

HOFSTRA CULTURAL CENTER and the DEPARTMENT OF RHETORIC

present

BLACK HISTORY MONTH SYMPOSIUM



**PERFORMING POLITICS:
EMBODYING ADVOCACY – REPRESENTING RACE**

Tuesday, February 28, 2017

12:45-5:15 p.m.

Leo A. Guthart Cultural Center Theater
Axinn Library, First Floor, South Campus

7-8:30 p.m.

The Helene Fortunoff Theater
Monroe Lecture Center, South Campus

Paul Robeson said, "My art is my weapon." Performance is at the heart of political advocacy. Performances in the streets or on the stage are ways to express political opinions and encourage social change. On February 28, the last day of Black History Month, this symposium focuses on how performance, spoken word, and music have been and continue to be important tools for social change and racial equality, whether as part of the civil rights, women's rights, Black Lives Matter, environmental, LGBTQ+, labor, and other global protest movements.

- 12:45 p.m. *Performance:* **Brandon Johnson**, Hofstra University
- 1-2:15 p.m. **Staging Labor Rites: Improvisation, Beauty, and the Narrating Body**
D. Soyini Madison, PhD, Professor of Performance Studies, Northwestern University
- 2:30 p.m. *Performance:* **Rachel Garnett**, Hofstra University
- 2:45-3:45 p.m. **Creative Resistance Against Racism: From the Civil Rights Movement to Right Now**
L.M. Bogad, PhD, Associate Professor of Theatre and Dance, University of California, Davis
- 3:45 p.m. *Performance:* **Mark Atkinson**, Hofstra University
- 4-5 p.m. *Roundtable Discussion: Talking "Race" on Campus* with Hofstra professors **Bill Jennings, Tomeka Robinson, Jonathan Lightfoot** and **Lisa Merrill**, and Hofstra student **Kristen Simon**, Class of 2018
- 5-5:15 p.m. *Closing Performance:* **Jamel Hudson**, Hofstra University

7-8:30 p.m. **Call Mr. Robeson**
Written and performed by **Tayo Aluko**
With live piano accompaniment by
Hofstra alumnus **Dennis Nelson**, Class of 1986



Paul Robeson was a world-famous actor, singer and civil rights campaigner. This roller-coaster journey through Robeson's remarkable life highlights how his pioneering and heroic political activism led many to describe him as the forerunner of the civil rights movement. It features much fiery oratory and some of his famous songs, including a dramatic rendition of "'Ol' Man River."

The Helene Fortunoff Theater, Monroe Lecture Center, South Campus

Admission is free, but tickets are required; limit two tickets per person.
Please call the Hofstra Box Office at 516-463-6644, Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.-3:45 p.m.

This event is FREE and open to the public.
For more information, please contact the
Hofstra Cultural Center at **516-463-5669**
or visit hofstra.edu/culture.