



# VOYAGER

North Star\* Liberal Arts / Creative Writing & Literature

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Jinny Beyer Quilt Pattern

10.3.2016

VILLA CORE VALUE 2016 -17: Respect for Human Dignity

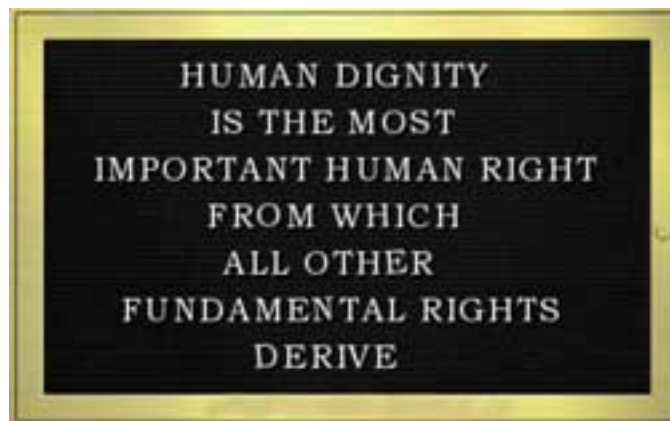




Photo from Charlotte NC Council Meeting

## SOMETHINGS TO THINK ABOUT OVER FALL BREAK:

- **Indigenous Peoples' Day** (also known as **Native American Day**) is a holiday celebrated in various localities in the United States, begun as a counter-celebration to Columbus Day. The purpose of the **day** is to promote **Native** American culture and commemorate the history of **Native American peoples**.
- This year **Yom Kippur** starts on Oct. 11 and ends the next day on Oct. 12. The Jewish holiday is a time of fasting, reflection, prayer and repentance for the previous year and the year ahead during the High Holidays, which also includes Rosh Hashanah. Yom Kippur is considered the most sacred and holiest day on the Jewish calendar. In fact, many Jews who don't necessarily follow strict Jewish traditions or observe other regular Jewish practices still recognize Yom Kippur and follow the fasting custom on that day. The holiday starts at sundown and ends until dark the following day. Yom Kippur was established as a day of atonement and repentance based on a passage in the Torah when the Jewish people were instructed to practice "self-denial" during the "sacred occasion." Fasting serves as an opportunity for followers to concentrate on their spiritual walk and focus on ways to improve from their past sins. Days of Repentance are observed over the next 10 days following Yom Kippur.



from Syracuse Cultural Workers

## ANCIENT TECHNOLOGIST CREATES OLD TOOLS



photo by Jesse Stoddard

Dr. Will Meyer invited Ancient Technologist Bob Berg to his Americas Before Columbus class to teach about flintknapping, cordage making and atlatl hunting, among other centuries' old skills, in a hands-on workshop setting that extended from 10 am to 3 on Wednesday September 28.

Berg has “experimented with bannerstones, gorgets, atlatls and darts, celts, projectile points, fire by friction, cordage making, and primitive hunting techniques using mainly the atlatl for more than fifteen years. Much of what I did required learning and mastering difficult and complex skills such as flint knapping, marksmanship and hunting with an atlatl, atlatl fishing, wood working with stone age style tools, cordage making, tracking, and making fires with friction. I now consider myself to be fairly proficient in all of these skills. I have hunted big game with atlatls successfully with more than twenty kills. I am also accepted among primitive technology students and practitioners as a teacher” (*Thunderbird Atlatl, thunderbirdatlati.com, 8 November 2007*).

Animation major Faith Tycz proved to be a willing pupil, spending most of the sessions assisting Mr. Berg and learning from him and may have earned herself a coveted internship at his studio in the Finger Lakes region. Faith says, “The workshop was a very enlightening experience. He showed us how to make many tools out of sticks, rocks, and fiber. I jumped at the chance to help demonstrate techniques he showed us. I was free until 3:00 so I was able to stay there all day. I even showed others how to make tools when he was busy with other students. I was also told about a potential internship opportunity with local museums. Berg told me that some museums are looking for animators to create short films for them.”



## Ancient Toolmaking May Have Driven the Evolution of Human Language

from iflscience.com by Janet Fang October 1, 2015.

“A 2.5-million-year-old toolmaking technique may have influenced the evolution of human language and how we teach. The heavy reliance on stone tools by some of our oldest ancestors may have generated evolutionary pressure to develop more advanced ways of transmitting knowledge—such as a primitive proto-language. The [findings](#), published in *Nature Communications*, suggests how Early Stone Age slaughtering tools co-evolved with our ability to communicate.

