

Lebanon Valley College

SOCIAL JUSTICE
LECTURE SERIES

Featuring
Rev. Dr. Bernice
A. King



Friday, September 15, 2023

6:00-7:30 P.M. (including Q&A) Miller Chapel, Lebanon Valley College

#### **REV. DR. BERNICE KING**



CEO of the King Center, Minister, Attorney, and Daughter of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and Coretta Scott King

Dr. Bernice A. King is a global thought leader, strategist, solutionist, orator, peace advocate, and CEO of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center For Nonviolent Social Change (The King Center), which was founded by her mother as the official living memorial to the life, work, and legacy of her father.

Through her work at The King Center, she educates youth and adults around the world about the nonviolent principles and strategies modeled by her parents. Under her leadership, the Center has implemented numerous initiatives reaching over 500,000 people around the world, including the Beloved Community Leadership Academy, Students with King, NV365 Education & Training, and The Beloved Community Talks, a courageous conversations

platform about the difficult racial and social justice issues impacting our world. Dr. King led the development of an NV365 certification program for trainers, which provides individuals with the opportunity to teach the NV365 curriculum on behalf of The King Center. She is an instructor for the program and a trainer.

She is a licensed attorney and member of the State Bar of Georgia; a certified Mediator with the State of Georgia; a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Incorporated, the International Women's Forum (IWF), the National Council of Negro Women; a Board member of the National Black Bank Foundation as well as Faith and Prejudice.

A noted author, Dr. King's most recent work is a children's book entitled, "It Starts with Me" which she co-authored with Dr. Kimberly P. Johnson. The book teaches children about the Beloved Community, a world where everyone feels like they belong. All proceeds from book sales go to the King Center to further the mission of creating an inclusive, just, humane, peaceful and equitable world.

Dr. King holds a Doctorate of Law Degree from Emory University, A Master of Divinity Degree from Candler School of Theology at Emory University, and a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology from Spelman College. She is also the recipient of numerous other awards and honorary degrees.

Dr. King is an innovative, inspirational, and transformational leader. She is dedicated to ensuring that her parents' legacy and teachings, The King Center, as well as the work of creating the Beloved Community, with Nonviolence365 as the pathway, are introduced to new generations of influencers.

### M. JOEL BOLSTEIN, ESQ.



Chair, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission

M. Joel Bolstein was appointed to serve as Interim Chair of the PHRC on April 18, 2016, and named Chair in October 2018.

Bolstein is currently a partner in the law firm of Fox Rothschild, LLP, where his practice consists of environmental law and governmental affairs. His environmental practice focuses on brownfields redevelopment and the reuse of old industrial sites. Bolstein assists developers, including homebuilders, with environmental-related construction issues, including permit procurement, erosion and sedimentation controls, and environmental assessments and remediation. He also advises clients on permit and enforcement actions and regulatory compliance. He represents buyers, sellers, lenders, and public entities in corporate and real estate transactions. Bolstein's government affairs

practice focuses on obtaining legislative, regulatory, and administrative solutions for clients at all levels of government. He has assisted clients on matters involving legislation, permits, enforcement actions, contracting, and procurement challenges.

Bolstein served three terms on the U.S. EPA's National Advisory Council for Environmental Policy & Technology. From January 1995 to July 1997, he was Deputy Secretary for Special Projects at the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. He was involved in a wide variety of areas, including permit and enforcement decisions and the development of policies and regulatory initiatives. He served as a trouble-shooter between the Department of Environmental Protection and the regulated community and worked on projects involving the reuse of industrial sites and the promotion of economic development. As Deputy Secretary, he managed the implementation of Pennsylvania's Land Recycling Act (Act 2 of 1995) and helped write the regulations for the land-recycling program. He also represented the commonwealth in the Republican Governors Association Task Force on CERCLA reform.

