



Ford Hall Forum

at Suffolk University

FORD HALL FORUM AT SUFFOLK UNIVERSITY

ANNOUNCES ITS SPRING 2012 LINE-UP OF OPEN LECTURES, DISCUSSIONS & FLASH FORUMS

STRATEGY: SNL's REMARKABLE INFLUENCE OVER POLITICS THROUGH SATIRE

2012 Louis P. and Evelyn Smith

First Amendment Award

honoring James Downey

moderator Bill Murray

Tues., March 27, 6:30-8 pm

THE STATE OF HUMAN RIGHTS

A Frederic G. Corneel Memorial Forum

co-presented with

Old South Meeting House and

Suffolk University's Model United Nations

w/ Rev. Dr. William Schulz and Dr. John Cerone

moderator Dr. Jasmine Waddell

Thurs., April 12, 6:30-8 pm

BRAND-NAME GENES

w/ Lee Carl Bromberg and Dr. Robert Klitzman

moderator Dominick Ianno

Thurs., April 19, 6:30-8 pm

WORTH A THOUSAND WORDS

w/ Charles M. Sennott, Lou Jones,
and Nichole Sobecki
moderator Helen Rees
Thurs., April 26, 6:30-8 pm

DYSFUNCTIONAL DEMOCRACY

co-presented with the
Rappaport Center at Suffolk Law School
w/ Congressman Barney Frank
moderator Callie Crossley
Thursday, May 3, 8-9:30 am
BREAKFAST FORUM

BEANTOWN CENTENNIALS

w/ Saul Wisnia, John Linehan,
and Paul Tormey
moderator Peter Meade
Thurs., May 10, 6:30-8 pm

FLASH FORUMS

TBA

(Boston, MA 02114) The **Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University** announces its Spring Season of six public presentations, which not only addresses what probably should be on our minds, but also serves as a mechanism for citizens of the Commonwealth to stretch out in a casual setting and explore current topics that may only be familiar in passing. The Forum is the ideal opportunity to meet your neighbor while you both delve into topics that aren't necessarily for the faint of heart.

The microphone is handed over to the thinkers, doers, experts, and opinion leaders – and then over to you the audience – to discuss issues which will ultimately affect us all. Equal time will be provided for speakers' remarks and audience members' questions. As always, no Forum speaker goes unquestioned and no view goes unchallenged.

All events are free, wheelchair accessible, and conveniently located near the MBTA. Details on specific events are listed below. For more information, call the Ford Hall Forum at 617-557-2007 or visit www.fordhallforum.org. Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University: "*Provoking Thought: Listen. Learn. Engage.*"

Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University Spring 2012 schedule details:

Strategy: SNL's Remarkable Influence Over Politics Through Satire
2012 Louis P. and Evelyn Smith First Amendment Award Honoring James Downey

Tues., March 27, 6:30-8 pm
C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University

James Downey has been a writer for Saturday Night Live for over three decades, putting his hilarious words in the mouths of countless comedic actors. Year after year, he has provided material for a show that continues to define popular culture, and no political figure has escaped his rapier wit. Notably, Downey's consistent commentary on current events holds a mirror up to America, allowing life to respond to his art as much as *vice versa*. His work is a tribute not just to American culture itself, but also to the value of freely expressing sentiment that may not always be welcome but is certainly necessary. As the Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University presents Downey with our coveted First Amendment Award, his friend, actor **Bill Murray**, moderates the discussion on his career of political satire and the many truths told in jest.



The State of Human Rights

A Frederic G. Corneel Memorial Forum

Co-presented by Old South Meeting House and Suffolk University's Model United Nations

Thurs., April 12, 6:30-8 pm

Old South Meeting House

With myriad political, social, and economic changes across the globe in the last decade, the public is eagerly questioning the effects on our worldwide fight for human rights. **Rev. Dr. William Schulz**, CEO of the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, discusses the United States' recent progress in upholding human rights and which geopolitical areas will soon need the most attention. **Dr. John Cerone**, professor of human rights law and the U.S. member of the International Law Association's (ILA) International Human Rights Law Committee, delves into the UN's original intentions with the Millennium Development Goals and the likelihood of fulfilling them by 2015. Visiting lecturer at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management, **Dr. Jasmine Waddell**, moderates their exchange on critical steps to ensure these fundamental rights to all.



Brand-Name Genes

Thurs., April 19, 6:30-8 pm

Moot Court Room, Suffolk University Law School

Biotechnology in genetics is reaching heights that the average person can barely imagine. But what are the effects of this unstoppable science, on individuals, the economy, and our society as a whole? If we cannot abate the speed of innovation, how can we better control it or at least mitigate the negative consequences? Attorney **Lee Carl Bromberg** reveals the tactic of companies patenting genetic code, while **Dr. Robert Klitzman**, author of "Am I My Genes?" shares the stories of real people whose lives were forever changed by genetic testing. **Dominick Ianno**, Ford Hall Forum President and Pfizer's Director of Public Affairs, US Northeast, leads us through a discussion of the revolutionary and sometimes frightening future of genetics.



