

Constitution and Citizenship Week

September 12-16, 2016

Monday, Sept. 12

Is America Really Great?

Hosted by the Multicultural Leadership Council

8:00 – 9:00 PM

Alumni Hall 201

America is in the midst of yet another presidential election, and this election in particular has featured a strong focus on American greatness. Given this context, the Multicultural Leadership Council is hosting a conversation where we are inviting members of the council and the public to discuss with us the different meanings of greatness and what it means to us today in 2016.

Wednesday, Sept. 14 Decision 2016 - A Look at America's Future

Chancellor's Lecture Series

Reception - 5:30 – 6:30 PM, Langford Auditorium Lobby

Lecture - 6:30 – 7:30 PM, Langford Auditorium

Chancellor Nicholas S. Zeppos joins The Wall Street Journal columnist Peggy Noonan, Pulitzer Prize-winning columnist Eugene Robinson, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jon Meacham for a discussion on the upcoming presidential election and the future of our country.

My Vanderbilt Experience and Greek Member Experience eligible.

Thursday, Sept. 15

A Living Constitution?

Hosted by the Office of Active Citizenship and Service and the Department of Political Science

Guest speaker Prof. Carrie Russell

3:30 – 4:30 PM

Rand 308

The Constitution is "the supreme law of the land" in the United States, but it is also a living, changeable document. What, then, is the role of everyday citizens in forming a more perfect Union? Dr. Carrie Russell will discuss the role of the Constitution and the amendment process in securing rights and liberties.

Thursday, Sept. 15

Whose Constitution Is It?

Hosted by the Black Cultural Center and OACS

Guest Speaker David Williams; Facilitated by Damonta Morgan, Senior

5:00 – 6:00 PM

Commons Multi-Purpose Room (MPR)

A discussion, led by Vice Chancellor David Williams will explore the U.S. Constitution and how it does or does not address the issues of Blacks, Hispanics, immigrants, socioeconomically disadvantaged, and other groups routinely ignored and denied the protections and privileges granted by our most sacred document as a nation.

Friday, Sept. 16

Violence and Marginalization in the U.S.

Hosted by the Office of LGBTQI Life and the Program for Women's and Gender Studies

3:30 – 5:30 PM

Student Life Center Board of Trust Room

Please join Dr. Frank Dobson (Bishop Joseph Johnson Black Cultural Center), Dr. Kenneth MacLeish (Medicine, Health, and Society), Dr. Anand Taneja (Religious Studies), and RJ Robles (Divinity School) as they discuss the intersecting layers of violence and marginalization in the U.S., providing context to and history for recent tragic events, in particular the Orlando tragedy.

Friday, Sept. 16

Constitution Day Campus Read-a-thon: The U.S. Constitution and The Bill of Rights

Hosted by the Dean of the Commons

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

The Commons Center

The U.S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights will be read by Vanderbilt students, faculty, staff, and administrators, out loud and in a non-stop loop, throughout the day in The Ingram Commons, 1st floor living room area, near the piano. Students can sit and listen or reflect on the reading as they pass by as we honor and give literal voice to these foundational documents.

Sponsors: Office of the Chancellor, Vice Provost for Learning and Residential Affairs, Dean of Students, College Halls, the Martha Rivers Ingram Commons, Black Cultural Center, Office of Active Citizenship and Service, Department of Political Science, Office of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer and Intersex Life, and the Department of Athletics