

Special Occasion Events

The Moody Center for the Arts

Alison Weaver

Suzanne Deal Booth Executive Director, Moody Center for the Arts



Alison Weaver, founding executive director of the Moody Center for the Arts, will discuss the goals of the Moody and its role as a cultural catalyst for both Rice University and the city of Houston. Dedicated to fostering interdisciplinary collaboration, the Moody's innovative program spans the arts, sciences and humanities. The building, designed by architect Michael Maltzan, received a 2017 design award from the California Council of the American Institute of Architects. PaperCity Magazine recently declared the Moody, "Quite possibly the most exciting addition to Houston's cultural landscape within the past decade." Please join us to find out more about this exciting new center.

Hosted by Bess '82 and Matthew Wareing '81
Date: Wednesday, April 11, 2018

"What if Antibiotics Stop Working?"

Yousif Shamoo

Vice Provost for Research, Professor of Biosciences, and Wiess Career Development Chair



The rise of super pathogens resistant to our most powerful antibiotics is one of the great medical problems of this century. As bacteria become resistant to more and more antibiotics, we may enter into a "post-antibiotic" era in which all modern medicine would be threatened. No surgery would be possible in such an environment, even an infection from the prick of a rose thorn could return to being a life-threatening event. How did we get to the point where our magic bullets have started to fail us and what can we do about it?

Hosted by Y. Ping Sun and David Leebron
Date: Thursday, April 12, 2018

Special Occasion Events

“Contemporary Cuban Art and Its Engagement With Politics”

Luis Duno-Gottberg

Associate Professor, Baker College Magister, and Department Chair — Spanish, Portuguese and Latin American Studies



Cuba, the only communist nation in the Western Hemisphere, exerts great fascination around the world. Nevertheless, images of the country tend to be overly polarized and stereotypical: a tropical paradise, a tyrannical dictatorship, a racially integrated island, a landscape of ruins, a socialist utopia or a Caribbean gulag. This talk provides an overview of contemporary Cuba through recent expressions of visual culture.

Hosted by Kristine and Stephen Wallace '68

Date: Thursday, April 26, 2018

“Reading Buildings/Writing Architecture”

Sarah Whiting

Dean, School of Architecture, and William Ward Watkin Professor of Architecture



This talk will “read” several examples of innovative library buildings, designed over the past few decades. Looking carefully at these projects, and sharing other critics’ readings of them, Sarah Whiting will show how architectural design can influence how libraries perform symbolically as well as functionally.

Hosted by Laura Bellows and Jack Pendergrast and Marian '64 and Harry Tindall

Date: Tuesday, May 1, 2018

Special Occasion Events

“The Future of the Workforce: Automation Technologies, Robotics and Artificial Intelligence”

Antonio Merlo

Dean, School of Social Sciences, and George A. Peterkin Professor of Economics



Dramatic advances in automation technologies, robotics and artificial intelligence are changing the future of the workforce at an unprecedented pace. How are markets and human ingenuity responding to the changes? What is the role of “real intelligence?”

Hosted by Barbara '73 and

David Gibbs '71

Date: Wednesday, May 2, 2018

“Do Human Rights Have a History?”

Lora Wildenthal

Professor of History



This presentation seeks to show the value of the discipline of history for understanding claims that are intended to be timeless: human rights claims. Lora Wildenthal is the author of “The Language of Human Rights in West Germany” (University of Pennsylvania Press, 2012) and co-editor with Jean Quataert (Binghamton University) of the “Routledge History of Human Rights,” a collection of 40 essays by historians, lawyers, anthropologists and others.

Hosted by Julie '72 and David Itz '72

Date: Tuesday, May 8, 2018

Special Occasion Events

“Dancing in the Dark ... the 2017 (and 2024) Total Eclipses”

Patricia Reiff

Associate Director of Outreach Programs, Rice Space Institute, and Professor of Physics and Astronomy



What is the big deal about eclipses? Why do folks travel thousands of miles for a few seconds in the dark? Join Patricia Reiff (veteran of 16 trips to the center line) as she shows images and videos of the recent eclipse. Find out why millions of Americans are now “umbraphiles,” and where best to go for the 2024 Texas eclipse.

Hosted by Amy Sutton and Gary Chiles '86
Date: Thursday, May 10, 2018

“The Renaissance of Classical Architecture: An Institutional Vision and Purpose on Today’s University Campuses”

Allan Greenberg

Architect of Rice’s Humanities Building and Rice University Music and Performing Arts Center



Enjoy a delightful evening with Allan Greenberg, the architect for Rice University’s Music and Performing Arts Center and the Humanities Building, as he discusses the re-imagination of classical architecture purposed for today’s use and enjoyment. Then indulge in an elegant dinner at the 100 year-old home of Amy and Robert Taylor.

Hosted by Amy and Robert Taylor '74
Date: Wednesday, Oct. 3, 2018

Special Occasion Events

“The Intrepid Young Ladies of the Early Rice Institute”

Melissa Kean

Rice Historian



The young women who attended the infant institute were a special breed. Bold and energetic, they came to Rice and immediately began to help shape student life and institutions. Many were among the finest scholars on campus and went on to scholarly accomplishments after graduation. Others became politically active. All are worthy of our attention and respect.

Hosted by Shelley and Art Gottschalk
Date: Thursday, Oct. 11, 2018

“Economic Growth: Past and Future”

Peter Rodriguez

Dean, Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business



Peter Rodriguez will discuss the past and future of economic growth in the United States and the challenges of economic measurement and progress in the digital age. He also will explore the implications of this topic for the idea of global economic leadership.

Hosted by Sarah and Doug Foshee '92
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 16, 2018

Special Occasion Events

“The Arabian Nights Through the Ages”

Paula Sanders

Professor of History, and Interim Director, Boniuk Institute



What does the Arabian Nights (or 1001 Nights) evoke for you? Is it Scheherazade the storyteller? The adventurers Aladdin, Ali Baba and Sindbad? Over time, the Arabian Nights has existed in many different forms and with a variety of different stories. Paula Sanders will tell the story of this complex collection of tales originating in the Middle Ages and explain how the “nights” tradition developed over many centuries into the form that we know in modern times.

Hosted by Liz '76 and Steve Crowell
Date: Tuesday, Oct. 23, 2018

Silent Auction Highlights

A complete list of auction items will be available March 16, 2018, on the Friends of Fondren Library website at <http://library.rice.edu/gala>.

Exquisite Treasures Await

Shop until you drop at the fall antiques shows in Round Top and Warrington from your home base in La Grange, Texas. This one-bedroom home is available Oct. 1-6, 2018.

Donated by Susie '62 and Mel Glasscock '61
Value: \$1,500

The Inside Scoop on Owls Football

Do you have a few questions for Mike Bloomgren, Rice's new football coach? Join him for lunch at Cohen House and learn about his game plan. Lunch for four guests will be scheduled at a mutually agreeable date. The value of lunch is \$100; the value of chatting with the new coach is priceless.

Donated by Rice Athletics
Value: \$100