

# Williams and Jarvis present the 2016 Hartzog Lecture



**Terry Tempest Williams** has been called "a citizen writer," a writer who speaks and speaks out eloquently on behalf of an ethical stance toward life. A naturalist and fierce advocate for freedom of speech, she has consistently shown us how environmental issues are social issues that ultimately become matters of justice.

"So here is my question," she asks, "what might a different kind of power look like, feel like, and can power be redistributed equitably even beyond our own species?"

Williams, like her writing, cannot be categorized. She has testified before Congress on women's health issues, been a guest at the White House, has camped in the remote regions of Utah and Alaska wildernesses and worked as "a barefoot artist" in Rwanda.

Known for her impassioned and lyrical prose, Terry Tempest Williams is the author of the environmental literature classic, *Refuge: An Unnatural History of Family and Place*; *An Unspoken Hunger: Stories from the Field*; *Desert Quartet*; *Leap*; *Red: Passion and Patience in the Desert*; *The Open Space of Democracy*; and *Finding Beauty in a Broken World*. Her most recent book, *When Women Were Birds*, was published in Spring 2012 by Sarah Crichton Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux. She is also a columnist for the magazine *The Progressive*. She also wrote *The Story of My Heart* by Richard Jeffries, as rediscovered by Brooke Williams and Terry Tempest Williams (Torrey House Press), in which she and Brooke Williams expand upon the 1883 book by Richard Jeffries. Her new book is titled *The Hour of Land: A Personal Topography of America's National Parks* (Sarah Crichton Books/Farrar, Straus and Giroux), the book honors the centennial of the National Park Service.

In 2006, Williams received the Robert Marshall Award from The Wilderness Society, their highest honor given to an American citizen. She also received the Distinguished Achievement Award from the Western American Literature Association and the Wallace Stegner Award given by The Center for the American West. She is the recipient of a Lannan Literary Fellowship and a John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship in creative nonfiction. In 2009, Terry Tempest Williams was featured in Ken Burns' PBS series on the national parks. In 2014, on the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, Ms. Williams received the Sierra Club's John Muir Award honoring a distinguished record of leadership in American conservation.

Terry Tempest Williams is currently the Provostial Scholar at Dartmouth College. Her writing has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times*, *Orion Magazine*, and numerous anthologies worldwide as a crucial voice for ecological consciousness and social change. She and her husband, Brooke Williams live in the desert and mountains of the American West.

"At the heart of all [Williams'] work— as a writer, a naturalist, and a crusader for protection of the nation's wilderness...the common theme is restoration: restoring our connection to the land, to the sacred, and to each other." —  
*Utne Reader*

[100 Years later, National Park Service lands still grant us 'breathing space'](#)



Jon B. Jarvis, 2016  
Hartzog Co-  
Lecturer

**Jonathan B. Jarvis** began his career with the National Park Service in 1976 as a seasonal interpreter in Washington, D.C. Today, he manages that agency whose mission is to preserve America's most treasured landscapes and cultural icons.

Jarvis's 37-year career has taken him from ranger to resource management specialist to park biologist to superintendent of parks such as Craters of the Moon, North Cascades, Wrangell-St. Elias, and Mount Rainier.

Before being confirmed as the 18th Director of the National Park Service on September 24, 2009, Jarvis served as regional director of the bureau's Pacific West Region.

Today, he is responsible for overseeing an agency with more than 22,000 employees, a \$3 billion budget, and 407 national parks that attract more than 280 million visitors every year who generate \$30 billion in economic benefit across the nation.

The National Park Service brings the park idea to virtually every county in America. Grants from the Land and Water Conservation and Historic Preservation Fund help communities preserve local history and create close-to-home recreational opportunities. Since 1976, the Service's tax credit program has leveraged more than \$60 billion in private investment in historic preservation to help revitalize downtowns and neighborhoods across the country.

Jarvis has also reinvigorated the National Park Service's role as an international advocate for protected areas and recognized world leader in cultural and natural resource management.

Managing the National Park Service on the eve of its centennial in 2016, Jarvis has focused on several key areas that are critical for the future: enhancing stewardship of the places entrusted to the Service's care; maximizing the educational potential of parks and programs; engaging new generations and audiences, and ensuring the welfare and fulfillment of National Park Service employees.

Jarvis speaks frequently about climate change, sustainability, the outdoors as a source of public health, and the parks as a unifying, inspirational force for the nation. His blueprint for the agency's second century, [A Call to Action](#), calls for innovative, ambitious, yet practical ways to fulfill the National Park Service's promise to America in the 21st century.

From a seasonal interpreter in the year of our nation's bicentennial to the head of an internationally known institution on the eve of its 100th birthday, Jarvis has gained a thorough knowledge of these great American treasures, the national parks.

"America's National Park System is a gift from past generations to this and succeeding generations," said Jarvis. "And while the challenges we face today – like climate change, shrinking open space, habitat destruction, non-native species, and air and water pollution – could not have been imagined when this agency was established in 1916, our mission remains the same: to preserve this nation's natural and cultural heritage, unimpaired for the enjoyment of this and future generations."

## **VIDEOS of the 2016 Hartzog Lecture:**

[Recap-short version](#)

[Full length version](#)