2018

Founders' Day Convocation (2018 Program)

Illinois Wesleyan University

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From a 1931 booklet of pen sketches of Illinois Wesleyan University

We stand in a position of incalculable responsibility to the great wave of population overspreading the valley of the Mississippi. Destiny seems to point out this valley as the depository of the great heart of the nation. From this center, mighty pulsations, for good or evil, must in the future flow, which shall not only affect the fortune of the Republic, but reach in their influence other and distant nations of the earth.

The Founders of Illinois Wesleyan University

Peter Cartwright  W. H. Allin  Thomas P. Rogers
C. W. Lewis  W. C. Hobbs  John W. Ewing
J. C. Finley  John E. McClun  Lewis Bunn
John S. Barger  John Magoun  E. Thomas
James Leaton  Thomas Magee  Isaac Funk
John Van Cleve  William Wallace  James Allin
James F. Jaquess  Charles P. Merriman  D. Trimmer
William J. Rutledge  James Miller  Kersey H. Fell
C. M. Holliday  William H. Holmes  Silas Watters
W. D. R. Trotter  Linus Graves  Reuben Andrus
President Eric R. Jensen, *President Eric R. Jensen, Presiding*
Associate Professor Mark Criley, *Mace Bearer*

**Prelude**: Fugue in E-flat major
*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*
Johann Sebastian Bach
(1685-1750)
Susan Klotzbach, organist

**Processional** *(please stand)*

Processional in G major
Jon Roberts
(1841-1920)
Susan Klotzbach, organist

**A Founders Invocation** *(remain standing)*
Elyse Nelson Winger
University Chaplain

**Founders’ Day Remarks**
Eric R. Jensen
President

**Introduction of Speaker**
Laurence Henderson ’18
Inclusion & Awareness Commissioner
Student Senate

Remarks
“Hamilton, Hope and Change”
Jeremy McCarter

**Alma Wesleyana** *(please stand and join in singing)*
Susan Klotzbach, organist; Kate Masson ’18, soloist
George William Warren
(1828-1902)

From hearts aflame, our love we pledge to thee,
Where’er we wander, over land or sea;
Through time unending, loyal we will be —
True to our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.
When college days are fully past and gone,
While life endures, from twilight gleam til dawn,
Grandly thy soul shall with us linger on —
Star-crowned, our Alma Mater, Wesleyan.

— *Professor W. E. Schultz (1935)*

**Closing**
President Jensen

**Recessional** *(remain standing)*

Prelude and Fugue in B major
Marcel Dupré
(1886-1971)
Susan Klotzbach, organist

*Processional participants include the University’s Endowed Professors and Faculty Committee Chairs*

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**Jeremy McCarter**

Jeremy McCarter is an author, and cultural and political critic, known by fans of the critically acclaimed musical *Hamilton* as the co-author of *Hamilton: The Revolution*.

McCarter studied history at Harvard, and soon after, wrote several columns about culture and politics for *New York* magazine, *Newsweek* and *The New York Times*. He went on to work with the Public Theater in New York City, where *Hamilton* made its off-Broadway debut. During his five years with the theater, he created and produced Public Forum, a series of performances and conversations that explored stories and their power in the world.

In *Hamilton: The Revolution*, Miranda and McCarter joined forces to document how *Hamilton*’s impact as a cultural phenomenon has birthed a kind of modern-day revolution in and of itself. Their book (popularly referred to as the Hamiltome), received the Goodreads Choice Awards for Best Nonfiction in 2016 and became a *New York Times* No. 1 best-seller.

Through *Hamilton*’s impact, not just as a musical but as a means of stirring up social discussion about race and immigration, McCarter witnessed firsthand the power that art can have on national discourse. After moving to Chicago four years ago, McCarter set out to continue that kind of discussion through his new production company, Make Believe Association. A Chicago-based nonprofit, its purpose is to present high-end readings of plays to help us understand each other and our world.

McCarter’s 2017 nonfiction book *Young Radicals* shares the story of how a handful of young American revolutionaries took their shot at creating a positive effect in their country during the World War I era.

McCarter’s address at IWU complements the University’s annual intellectual theme *The Evolution of Revolution*.

*Jensen Mace*

This use of the Jensen Mace was crafted in celebration of the inauguration of President Eric R. Jensen and the Class of 2016. The mace replaces the The Eckley Mace, which was first carried at the 1969 inauguration of Dr. Robert S. Eckley, the 15th president of the University.

Made of bronze for power and endurance and of walnut for organic strength, its cupola represents the bell tower of Old North Hall, Illinois Wesleyan’s first building, which was erected in 1856 and demolished in 1967. State Farm Hall now sits on the former site of Old North. The staff of the Mace was made from the walnut of Old North Hall and was used on the Eckley mace. The names of University founders’ are engraved on a band surrounding the cupola.

The mace was cast and constructed by Kevin Strandberg, Professor of Art and Director of the Ames School of Art.
Program

President Eric R. Jensen, Presiding
Associate Professor Mark Criley, Mace Bearer*

Prelude: Fugue in E-flat major
(O God, Our Help in Ages Past)
Johann Sebastian Bach
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Susan Klotzbach, organist

Processional (please stand)
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Processional in G major
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Alma Wesleyana (please stand and join in singing)
national hymn
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