



The City University of New York Presents Its Idea Sharing Conference TEDxCUNY 2015

(November 11, 2015, New York, NY) - The City University of New York (CUNY) with sponsorship by Macaulay Honors College, the Borough of Manhattan Community College (BMCC), and the University Student Senate, announces the second annual TEDxCUNY conference. It will be held on November 20th, 2015, from 9am-5pm, at Tribeca Performing Arts Center at BMCC. The conference will feature a series of presentations from, among others, Univision anchor **Jorge Ramos** and artist **Emma Sulkowicz**, perhaps best known for her nine-month endurance performance titled *Mattress Performance (Carry the Weight)* while attending Columbia University. TEDxCUNY 2015 will explore the theme **Borders and Belonging**, looking at the physical and socially constructed borders between peoples, places and communities, as well as challenging how borders divide and unite us. TEDx talks are designed to spark deep discussion and connection. CUNY Chancellor James B. Milliken will make introductory remarks at what is one of the largest TEDx university events in the U.S.

“I am very excited that TEDxCUNY will return for a second year,” says organizer Jake Levin, a senior at Macaulay Honors College at Brooklyn College. “We are moving to a larger venue and are prepared to host 20 speakers and performers. I am deeply proud of TEDxCUNY’s progress, and eager to see what the organization will continue to do in the future.”

TEDxCUNY invites participants to answer questions like “**What brings you in?**” and “**What pushes you away?**” with presentations from an extensive body of students, faculty, administrators, and alumni who identify as members of the CUNY community. Other scheduled presenters include John Jay College of Criminal Justice’s assistant professor **Erin Thompson**, America’s only full-time professor of art crime, who studies the damage done to humanity’s shared heritage through looting, theft and the deliberate destruction of art. The program will also include New York City College of Technology’s **Marta Effinger-Crichlow**, an interdisciplinary scholar and artist drawn to stories about black women and girls, migration and place.

The event will be live streamed across many senior and community colleges. More information about the conference is available at www.tedxcuny.com.

About TED

TED is a nonprofit organization devoted to Ideas Worth Spreading. Started as a conference in California 1984, TED has grown to support those world-changing ideas with many initiatives. At a TED conference, the world's leading thinkers and doers are asked to give the talk of their lives in 18 minutes or less. TED speakers have included Roger Ebert, Sheryl Sandberg, Bill Gates, Elizabeth Gilbert, Benoit Mandelbrot, Philippe Starck, Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, Brian Greene, Isabel Allende and former UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

On TED.com, talks from TED conferences are shared with the world for free as TED Talks videos. A new TED Talk is posted every weekday. Through the Open Translation Project, TED

Talks are subtitled by volunteers worldwide. Through distribution networks, TED Talks are shared on TV, radio, Netflix and many websites.

The TEDx initiative grants free licenses to people around the world to organize TED-style events in their communities with TED Talks and live speakers. Selected talks from these events are also turned into TED Talks videos.

About TEDx, x = independently organized event

In the spirit of ideas worth spreading, TEDx is a program of local, self-organized events that bring people together to share a TED-like experience. At a TEDx event, TEDTalks video and live speakers combine to spark deep discussion and connection in a small group. These local, self-organized events are branded TEDx, where x = independently organized TED event. The TED Conference provides general guidance for the TEDx program, but individual TEDx events are self-organized.

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TEDxCUNY is the only public university TEDx conference in New York City, and the first TEDx conference in the country to represent multiple campuses. Its mission is to create a recurring platform for the sharing and spreading of CUNY's ideas.