



2022

2022 Power of Place Annual Theme

Illinois Wesleyan University

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THE POWER OF PLACE

Intellectual Theme
2022-2023

At IWU, we ask students to bloom where they are planted, to explore local problems in order to propose global solutions, and imagine how they shape--and are shaped by--the memories and experiences of spaces in their lives. Place is a key that opens them to the world, the point from which they can gauge issues as diverse as immigration and refugee support, climate change, rural depopulation, mass incarceration, top soil depletion, habitat protection, urban planning, food deserts, and electronic vehicle design. From what they experience in our community, we ask them to create plays, poems, music, and experiments which express their identities and resolve their conflicts. In brief, there is no discipline or line of inquiry that is not informed by questions surrounding space and place.

During the 2022-2023 academic year, our annual intellectual theme will be The Power of Place. Our hope is that this theme will allow us to draw connections among and between faculty, staff, students, and the Bloomington-Normal community. Our goal with the event on November 17 is to generate ideas--about our summer reading, co-curricular activities, and course clusters--and see what kinds of resources we can share as we plan for next year.

The Intellectual Theme working group appreciates your feedback and ideas about how to make next year's theme vibrant and educational for our campus community.

