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2014 "Author Jesmyn Ward Presenter for University Forum March 18" (Southern Miss Now)

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Author Jesmyn Ward Presenter for University Forum March 18

ARTICLE | TUE, 03/04/2014 - 1:42PM | BY DAVID TISDALE



Jesmyn Ward of DeLisle, who earned the 2011 National Book Award for "Salvage the Bones" will speak on the Hattiesburg campus March 18 from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Thad Cochran Center, Ballrooms I and II.

A Mississippian who upholds her home state's reputation for producing accomplished writers will be the featured University Forum speaker Tuesday, March 18 on The University of Southern Mississippi's Hattiesburg campus.

Jesmyn Ward of DeLisle, who earned the 2011 National Book Award for "Salvage the Bones" will speak from 6:30 – 7:30 p.m. in the Thad Cochran Center, Ballrooms I and II. Her presentation will be followed by a reception and book signing.

"We are absolutely thrilled to have an author of the stature of Jesmyn Ward speak to our students," said Dr. David R. Davies, dean of the USM Honors College. "As a gifted writer and a native Mississippian representative of our state's strong literary heritage, she'll definitely resonate with Southern Miss students."

"Salvage the Bones" captures the challenges faced by young African American boys and girls in the face of poverty and natural disaster in the South, with Ward's own witness to the impact of Hurricane Katrina providing her with context.

Her most recent work, "Men We Reaped," is a memoir of losing five young black men in her life, both family and friends, and the historic and often fatal impacts of racism and economic hardship in the African American community. More

about Ward can be found on her blog at <http://jesmimi.blogspot.com/>.

Ward's presentation is supported by The Friends of University Libraries, the College of Education and Psychology, the Honors College Honors Forum, the English Department, and the Committee on Resources and Services to Women. For more information, contact the Southern Miss Honors College at 601.266.4533.

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