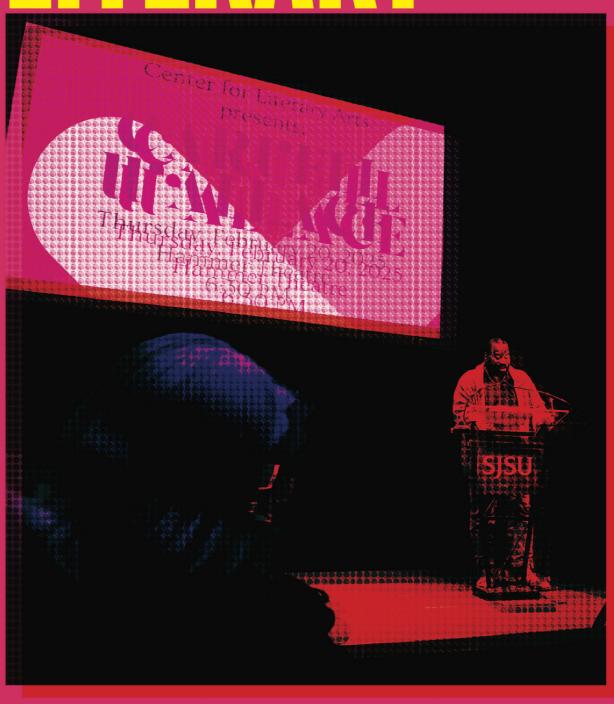
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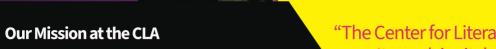




Center

for Literary

Arts



The San José State College of Humanities and the Arts founded the CLA in 1986 with a mission to bring writers of contemporary literature to the South Bay community. For over three decades, we have continued that mission with a host of readings, conversations, craft talks, and workshops featuring authors of exceptional voice and vision.

"The Center for Literary Arts is an absolute jewel.... Its work is vital and should be applauded and supported."

Jamel Brinkley, author of WITNESS.



THE MARTHA HEASLEY **COX LECTURE**

A generous endowment created by San José State Professor Emeritus Martha Heasley Cox established an ongoing series to bring celebrated and influential authors to San José, previous Cox lecturers include Toni Morrison, J.M. Coetzee, Jonathan Franzen, and Maxine Hong Kingston.



THE LEWANDOWSKI **FAMILY POET**

In honor of Frank and Dr. Mary Lou Lewandowski, the CLA celebrates poets whose work inspires and influences the next generation of poets. Past Lewandowski Family poets include Claudia Rankine, Tyehimba Jess, Carmen Giménez, and Lillian-Yvonne Bertram.



THE JAMES D. HOUSTON **MEMORIAL LECTURE**

To honor the California author and former Lurie Author-in-Residence, the annual James D. Houston Memorial Lecture brings emerging writers from diverse backgrounds to San José State University. Past Houston Lecturers include Yiyun Li, Daniel Alarcón, Kiese Laymon, and Danielle Evans.

Who Are We?

Shannon Miller, Dean, COLLEGE OF HUMANITIES AND THE ARTS

Noelle Brada-Williams, Chair DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH AND COMPARATIVE LITERATURE

J. Michael Martinez, Director CENTER FOR LITERARY ARTS



The Center for Literary Arts is a non-profit funded by the College of Humanities and the Arts, by grants from the City of San José and SV Creates, and individual donations. Donations are tax-deductible and provide critical operating support. Please know that every contribution is important to us. Thank you for your support for the literary arts!

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CLASANJOSE.ORG

Center for 2025 LITERARY 2026

Gennarose Nethercott

HAMMER THEATRE | 6:30PM



2025



Natalie Diaz HAMMER THEATRE | 6:30PM

Danzy Senna
HAMMER THEATRE | 6:30PM
Photo credit Dustin Snipes



02-19

Venita Blackburn
HAMMER THEATRE | 6:30PM

Kim Addonizio
Hammer Theatre | 6:30PM



2026