

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



ROSEMARIE GARLAND-THOMSON

Rosemarie Garland-Thomson is Professor of English at Emory University, where her fields of study are disability studies, American literature and culture, bioethics, and feminist theory. Her work develops the field of critical disability studies in the health humanities, broadly understood, to bring forward disability access, inclusion and identity to communities inside and outside of the academy.

She is the author of *Staring: How We Look* and several other books. Her current book project is

Habitable Worlds: Toward a Disability Bioethics.

Keynote Address: “The Best: How We Look and Why It Matters”

Thursday, April 13, 2017 | 9:30 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. | Centennial Ballroom C/D



DAVID J. KURS

David J. Kurs is the Artistic Director of Deaf West Theatre, the second in its 26-year history. Most recently, Deaf West Theatre co-produced Edward Albee’s *At Home at the Zoo* with the Wallis in Beverly Hills. Deaf West’s 2014 production of *Spring Awakening* traveled from its beginnings in a small theater in Los Angeles to Broadway, eventually garnering three Tony nominations including Best Revival of a Musical.

Keynote Address: “Deaf West Theatre’s *Spring Awakening*: How ASL Musicals are Stretching the Boundaries of the Musical”

Thursday, April 13, 2017 | 8:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. | Schoenberg Music Building, Room 1100



KAREN NAKAMURA

Karen Nakamura is the Robert and Colleen Haas Distinguished Chair in Disability Studies at the University of California Berkeley. An anthropologist, her first book was titled *Deaf in Japan: Signing and the Politics of Identity* (2006).

Her next project resulted in two ethnographic films and a monograph titled, *A Disability of the Soul: An Ethnography of Schizophrenia and Mental Illness in Contemporary Japan* (2014). She is currently working on intersections of

transsexuality and disability politics.

**Keynote Address: “The Spectacle of Disability (Studies) in the Age of Trump”
Friday, April 14, 2017 | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. | Centennial Ballroom C/D**