Convocation Series

The convocation series at Bethel College is designed to be an integral part of the General Education program. By their active participation in the series, students will
1. develop a sense of community;
2. broaden their intellectual and cultural horizons;
3. explore basic value issues.

Convocations take place in Krebbiel Auditorium Mondays and Fridays from 11 to 11:50 a.m.

Convocation is considered to be an essential part of a student's education. Every student is required to have one hour of convocation credit for each year that he/she is a full-time student at Bethel. In order to receive credit, a student must attend 18 convocations each fall and 18 convocations each spring.

The normal convocation requirement may not be applicable to some students who need special consideration. Students who feel their cases warrant such consideration should see the registrar during the first two weeks of the semester. After that time, it will be assumed that the usual regulations hold. Students who have a physical or learning disability and wish to request accommodations or services to support their efforts in this course must notify the coordinator or Dan Quinlin in the Center for Academic Development (CAD) by the end of the second week of classes.

Convocation Expectations for Bethel Students

Convocation is a class, and the guidelines for appropriate behavior are the same as those of any other classroom. To receive credit, there are only two requirements: One is to attend and the other is to pay attention. All faculty, staff and ID scanners have the right to cancel credit for a specific convocation if these requirements have not been met.

To be in attendance at a convocation, you must arrive at the beginning and leave after you are dismissed, even if the convocation lasts longer than 50 minutes. When the program includes a question and answer session, you are expected to stay for it. Attendance is checked by electronically scanning student IDs at the beginning and end of convocation.

To pay attention at a convocation, you must make a reasonable effort to listen and respond when appropriate. The basic rules of courtesy apply. You should not sit or lie in the aisles, talk, sleep, study or engage in any other activities that flagrantly disregard the program.
Convocation Series

February

3 Introduction to Convocation Nathan Bartel, convocation coordinator

6 Interterm Travel Reports Interterm travelers

10 A V-Day Preview Students, faculty, staff and Newton community members

13 The United States & Human Rights: Bending towards Justice James Dorsey, Fredrickson & Byron Law, Minneapolis, Minn.

17 The Wild World of Chemistry Gary Histand, professor of chemistry

20 A Life of Philanthropy Bethel College Office of Institutional Advancement

24 Wichita and Beyond Carl Brewer, mayor, Wichita


March

2 The Top Eight Things You Won’t Learn in College Tiffany Richard and the Kansas Teacher of the Year team

5 Staley Lecture – “Fantasy as Addition to Reality?: Fantasy Aggression and Fantasy Aggrace-ion in Violent Media” Dr. Gregory Ellison, assistant professor of pastoral care and counseling, Emory University, Atlanta

April

2 Health-Care Leadership: Local, Statewide and National Perspectives Alasdair Conn, M.D., chief of emergency medicine, Massachusetts General Hospital; Suzanne Wedel, M.D., internal medicine and critical care, Boston MedFlight; Dr. Steven Kelly, president and CEO, Newton Medical Center

6 Good Friday – NO CONVO

9 Young Alumni Award program: “The Supply Side of the UN Peacekeeping Operations” Jaroslav Tir ’95, professor of political science, University of Colorado, Boulder

12 The Art and Science of Successful Teamwork: A Talk with the String Arianna Quartet

16 C. Henry Smith Peace Orations – Preliminary round

19 Spring Break – NO CONVO

23 Spring Break – NO CONVO

26 Forensics Road Show Bethel College forensicators

Seeking Common Ground Series: A Sense of Place

30 Uncommon Ground Robin Macy, Bartlett Arboretum, Belle Plaine

May

4 Bethel’s Got Talent Bethel students, faculty and staff

7 Awards Convo Kent Allshouse, Brad Born

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9 Stewardship in the Built Environment Chris Kliewer, Cathcart Architects, LLC, Wichita

13 Poverty Knob: A Personal Perspective of Life in the Flint Hills Amanda Hague, littlegreenroosters.etsy.com

16 Digital Placemaking Joel Gaeddert, Flint Hills Design, North Newton

20 Medicinal Plants of the Prairie: Herbal Products of the Past, Present and Future Kelly Kindscher, senior scientist, Kansas Biological Survey, and professor, environmental studies, University of Kansas, Lawrence

23 Prairie Manifesto: A Farmer’s Journey to an Ecological Awareness Jason Schmidt, Kansas Rural Center

27 URICA Symposium Bethel College URICA scholars

30 Thoughts on Diversity: A Semester of Inquiry Bethel College Diversity Seminar