

Cultivating Civic Learning Through a “Culture of Debate”

Ed Lee III | Barkley Forum for Debate, Deliberation, & Dialogue
Emory University

Debate for Civic Learning Institute
Friday, Sept 20, 2019
Madison Union 256
10:45am – 12:0pm



You next 15ish minutes



Why I am here



What I think we are talking about when we say
“civic learning”



Elements of a culture of debate



How those are expressed in my work

Why am I here?



What are we talking about when we say “civic learning”?



1. It fosters a capacity to understand difference



“If democratic citizenship involves learning to live with and alongside other people, then an appropriate civic education must foster the capacity to understand people who may act from very different understandings, motives, and capacities.

David L Coulter & John R Wiens (2008) , *Why Do We Educate Renewing the Conversation*, 107th Yearbook of the National Society for the Study of Education, p. 143

2. It helps us to appreciate that we are citizens of the world



“Citizens who cultivate their humanity need an ability to see themselves as not simply citizens of some local region or group but also, and above all, as human beings bound to all other human beings by ties of recognition and concern. The world around us is inescapably international.

Martha Nussbaum (2002), “Education for Citizenship in an Era of Global Connection, *Studies in Philosophy and Education*, p. 295

3. It encourages us to make “good trouble”



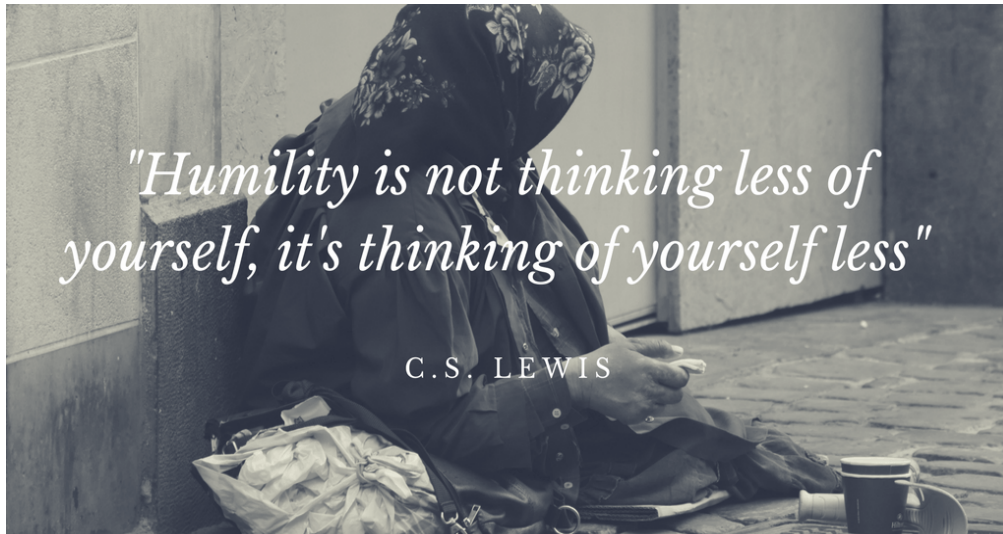
“ I believe civic education must have a clearly political orientation... Politically oriented civic education requires young people to be able to see, be indignant about, and expose the flawed justifications for inequality. This involves educating citizens to be ‘difficult’ in cases where a person’s or group’s equality is not recognized.

Claudia Ruitenberg (2018), “Learning to be Difficult: Civic Education and Intransigent Indignation,” *On Education: Journal for Research and Debate*, doi: 10.17899/on_ed.2018.1.5

What is a “culture of debate”?



