Headliners Set for Meliora Weekend 2014

Pulitzer Prize–winning presidential historian Doris Kearns Goodwin, actress Laverne Cox, and comedian Jason Alexander will headline this year’s Meliora Weekend, Oct. 16–19.

Friday evening will feature entertainment, including a performance by Alexander, best known for playing the role of George Costanza on the NBC series *Seinfeld*, at Kodak Hall at Eastman Theatre. A limited number of tickets will be available for the event.

On Saturday, Goodwin will deliver the keynote address. Goodwin, a regular commentator on the presidency, was an assistant to President Lyndon Johnson. She’s the author of six critically acclaimed *New York Times* best-selling books and winner of the 1995 Pulitzer Prize for History for *No Ordinary Time: Franklin and Eleanor Roosevelt: The Home Front in World War II*. There will be no lottery for tickets to the event; it will, however, be simulcast.

At the Palestra, Cox, who plays an African-American transgender woman on the popular Netflix series *Orange Is the New Black*, will speak about her role as the first transgender woman of color to play a leading part on a mainstream television show.

For the second year, the weekend will also feature a series of MEL Talks by faculty, students, and alumni on topics related to research, innovation, and artistry.

The inaugural series of MEL Talks, held on stage at the Palestra, are available for viewing online on the University’s YouTube channel at www.youtube.com/user/UniversityRochester.

Sculpture Supports Psychiatry Patients and Families

The Department of Psychiatry and renowned Rochester metal sculptor Albert Paley are joining forces to support patients with mental health disorders and their families.

A new sculpture by Paley was installed this spring in the atrium garden at the department’s clinical service, Strong Behavioral Health. Titled *Portal*, the eight-foot-tall sculpture of weathered steel is surrounded by greenery and natural light and is intended to inspire contemplation and enhance the dignity and warmth of the entranceway.

Part of a nine-piece series of sculptures, *Portal* was exhibited throughout Europe and the United States before being placed on long-term loan to the University.

**HEADLINERS: Historian Doris Kearns Goodwin (clockwise from top), actor and singer Jason Alexander, and actress Laverne Cox are the special guests for this fall’s Meliora Weekend in October.**
ADAM FENSTER

UR Medicine Launches Wilmot Cancer Institute

The University’s clinical and research programs in cancer, along with a growing network of satellite locations, have been reorganized under the newly launched Wilmot Cancer Institute.

As part of an effort to expand and deepen the institute’s mission, UR Medicine also launched a $30 million comprehensive campaign with a focus on cancer research. The spring announcement included $4 million in support from the Wilmot family and the James P. Wilmot Foundation.

With the Wilmot Cancer Center at the Medical Center as its hub, the new institute encompasses seven satellite treatment facilities and all cancer research activities at the University.

The institute is designed to provide the highest level of care by making the expertise and capabilities of clinicians, faculty, and health care professionals available to patients.

HONOREE: The longtime director of the laser lab, Robert McCrory is one of only eight faculty members to hold the title of University Professor.