

The Theatre,
MARYGROVE COLLEGE

The Marygrove College Institute for Detroit Studies
and Department of English and Modern Languages
present a Defining Detroit event

OUT OF PARADISE VALLEY: THE POETRY AND FRIENDSHIP OF ROBERT HAYDEN AND DUDLEY RANDALL

Lecture, Discussion, Booksigning



Robert Hayden and Dudley Randall

Robert Hayden was born on August 4, 1913 in Detroit. Dudley Randall was born on January 14, 1914 in Washington DC, and moved to Detroit with his family on January 1, 1920. They are the two best-known poets from the Detroit communities known as Black Bottom and Paradise Valley. Their interest in poetry drew the two young writers together and began a lifelong friendship. Both majored in English at Wayne State University, and both secured graduate degrees at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Hayden in creative writing and Randall in library science. Ultimately, both poets achieved international recognition and critical acclaim as poets, and, as editors and educators, they made major contributions to the African American literary canon.

FEATURED SPEAKERS:

Melba Joyce Boyd

- Author of *Wrestling with the Muse: Dudley Randall and the Broadside Press* (Columbia University Press, 2004); *Discarded Legacy: Politics and Poetics in the Life of Frances E. W. Harper, 1825-1911* (Wayne State University Press, 1994); eight books of poetry, and over 50 essays on African American literature and film
- Editor of *Roses and Revolutions: the Collected Writings of Dudley Randall* (Wayne State University Press, 2009), and co-editor of *Abandon Automobile: Detroit City Poetry 2001* (Wayne State University Press, 2001)
- Writer, producer and director of the documentary film, *The Black Unicorn: Dudley Randall and the Broadside Press* (1996)

Frank D. Rashid

- Author of essays on the poetry of Robert Hayden, Lawrence Joseph, and Emily Dickinson and on Detroit history, culture, and politics
- Editor of and contributor to the online *Literary Map of Detroit*

PROGRAM

Welcome

David J. Fike

President, Marygrove College

Introduction

Mary Byrnes

Assistant Professor of Sociology, Marygrove College

Presentation

Melba Joyce Boyd

Distinguished Professor and Chair of Africana Studies, Wayne State University

Frank D. Rashid

Professor of English and former Chair of the Department of English and Modern Languages, Marygrove College

Discussion and Booksigning

The Robert Hayden- Dudley Randall Centennial Project

This event is part of the Robert Hayden/Dudley Randall Centennial Project, a commemoration of the life and work of these two great Detroit poets through programs and activities at multiple metro area sites.

Next programs in the series:

November 1, 2013: Robert Hayden: A Centennial Conference And Poetry Tribute Hayden at the Rackham Amphitheater at the University of Michigan—Ann Arbor, featuring poet Harryette Mullen, Professor of English and Creative Writing at UCLA as the keynote speaker. Other participants include Hayden editor Frederick Glaysher, poet Lawrence Joseph, UM professor and scholar Laurence Goldstein, and UM faculty members Linda Gregerson and A. Van Jordan.

Also on November 1: Ras Baraka, poet and spoken word artist and Newark, NJ City councilman will be the featured poet at an evening celebrating the Randall/Hayden Centennial Birthday Series. Barak will speak at 7:00 p.m., at the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Sponsored by the Department of African and African American Studies at the University of Michigan, Dearborn. This is a free event. For more information, contact Sharie Beard: (313) 593-4925 or sbeard@umich.edu.

A complete list of events is available at <http://www.marygrove.edu/academics/institutes/institute-for-detroit-studies/> and at the series website: <http://clasweb.clas.wayne.edu/haydenrandall100>.

The Marygrove College Department of English and Modern Languages

Darcy L. Brandel, Ph.D., Chair

This year's Contemporary American Authors Lecture Series welcomes Natasha Trethewey, Poet Laureate of the United States April 4, 2014, 8 pm, Alumnae Hall, Madame Cadillac Building

The Marygrove College Institute for Detroit Studies

Thomas A. Klug, Ph.D., Director

The Marygrove College Institute for Detroit Studies promotes interdisciplinary study of the city of Detroit through

- academic credit and continuing education courses
- online resources
- lectures, readings, exhibits, and performances
- research activities and visiting scholar programs
- workshops, programs, and presentations held on campus and throughout the metropolitan area.

The Institute builds on Marygrove College's mission to serve the people of metropolitan Detroit, on its location in the city, and on its strong relationship with different Detroit constituencies. The Institute seeks to broaden recognition of Detroit's contributions to American culture, interrogate standard definitions and popular versions of the city, and provide opportunity for cross-disciplinary analysis of issues important to the metropolitan area.

If you would like to support Institute for Detroit Studies projects, please contact the Marygrove Development Office at (313) 927-1269 or mgood@marygrove.edu.

Marygrove College

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Visit the Detroit Bibliography and the Literary Map of Detroit at the Institute for Detroit Studies website