

## PREVIOUS HATFIELD LECTURES

*Reflections on "Sweat"*

**LYNN NOTTAGE**, author

*The Open Courtyard: Possibilities of the Personal*

**LESLIE JAMISON**, author

*The Secret History of Wonder Woman*

**JILL LEPORE**, Harvard University

*An Afternoon with the United States Poet Laureate*

**NATASHA TRETHERWEY**, Emory University

*The Art of Historical Fiction*

**GERALDINE BROOKS**, author & journalist

*Lost (and Found) in Translation*

**DAVID HENRY HWANG**, playwright

*Sodom on the Hudson: Crime and  
Corruption in Prohibition Manhattan*

**DONALD L. MILLER**, Lafayette College

*Reading Culture, Reading Race*

**KARLA F. C. HOLLOWAY**, Duke University

*Lafayette's Historical Legacy: Politics,  
Culture, and the Modern World*

**LLOYD KRAMER**, University of North Carolina

*Abraham Lincoln's Leadership*

**RICHARD CARWARDINE**, Oxford University

**LAFAYETTE  
COLLEGE**

*David Bishop Skillman Library*



**Kevin  
Young**

**THE GREY ALBUM**

**The John L. Hatfield '67 Lecture**



**KEVIN YOUNG** is the Director of the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture and is widely regarded as one of the leading poets of his generation. Also an editor, essayist, and curator, Young has ten books of poetry, and was named Poetry Editor of *The New Yorker* in November 2017.

From 2005-2016, Kevin Young served as Curator of the Raymond Danowski Poetry Library—a 75,000-volume collection of rare and modern poetry housed at Emory University. In 2008, Young was also named Curator of Literary Collections, and continued to add to the outstanding growing collections at Emory’s Rose Library, which holds the archives of Seamus Heaney, Ted Hughes, Lucille Clifton, Flannery O’Connor, Jack Kerouac, Salman Rushdie, Alice Walker, Natasha Trethewey, Alan Dugan, and current British Poet Laureate Carol Ann Duffy.

Named University Distinguished Professor at Emory University, Young was inducted into the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2016. His many other honors include a Stegner Fellowship in Poetry at Stanford University, a Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship, a MacDowell Colony Fellowship, and an honorary doctorate from Beloit College.

Young’s new nonfiction book, *Bunk: The Rise of Hoaxes, Humbug, Plagiarists, Phonies, Post-Facts, and Fake News*, is longlisted for the National Book Award. His previous nonfiction book, *The Grey Album: On the Blackness of Blackness* won the Graywolf Press Nonfiction Prize and the PEN Open Book Award; it was also a *New York Times* Notable Book for 2012 and a finalist for the 2013 National Book Critics Circle Award for criticism. The PEN judges said of the book: “Like Duke Ellington’s fabled, Harlem-bound *A Train*, Kevin Young’s *The Grey Album: On the Blackness of Blackness* propels us across a panorama of African American history, creativity, and struggle with a lightning-brisk brilliance and purpose ...”

**“Young goes far beyond just being a documentarian of American Black identity—he shows us how Black identity is indispensable to American culture.”**

### John L. Hatfield '67 Lecture

PRESENTED BY THE FRIENDS OF SKILLMAN LIBRARY

# THE GREY ALBUM

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7 4:30pm

104 KIRBY HALL OF CIVIL RIGHTS

A reception and book signing will follow in the lobby

In many of his poems and in his criticism, Young considers the relationship between African-American art, culture, and history and the narratives currently presented in textbooks and media. In this lecture Young will address how African-American artists and storytellers through the years have reshaped and rewritten their personal and social histories, and how these counter-stories have begun to permeate mainstream American culture.