



Oregon Humanities Center

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Spring 2019

Chuck Collins offers solutions for wealth inequality

We are living in a time of extreme inequality, and few places are more unequal than the United States. America's 20 richest people now own more wealth than the bottom half of the rest of the population combined. Scholar and activist Chuck Collins argues that these inequalities have their roots in forty years of the powerful and wealthy rigging the entire system in their favor. He proposes a wide range of public policies to roll back decades of accelerating inequality, analyzes the barriers to progress, and shows how transformative local campaigns can be made into a national movement for change.

Collins will give a talk titled "Reversing Wealth Inequality: The Case for Restoring Progressive Taxation and Bringing Wealth Home" on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in 156 Straub

Hall on the UO campus as the OHC's 2018–19 Tzedek Lecturer in the Humanities and part of this year's theme The Common Good.

In describing his talk, Collins writes, "We are living in a time of extraordinary inequality, unprecedented since the Gilded Age a century ago. Yet our national conversation about how to address this challenge is equally polarized. Is there a path to reversing inequality without undermining economic health and prosperity? What is the role of taxation in reducing concentrated wealth and expanding opportunity? How do we build an economy that works for everyone?"

Collins is a senior scholar at the



Institute for Policy Studies where he co-edits Inequality.org. He is an expert on U.S. inequality and the racial wealth divide, and cofounder of Wealth for the Common Good that has merged with the Patriotic Millionaires, two efforts to organize members of the

1 percent to advocate for fair tax policy.

Collins is the author of *Is Inequality in America Irreversible?* (Polity Press, 2018). His book focuses on solutions to reversing wealth inequality which is severely undermining the American democracy and way of life. To tackle how to solve these deep-rooted issues, Collins "clusters policy solutions into

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Danielle Allen discusses civic engagement in the digital age

Working with a team of collaborators, Harvard University professor and political theorist Danielle Allen has developed ten design principles for effective, equitable, and self-protective civic agency in a digital age. These principles provide guidance to those functioning as civic actors, and to those who are designing platforms or organizations to cultivate, support, or channel civic involvement.

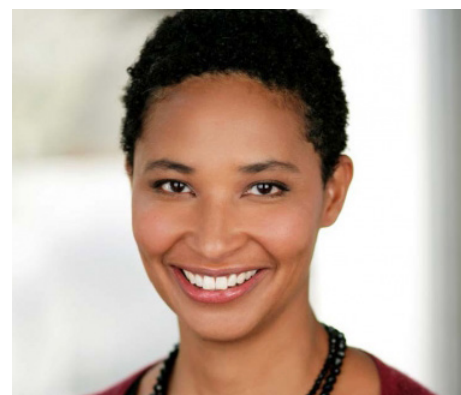
Allen will speak on the "Ethics of Participation in the Digital Age" on Tuesday, May 21, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. in 156 Straub Hall on the UO campus as the OHC's 2018–19 Kritikos Lecturer in the Humanities. Allen's talk will be the final lecture in The Common Good series.

Allen is a compelling analyst of history and contemporary events and a leader in higher education. She is currently Director of the Edmond J. Safra

Center for Ethics at Harvard University as well as Professor in Harvard's Department of Government and Graduate School of Education. Before joining Harvard, she was UPS Foundation Professor in the Institute for Advanced Study at Princeton University, the first African American faculty member to be appointed to the Institute that was Einstein's home for two decades.

Of her upcoming talk, Allen writes, "Sixties activists insisted the personal is political. Change-makers in the digital age get that idea, and one-up it with another rallying cry: the political is social and cultural."

Allen advises that "Your platforms and digital strategies need to make this principle count, so that you, your peers, and your audiences engage each other, and the allies you all want, in high-



quality, equitable, and effective participation in digital-age civics, activism, and politics. What's more, you need digital environments that actively support the secure development of your identities as participants in public spheres, so your civic and political engagement today

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Musicking Conference offers five days of musical immersion

Eugene-area music lovers will again be treated to five days of immersive experience at the 4th-annual Musicking Conference, May 13–17, 2019. Over 20 scholarly presentations, masterclasses, and concerts will introduce students, faculty, and community members to culturally informed performance of music and performance practices from the early modern period.

