

Honoring Dr. King



Clark College will honor the teachings of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. on Wednesday, January 17, with two events—a traveling museum exhibit and a guest speaker—focused on African-American history and art. The theme this year is “1968,” in reference to the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. King, and the day’s activities will focus on how the events of 1968 shaped American history and culture. Both events are free and open to the public.

The Black History 101 Mobile Museum will be on exhibit in Gaiser Student Center on Clark’s main campus from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Founded by Khalid el-Hakim, this is an award-winning collection of over 7,000 original artifacts. The selection on display will focus on the major events and personalities of 1968, including artifacts related to the 1968 Olympics, Muhammad Ali, Arthur Ashe, the Black Panther Party, Shirley Chisholm, and numerous musical artists who were performing during that time. Supporting material from the trans-Atlantic slave trade and the Jim Crow era will provide additional historical context.

Additionally, there will be a multi-media presentation delivered by Professor Griff, one of the founding members of the hip-hop group Public Enemy, about how the events of the late 1960s helped shape that group’s art. Griff will speak from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m., also in Gaiser Student Center.

In honor of Dr. King’s legacy and his call for service, the

college is asking guests to bring a non-perishable item for the Clark College Penguin Pantry and the ShareHouse Backpack Program.

Clark College will be closed on Martin Luther King Jr. Day itself (Monday, January 15) in observance of the official holiday.

Nominations open for Iris Awards

Nominations are now being accepted for the 2018 Iris Awards, which honor outstanding women in Southwest Washington. The winners will be announced at the end of January, and the recipients will be honored at a reception and ceremony on Wednesday, March 8, 2018, from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in Clark College's Gaiser Student Center. Tickets will go on sale in January.

Award criteria and nominations forms are available at www.clark.edu/cc/irisawards. Nominations must be received by January 12, 2018. A list of past award recipients can be found at <http://www.clark.edu/campus-life/arts-events/iris/iris-award-honorees.php>.

The Iris Awards follow in the tradition of the Southwest Washington Women of Achievement Awards, which began in 1985 at Clark College. In 2012, the event was reintroduced as the Iris Awards, still celebrated on or around International Women's Day (March 8) and with the same core mission: honoring the lasting and far-reaching contributions of women in Southwest Washington and beyond.

One Iris Award recipient may be selected in each of four areas: service in the public sector; service in the private sector; philanthropic leadership; and leadership in the promotion of civil discourse, teamwork,

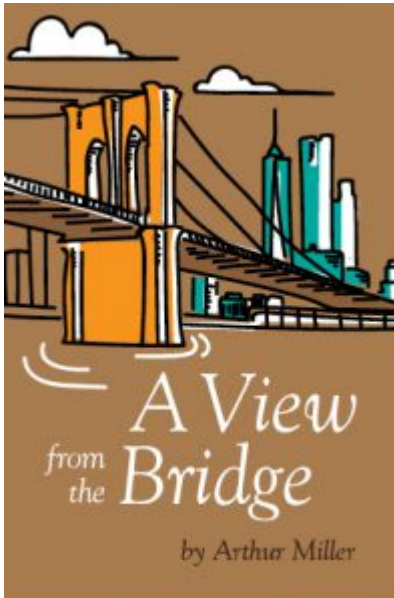


collaboration and cooperation. This last category is a new addition to the Iris Awards, sponsored by H-RoC, a non-partisan political action committee dedicated to the advancement of elected and appointed women leaders in Southwest Washington.

Anyone may submit a nomination, and more than one person can fill out a nomination form or provide letters of recommendation for the same nominee.

This year's awards are sponsored by Clark College, the Clark College Foundation, the *Vancouver Business Journal*, the Greater Vancouver Chamber of Commerce, and H-RoC.

**“A View from the Bridge” runs
Nov. 10-18**



Clark College Theatre opens its 2017-2018 season with *A View from the Bridge*.

Arthur Miller, who wrote *Death of a Salesman* and *The Crucible*, brings us this classic tragedy of life, love, and loss. Brooklyn longshoreman Eddie Carbone welcomes his immigrant cousins to America, but when one of them falls for Eddie's young niece, Eddie's jealous mistrust exposes an unspeakable secret—one that drives him to commit the ultimate betrayal.

Cast includes: JD Carpenter* (Louis); Aron Howell** (Alfieri); Zak Cambell** (Eddie); Sammantha Williams* (Catherine); Christina Taft** (Beatrice); Sterling Buck* (Marco); Austin Woodard* (Tony); Stevie Riepe* (Rodolpho); Liam Arthur* (First Immigration Officer); and Alex Pearman* (Second Immigration Officer). The director is Mark Owsley. *Note: Cast member names marked with a single asterisk are current Clark College students; double asterisks indicate Clark College alumni.*

Show Dates: Nov. 10, 11, 16, 17, and 18. All show times are at 7:30 p.m. in the Decker Theatre, Frost Arts Center, on Clark College's main campus.

Ticket Information: Students (with ID) \$10; Alumni (with membership) \$10; Senior Citizens \$12; General Admission \$15. Season ticket packages are also available. Tickets may be purchased online at http://www.clarkbookstore.com/site_theatre.asp, or call

360-992-2815.

If you need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event, contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP), or visit Gaiser Hall room 137, as soon as possible.

Aimee Bender at Clark College



Author Aimee Bender. *Photo: Mike Glier/USC Dornlife*

Clark College welcomes award-winning novelist Aimee Bender,

author of *The Girl in the Flammable Skirt* and *The Color Master*, as part of the college's Columbia Writers Series.

Bender will read from and discuss her writing from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. on Monday, October 30, in the Penguin Union Building (PUB) room 258 on Clark's main campus.

Aimee Bender is the author of five books: *The Girl in the Flammable Skirt* (1998), which was a NY Times Notable Book; *An Invisible Sign of My Own* (2000), which was a *Los Angeles Times* pick of the year; *Willful Creatures* (2005) which was nominated by *The Believer* as one of the best books of the year; *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake* (2010), which won the SCIBA award for best fiction and an Alex Award; and *The Color Master*, a *New York Times* Notable book for 2013. Her books have been translated into 16 languages.

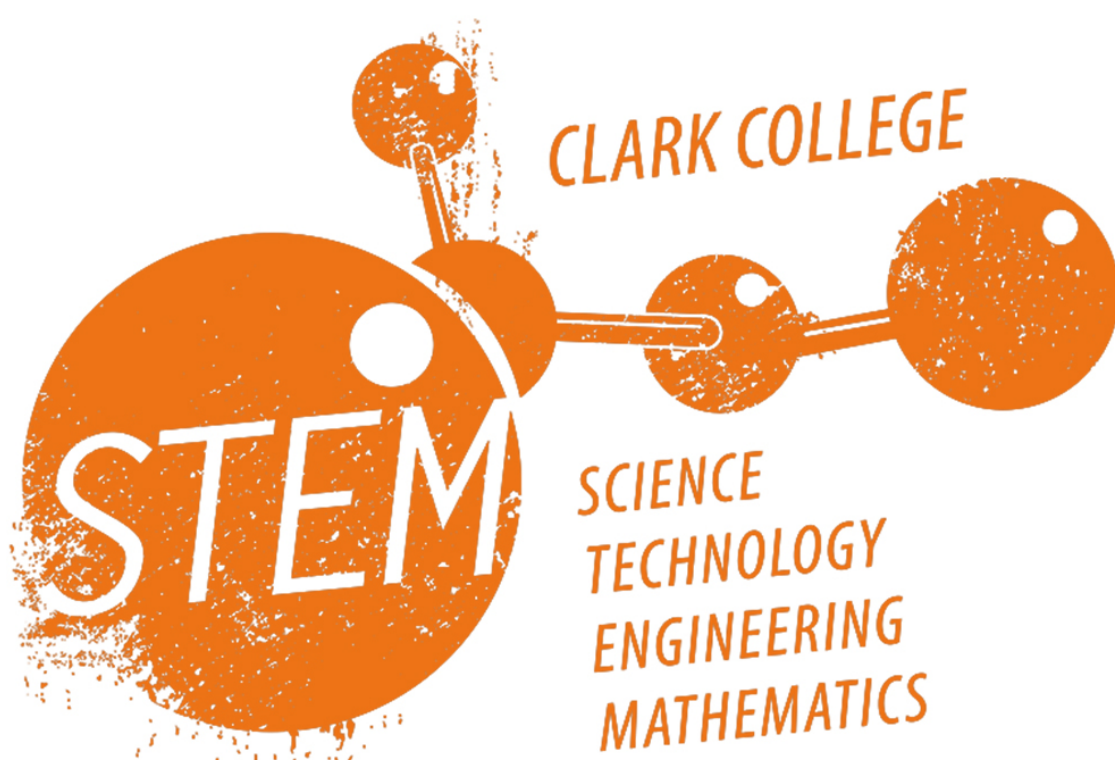
Her short fiction has been published in *Granta*, *GQ*, *Harper's*, *Tin House*, *McSweeney's*, *The Paris Review*, and more. It also has been heard on PRI's "This American Life" and "Selected Shorts."

She lives in Los Angeles with her family and teaches creative writing at USC.

The event is free and open to the public. Directions and maps are available online. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP) or visit room PUB 013.

The Columbia Writers Series was launched at Clark College in 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college and the region. Information about the Columbia Writers Series is available at www.clark.edu/cc/cws.

Free STEM Seminars begin Oct. 20



Clark College is inviting the public to come back to school for a series of free lunchtime seminars that explore the lighter side of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM). Begun in 2015, the Clark College STEM Seminar Series launches its 2017 Fall season with yet more fun, informative presentations geared toward anyone with an interest in science—no Ph.D. required!

The fall quarter events in this series include:

•Oct. 20: Terrific Telescopes—Windows to Our Universe with Dr. Duane Ray, Clark College Economic & Community Development instructor

Join Dr. Ray as he reviews the amazing technology of today's telescopes and how they work. He will then take us on a tour around the world, showing the latest equipment now installed or being installed, including light, infrared, microwave and X-ray telescopes.

•Nov. 17: Cave Curiosities with Eddy Cartaya of the U.S. Forest Service

As a ranger in the Deschutes National Forest, Cartaya has the opportunity to investigate many caves while solving crimes. His work on glacier caves in Mt. Hood has provided valuable information about these fragile and ever-changing ecosystems.

•Dec. 1: Telling Science Fact from Fiction with staff from Clark College Libraries

Information is moving fast and furious these days, and it can be difficult at best to tell what is and isn't high-quality scientific information. Join a team of Clark librarians for some ideas about how best to tell scientific fact in the media from fiction. This promises to be a fast-paced and fun romp through scientific literacy!

All events are held on Fridays from noon to 1 p.m. in the STEM Building room 151 on Clark's main campus. All are open to the public. Light snacks will be available and guests are welcome to bring their own lunches with them.

Clark College is located at 1933 Fort Vancouver Way, Vancouver. Driving directions and parking maps are available at www.clark.edu/maps. Anyone needing accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services Office at (360) 992-2314 or (360) 991-0901 (VP), or visit Penguin Union Building room 013, as soon as possible.

Kenny Fries opens Columbia Writers Series season



Kenny Fries. *Photo: Michael R. Dekker*

The Clark College Columbia Writers Series kicks off its 2017-2018 season with renowned poet, memoirist, and critic Kenny Fries. This event, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Tuesday, October 10, from 11:00 a.m. to noon in Penguin Union Building (PUB) room 258A on Clark College's main campus.

Fries is perhaps best known for his memoir *Body, Remember: A Memoir*, which recounts his experiences as a disabled child growing up in an abusive Orthodox Jewish home and slowly coming to terms with his identity as a gay, disabled man. He has written two other memoirs, *In the Province of the Gods* and *The History of My Shoes and the Evolution of Darwin's Theory*, this last the winner of the Outstanding Book Award from the Gustavus Myers Center for the Study of Bigotry and Human Rights. He is the editor of *Staring Back: The Disability Experience from the Inside Out* and the author of the libretto for *The Memory Stone*, an opera commissioned by the Houston Grand Opera. His books of poems include *Anesthesia*, *Desert Walking*, and *In the Gardens of Japan*. He teaches in the MFA in Creative Writing Program at Goddard College.

