



**PRESS RELEASE**

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**Award Winning Historian and Author Jill Lepore to Deliver McCreight Lecture in the Humanities**

Charleston, WV – The West Virginia Humanities Council presents award-winning author, Harvard University Professor of American History, and longtime *New Yorker* contributor Jill Lepore for the 2018 McCreight Lecture in the Humanities. The program is 7:30 p.m. Thursday, October 25, in the auditorium of Riggelman Hall on the campus of the University of Charleston. It is free and open to the public. A book signing will follow the program.

Lepore will be speaking on the topic of her new book, *These Truths: A History of the United States*, which was published in September. Henry Louis Gates, Jr. said of *These Truths*, “With this epic work of grand chronological sweep, brilliantly illuminating the idea of truth in the history of our republic, Lepore reaffirms her place as one of the truly great historians of our time.” The *New York Times Book Review* called it, “[B]rilliant...insightful...It isn’t until you start reading it that you realize how much we need a book like this one at this particular moment.”

Lepore has been contributing to *The New Yorker* since 2005, writing about American history, law, literature, and politics. Her essays and reviews have also appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Times Literary Supplement*, the *Journal of American History*, *Foreign Affairs*, the *Yale Law Journal*, *American Scholar*, and the *American Quarterly*.

Her book *The Secret History of Wonder Woman* (Knopf, 2014) was a national bestseller and winner of the 2015 American History Book Prize. Lepore's earlier work includes a trilogy of books that together constitute a political history of early America: *The Name of War: King Philip's War and the Origins of American Identity* (Knopf, 1998), winner of the Bancroft Prize, the Ralph Waldo Emerson Award, and the Berkshire Prize; *New York Burning: Liberty, Slavery and Conspiracy in Eighteenth-Century Manhattan* (Knopf, 2005), winner of the

Anisfield-Wolf Award for the best nonfiction book on race and a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize; and *Book of Ages: The Life and Opinions of Jane Franklin* (Knopf, 2013), *Time* magazine's Best Nonfiction Book of the Year, winner of the Mark Lynton History Prize and a finalist for the 2013 National Book Award for Nonfiction.

Lepore received a B.A. in English from Tufts University in 1987, an M.A. in American Culture from the University of Michigan in 1990, and a Ph.D. in American Studies from Yale University in 1995. A prize-winning professor, she teaches classes in evidence, historical methods, the humanities, and American political history.

She joined the Harvard History Department in 2003 and was Chair of the History and Literature Program in 2005-10, 2012, and 2014. In 2012, she was named Harvard College Professor, in recognition of distinction in undergraduate teaching. In 2014, she was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and to the American Philosophical Society. Since 2015, she has been an Affiliated Faculty member at the Harvard Law School.

The McCreight Lecture is a program of the West Virginia Humanities Council and also kicks off the 2018 West Virginia Book Festival, which continues October 26-27 at the Charleston Civic Center. The Humanities Council is a Charter Presenter of the Book Festival.

For more information contact the Humanities Council at 304-346-8500 or visit [www.wvhumanities.org](http://www.wvhumanities.org).

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