This year's guests are Susanne Scholz, well-known Austrian violin virtuoso, conductor, and early music specialist; and Dario Luisi, expert Baroque violinist. They will give masterclasses, a keynote, and performances.

Scholz, a solo and chamber musician, frequently appears with the

prominent early music ensembles Les Arts Florissants and La Petite Bande. She teaches Baroque violin and directs chamber music and opera productions at the

Department of Early Music and Historical Music Practice at the Kunstuniversität in Graz, Austria.

Luisi has been a prominent educator in the field of early music and historical performance practice studies for over twenty years. He teaches historical organology, pedagogy and methods, and chamber music at J.J. Fux Konservatorium in Graz.

Musicking features an "Intermezzo" lecture-concert each day, along with panels and workshops. The conference culminates with

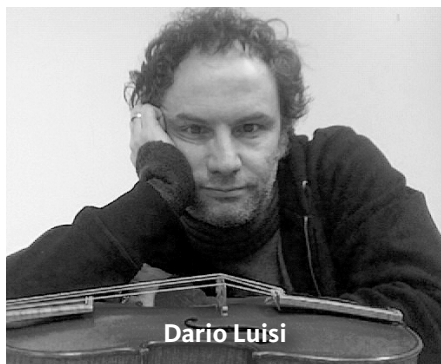
a performance of Quirino Colombani's

Roman oratorio *Il martirio di Santa Cecilia* with student soloists, the UO Oratorio Orchestra prepared and conducted by Marc Vanscheeuwijck, and renaissance and Baroque violinists Susanne Scholz and Dario Luisi, at 7:30 p.m. on Friday, May 17, 2019 at Central Lutheran Church, 1857 Potter St. Colombani's *Santa Cecilia* is a dramatic telling of the saint's martyrdom—one which does not focus on narrative events, but that instead dives deep into Cecilia's inner devotionality and expressions of divine love. A pre-concert talk at 6:45 p.m. will explore Colombani's musical depictions of divine rapture.

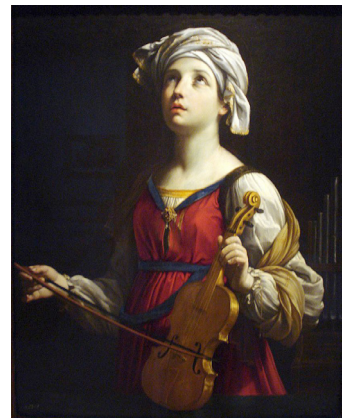
Musicking events are free and open to the public. The conference is generously cosponsored by the OHC's Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities. For more information go to blogs.uoregon.edu/musicking



Susanne Scholz



Dario Luisi



Symposium focuses on the history of women in broadcasting

Peg Lynch (1916–2015) was a writer, actress, and creator of the radio and television sitcom *Ethel and Albert* (1941–53). She was the first woman to create, write, star in and own her own sitcom—and wrote nearly 11,000 scripts for radio and television. Lynch's papers are housed in the UO Libraries Special Collections and University Archives.

On May 21st the "Women in Media" symposium will focus on Peg Lynch, the history of women in the broadcasting

industry, and contemporary women working in media. Speakers will include Carol Stabile, Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies, and associate dean for strategic initiatives; Lauren Bratslavsky, School of Communication, Illinois State University; Ralina Joseph, Communication, University of Washington; Hannah Hart, internet personality and comedian; and Ella Mielniczenko, executive producer, BuzzFeed. Lindy West, author of the *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Shrill: Notes from a*

Loud Woman, will give the keynote lecture at 7 p.m. in 182 Lillis Hall.

The symposium, cosponsored by the OHC, will take place 9:30 a.m.–5 p.m. in the Knight Library Browsing Room. For information go to library.uoregon.edu/calendar



Peg Lynch

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Panel explores representation in the arts and transgender identity

The Oregon Humanities Center's Endowment for Public Outreach in the Arts, Sciences, and Humanities in partnership with Cinema Studies, the Center for the Study of Women and Society, and Eugene Opera present a public panel discussion and classroom visits in conjunction with the chamber opera *As One*, which will be produced by Eugene Opera in May 2019.

