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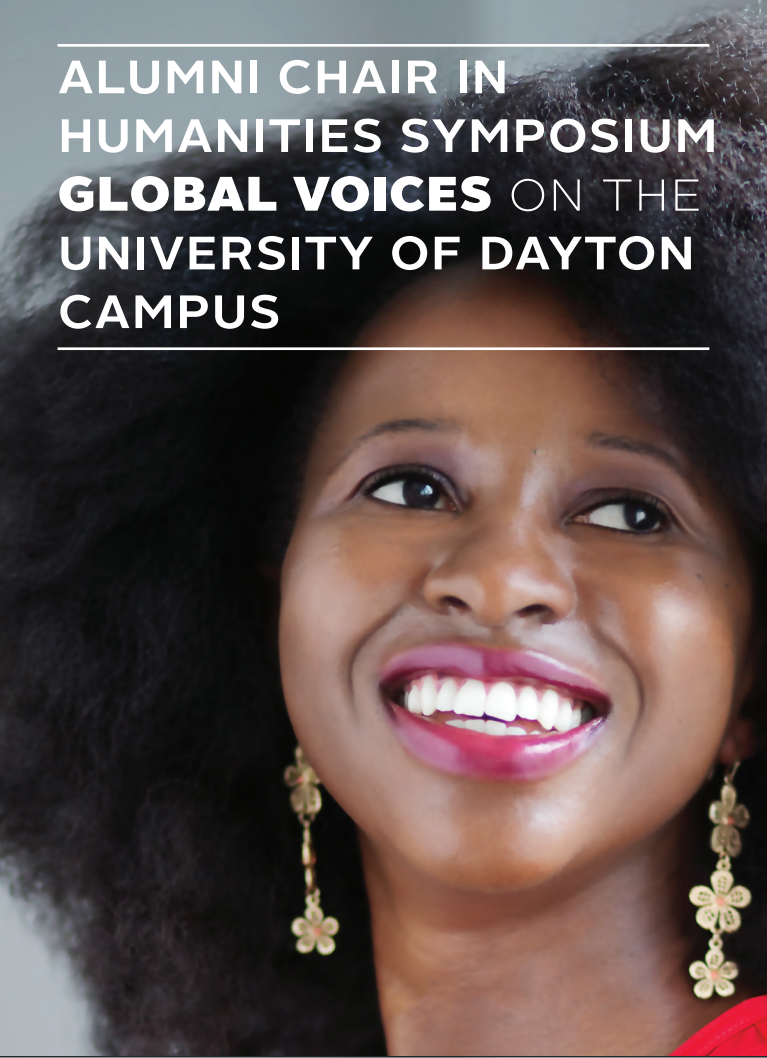
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ALUMNI CHAIR IN HUMANITIES SYMPOSIUM GLOBAL VOICES ON THE UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON CAMPUS



Keynote Address

Enhancing the Global Village on US College Campuses

Delivered by **Ms. Imbolo Mbue**

7:00 PM | JANUARY 24, 2018

PROGRAM

INTRODUCTION: DR. JULIUS AMIN

REMARKS BY PROVOST: DR. PAUL BENSON

INTRODUCTION OF KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. AMY ANDERSON

KEYNOTE ADDRESS: MS. IMBOLO MBUE

BOOK SIGNING

Imbolo Mbue is the author of *Behold the Dreamers*, a 2017 Oprah's Book Club pick and winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award.

Behold the Dreamers tells the story of Jende Jonga, a Cameroonian immigrant living in Harlem who lands a job as a chauffeur for Clark Edwards, a senior executive at Lehman Brothers, in the fall of 2007. Jende hopes the new job will enable him, his adored wife, Neni, and his young son, to live a better life in America. When Neni is hired as a household help by Clark's wife, their situation only improves. But in the course of their work, Jende and Neni begin to witness infidelities, skirmishes, and family secrets. Desperate to shield the fragile life they've built in New York, the Jongas protect their employers, even when the wealthy couple's secrets begin to drive a wedge between Jende and Neni. Then, with the 2008 collapse of Lehman Brothers, all four lives are dramatically upended, and Jende and Neni are forced to make an impossible choice.

Mbue's book is informed by her experience of being an immigrant and the experiences of the many immigrants that she knows. Like Jende and Neni, she grew up in Limbe, Cameroon before immigrating the U.S.

Mbue holds a B.S. from Rutgers University and an M.A. from Columbia University. She lives in New York City.

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