



Media Contact: Amelia Peacock  
Marketing Associate  
apeacock@lectures.org  
206.621.2230 ext. 12

**SEATTLE ARTS & LECTURES ANNOUNCES 2018/19 SEASON FEATURING ALICE WALKER, BARBARA KINGSOLVER, VAN JONES, & MORE!**

**Seattle, WA – MAY 8, 2018:** Yesterday evening, Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) announced the headliners of the 2018/19 Season at the closing event for this year's Literary Arts Series with author Viet Thanh Nguyen. The upcoming season will be the first in SAL's history to feature a Literary Arts Series made up of entirely female writers. Subscriptions for the 2018/19 Literary Arts Series and SAL's new journalism series (title TBD) are on sale now. Women You Need to Know (WYNK) subscriptions will go on sale May 15. Poetry Series subscriptions will go on sale May 21. Create-Your-Own subscriptions will go on sale June 18, and single tickets will go on sale July 16.

SAL's Associate Director and program curator, Rebecca Hoogs, said, "This season, we wanted to respond to the moment and the many movements shaping our national discourse. Through story, language, and conversation we can cross the bridges that divide us. A few highlights of our 2018/19 Season include:

- Doris Kearns Goodwin will join us in October to kick off a Literary Arts Series devoted, for the first-time ever, to female writers and perspectives.
- a new three-part journalism series curated by Timothy Egan and Sam Howe Verhovek which gives the mic to journalists and protectors of free press
- our Poetry Series which will move to a new, more accessible home in the heart of Capitol Hill on the campus of Seattle Central Community College.
- expanding our Student ticket level to include ages 25 and under. This new "Student/Under 25" price point will be available for subscriptions and single tickets to full-time students at any age and anyone age 25 or under with a valid ID."

The **Literary Arts Series** presents original talks with the leading fiction and non-fiction writers of our time. The 2018/19 Literary Arts Series will feature a line-up of all female writers.

- **Doris Kearns Goodwin**  
**Monday, October 1, 2018**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**  
Goodwin is a world-renowned presidential historian, public speaker, and Pulitzer Prize-winning author. She will speak on her forthcoming book, *Leadership in Turbulent Times*, which will explore presidential leadership throughout history. This event is presented in partnership with Humanities Washington. This event is made possible with support from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation via Humanities Washington and in partnership with the Pulitzer Prizes.

- **Barbara Kingsolver**  
**Thursday, October 25, 2018**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**  
 Kingsolver is a renowned American novelist and author of the instant classics *Flight Behavior*, *The Poisonwood Bible*, *The Lacuna*, and *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*. She will speak about her life in reading and writing, as well as her forthcoming novel, *Unsheltered*.
- **Valeria Luiselli**  
**Wednesday, April 17, 2019**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**  
 Luiselli is an award-winning Mexican author living in the United States. She is the author of a book of essays, *Sidewalks*, and two novels—*Faces in the Crowd* and *The Story of My Teeth*—which was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and the Best Translated Book Award, and won the *Los Angeles Times* Prize for Best Fiction. Her most recent book, *Tell Me How It Ends: An Essay in 40 Questions*, was described by the *Texas Observer* as "the First Must-Read Book of the Trump Era."
- **Tayari Jones**  
**Tuesday, May 14, 2019**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**  
 Tayari Jones is the author of four novels, including *An American Marriage* which is about an African-American couple whose lives are shaken when the husband is incarcerated for a crime he did not commit. This event will feature a Q&A with Lisa Lucas, the Executive Director of the National Book Foundation.
- **Two more Literary Arts Series speakers to be announced!**

All Literary Arts Series subscribers (except Student/Under 25) will receive copies of Goodwin's and Kingsolver's latest books.

The **Poetry Series** presents established and emerging poets for readings and lectures. The 2018/19 Poetry Series will take place at Benaroya Hall and at the Broadway Performance Hall on the Seattle Central College campus on Capitol Hill.

- **Alice Walker**  
**Thursday, October 4, 2018**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**  
 Walker is one of the United States' preeminent writers: an award-winning author of novels, stories, essays, and poetry. In 1983, Walker became the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize for fiction with her novel *The Color Purple*, which also won the National Book Award. Walker will read from her new collection of poetry, *Taking the Arrow Out of the Heart*.
- **Solmaz Sharif**

**Monday, February 11, 2019**

**Broadway Performance Hall**

Sharif was born in Istanbul to Iranian parents. Her debut collection *LOOK* (Graywolf Press) was a finalist for the 2016 National Book Award and 2017 PEN Open Book Award. In *LOOK*, Sharif recounts some of her family's experiences with exile and immigration in the aftermath of warfare—including living under surveillance and in detention in the United States.

- **Ilya Kaminsky**

**Monday, April 1, 2019**

**Broadway Performance Hall**

Kaminsky was born in Odessa, in the former Soviet Union in 1977, and arrived to the United States in 1993, when his family was granted asylum. Ilya is the author of *Dancing in Odessa*, and his forthcoming book, *Deaf Republic*, deals both with Russia and his own hearing loss.

- **Eco-Poetics (Title TBD)**

**Thursday, April 25, 2019**

**Broadway Performance Hall**

This event will celebrate Earth Day and National Poetry Month, in collaboration with a new eco-poetics anthology from Copper Canyon Press.

- **Jericho Brown**

**Tuesday, May 21, 2019**

**in collaboration with Copper Canyon Press**

**Broadway Performance Hall**

Brown is the author of three books of poetry, including *Please, The New Testament*, and a forthcoming collection with Copper Canyon Press. His work deals with race, masculinity, and sexuality, often through the lens of the Bible.