Collins *continued from page 1*

three sometimes overlapping categories: raising the floor, leveling the playing field, and reducing concentrations of wealth and power" (Collins, 2018). He also writes, "For ecological reasons...we cannot simply repeat the same playbook from the past."

Collins is the author of other books, including *Born on Third Base: A One Percentor Makes the Case for Tackling Inequality, Bringing Wealth Home, and Committing to the Common Good* (Chelsea Green, 2016); and *99 to 1: How Wealth Inequality is Wrecking the World and What We Can Do About It* (Berrett-Koehler Publishers, 2012).

Collins's lecture is free and open to the public, and will be followed by a book sale and signing. For information, or disability accommodations (which must be made by April 10th), please call (541) 346-3934 or contact ohc@uoregon.edu.

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doesn't harm or haunt you later. Thinking that through comes first."

Allen is the author of six books, including *Our Declaration: A Reading of the Declaration of Independence in Defense of Equality* (W.W. Norton, 2015), which won the Francis Parkman Prize from the Society of American Historians and the Chicago Tribune's Heartland Prize for Nonfiction; and *CUZ: The Life and Times of Michael A.* (Liveright, 2017).

Allen's lecture is free and open to the public. For information or disability accommodations (which must be made by May 14th), please call (541) 346-3934 or contact ohc@uoregon.edu.

The opera *As One* was created by a team of leading voices in contemporary opera: female composer Laura Kaminsky, librettist Mark Campbell, and transgender filmmaker Kimberly Reed. Since its premier in 2014, the work has been one of the top 25 most-produced operas nationwide, drawing critical acclaim and attention. *As One* features two singers playing the role of the transgender protagonist Hannah—a baritone sings

Hannah-Before, and a mezzo-soprano sings Hannah-After. Performances take place on Friday, May 17 at 7:30 p.m. and on Sunday, May 19 at 2:30 p.m. in the Soreng Theater at the Hult Center for the Performing Arts. The work is performed with a string quartet drawn from musicians from the Eugene Opera Orchestra. The original film by Kimberly Reed, which accompanies the score, will be projected onto five screens on stage, serv-

ing as a moving backdrop and creating a multimedia experience.

The original creative team of Kaminsky, Campbell, and Reed will participate in a public panel discussion on transgender identity, film, and representation in the arts on May 16 at 7 p.m. in the Knight Library Browsing Room. The event will be facilitated by Bethany Howe, Ph.D. student at the School of Journalism and Communication

and transgender activist. The panel will be comprised of the creative team; Andrew Bisantz, artistic director, Eugene Opera; Cass Aviles, founder, Trans*ponder; Haley Wilson, coordinator of LGBTESS, Office of the Dean of Students; and other community and faculty representatives.

The creative team will also visit journalism, film, cinema studies, playwriting, and composition classes at the UO on May 15 and 16.



Scene from *As One*

Oregon Humanities Center presents

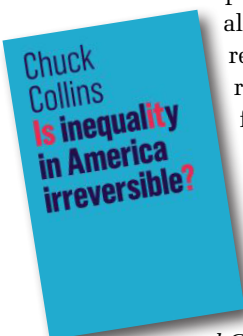
Engaged Humanities Partnerships between Academia and Tribal Communities

2019 Convening of the
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Scholar discusses L.A.'s Latino food culture

In Los Angeles there is a stark divide between what is available at restaurants and food trucks and what is available to many low-income, urban Latinos who live in food deserts. In these areas, access to healthy, affordable, culturally appropriate foods is a daily challenge. Food-related diseases, particularly diabetes and obesity, plague these communities.

Sarah Portnoy, associate professor of Iberian and Latin American Studies, and American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California, will give an overview of contemporary L.A.'s Latino food culture in her talk "Food, Health, and Culture in Latino L.A." on

Tuesday, April 30 at 4 p.m. in the Knight Library Browsing Room. Portnoy will discuss the history and impact of Latino street food on culinary variety in Los Angeles, and explore alternative sources of healthy food for low-income communities: farmers markets, community and school gardens, urban farms, and new neighborhood markets that work to address the inequalities in access and affordability for Latino residents.

The lecture is free and open to the public, and is sponsored by Romance Languages and cosponsored by the OHC. For more information contact David Wacks, wacks@uoregon.edu



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