“The oldest-known cutting devices, called Oldowan stone tools, were made by striking a single rock core with a hammerstone to produce several sharp flakes for slicing apart a zebra, for example. This systematic process, called knapping, required maintenance and repair, implying both learning and practice. It was used by *Homo habilis* and the even older *Australopithecus garhi*.

“Oldowan technology persisted largely unchanged for more than 700,000 years, and this long, drawn-out period of stasis seems inconsistent with the presence of language. After all, “you learn so much faster when someone is telling you what to do,” says Thomas Morgan from the University of California, Berkeley. “Our findings suggest that stone tools weren’t just a product of human evolution, but actually drove it as well, creating the evolutionary advantage necessary for the development of modern human communication and teaching.” This may have started to occur some 1.8 million years ago, preceding the advent of the more advanced Acheulean stone tool technology—hand axes and cleavers—around 1.7 million years ago.”



DID YOU KNOW ...

About StoryCorps?

StoryCorps is America’s oral history project. Since 2003, StoryCorps has collected more than 60,000 interviews with over 100,000 participants from all backgrounds -- the largest single collection of human voices ever gathered. Recordings are archived at the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress so that future generations can hear the stories – and the voices – of today. We share stories online and through our popular weekly NPR broadcasts, podcast, animated shorts, and best-selling books.

And they are here in Buffalo!

## Villa students use StoryCorps for learning

By EILEEN BUCKLEY • SEP 27, 2016

As StoryCorps continues its visit to Buffalo, some area college students are using it as a learning tool. WBFO's senior reporter talked to Villa Maria College students studying digital media to learn how the StoryCorps programming is influencing their studies.

“Just that so many people have a different story to tell and it's what makes them unique,” said Sean Greene of Lancaster. Greene is a second year student at Villa.

Greene and a handful of other Villa students attended last week's StoryCorps presentation in our studio.

“When we were in middle school, we were told just get off the cell phones ‘cause they were pointless. Now, we’re learning how to use them as careers,” said Greene.

And Greene is referring to using a StoryCorps App that lets you sit down with another person and tell their story. The students were given an assignment to conduct their StoryCorps with the App.

Villa senior Victoria Cobel is completing her last college semester. She’s majoring in creative writing and graphic design along with learning digital media.

“I’ve never been very good with written interviews, per say. I’m still kind of awkward with spoken interviews but at the same time, hearing these interviews and hearing them talking up on the panel and how they would explain it, I feel like it really helped me as a student, as a writer, and as a potential interviewer,” explained Cobel.

Freshman Demetrius Stokes tells us he was amazed at the great diversity StoryCorps represents in its story telling with people from many different backgrounds. “How they grasp the stories and the emotions, and really getting into the whole interview. It gave me hints on how to ask questions and bring the viewers more into the story,” Stokes said.



*Some Villa Maria College students attended a StoryCorps presentation at WBFO to learn about story telling.*

CREDIT WBFO NEWS PHOTO BY EILEEN BUCKLEY

The amount of teamwork conducted by the StoryCorps crew and citizens who participate intrigued second year student LaCherie Reid.



Senior Reporter Eileen Buckley asked: “Does it also excite you to go out and find people’s stories?”

“Yeah, it really does. It’s something that I was doing in my personal life anyway and then just kind of blogging about it but to be able to actually do it with an app—it’s like an Instagram for stories and it’s really cool,” Reid answered.

“I truly liked the diversity in it and it was really just enjoyable to me,” said student Hawo Ukash. Ukash is a freshman excited about her assignment in studying StoryCorps to tell a digital story. “It’s just like all the stories were really personal and really deep to me so I feel like I want to get to that when I interview someone,” Ukash said.

## SKALD CELEBRATION SEPTEMBER 28

The annual presentation of SKALD writers featured student writers Ashley Smith, Emily Sniegnowski, Lexxy Lipinski and Adam Schuh who read from their published creative works in SKALD ’16 while images of the magazine were looped on the screen. This allowed a fine audience to see the artwork and selected readings from Villa’s stellar creative arts and literary magazine off the page.

Thanks to all who supported this event.