1. Embrace ideological humility



2. Empathy precedes critique



3. Engage in thoughtful critique of ourselves and others



4. Generation of knowledge is a team sport



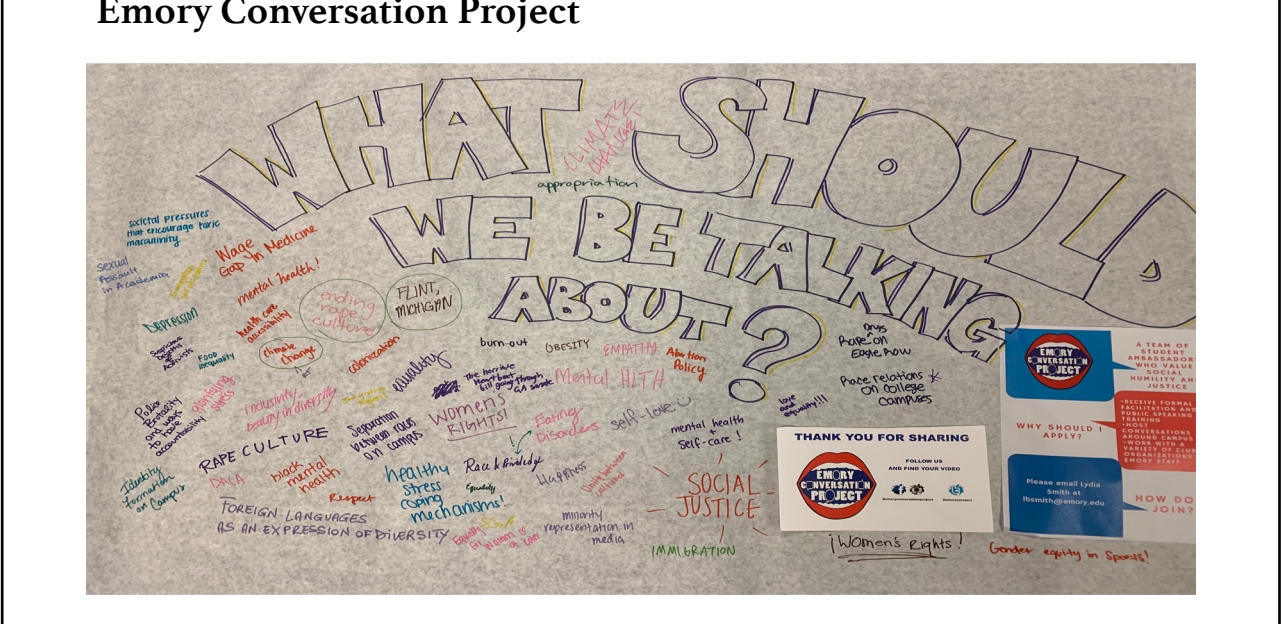
Cultivating civic learning through a culture of debate at Emory



Atlanta Urban Debate League (AUDL)



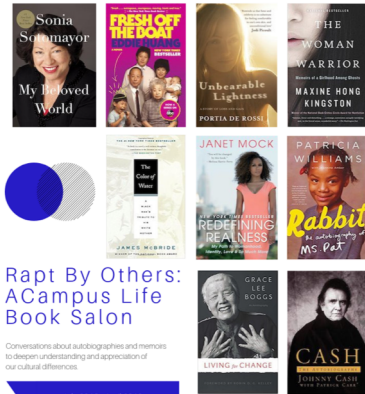
Findings



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Rapt By Others: A Book Salon



Rapt By Others: ACampus Life Book Salon

Conversations about autobiographies and memoirs to deepen understanding and appreciation of our cultural differences.

July 2019 - April 2020

Open to ALL ECL staff members, sign up for only 1 session or all 8.

Limited to 15 participants per session. BOOKS PROVIDED.

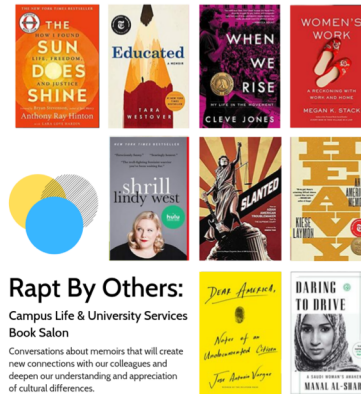
Wine, cheese & fruit served during the salon.

SALONS HOSTED LAST WEDNESDAY OF THE MONTH
4:00PM
2ND FLOOR OF EMORY BOOKSTORE

Please contact Angela Henderson at angela.henderson@emory.edu to participate and obtain information on how and when you can receive your books.

Contacts: Ed Lee (edlee@emory.edu), Angela Henderson (angela.henderson@emory.edu), Angela Henderson (angela.henderson@emory.edu).

Hosted By: Bookery Forum & Emory Bookstore



Rapt By Others: Campus Life & University Services Book Salon

Conversations about memoirs that will create new connections with our colleagues and deepen our understanding and appreciation of cultural differences.

2nd Series (July 2019- April 2020)

1st Floor of the Emory Bookstore
Wednesday, 4pm

Please contact Angela Henderson at angela.henderson@emory.edu to participate and obtain information on how and when you can receive your books.

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