



# UNIVERSITY OF SAINT JOSEPH

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## CONNECTICUT

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Mystery Writer Attica Locke to Speak on New Book, *The Cutting Season***

WEST HARTFORD, Conn. September 9, 2013 – The University of Saint Joseph and Amistad Center for Art and Culture will host mystery writer Attica Locke in a conversation with National Public Radio correspondent Karen Grisby Bates about Locke's latest book, *The Cutting Season*. This "Authors at Amistad" event will take place on September 26, 2013 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. in the Hoffman Auditorium, located on the University's main campus at 1678 Asylum Avenue, West Hartford, Conn.

Admission is \$5 for the public and free to: The Amistad Center, Wadsworth Atheneum, Let's Go Arts card holders, Windsor Art Center, and students and staff of the University of Saint Joseph and The Hartt School at the University of Hartford. Tickets will be available for purchase at the door. For further information on the event, go to [amistadartandculture.org/authors@mistad](http://amistadartandculture.org/authors@mistad).

Locke and Grisby Bates will lead a discussion on the book, followed by a book sale and signing. Participants are asked to read the book in advance and to come prepared to answer a question about the book. Correct respondents will be entered to win a complimentary one-year membership in The Amistad Center's Leadership Society. Audience members can also submit a question in advance to: [amistadcenter@wadsworthatheneum.org](mailto:amistadcenter@wadsworthatheneum.org) to receive a free gift at the event.

Locke is a novelist and film writer whose first novel, *Black Water Rising*, was shortlisted for the prestigious Orange Prize in the United Kingdom in 2010. It was nominated for an Edgar Award, an NAACP Image Award, as well as a *Los Angeles Times* Book Prize and a *Strand Magazine* Critics Award. *Black Water Rising* was also a finalist for the Hurston-Wright Legacy Award. She has spent many years working as a screenwriter for Paramount, Warner Bros., Disney, Twentieth Century Fox, Jerry Bruckheimer Films, HBO, and Dreamworks. She was a fellow at the Sundance Institute's Feature Filmmakers Lab and is a graduate of Northwestern University.

*The Cutting Season* is a murder mystery set at a restored plantation on the Mississippi River. Publisher Harper Collins describes it as "a heart-pounding thriller that interweaves two murder mysteries, one on Belle Vie, a historic landmark in the middle of Louisiana's Sugar Cane country, and one involving a slave gone missing more than one hundred years earlier."

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The Amistad Center for Art & Culture, founded in 1987, owns and exhibits a vital collection of nearly 7,000 works of art, artifacts and popular culture objects that document the experience, expressions and history of people of African descent in America.

The Amistad Center is an independently incorporated and managed not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization, located in the [Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art](#).

**OUR MISSION:** *We celebrate art and culture influenced by people of African descent through education, scholarship and social experiences.*

**OUR VISION:** *Minds are opened, lives are changed.*

authors@mistad is made possible by The Amistad Center members and a generous grant by CT Humanities.



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*The University of Saint Joseph (USJ) offers a wide range of graduate, undergraduate, and certificate programs that combine a professional and liberal arts education with a focus on service. Coeducational graduate master's and doctoral degree programs are taught on the University's two campuses in West Hartford and Hartford, Connecticut; at off-campus locations throughout the state; and online. Undergraduate programs for women and for coeducational adult students take place on our beautiful suburban campus and include more than 22 majors and six pre-professional programs, each of which provides personal attention in a caring environment. Founded in 1932 by the Sisters of Mercy, the University of Saint Joseph welcomes students from diverse backgrounds and religious traditions. To learn more, view our website at [www.usj.edu](http://www.usj.edu).*

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