

VIRTUAL ZELL VISITING WRITERS SERIES

Presented in partnership with the University of Michigan Museum of Art and the Hopwood Awards Program.

JANUARY 28

Valeria Luiselli

Janey Lack Visiting Writer in Fiction

Luiselli's novel, *Lost Children Archive*, re-imagines the classic road trip novel as an urgent examination of the immigration crisis of the U.S. Southern Border. It was a finalist for a 2019 Kirkus Prize and has been named a Best Book of 2019 by *Entertainment Weekly*, *Vanity Fair*, *Vulture*, and *Time*.



Free & open to the public. All events take place via Zoom.

Login at tinyurl.com/ZellWriters
(NO PRE-REGISTRATION NEEDED)

5:00-6:30 PM, Thursdays
READING AND Q&A

Please contact asbates@umich.edu with any questions or accommodation needs.

FEBRUARY 11

Marcelo Hernandez Castillo

Zell Visiting Writer in Poetry & Memoir

Castillo's memoir, *Children of the Land*, recounts the traumas and joys of his journey from crossing the border at age five as an undocumented immigrant to becoming one of the most celebrated American poets of his generation. Castillo's award-winning poetry has recently been adapted to Opera.

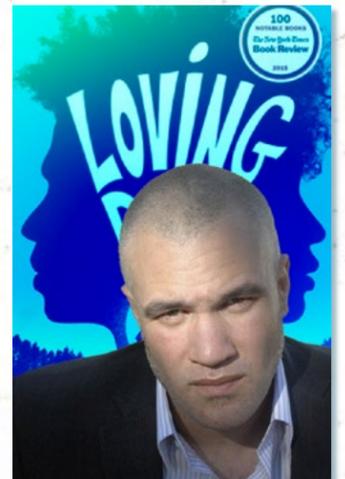


MARCH 11

Mat Johnson

Zell Visiting Writer in Fiction

Johnson's novel, *Loving Day*, celebrates the wonders of opposites bound in love. Named one of the Best Books of the Year by the *New York Times* and numerous other publications, it is a frequently hilarious and compelling story about blacks and whites, fathers and daughters, the living and the dead.



FEBRUARY 18

Joan Silber

Zell Visiting Writer in Fiction

Silber's novel, *Improvement*, examines conviction, connection, and the possibility of generosity in the face of loss. A national bestseller, it earned the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction and the 2018 PEN / Faulkner Award for Fiction.



MARCH 25

Kathleen Graber

Zell Visiting Writer in Poetry

Graber's poetry collection, *The River Twice*, is an elegiac meditation on impermanence and change. She presents a fluid world in which so much—including space and time, the subterranean realm of dreams, and language itself—seems protean.



FEBRUARY 25

Jericho Brown

Zell Visiting Writer in Poetry

Brown's poetry collection, *The Tradition*, masterfully details the normalization of evil and its history through poems of fatherhood, legacy, blackness, queerness, worship, and trauma. *The Tradition* was a finalist for the 2019 National Book Award and the winner of the 2020 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry.



APRIL 15

Kiese Laymon

Hopwood Lecturer

Laymon's memoir, *Heavy*, is a moving account of growing up in a black southern family amid books and laughter, secrets and violence. *Heavy* won the Carnegie Medal and the Isherwood Prize and was named one of the best books of 2018 by the *New York Times*.

