2015/16 Honors Forum Lecture Series
Frontiers and the Spirit of Exploration

FALL 2015

September 30, 2015 – Phoenix College, Bulpitt Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Dr. Naida Zukic
“Lost in Language / Writerly Violence / Art of Resistance”

Dr. Naida Zukić is a New York-based, Bosnian-born, Communication and Performance Studies scholar and Butoh artist. Her scholarship spans numerous disciplinary fields—Communication Studies, Performance Studies, and Sexuality Studies—and develops a critique of ethical violence in the attempt to formulate new theories of subjectivity, ethics, and responsibility. Her work has appeared in a variety of publications including DJ Culture in the Mix: Power, Technology, and Social Change in Electronic Dance Music; Studies in Russian, Eurasian, and Central European New Media; Text and Performance Quarterly; and Webbing Cyberfeminist Practice: Communities, Pedagogies, and Social Action.

Dr. Zukić complements her written scholarship through intimately choreographed performances of Butoh, an avant-garde Japanese dance form that uses, in part, body paint and intense kinetics to show how subjects of violence can reclaim self-determination. She also produces short digital films on the trauma of violence and genocide. These have been screened internationally including in London (ACT ART), Slovenia (Ljubljana International Film Festival), New York City (SOHO20 Chelsea, Galapagos Art Space, New Filmmakers York Film Festival), San Francisco, and Los Angeles.

She teaches at the Borough of Manhattan Community College, City University of New York (CUNY).

November 18, 2015 - Phoenix College, Bulpitt Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.
Ms. Courtney Klein
“Journey of a Dream”

Ms. Courtney Klein is the Co-Founder and CEO of SEED SPOT, Arizona’s #1 ranking incubator supporting social entrepreneurs. Courtney has been profiled by Forbes, USA Today, Huffington Post and other national news outlets for her work supporting the dreams of entrepreneurs. She has spoken to corporate, education, and entrepreneurial audiences around the world and participated in the United Nations Executive Education Program in Thailand & Cambodia focused on Social Entrepreneurship and Innovation.

Previously, Klein served as the Co-Founder and CEO of New Global Citizens, a nonprofit that empowers young people to create social change. The organization now holds a $1 million endowment at the Arizona Community Foundation, has a presence in 18 states with partner projects in 27 countries, and has impacted over 45,000 young people.

In 2013, the Phoenix Business Journal named Klein as one of the “25 Most Dynamic Women in Business.” In 2011, Splashlife Magazine recognized Klein as one of the nation’s “Top 30 Civic Leaders Under the Age of 30.” She has also been named one of Arizona’s “35 Entrepreneurs Under 35,” one of “20 Women to Change Arizona by 2020,” and one of “Arizona’s Most Intriguing Chief Executives.”

Klein is an Arizona native and graduate of Arizona State University’s Barrett Honors College, where she received her undergraduate and master’s degrees in nonprofit management. She is an Ironman finisher and recently gave birth to a daughter this past July.

For more information, see our website at: mcli.maricopa.edu/honors
February 17, 2016 – Mesa Community College, Performing Arts Center, 7:00 p.m.

DR. ARIEL FENSTER

“Life is a Risky Business”

Dr. Ariel Fenster teaches at McGill University, where he is a founding member of the Office for Science and Society, an organization dedicated to disseminating up-to-date information in the areas of food, food issues, medications, and the environment and health topics in general. Dr. Fenster is known as an outstanding communicator, and an exceptional promoter of science, with an extensive program, developed over three decades. In that period, he has given close to 1,000 public presentations in English and in French across North America and Overseas.

He appears regularly on TV and radio to discuss health, environmental and technology issues and has presented numerous science segments for children’s television.

Numerous awards have recognized his contributions to teaching, and to the popularization of science. Among them: the McNeil Medal for the Public Awareness of Science from the Royal Society of Canada (1992, inaugural award) and the Michael Smith Award for the Promotion of Science in Canada from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada (2005).

Ariel Fenster, who is a native of the wine-growing region of Bergerac, France, holds a Master’s degree from the University of Paris and a Ph.D. from McGill University.

April 27, 2016 – Phoenix College, Bulpitt Auditorium, 7:00 p.m.

DR. JEAN TWENGE

“Generation Me: Has Rising Cultural Individualism Made Us Better or Worse?”

Dr. Jean M. Twenge, Professor of Psychology at San Diego State University, is the author of more than 100 scientific publications and the books, Generation Me: Why Today’s Young Americans Are More Confident, Assertive, Entitled — and More Miserable Than Ever Before and The Narcissism Epidemic: Living in the Age of Entitlement (co-authored with W. Keith Campbell).

Dr. Twenge frequently gives talks and seminars on teaching and working with today’s young generation based on a dataset of 11 million young people. Her audiences have included college faculty and staff, high school teachers, military personnel, camp directors, and corporate executives.

Her research has been covered in Time, Newsweek, The New York Times, USA Today, U.S. News and World Report, and The Washington Post, and she has been featured on Today, Good Morning America, CBS This Morning, Fox and Friends, NBC Nightly News, Dateline NBC, and National Public Radio. She holds a BA and MA from the University of Chicago and a Ph.D. from the University of Michigan.