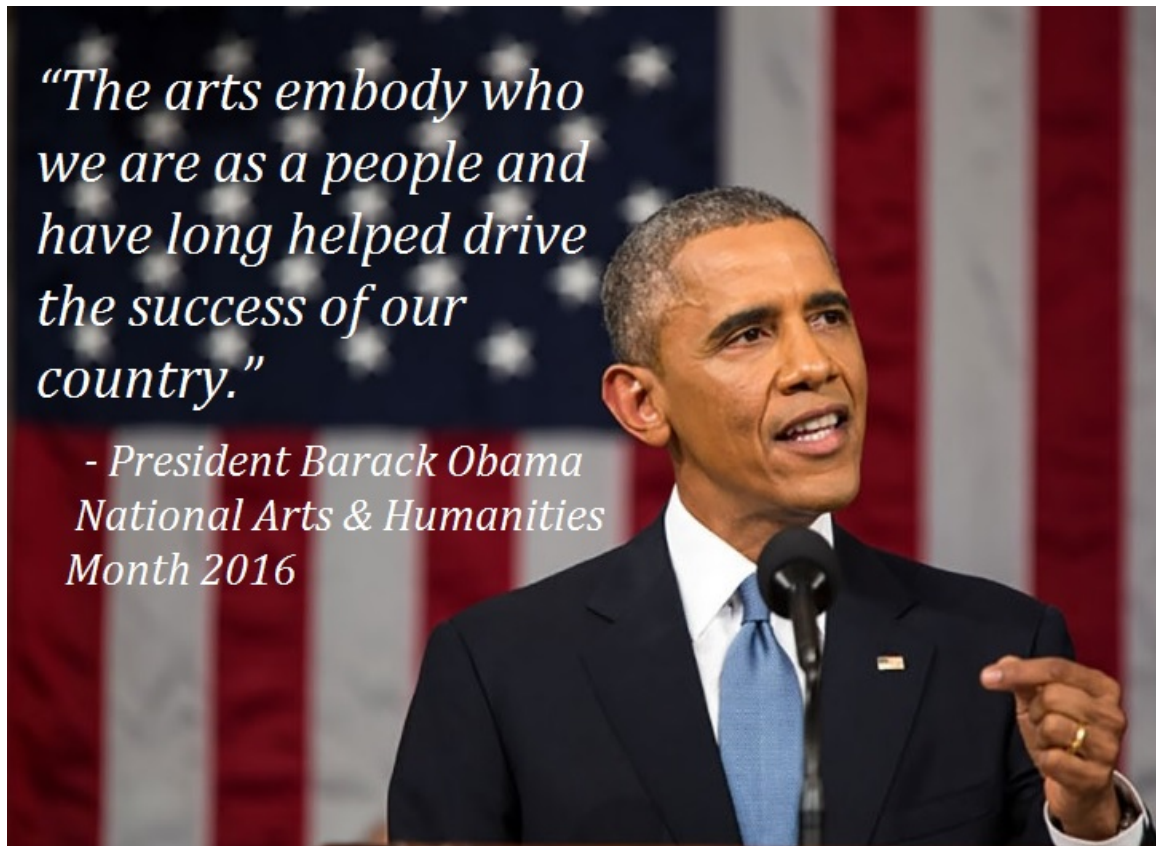
## REMINDER: BANNED BOOK WEEK

*Challenge: Create. Write. Now*

Pick any one of these prompts and write a response – submit to [jkessel@villa.edu](mailto:jkessel@villa.edu) for possible publication here!

- Which banned book character would you like to have lunch with?
- Which banned book would you memorize to prevent it from being lost to the sands of time?

- What is a controversial that you have always wanted to read? What intrigues you? Why haven't you gotten around to reading it yet? Write a short reminder, listing all the reasons you should pick this book up.



"We all see the world through our own prism, of course. The best art tweaked reality to show the artist's world, what she saw, or more precisely, what she wanted others to see. It was not always a more beautiful reality. It was often more provocative, uglier maybe, more gripping and magnetic. Grace wanted a reaction. You might enjoy a beautiful setting sun – but grace wanted you immersed in her sunset, afraid to turn away from it, afraid not to."

- Harlan Coben, Just One Look

## AN EXCERPT FROM JEFFREY LANNAN'S POEM

### The [Student] Card

Only five inches of thin plastic,

Maybe four inches wide, with a picture of a happy man.

