when you like!) explores Beckett's mysterious play in a new way. Directed by Associate Theatre Professor Andrew Manley, this play features three CC students. 8 p.m., outside the Mierow House, 1107 N. Cascade Ave., north side of Tutt Library. (Note that in case of inclement weather, the performance will be held in Studio C in the Cornerstone Arts Center.)

About Colorado College

Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874. The college operates on the innovative Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,100 undergraduate students take one class at a time in intensive 3½-week segments. In 2016, Colorado College announced an alliance with the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, and the following year the two became the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center at Colorado College, providing innovative, educational and multidisciplinary arts experiences for the campus and Colorado Springs communities. The college also offers a master of arts in teaching degree. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu