

Press Release, April 5, 2018

Paterson Metropolitan Region Research Center Conference

“Paterson through the Arts”

On Friday, April 13, 2018 the Paterson Metropolitan Region Research Center will present a day-long program on the City of Paterson as seen through and experience by a variety of artists and writers.

The program will commence at 10:00 a.m. in the University’s Atrium Auditorium with the screening of a documentary film on the life and work of Paterson-born poet, Maria Mazziotti Gillan, “All that Lies Between Us.” Produced and directed by the filmmaker Kevin Carey, in collaboration with Passaic County Community College faculty member, writer, and photographer, Mark Hillringhouse, the film chronicles Maria Mazziotti Gillan’s life and career as an artist and educator. Kevin Carey will be present to introduce the film.

Following the screening, from 11:45-12:45, a panel on visual arts and poetry in and about Paterson, moderated by Kristen Evangelista, the Director of University Galleries, William Paterson University, will discuss the work of artists in and about the City. The panel will include Professors Gillan and Hillringhouse, and the renowned artists Chris Fabor Muhammad and Gerald Slota.

Beginning at 12:45, the University will celebrate the launch of the book *Paterson Lives*, edited by faculty members George Robb (History) and Stephen Hahn (English), with thirteen other contributors from among William Paterson faculty, librarians, and alumni, as well as Paterson Public Schools and Passaic County Department of Cultural and Historic Affairs. The book was an outgrowth of the collaboration of Professors Robb and Hahn with David Cubby of the Paterson Historical Preservation Society and staff of the Paterson Museum, Bruce Balistieri and Jack DeStefano in presenting a series of lectures in Fall 2017 in celebration of the 225th anniversary of the founding of the City of Paterson in 1792. Copies of the book will be available for [price]. Refreshments will be served.

The afternoon session will include a panel on music and the performing arts in Paterson, from 2:00 to 3:15, convened and moderated by faculty of the University’s Department of Music, Professor Carol Frierson-Campbell and David Philp. Panelists will include Rahsona Elder (Inner Faith Performing Arts Center) Elizabeth Moulthrop (Paterson Music Project), Nicholas Rodriguez (Inner City Ensemble) Dominique Taylor (music producer), and Dale “Skip” van Rensalier (First AME Zion Church).

Concluding the festivities there will be a celebration and recognition of the work of students and faculty of Grade 3, School #12, featuring exhibits of the students’ work *Water Fair* and *Paterson Falls*, led by Elizabeth Brown, professor of Literacy and Social Science Education, Julie Rosenthal, professor of Literacy and Science Education, and Anissa Martin-Conyers, Teacher, Grade 3, Paterson School #12. In addition, students from the Academy for Health Sciences

(HARP) social studies and history classes will present posters on historical figures in the City of Paterson.

The program is free and open to the public.

Paterson through the Arts

Conference Program

April 13, 2018

Atrium and Atrium Auditorium
William Paterson University

10:00-10:30

Welcome and Introduction to Program and Screening of *All That Lies Between Us*

Welcome:

Stephen Hahn, Interim Director PMRRC, Professor of English, William Paterson University

Introduction to the Film:

Kevin Carey: Producer and Director, *All That Lies Between Us*

10:30-11:30

Screening of All That Lies Between Us

11:45-12:45

Panel I: Visual Arts and Poetry in and About Paterson

Moderator:

Kristen Evangelista, Director, University Galleries, William Paterson University

Panelists:

Maria Mazziotti Gillan, Poet

Mark Hillringhouse, Writer and Photographer

Chris Fabor Muhammad, Visual Artist

Gerald Slota, Visual Artist

12:45-1:45

Lunch and Book Launch of *Paterson Lives*

Editors and Moderators:

George Robb and Stephen Hahn

Contributors:

Suzanne Geissler Bowles, Christine Diehl, Kristen Evangelista, Robert Harris, Richard Kearney, Barbara Krasner, Sarah Nalle, Eileen Opromollo, David Philp, Louis L. Picone, Kelly C. Ruffel, Robert Wolk, and Mary Beth Zeman

2:00-3:15

Panel II: Music and Performing Arts in and About Paterson

Moderator:

David Philp, Associate Professor of Music, William Paterson University

Panelists

Rahsona Elder, MSW: Founder/President of Inner Faith Performing Arts Center, Inc.

Elizabeth Moulthrop: Program Director of Paterson Music Project

Nicholas Rodriguez: Director of Inner City Ensemble

Dominique Taylor: Music Producer

Dale “Skip” van Rensalier, Minister of Music, First AME Zion Church

Convener

Carol Frierson-Campbell, Coordinator of Music Education, William Paterson University

3:30-5:00

Paterson School #12 Student, Grade 3, Art Work Exhibit: *Water Fair and Paterson Falls*

Recognition and Celebration of the Students’ Work and Faculty/Parent Support:

Parents and Students of School #12

Coordinators:

Elizabeth Brown, Professor of Literacy and Social Studies Education

Anissa Martin-Conyers, 3rd Grade Teacher, School #12, Paterson Public Schools

Julie Rosenthal, Professor of Literacy and Science Education, William Paterson University

Posters on Historical Figures from *Paterson Lives*

Recognition of Students from the Academy of Health Sciences (HARP), Paterson Public Schools

Coordinator: Eileen Opromollo, Teach of Social Studies and History, Academy of Health Sciences (HARP), Paterson Public Schools