



SAINT JOSEPH COLLEGE

CONNECTICUT

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Poet Dana Gioia at Saint Joseph College on Monday, April 11

WEST HARTFORD, CONN. – Saint Joseph College's annual Peter Brazeau Poetry Event will feature world-renowned poet Dana Gioia, who also served as the former chairman of the National Endowment for the Arts. **Mr. Gioia will read from his work on Monday, April 11, 2011 at 7:30 p.m. in the Crystal Room of Mercy Hall located on the College's West Hartford campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue. The event is free and open to the public.** For more information, contact Dennis Barone, Ph.D., professor of English Communications, at 860.231.5379 or dbarone@sjc.edu.

The author of three full-length collections of poetry, as well as eight chapbooks, Dana Gioia's poetry collection, *Interrogations at Noon* (Graywolf Press, 2001), won the 2002 American Book Award, and his 1991 work, *Can Poetry Matter?* (Graywolf Press), was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award. In addition to his acclaimed poetry, Mr. Gioia is an internationally recognized critic, notably prolific with his essays, reviews, translations, anthologies and his work as a BBC commentator. Mr. Gioia currently directs arts and culture programs for the Aspen Institute. In November, 2010, Mr. Gioia was named the Judge Widney Professor of Poetry and Public Culture at the University of Southern California (USC). Named after USC founder Judge Robert Maclay Widney, the title of Judge Widney Professor is reserved for eminent individuals from the arts, sciences, professions, business and community leadership. Mr. Gioia's university-wide appointment includes affiliations with USC College, USC Thornton School of Music, USC Marshall School of Business, and USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development.

Dana Gioia holds a B.A. and M.B.A. from Stanford University and an M.A. in comparative literature from Harvard University. In 1992, he left a 15-year career as a marketing executive at General Foods to write full time. Also a trained musician, he has written two opera libretti and was the classical music critic at *San Francisco* magazine for seven years.

Saint Joseph College's Annual Peter Brazeau Literary Event was created in 1987 to highlight the work of a living American poet. It also honors the memory of Dr. Peter Brazeau, an English professor who worked at Saint Joseph College from 1969 until his death in 1986. A specialist in 16th century poetry and a biographer, Dr. Brazeau published a book on Wallace Stevens entitled *Parts of the World: Wallace Stevens Remembered* (Random House, 1983).

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Saint Joseph College, founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy to provide higher education opportunities for women, is a comprehensive institution serving women from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. Responsive to the evolving educational needs of the community, the School of Graduate and Professional Studies also offers both women and men graduate degree programs in many fields, a Weekend Program for Adult Learners, professional certificate programs relevant to today's workforce, and other continuing education opportunities. In the fall of 2011, the Saint Joseph College School of Pharmacy, the first doctoral program in the College's 78-year history, will open at Hartford 21 on Trumbull Street in downtown Hartford. View our Web site at www.sjc.edu.

OFFICE OF MARKETING AND COMMUNICATIONS

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