COLORADO COLLEGE

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2024 MacLean Symposium on Narrative Medicine
Colorado College / April 11-12, 2024
Revised: 1/24/24

Event: Maclean Symposium on Narrative Medicine:
--Addressing the Crisis in Access and Equity in Health Care in the United States: How the Stories We Tell Matter

Purpose: To initiate a conversation about how narrative medicine—its skills, its understanding of culture and rhetoric—can improve access to more equitable health care in the US. All events open to the public unless otherwise noted.

Supporting Grant: The D.J. MacLean Endowment in the English Department, Colorado College

Keynote Speakers (contracted):

Rita Charon, M.D. and Ph.D. in English; Professor of Medicine, Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. Author of Narrative Medicine (Oxford, 2006). Founder of the Narrative Medicine program at Columbia.

Linda Villarosa, journalist for the Atlantic and professor at CUNY-Newmarck Graduate School of Journalism. Author of Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism in American Lives and the Health of Our Nation (Doubleday, 2022). One of 2022's Ten Best Books: the New York Times.

Keynote events:

April 11, 2024, in Celeste Auditorium, Colorado College: 1:30 to 6pm

Rita Charon, "Narrative Discoveries of Patients' Perspectives: A Perilous and Necessary Transport": 1:30 to 2:30

Linda Villarosa, "Addressing the Crisis in Access and Equity in Health in the United States: How the Stories We Tell Matter": 3:00 to 4:00

Panel for Keynote speakers: Rita Charon, Linda Villarosa, Dr. Leon Kelly (El Paso County Coroner), Professor Ila DeBose (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs), Moderator, TBA: 4:30 to 5:30

Other events:

Thursday morning, April 11: Continuing Medical Education classes: not open to the public

8:30 to 9:30: "Restoring Morality: Moral Recovery When Your Clinical Practice Creates Moral Injury"; Drs. Lam and Hannon

9:45 to 10:45: "Developmental Trauma, Implicit Bias, and the Role of Stories"; Drs. Ratliff and Scott

11:00 to 12:00: "Decentering Whiteness in Medical Narratives: A Close Reading of Fadiman's 'The Spirit Catches You and You Fall Down'"; Dr. Aline Lo

Friday, April 12: Charon and Villarosa will meet with appropriate Colorado College classes such as the Introduction to Narrative Medicine course (not open to the public)

Saturday, April 13: Creative Writing Workshops in narrative medicine (to be arranged)

For further information about narrative medicine topics, books and films, further academic resources, and local speakers, ask Professor George Butte for a copy of the syllabus for his class, "Introduction to Narrative Medicine," which was offered at Colorado College in the spring of 2023, and will be offered again in the spring of 2024.

Contact the organizers: Professor George Butte, English, Colorado College (gbutte@coloradocollege.edu) or Professor Re Evitt, English, Colorado College (rmevitt@coloradocollege.edu)