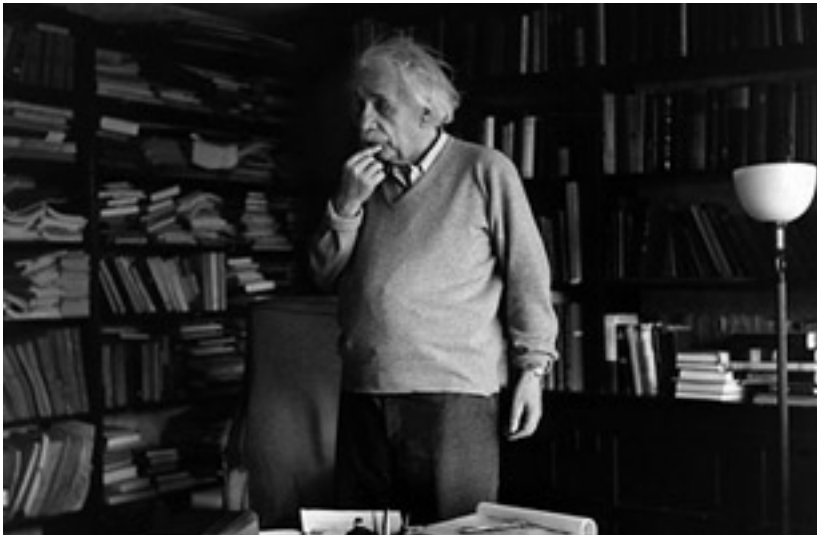
There're so many numbers

Only young eyes can read;

yet the card is mine, and I am ecstatic! ...

*Jeffrey Lannan comments, "this poem takes place at my college... but it could be applied to almost any college."*

From Poems That Illuminate Emotions on Learning



“The value of an education in a liberal arts college is not the learning of many facts, but the training of the mind to think of something that cannot be learned from textbooks.”

- Albert Einstein



# Delta Epsilon Sigma

## UNDERGRADUATE WRITING COMPETITION GUIDELINES

\*\*\*REVISED\*\*\*

Delta Epsilon Sigma sponsors an annual writing contest open to any undergraduate (member or nonmember) in an institution that has a chapter of the society. Manuscripts may be submitted in any of five categories: (1) Poetry, (2) Short Fiction, (3) Creative Nonfiction/ Personal Essay, (4) Critical/Analytical Essay and (5) Scholarly Research. The winner in each of the five categories will receive a \$500 prize. A second prize of \$250 is also sometimes awarded. Winning entries may be selected for publication in the DES Journal.

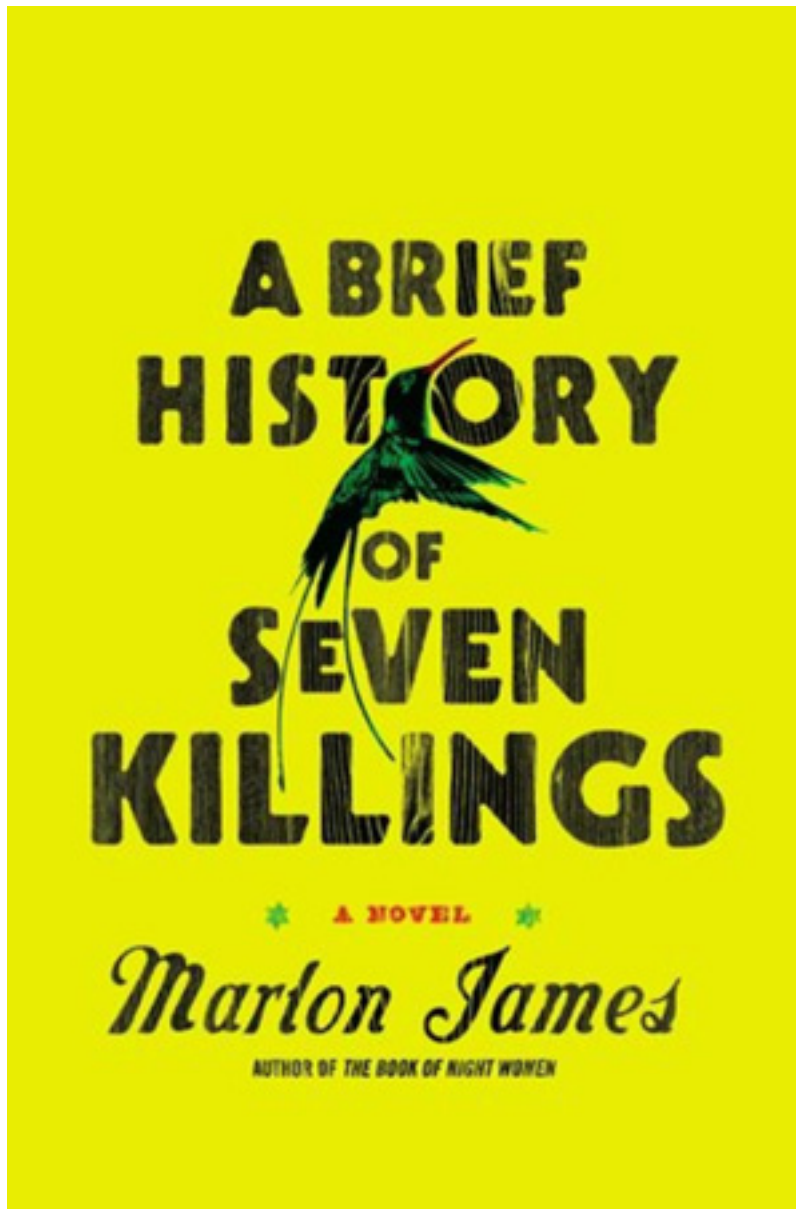
The first phase of the competition is to be conducted by local chapters, each of which is encouraged to sponsor its own contest. Editorial comment and advice by a faculty mentor is appropriate as an aid preparatory to student revision, so long as the student does all writing. A chapter moderator may forward to the national competition only one entry in each category.