Bolstein is a former member of the American Bar Association's (ABA) Standing Committee on Environmental Law. He is also a past officer in the ABA's Section on Natural Resources, Energy, and Environmental Law (now SEER), and currently serves as vice-chair of the Committee on Innovation, Management Systems and Trading and the Committee on Science & Technology. He is listed as one of the top environmental lawyers in Pennsylvania in the Chambers Guide USA, Best Lawyers, and PA Super Lawyers.

In 1995, he received the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Award for Excellence. In 1999, he was presented with the Excellence in Environmental Achievement Award from Bethlehem Steel Company for his work on the Bethlehem Works Project, the largest brownfield site in the country. In January 1999, Governor Ridge appointed Bolstein to a five-year term on Pennsylvania's Human Relations Commission, which is responsible for developing state policy and regulations and adjudicating claims alleging discrimination in the areas of housing, employment, and educational opportunities. He was reappointed by Governor Rendell in 2005 and 2010.

#### **CHAD DION LASSITER, MSW**



**Executive Director, Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission** 

Chad Dion Lassiter is a national expert in the field of American Race Relations. Mr. Lassiter has worked on race, peace, and poverty-related issues in The United States, Africa, Canada, Haiti, Israel and Norway. In April 2023, Mr. Lassiter was appointed by President Biden to the Presidential Advisory Commission on Advancing Educational Equity, Excellence, and Economic Opportunities for Black Americans.

He is the current Executive Director of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission, where he has developed and launched a 'No Hate in Our State Townhall' to address the surge of White Nationalism in Pennsylvania, a 'Social Justice Lecture Series' providing an outlet for the communities to discuss

imperative issues and serves as a Racial Reduction Response team for those communities impacted by hatred. He has also developed programs under his appointment, such as a 'Global Social Justice Initiative,' 'Black and Jewish Beloved Community Dialogue,' and the 'College Race Dialogue Initiative.'

Mr. Lassiter received his Master's degree from the University of Pennsylvania Graduate School of Social Work, where he was the A. Phillip Randolph Award winner in 2001 and was the recipient of the prestigious Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Involvement Award in 2008.

Mr. Lassiter is a co-founder and current president of the University of Pennsylvania's School of Social Policy & Practice's Black Men at Penn, the first Ivy League Black male group of social workers. In 2019, he was inducted into the School of Social Policy and Practice Alumni Hall of Fame.

Mr. Lassiter was recently chosen as National Association of Social Workers, Pennsylvania Chapter Social Worker of the Year for 2022 and has been recognized by the Philadelphia Tribune as "The Most Influential African American Leader from 2010-2022."

#### DR. JAMES M. MACLAREN



President, Lebanon Valley College

Dr. James M. MacLaren, an award-winning physicist and passionate advocate for student success, became Lebanon Valley College's 19th president in July 2020.

During his tenure, the College has expanded undergraduate and graduate student enrollment and added degrees, including bachelor's in marketing, nursing, and social justice & civic engagement, and a master's in intelligence & security studies. MacLaren led the establishment of a centralized Division of Diversity, Equity, & Inclusive Excellence and facilitated a collaborated strategic planning process resulting in Imagine LVC, with a focus on student success; enrollment; diversity, equity, inclusion, and belonging; and financial sustainability.

Before LVC, MacLaren was provost of St. Xavier University, a Hispanic-serving university in Chicago. He began his academic career at Tulane University in New Orleans, where he worked for 28 years, rising through the faculty ranks to become chair of the Department of Physics, associate provost, and then acting dean of the liberal arts and sciences faculty. He created the Tulane Interdisciplinary Experience Semester (TIDES), a signature of the Tulane First-Year Experience that brings together small groups of students and faculty to explore academics and the city of New Orleans from multiple academic perspectives.

MacLaren and his wife, Gina, have three daughters, Emily, Meg, and Caroline.