- **1 more Poetry Series speaker to be announced!**

All Poetry Series subscribers (except Student/Under 25) will receive copies of Walker's and Kaminsky's latest books.

**SAL Presents** includes authors, artists and prominent thinkers discussing their latest works, and other exciting literary surprises.

- **The Moth Mainstage**

**May 23, 2019**

**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**

Each Moth Mainstage features simple, old-fashioned storytelling by five wildly divergent raconteurs who develop and shape their stories with The Moth's directors. Theme and storytellers to be announced in the spring of 2019.

- **More events will be added throughout the year.**

The **Journalism Series** – official title TBD – is a new series created in partnership with National Book Award-winning writer and correspondent Timothy Egan, and renowned journalist Sam Howe Verhovek. Created by journalists for journalists and protectors of free press, this three-part series will feature:

- **Van Jones**  
**Wednesday, October 10, 2018**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**

Jones is a regular CNN contributor and host of *The Van Jones Show*. He is a co-founder of several nonprofit organizations, including the Dream Corps, a "social justice accelerator." He served as President Barack Obama's Special Advisor for Green Jobs, as a distinguished visiting fellow at Princeton University, and as a co-host of CNN 's political debate show *Crossfire*. This will highlight the paperback release of Jones' recent book, *Beyond the Messy Truth: How We Came Apart, How We Come Together*. All ticket holders (except Student) will receive copies of Jones' latest book.

- **Dean Baquet & Marty Baron in Conversation**  
**Tuesday, March 5, 2019**  
**S. Mark Taper Foundation Auditorium, Benaroya Hall**

Baquet is the executive editor of the *New York Times* and a winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Journalism. He is the first black editor of the *New York Times*. Baron is the editor of the *Washington Post* and was previously the editor of the *Boston Globe*. The two editors will talk about the state of journalism, their respective papers, and the intersection of media and politics.

- **1 more Journalism Series speaker to be announced!**

All subscribers ticket holders (except Student/Under 25) will receive copies of Jones' latest book.

The **Women You Need to Know (WYNK)** series features and celebrates three fierce female voices at the top of their respective industries.

- **Jill Lepore**  
**Friday, October 12, 2018**  
**Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall, Benaroya Hall**

Lepore is an award-winning historian at Harvard University, a staff writer for *The New Yorker*, and the author of ten previous books including *The Secret History of Wonder Woman*. In her new book, *These Truths: A History of the United States*, Lepore offers a magisterial account of the origins and rise of a divided nation.

- **2 more Women You Need to Know (WYNK) series speakers to be announced!**

All Women You Need to Know (WYNK) series subscribers (except Student/Under 25) will receive copies of Lepore's latest book.

**Writers in the Schools (WITS)** serves 27 local public schools in Seattle, Highline, Shoreline, and Port Townsend as well as Seattle Children's. WITS honors the writing created through this program with two annual "book-end" events, which are free and open to the public.

- **WITS Student Anthology Launch**  
**September 2018**  
**Illsley Ball Nordstrom Recital Hall, Benaroya Hall**  
WITS will celebrate the publication of its program-wide anthology, featuring 140 pieces of creative writing by students in last year's WITS program. 50 young writers will read their work and celebrate their publication. Free and open to the public!
- **WITS Student Year-End Readings & Celebrations**  
**May 2019**  
**Venue TBD**  
WITS will celebrate the 2018/19 program by featuring two student writers from each WITS school, introduced by their Writer-in-Residence. The first evening will feature students from WITS elementary and middle school programs; the second evening will feature students from WITS middle and high school programs.

**And still to come:**

- **Hinge:** featuring low-cost tickets for evenings with timely artists, authors, and thinkers.
- **Local Voices:** three free events featuring the Writers-in-Residence from SAL's Writers in the School (WITS) program reading their own works-in-progress.

**Subscription Information:**

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- Student/Under 25 subscriptions require valid ID shown upon entry at the door (full-time student ID or age 25 or under).
- An All SAL Pass entitles the subscriber to attend all events in every series, including added events and associated books. All SAL Pass: \$1,500.
- Literary Arts Series subscriptions are available at Grand Patron, Patron, Founders Tier, General, Balcony, and Student levels. The new books by Doris Kearns Goodwin and Barbara Kingsolver are included in all subscription levels except Student. Grand Patron: \$459. Patron: \$359. Founders Tier: \$289. General: \$229. Balcony: \$139. Student: \$59.
- Journalism Series subscriptions are available at Grand Patron, Patron, Founders Tier, General, Balcony, and Student levels. The new book by Van Jones is included in all tickets except Student. Grand Patron: \$219, Patron: \$169,

- Founders Tier: \$129, General: \$99, Balcony: \$59, Student: \$29.
- Please note: As of this season, authors will NOT attend receptions for most events in Taper Auditorium (including the Literary Arts Series, Journalism Series, and Alice Walker).
  - All subscriptions include benefits such as dining deals, bookstore discounts, waivers on handling fees, and priority presale opportunities.
  - Subscriptions are available online at [lectures.org](http://lectures.org) or by phone at 206.621.2230 x10.

Seattle Arts & Lectures' 2018/19 Season is presented by the *Seattle Times*.

**About Seattle Arts & Lectures:** Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the Puget Sound region. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Poetry Series, Women You Need to Know (WYNK), Journalism Series, SAL Presents, Hinge, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS). For more information about SAL, visit [lectures.org](http://lectures.org).

Speaker photos available upon request.

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