Worth a Thousand Words

Thurs., April 26, 6:30-8 pm
Main Function Room, Suffolk University Law School

Photographs are among the most compelling media for true stories across the globe, allowing viewers to feel as if we are right there in the action. Photojournalists must not only find shots and visually translate the emotions, but also address reporting ethics and their own biases behind the lens. On top of it all, they grapple with their effect on the subject itself while capturing the moment. **Charles M. Sennott**, co-founder of Global Post; **Lou Jones**, legendary photographer and board member of the Photographic Resource Center; and **Nichole Sobecki**, Nairobi-based photojournalist and former director of The Tufts University Institute for Global Leadership's EXPOSURE program, join Ford Hall Forum Vice President **Helen Rees** to focus on the fascinating finer points of photojournalism.



Dysfunctional Democracy

Co-presented by The Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University and The Rappaport Center at Suffolk Law School

Thurs., May 3, 8-9:30 am

BREAKFAST FORUM

C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University

If you thought **Congressman Barney Frank** was always outspoken, wait until you hear him when there's no reelection on the horizon. The U.S. Representative for Massachusetts' Fourth District is ready to tell us what's wrong with our democracy — from Congressional in-fighting to an electorate that's asleep at the wheel — and how the people can take control and make a difference. He'll also give us his best predictions for Election 2012. Don't miss the host of "The Callie Crossley Show" (WGBH Radio, 89.7), **Callie Crossley**, in the most "Frank" conversation you've ever heard with Representative Barney Frank.



Beantown Centennials

Thurs., May 10, 6:30-8 pm

C. Walsh Theatre, Suffolk University

Director of the Boston Redevelopment Authority, **Peter Meade**, moderates our program celebrating Boston's three exciting centennials in 2012. Author of the full-color and thoroughly researched "Fenway Park: The Centennial," **Saul Wisnia** shares original commentary by three generations of Boston Red Sox players and fans, plus little-known stories about our favorite stadium. President & CEO of Zoo New England, **John Linehan**, then reveals how radically Boston's zoos — and zoology itself — have changed in a century, while describing our furry friends who live there now. Finally, the Fairmont Copley Plaza's Regional Vice President and General Manager, **Paul Tormey**, showcases the history and trivia behind Boston's jewel of hospitality in the Back Bay. Join us for a conversation on Boston's three incredible attractions that only comes once in a hundred years.



Stay Tuned for Flash Forums

Flash Forums are programs that Ford Hall Forum plan to produce right when the news hits.

Arranged roughly a week in advance, Flash Forums will bring in an expert speaker, either in person or via Skype, to deliberate on a hot-off-the-press issue.

About Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University:

Ford Hall Forum is the nation's oldest free public lecture series. The Forum promotes freedom of speech and fosters an informed and effective citizenry through public presentation of lectures, debates, and discussions. Its events illuminate the key issues facing our society, by bringing to its podium knowledgeable and thought-provoking speakers from a broad range of perspectives. These individuals speak in person, for free, and in settings that encourage frank and open debate.

The Forum began in 1908 as a series of Sunday evening public meetings held at the Ford Hall, which once stood on Beacon Hill in Boston. While the original building no longer exists, the public conversations have continued throughout the Boston area with the generous support of foundations, corporations, academic institutions, and individuals. In its 104th year of programming, the Forum continues to build upon its partnership with Suffolk University. Suffolk is now housing the Forum's administrative offices just a block away from where the original Ford Hall once stood.

Ford Hall Forum programs are made possible through the generous contributions from individual members as well as corporations and foundations, including ACLU Massachusetts, AIG, The Barr Foundation, The Boston Beer Company, Choate Hall & Stewart LLP, Edwards Angell Palmer and Dodge, The Fred and Marty Corneel Fund, Helen Rees Literary Agency, Houghton Chemical Corporation, Iron Mountain, Jackson & Company, Katz Nannis + Solomon PC, The Lowell Institute, Massachusetts Cultural Council, the Nellie Mae Education Foundation, Old South Meeting House, Penny Pimentel, The Pfizer Foundation, Plymouth Rock Assurance Corporation, Prince Lobel Tye LLP, Ropes & Gray, Suffolk University, WBUR 90.9 FM, and WilmerHale.

For more information on Ford Hall Forum at Suffolk University, visit www.fordhallforum.org. Information about Suffolk University's partnership with the Ford Hall Forum can be obtained by contacting Mariellen Norris, (617) 573-8450, mnorris@suffolk.edu.

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