The Columbia Writers Series was launched at Clark College in 1988, bringing local, national and international authors to the college and the region. This year's lineup of authors includes, besides Fries:

Fall

- October 30: Aimee Bender, author of *The Girl in the Flammable Skirt* and *The Particular Sadness of Lemon Cake*

Winter

- February 15, 2018: Cheston Knapp, editor of *Tin House* magazine and author of *Up Up, Down Down*, which will appear in February 2018

Spring

- May 14, 2018: Roger Reeves, Pushcart Prize-winning poet
- May 17, 2018: Kate Berube, children's book author and illustrator

Information about the Columbia Writers Series is available

at www.clark.edu/cc/cws.

This event is held on Clark College's main campus at 1933 Ft. Vancouver Way. Directions and maps are available online. Individuals who need accommodation due to a disability in order to fully participate in this event should contact Clark College's Disability Support Services (DSS) Office at 360-992-2314 or 360-991-0901 (VP). The DSS office is located in room 013 in Clark's Penguin Union Building.

Fall begins at Clark



Students find their way on the first day of the 2017 fall term.

Monday, September 25 marked the start of the 2017 fall term at

Clark College.

While official numbers are not available until after the 10th day of class, the day began with 12,055 students enrolled, slightly down from last year's Day One enrollment of 12,099. This reflects trends seen throughout the statewide system and through much of the country as well.

Some specific segments saw increases. Enrollment in eLearning (or online) courses grew this year by 18 percent, with more than 4,700 students taking advantage of those courses. Clark College's Running Start Program also grew again this year by 2 percent to just over 2,100 students, making it the largest Running Start program in the state.

Other highlights for the quarter:



Cuisine instructor Aaron Guerra looks ready to start fall term.

This quarter sees the relaunch of the college's culinary programs, including Cuisine Management and Professional Baking and Pastry Arts. Students entering the program this quarter will be the first to study in the college's McClaskey Culinary Institute, which is still in the final stages of construction and is expected to open to the public by the end of 2017. When it opens, it will be the only nonprofit culinary institute within 120 miles.

Clark's Culinary Arts – Cooking/Restaurant Management program was put on hiatus in 2013 in order to modernize the curriculum and facilities. The Culinary Arts – Baking/Bakery Management program was put on hiatus in 2015, when it was determined that the program could not continue running while the culinary facilities were being remodeled.

- The Bachelor of Applied Science in Applied Management program, which launched January 2017, begins its first full academic year at capacity with 35 students. This is the second bachelor's degree offered by Clark, and more are expected to be announced by the end of this academic year. In response to strong demand, a second cohort of the BASAM program will launch in January.



▪ The BAS in Applied Management program's newest cohort poses with administrators, faculty, and campus resource specialists during their orientation session.

The college's new Rural Access Mechatronics Program (RAMP) launches this quarter, providing opportunities for students in underserved parts of the college's

service district to gain in-demand skills without relocating to urban areas. Made possible by a grant from the National Science Foundation, this two-quarter program allows students to earn a certificate in mechatronics through primarily online classes that require them to come to Clark's Columbia Tech Center location in East Vancouver on Saturdays only. As with the BAS in Applied Management, this program is at capacity, and faculty are considering adding an additional cohort in winter term.

- The college's new Penguin Pantry has opened on the college's main campus, providing students with free food and hygiene supplies, as well as some clothing and school supplies. Almost half of Clark's student body is classified as lower-income, according to data from the college's Office of Planning & Effectiveness.

Photos: Campus photos by Clark College/Jennifer Shadley, BAS in Applied Management photo by Clark College/Jennifer Lea.

Marking the path for a new year



Clark employees enter O'Connell Sports Complex to attend Opening Day.

Fall was in the air on Monday, September 18. Not only did the day see the first substantial rainfall in months—a change welcomed by many, with their thoughts on this summer's devastating wildfire season—but it was also the occasion for Clark College faculty and staff to gather once again and greet a new academic year at the college's annual Opening Day celebration.

The event highlighted a year in which the college will be, in many ways, re-envisioning itself. President Bob Knight opened his remarks with lessons that he and other college leadership had gained Dr. Margaret Wheatley's book, *Who Do We Choose to Be?: Facing Reality, Claiming Leadership, Restoring Sanity*. "In a world that is sometimes chaotic at best, every day, faculty and staff have the opportunity to do extraordinary things that change the lives of students, improve the community, and ultimately impact our world," he said, adding

that the college is adapting to expand those opportunities.

Board of Trustees Chair Jada Rupley echoed that theme, discussing the board's role in approving the college's Strategic and Academic plans that are designed, in large part, to help boost student retention and completion rates.



