The Susan Resneck Pierce Lectures in Public Affairs and the Arts series was named in honor of Susan Resneck Pierce, University of Puget Sound president from 1992 to 2003, in recognition of her years of outstanding service to the university. The lecture series annually brings to the University of Puget Sound campus and the wider community public intellectuals, writers, and artists of significant prominence.

Susan Resneck Pierce Lectures in Public Affairs & the Arts

2013–Wole Soyinka
   Writing for Freedom

2012–Robert Reich
   The Global Economy and the Future of Everything National

2012–Carlos Fuentes
   From Law to Literature: A Personal Journey

2011–Kay Redfield Jamison
   Minds on Fire: Mood Disorders and Creativity

2011–Spike Lee
   America Through My Lens

2009–Sherman Alexie
   Without Reservations: An Urban Indian’s Comic, Poetic, and Highly Irreverent Look at the World

2009–Suzan-Lori Parks
   An Evening with Suzan-Lori Parks

2008–Twyla Tharp
   The Creative Habit

2008–Cory Booker
   An Evening with Cory Booker

2007–David Brooks
   How Does Being American Shape Us?

2007–Philip Glass
   An Evening with Philip Glass

2006–Cornel West
   Democracy Matters

2006–Edward Albee
   Improvisation and the Creative Mind

2005–Fareed Zakaria
   The Future of Freedom

2005–Nina Totenberg
   The Supreme Court and Its Impact on You

2004–Robert Pinsky
   Poetry in the World

2004–Terry Tempest Williams
   The Open Space of Democracy

2003–Anna Deavere Smith
   Snapshots: Glimpses of America in Change

2003–David Halberstam
   The Children: The Unique Courage and Faith of Ordinary Citizens to Change America

2002–Thomas Friedman
   Global Economy and American Foreign Policy
UNIVERSITY OF PUGET SOUND
PRESENTS

An Evening with
Junot Díaz

SCHNEEBECK CONCERT HALL
SEPTEMBER 17, 2013 | 8 PM.
Born in the Dominican Republic, Junot Díaz was raised in New Jersey and received a B.A. (1992) from Rutgers University and an M.F.A. (1995) from Cornell University. Díaz is a writer and a teacher of writing who expresses with wit and with piercing truth the complexities of living in two cultures at once, with an intensity that has been called “profane, lyrical, learned, and tireless.”

He is best known for his three major works: the short story collections Drown and This is How You Lose Her (a New York Times best-seller and National Book Award finalist), and the novel The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao, which won the 2008 Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award.

Díaz is the recipient of a MacArthur “Genius” Fellowship, PEN/Malamud Award, Dayton Literary Peace Prize, Guggenheim Fellowship, and PEN/O. Henry Award. His fiction has appeared in The New Yorker, which listed him as one of the 20 top writers for the 21st century, as well as in Story, Paris Review, and in the anthologies Best American Short Stories and African Voices.

Díaz is a trustee of Freedom University, a volunteer-driven organization that provides college-level instruction to all academically qualified students in the state of Georgia, regardless of immigration status. He is currently the fiction editor at Boston Review and Nancy Allen Professor of Writing at Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
Program

Tuesday, September 17, 2013, 8 p.m.
Schneebeck Concert Hall

Introduction
Ronald R. Thomas
President

Junot Díaz

Questions and Answers

Please turn off all cell phones and pagers.
No photo or recording devices allowed.

Reception following the lecture
at Pierce Atrium in Wyatt Hall.