



2013 UCA Humanities Fair

UCA will hold a humanities fair for high school students on Thursday, November 14, 2013 (National Humanities Month) from 9:45-2:00pm. High school students will be invited to UCA to experience what it is like to attend university courses.

- UCA faculty will make presentations exploring the chosen theme of “A More Perfect Union.”
- Upon request, UCA faculty will visit individual high-school classrooms in Little Rock, Conway, and rural areas to generate enthusiasm for the idea of the fair, which is to use a popular culture film for creative inspiration. They will provide a preview of their presentation and encourage students to develop their own original poems, essays, multi-media presentations, and short stories.
- The students will produce their own creative works which will be submitted in advance to UCA where a committee of scholars will select 1st, 2nd, and 3rd winners for each category.
- Students and their teachers will attend the humanities fair on November 14 and will be able to choose from a variety of humanities mini-lectures with discussions given by UCA faculty.

Students attending the fair will benefit by exposure to the ways the humanities can enrich their lives whether they go to college or not. We hope that the students will benefit by learning that each person has a choice of values to live by and aspire to, and that we all have life experiences that can be expressed through poetry, essays, short stories, or films. High-school students will benefit by learning how students of the humanities are able to “see” more clearly through the lens of their studies.

The theme of “A More Perfect Union” has so many potential angles that there are many books within the existing high school curricula that can inspire students to produce their own projects. UCA faculty presentations will include:

- Keynote: “On how to Build a More Perfect Union” (Dr. Jacob M. Held)
- “The Trajectory of Tony Kushner’s Radical Politics from *Angels in America* to *Lincoln*” (Dr. Wayne Stengel)
- “E Pluribus Unum: Religious Diversity and American Identity in the 21st Century” (Dr. Jim Dietrick)
- “Same-sex and Other Unions in ‘One Nation under God’” (Dr. Julia Winden Fay)
- “Frederick Douglass on ‘A More Perfect Union’: The Slave Perspective on America” (Dr. Conrad Schumaker)
- “Wet-Book Smuggling and Idea Trafficking: Backlash to Arizona’s Attack on Ethnic Studies” (Dr. Dustin Knepp)
- “What am I? Perspective on Self and Society” (Dr. Jesse Butler)
- “One Nation, Through a Lens: American Civics in Cinema” (Mr. Chad Terrell)
- “I Have Never Associated with Negroes!’: Abraham Lincoln’s Evolution on Racial Equality” (Dr. Mike Schaefer)
- “‘Harmony but Not Sameness’: A Confucian View of a ‘More Perfect Union’” (Dr. Nicholas S. Brasovan)
- “Sharing ‘Sentiments of People of Color’: Antebellum Recirculation of African American Texts” (Dr. Lori Leavell)
- “Cities and a More Perfect Union: The New Urbanism Movement in American City Planning” (Dr. Michael Yoder)
- “Fight For the Right: Expanding Voting Rights to Create a More Perfect Union” (Dr. Kimberly Little)