"Now the hard work is what needs to be done—and that's your work," she said.

Knight went on to enumerate some of aspects of that work, including the college's progress toward the Guided Pathways model of higher education, which has led to the creation of a new "Areas of Study" map that changes the way current programs are organized. He also talked about new systems put in place to provide shared governance at the college, as well as continued work toward realizing the college's Social Equity Plan.

In speaking about social equity, Knight addressed the plight of Clark students covered by Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), a currently threatened program that provides limited protection to undocumented immigrants who grew up in the United States. "Our DACA students are welcome here at Clark College," said Knight. He continued over the noise of a standing ovation, "We're an open-access college and we're here for everyone!"

Knight received another standing ovation shortly afterward when he announced the opening of the college's new Penguin Pantry, an on-campus food bank that began serving students this summer. "This new service recognizes that our students make difficult choices with their money every day, and we don't want hunger to limit a student's ability to learn," he said.

Knight also looked forward to the McClaskey Culinary Institute opening later in the year—"We'll be eating there very soon, so hang on"—and thanked the Clark College Foundation for its support in funding the new facility.



President Bob Knight congratulates Clark alumna Dr. Inva Begolli during the college's 2017 Opening Day.

Then, in a reminder of what the college has already accomplished, he invited Dr. Inva Begolli to join him at the podium. Begolli, who graduated from Clark in 2011 after fleeing her native Albania, earned a full scholarship to continue her education at Washington State University. Earlier this year, she earned her doctorate in Pharmacy from Pacific University. "This lady is an example of what we do here at Clark College," said Knight. "She wants to be the Health Minister of Albania one day, and I believe she will be."

Knight said that another way the college is adapting to meet its students is through a months-long rebranding effort. "As we continue to struggle through an enrollment crisis, it is important to take a step back and evaluate who we are, if others know who we are, and most importantly, if who we are matches who or what people think we are," he said.

Employees received weekly planners with key brand messages inside them and viewed a video covering key elements of the

brand. As is Opening Day tradition, a music video featuring employees was unveiled, and employees were honored with awards, Presidential Coins, and service-anniversary recognitions. The event ended with lunch in Gaiser Student Center.

Photos: Clark College/Jenny Shadley

The play's the thing



Oswald greets visitors to the 2016 Clark County Fair.

Clark College will again be participating in the Clark County Fair, which runs August 4-13.

Faculty, staff, and students from across the college will lead

family-friendly activities and competitions that highlight Clark's educational and extracurricular offerings as a part of this year's fair theme of "Game On!" Each day of the fair will feature a different department, ranging from Alumni Relations to STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math).

Clark's activity schedule for the fair is as follows:

- **Friday, August 4:** Faculty and staff from across Clark College will lead games of Penguin Toss & Trivia with the chance to win prizes.
- **Saturday, August 5:** Alumni Relations will be offering a range of giveaways with their Prize Wheel, as well as information about upcoming alumni events.
- **Sunday, August 6:** STEM faculty and the student club N.E.R.D. (Not Even Remotely Dorky) Girls will be helping fairgoers build kinetic butterflies and paper LED circuits and leading a Fruit & Vegetable card game.
- **Monday, August 7:** The Automotive Technology department is challenging people's fine motor skills with their Dexterity Boxes.
- **Tuesday, August 8:** Poetry faculty from the English department will be creating "Poetry on Demand" using unique prompt words provided by fairgoers.
- **Wednesday, August 9:** Staff from Human Resources and the Office of Diversity and Equity are getting to know fair attendees with a question-and-answer game called "Keep It Real."
- **Thursday, August 10:** The Athletics department will be running games of mini-basketball, with prizes available.
- **Friday, August 11:** Representatives from the Health Occupations programs will be on hand to offer health assessment games and tests.
- **Saturday, August 12:** Faculty and staff from across Clark College will lead games of Penguin Toss & Trivia.
- **Sunday, August 13:** Faculty from the new Tod and Maxine McClaskey Culinary Institute are hosting games of

Cuisine and Professional Baking Jeopardy to test visitors' food knowledge. Their edible prizes include mini cupcakes and savory brittle.