#### DR. FELICIA BROWN-HAYWOOD



Vice President of Diversity, Equity & Inclusive Excellence, Lebanon Valley College

Born and raised in South Philadelphia, Dr. Felicia Brown-Haywood found inspiration in her mother's activism for integration, community services, and the Beautify Philly Project with then Mayor Wilson Goode. Her high school counselor dissuaded her from pursuing higher education, but Brown-Haywood relied on the spunk and fortitude exemplified by her mother to achieve her many successes. She established a scholarship for nursing students in memory of her mother at the Community College of Philadelphia.

As well as being a lifelong scholar, she is a licensed professional counselor, licensed mental health professional, nationally certified counselor and a licensed

Cosmetology Teacher who serves on the Governor's State Board of Cosmetology. She founded Harvest 3 Inc. LLC Counseling, Coaching, and Consulting, a team of therapists and life coaches committed to helping clients experience healing, growth, and change. For more than 30 years, she and her husband have owned the Hairliners Harrisburg salon.

Brown-Haywood has received the Distinguished Alumni Award from Shippensburg University for her Cultural Impact in the community, Women of Excellence Award from the YWCA of Greater Harrisburg, Mentor of the Year Award from the Carlisle Chamber of Commerce, Community Woman of the Year from Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, and Outstanding Service to Students Award from Penn State University, where she developed programs to achieve equity at the Harrisburg campus. She is a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority Inc.

Brown-Haywood and her husband have six adult children, 16 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren.

#### **JOHNÁ WETZEL**



Student, Lebanon Valley College

Johnā Wetzel is a senior Criminal Justice major, attending her fourth year at Lebanon Valley College. On campus, she is a 5050 Peer Mentor, Mosaic Mentor, and Valley Blue Coat. In addition to these roles, she is in her third year as the President of the Black Student Union.

Johnā is a strong advocate for students on campus, making sure that they can find their home away from home, and can feel safe being themselves on campus. Throughout the semester you can find her at her 5050 office hours, walking through campus, or on the track at football games cheering on the Dutchmen!

## Lebanon Valley College

## SYMPOSIUM ON INCLUSIVE EXCELLENCE

This social justice lecture by Rev. Dr. Bernice King serves as the fall kickoff to Lebanon Valley College's Symposium on Inclusive Excellence.

The annual Symposium on Inclusive Excellence encourages students and staff to learn, grow, and commit as a campus to comprehensive and continuing engagement with our diverse community. An entire day in February is reserved for a featured keynote speaker or expert panelists and educational sessions that inspire open dialogue.

The Committee for Inclusive and Intercultural Learning (IIL) will host the 2024 Symposium on Inclusive Excellence core event on Tuesday, February 6, 2024. This year's Symposium theme is Belonging and will feature Dr. Terrell Strayhorn as the keynote speaker.

Faculty, staff, and students will also dedicate their time to provide the LVC community with various educational and interactive afternoon sessions to further their commitment to Inclusive Excellence.

The 2023–24 Symposium series will conclude with a social praxis-themed event in the spring.

Scan the QR code to learn more!





#### **Upcoming PHRC Events**

5:30 PM

**SEPTEMBER 18** PHRC on the Road: building Pa's Beloved Community in Cumberland County

YWCA Carlisle & Cumberland County

**1 PM** 

**SEPTEMBER 19** Hispanic Heritage Month Event Featuring Maria Hinojosa

Virtual



5:30 PM

**SEPTEMBER 21** PHRC on the Road: building Pa's Beloved Community in Centre County

Penn State Law, Lewis Katz Building



**1 PM** 

SEPTEMBER 26 Lunch & Learn: J. Brooks

Virtual

12 PM

**SEPTEMBER 27** Fair Housing Empower Hour: LGBTQ Protections

Virtual



OCTOBER 5 5:30 PM

PHRC on the Road: Building Pa's Beloved Community in Dauphin County

YWCA Greater Harrisburg

**NOVEMBER 2 8AM-3 PM** 

Sexual Harassment Symposium

Doubletree by Hilton Hotel, Philadelphia



SCAN FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT UPCOMING PHRC EVENTS

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