****

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Media Advisory**

April 11, 2024

**Contact:** Alexa Gromko

O: 719-389-6038

agromko@coloradocollege.edu

**How the Stories We Tell Matter: Endowed Lecture on Narrative Medicine**

*Addressing the Crisis in Access and Equity in Health Care in the U.S.*

**WHAT:** To initiate a conversation about how narrative medicine—its skills, its understanding of culture and rhetoric—can improve access to more equitable health care in the U.S.

The D.J. MacLean Endowment for English at Colorado College presents the MacLean Symposium on Narrative Medicine. Narrative medicine is a way of thinking about how medical care is shaped by our stories – not only the themes and content of these stories, but their structure, delivery, and influence. Basic questions like “who tells the story?”, “who’s the audience?”, and “what’s the genre of the story?” can tell us a lot about the narrative and what impact it may have. Being able to recognize a story when patients talk about their health. [Learn more about the speakers here.](https://www.coloradocollege.edu/academics/dept/english/maclean-symposium/index.html)

**WHEN:** Thursday, April 11, 2024, 1:30 – 5:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Richard F. Celeste Theatre, Edith Kinney Gaylord Cornerstone Arts Center,

825 N. Cascade Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80903

**EVENT SCHEDULE:**

1:30 p.m. -2:30 p.m.

“Narrative Discoveries of Patients’ Perspectives: A Perilous and Necessary Transport”

Rita Charon, M.D., Ph.D. (Columbia University)

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

“Addressing the Crisis in Access and Equity in Health in the United States: How the Stories We Tell Matter”

Linda Villarosa, Author, *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of our Nation*

4:30 p.m. -5:30 p.m.

Keynote Panel Discussion

* Rita Charon, M.D., Ph.D. (Columbia University)
* Linda Villarosa, Author, *Under the Skin: The Hidden Toll of Racism on American Lives and on the Health of our Nation*
* Ila DeBose, LCSW (University of Colorado, Colorado Springs)
* Leon Kelly, M.D. (El Paso County Coroner)

The keynote speakers’ books will be available for purchase and signing. ASL interpreter will be on-site.

**PARKING:** Free guest parking in the [Ed Robson Arena Garage.](https://www.coloradocollege.edu/basics/campus/map/) The entrance is on Dale Street.

**ADMISSION:** Free and open to the public. Media welcome to attend.

**About Colorado College**

*Colorado College is a nationally prominent, four-year liberal arts college that was founded in Colorado Springs in 1874 and is now commemorating its sesquicentennial. In 1970 the college created the Block Plan, in which its approximately 2,200 undergraduate students take one class at a time in intensive 3½-week segments. A Master of Arts in teaching degree also is offered. The college’s vision is to ignite students’ passion and potential to create a more just world. For more information, visit www.coloradocollege.edu.*

###