Russell Library Launches Ready, Steady, Vote! Program Series This Fall

Writer/Contact: Jan Levinson, 706/542-5788; jlevinson@uga.edu

Could your election season use a little non-partisan entertainment? If so, then plan to join the Richard B. Russell Library for Political Research and Studies for Ready, Steady, Vote! a program series focused on getting citizens in the mood for the 2012 election season.

A combination of film screenings, community forums, debate watch events, stump speeches, and an art opening, Ready, Steady, Vote! is free and open to the public. All events will take place on the 2nd floor exhibit level in the new Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries, Georgia’s newest cultural destination. Dates and descriptions for individual events are listed below. For more information, please contact russlib@uga.edu or call (706) 542-5788.

Free event parking available in the Hull Street Parking Deck. For more information visit: http://www.libs.uga.edu/scl/visit/parking.html

To learn more about the Richard B. Russell Library, visit: http://www.libs.uga.edu/russell

Thursday, September 6, 2012, 6:30PM-9:00PM
Film Screening, Mr. Smith Goes to Washington (1939)
Auditorium, Room 271, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Doors will open at 6:30PM for light refreshments. The program will begin at 7:00PM with brief introductions from Dr. John Inscoe, Albert B. Saye Professor of History at the University of Georgia.

More About this Film: A naïve man (Jimmy Stewart) is appointed to fill a vacancy in the U.S. Senate. His plans promptly collide with political corruption, but he doesn’t back down. Directed by Frank Capra; starring James (Jimmy) Stewart, Jean Arthur, and Claude Rains. Run time: 129 minutes.

Tuesday, September 11, 2012, 5:30PM-7:00PM
Community Forum, Topic: America’s Role in the World
Large Event Space, Room 285, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

What does “national security” mean in the 21st century? And how do we, as citizens of the United States, think our elected leaders should go about securing our nation? Does the answer lie in strengthening the military or balancing the budget? Or perhaps it’s a question of our active participation in a global society – working with other countries to find collaborative solutions to issues like overpopulation, nuclear proliferation, global warming, pandemics, and food shortages. Join us for this deliberative discussion weighing the benefits and tradeoffs of three approaches to this issue using an NIF issue guide.
Tuesday, September 18, 2012, 5:30-7:00PM  
**Community Forum**, Topic: Economic Security: How Should We Take Charge of Our Future?  
Large Event Space, Room 285, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

As the nation slowly recovers from its worst recession in decades, it is a good time to ask how we can best take charge of the future, so families can feel reasonably secure, parents can help their children prosper, and everyone can move toward a financially stable retirement. Join us for this deliberative discussion where we weigh the benefits and tradeoffs of three approaches to this issue using an [NIF issue guide](#).

Tuesday, September 25th, 2012, 5:30-7:00PM  
**Community Forum**, Topic: Immigration in America: How Do We Fix a System in Crisis?  
Large Event Space, Room 285, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Most Americans agree that our immigration system needs an overhaul. Tackling the immigration issue requires that we take a fresh look at it and get beyond the polarized debates that too often divide the country rather than bringing it together. Our challenge today is to build a system that reflects our essential values as a nation of laws and a nation of immigrants. Join us for this deliberative discussion where we weigh the benefits and tradeoffs of three approaches to this issue using an [NIF issue guide](#).

Thursday, October 11, 2012, 6:30PM-9:00PM  
**Film Screening**, *The Contender* (2000)  
Auditorium, Room 271, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Doors will open at 6:30PM for light refreshments. The program will begin at 7:00PM with brief introductions. **More About this Film**: A political thriller about Laine Hanson (Joan Allen), a senator who is nominated to become Vice President following the death of the previous office holder. During the confirmation process, Laine is the victim of a vicious attack on her personal life in which stories of sexual deviancy are spread. She is torn as to whether she should fight back, or stick to her high principles and refuse to comment on the allegations. Directed by Rod Lurie; starring Joan Allen, Gary Oldman, and Jeff Bridges. Run time: 126 minutes. **Note**: This film is rated R.
Tuesday, October 16, 2012, 8:00-10:30PM
Presidential Debate Watch
Auditorium, Room 271, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Witness history in the making! As the campaign season comes to a fever pitch and Election Day draws near, join the Russell Library for Political Research and Studies for Debate Watch 2012 on Tuesday, October 16th, 2012 at 8:00 p.m. Visitors will gather to watch the candidates go toe-to-toe on the big screen. Dr. Jamie Carson, Associate Professor of Political Science at The University of Georgia, will introduce the town-hall style debate and facilitate discussion. Doors will open at 8:00, followed by discussion at 8:30, and the debate at 9:00.

Thursday, November 1, 2012, 6:30PM-9:00PM
Film Screening, *The Candidate* (1972)
Auditorium, Room 271, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Doors will open at 6:30PM for light refreshments. The program will begin at 7:00PM with brief introductions from Dr. Brian Drake, Professor of History at the University of Georgia.

**More About this Film:** Idealistic young lawyer Bill McKay (Robert Redford) agrees to run for the U.S. Senate, not to win but rather to bring vital issues before the voters. He despises political deals and compromises, but when the possibility of victory overshadows what seemed like certain defeat, his integrity begins to weaken. A fascinating character study, the film shows the inner conflicts of a decent man torn between his ambition and his conscience. Directed by Michael Ritchie; starring Robert Redford, Peter Boyle, and Melvyn Douglas. Run time: 110 minutes.

Monday, November 5, 2012, 5:30-7:00PM
Dedication and Reception for “Doors”
Richard B. Russell Library Exhibit Gallery, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

In 2011, the Russell Library commissioned acclaimed painter Art Rosenbaum to create a mural in its new gallery space. The result, titled “Doors”, traces Georgia’s modern political history from 1900 through the present. This reception will serve as an opportunity to dedicate the finished mural, with commentary from Rosenbaum and Russell Library staff.

Tuesday, November 6, 2012, 12:00-2:00PM
Historic Stump Speeches in the Gallery
Richard B. Russell Library Exhibit Gallery, Richard B. Russell Building for Special Collections Libraries

Come watch members of UGA’s Demosthenian Literary Society re-enact classic campaign speeches in the Russell Library Exhibit Gallery, atop the mighty stump inlaid in the lobby floor.