

## Michael Eric Dyson Returns to Hampton U. for Obama book read-in

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By Kiana-Alexis Salley

The Hampton University School of Liberal Arts and Education invited Michael Eric Dyson, Ph.D., to present his book "**The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America**" as the selection for the 2017 university read-in. The event is Wednesday, March 22 in Ogden Hall.

The opening 6 p.m. session will be a discussion with Dyson and a Q&A opportunity about the reading. This event is free and open for the public.

The book touches upon how former president-elect Barack Obama's biracial ethnicity affected not only his presidency and the nation's identity, but his accomplishments and successes through his two terms. As Dyson sheds light on the black power structure and racial division, the book emphasizes the "damning indictment of our quest for real democracy and true justice."

As some anticipate their first read-in of the semester, others are familiar with Hampton U. tradition. **Shonda Buchanan**, assistant professor and former chairman of the Department of English and Modern Foreign Languages, has attended all read-ins since 2004 and finds that this event "creates an important discourse that needs to be had for this campus' population as it illuminates issues of cultures and politics." She awaits what she calls the "informative, dynamic, and fun" experience.

Differing from previous HU read-ins, it is a surprise that a non-fiction book was offered this season. Other **read-ins** have featured fictional works from other authors.

There is to be a re-order of more copies of "The Black Presidency" to the William R. Harvey Library on campus during the week of the event for students, faculty, and staff members.

Dyson is a Detroit native, but is no stranger to Hampton's campus. Last May, Dyson was the commencement speaker. Dyson earned his BA at Carson-Newman College, and his MA and Ph.D. in religious studies at Princeton University.

Hampton University School of Liberal Arts and Education PRESENTS

2017 Hampton University Read - In

THE BLACK PRESIDENCY  
Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America  
Michael Eric Dyson

Opening Session Q&A with  
**Dr. Michael Eric Dyson**  
March 22 - 6 p.m.  
Ogden Hall  
FREE and Open to the Public

HAMPTON UNIVERSITY

SCHOOL OF LIBERAL ARTS AND EDUCATION

The Hampton University School of Liberal Arts and Education has selected Dr. Michael Eric Dyson's work "The Black Presidency: Barack Obama and the Politics of Race in America" as the 2017 Hampton University Read-In book. The 2017 Hampton University Read-In will take place on Wednesday, March 22 in Thursday, March 23.

As a two-time award winner for the NAACP Image Award for Outstanding Literary Work in non-fiction in 2004 and 2006, his foundation of analyzing the socio-economic status of the African-American community and their roles within the government has educated people across the globe.

For more information regarding the Read-in and discussion, call 757-727-5421.