The college also will have staff available during the fair to answer questions about available programs, financial aid, Running Start, and to help students with applying to Clark and registering for classes. Current students, prospective students, and alumni can stop by the booth for special giveaways and prizes—and Oswald the Penguin, Clark's loveable mascot, will be on hand for photos throughout the fair. Additionally, Human Resources will be present on Wednesday, August 9, with information about job openings and working at Clark.

All activities will take place in the Clark booth on the midway at the fairgrounds. For more information about Clark at the fair, visit www.clark.edu/cc/fair, and follow Clark College on social media. For additional information about the fair including ticketing, maps, and directions, visit www.clarkcofair.com.

A mindful exploration



Math professor John Mitchell discussed the role of mindfulness in education at the Faculty Speaker Series.

On May 3, mathematics professor John Mitchell brought his message of mindfulness—the simple practice of being aware of one’s present-moment experience—to the spring installment of the Faculty Speaker Series.

Mitchell said his goal was to inspire the audience “to be part of something that I feel everyone should know about” as he described the modern history of an ancient practice, his path to discovering it, and his passion for bringing mindfulness to Clark College.

As Mitchell described it, mindfulness is simple, but not easy. It requires training and repetition to notice when one is lost in their inner dialog and to return to their present-moment experience.

Mitchell noted that mindfulness has been practiced in many cultures throughout history. "This is a universal human skill," he said, "we all have the innate ability to be mindful, as well as the tendency to get lost in thought." He explained that mindfulness does not attempt to eliminate thoughts, but simply to notice them. It also includes awareness of one's emotional state and the physical sensations of the moment.

Mitchell emphasized the importance of using mindfulness in the face of technologies that are designed to distract. According to the Neilson Total Audience Report, adults use their electronic devices more than ten hours a day on average; for teens, the average is nine hours, according to a 2015 media census by the nonprofit Common Sense Media. That being the case, said Mitchell, there is an immediate need to address the impact that technology has on our society.

Mindfulness, Mitchell said, can aid people in avoiding a combination of information overload and distraction. Mitchell said many people find themselves in what behavioral scientists call a "ludic loop," a mental zone that takes a person out of present-based awareness and into a disconnected mindless state where addictive behaviors thrive. Mitchell said that mindfulness practices, like becoming aware of the breath and body, can help one to avoid ludic loops while also encouraging better moderation in the use of technology.

Another area that Mitchell stressed in his presentation is the importance of mindfulness in education. Research on the benefits of mindfulness in education is growing, producing 700 published papers last year alone. In K-12 education and among four-year colleges and universities, mindfulness groups are becoming more and more prevalent. One mindfulness training program that is commonly used in higher education is Koru Mindfulness. Mitchell, who is a certified teacher in the method, was surprised to find out that very few community colleges were represented in the Koru community. With the

mindfulness classes that Mitchell offers through Clark's Economic and Community Development program, Clark College is one of the few exceptions.

The Clark College Mindfulness Club is another marker of Clark College's lead on mindfulness in community colleges. Mitchell thanked the two students in the audience who have contributed to that distinction, Clark Mindfulness Club co-facilitators Nova Gump and Steven Mitchell (no relation). Steven Mitchell founded the club in the spring of 2016; John Mitchell called it a "foundational ingredient of a mindful college."

Along with clubs and classes, Mitchell would like to see mindfulness introduced in College 101 classes and generally incorporated into the teaching methods of faculty. Moreover, he sees a strong connection between a mindful environment and guiding the work of the college to achieve initiatives such as Guided Pathways.

"What does a mindful community college look like?" John Mitchell asked the audience. "I want Clark to be answering that for other community colleges. That's my vision: a mindful college, a college that's seen as a leader."

If you are interested in learning more about mindfulness at Clark College, contact the Mindfulness Club at clarkmindfulness@gmail.com or John Mitchell at jmitchell@clark.edu.

About the Faculty Speaker Series

Since 2008, the Faculty Speaker Series has showcased experiences that have enriched both the lives and teaching of Clark's faculty. Speakers share their professional development accomplishments with the college community, often addressing some of today's most intriguing issues. Clark faculty members are invited to present experiences including sabbatical, research, field work, or community outreach in a variety of

formats including panel discussions, interactive workshops, and/or demonstrations.

Photos: Nick Bremer

J. Nova Gump contributed to this article.