*At Villa, please see Dr. Don Monnin, Dr. Ryan Hartnett or Dr. Jean Doerr. Campus Deadline November 14.*

### Cover Sheet Form

A Cover Sheet document is attached for completion and must accompany the writing contest entry. Save the Microsoft Word document as one document with the Cover Sheet form first and then the writing entry. Please choose one of the five category types that are stated on the Cover Sheet: (1) Poetry, (2) Short Fiction, (3) Creative Nonfiction/ Personal Essay, (4) Critical/Analytical Essay and (5) Scholarly Research. The author's name and institution is not allowed on the Cover Sheet. All writing submission documents may only be submitted in *Microsoft Word*.

The guidelines for Scholarly Research essays should be done according to accepted guidelines within the discipline with appropriate citation method (APA, MLA or other relevant form). Research should be primary and incorporate original results, observations and insight. In other words, the competition seeks original critical conclusions beyond summary of already published research.



A “thrilling, ambitious . . . intense” (*Los Angeles Times*) novel that explores the attempted assassination of Bob Marley in the late 1970s.

In *A Brief History Of Seven Killings*, Marlon James combines masterful storytelling with his unrivaled skill at characterization and his meticulous eye for detail to forge a novel of dazzling ambition and scope.

On December 3, 1976, just before the Jamaican general election and two days before Bob Marley was to play the Smile Jamaica Concert to ease political tensions in Kingston, seven unnamed gunmen stormed the singer’s house, machine guns blazing. The attack wounded Marley, his wife, and his manager, and injured several others. Little was officially released about the gunmen, but rumors abounded regarding the assassins’ fates. *A Brief History Of Seven*

*Killings* is James's fictional exploration of that dangerous and unstable time in Jamaica's history and beyond. Deftly spanning decades and continents and peopled with a wide range of characters—assassins, drug dealers, journalists, and even ghosts—James brings to life the people who walked the streets of 1970s Kingston, who dominated the crack houses of 1980s New York, and who reemerged into a radically altered Jamaica of the 1990s. Brilliantly inventive, *A Brief History Of Seven Killings* is an “exhilarating” (*The New York Times*) epic that's been called “a tour de force” (*The Wall Street Journal*).

**BABEL: MARLON JAMES October 19 @ 8 pm @  
Kleinhans**

[Interested in attending? See Joyce Kessel by October 13th](#)

MARLON JAMES was born in Jamaica in 1970. His most recent novel, *A Brief History Of Seven Killings*, won the 2015 Man Booker Prize. It was also a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award and won the OCM Bocas Prize for Caribbean Literature for fiction, the Anisfield-Wolf Book Award for fiction, and the Minnesota Book Award. It was also a *New York Times* Notable Book. James is also the author of *The Book of Night Women*, which won the 2010 Dayton Literary Peace Prize and the Minnesota Book Award, and was a finalist for the 2010 National Book Critics Circle Award in fiction and an NAACP Image Award. His first novel, *John Crow's Devil*, was a finalist for the *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize for first fiction and the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and was a *New York Times* Editors' Choice. James lives in Minneapolis.





# Marlon James

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

*BABEL*  
2016-2017

