

OMAHA TOWN HALL LECTURE SERIES

inform
inspire
in touch with the world!
omahatownhall.org



MEGAN TWOHEY

[About](#)

* IMPORTANT NOTICE *

Due to ongoing supply chain issues, please note:

* 2022 - 2023 membership cards and patron passes will be mailed during the second week in September.

* September luncheon RSVP deadlines are early this year (see below). Send in your reservations as soon as possible to ensure a seat.

ISSUE #1: September 2022

MEGAN TWOHEY **Wednesday, September 28, 2022**

Megan Twohey is a Pulitzer Prize-winning investigative reporter for *The New York Times* and co-author of the bestselling book, *She Said: Breaking The Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite a Movement*. The book takes readers behind the scenes of Twohey and Jodi Kantor's 2017 investigation of Harvey Weinstein, which helped trigger the global reckoning on sexual misconduct. The investigation shared in the 2018 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service as well as the George Polk award for national reporting and won many other prizes.

Twohey has focused much of her reporting on the treatment of women and children. She uncovered an underground network where parents gave away adopted children they no

longer wanted to strangers met on the Internet in a practice known as re-homing. The series, "The Child Exchange," showed how this dangerous black market took place with no government oversight and at great risk to children, and was a finalist for the 2014 Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting.

Twohey also was one of the first journalists to expose how police and prosecutors were shelving DNA evidence collected after sex crimes, robbing victims of the chance for justice. In response to her stories, Illinois passed the first state law mandating the testing of every rape kit.

Also! *She Said* has recently been turned into an American biographical drama produced by Brad Pitt. The film stars Carey Mulligan and Zoe Kazan as Twohey and Kantor, and is scheduled to be released on November 18, 2022.

Additionally, just this past month, Twohey and Kantor were recognized by *Fast Company* magazine amongst its list of the most creative people in business for training the next generation of reporters.

*She Said Movie
Trailer*

President's Letter

Dear Omaha Town Hall Members,

Welcome to the 2022 - 2023 season (and 57th year!) of Omaha Town Hall. We are grateful for your support of our mission to inform, inspire, and be in touch with the world.

A warm welcome to our new members. We appreciate your patience with the waitlist. With over 1,000 members, our membership is once again sold out. For those interested in joining Omaha Town Hall, they may sign up for our waitlist at www.omahatownhall.com or at the membership table at each lecture.

To our Gold, Silver and Bronze Patrons: a special thank you. Your contributions are invaluable in enabling our organization to showcase renowned speakers of the highest caliber.

A particular note of appreciation and praise to retiring board members Susan McGillick, Marianne Holland, Terri McDonnell, Kathy Wilson, and Chris Zygielbaum. These women led our organization with tenacity and dedication over many years of service and most particularly during the unique challenges presented by the pandemic. Our heartfelt gratitude.

New members of our board of directors are Ann Marie Bausch, Rebecca Dietle, Kathy Johnson, Julie Lyons, Kathy Callahan Mrla, Jennifer Peterson and Suzan Karrer Rohrig. Over the past several months, our 28 board members have worked together tirelessly and we sincerely hope you enjoy and learn from this season's speakers.

- **Lecture 1:** Wednesday, September 28, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
Megan Twohey, Pulitzer-prize winning investigative reporter
- **Lecture 2:** Wednesday, October 26, 2022, 10:30 a.m.
Derreck Kayongo, Ugandan refugee and human rights award winner
- **Lecture 3:** Wednesday, March 22, 2023, 10:30 a.m.

- **Lecture 4:** Wednesday, April 26, 2023, 10:30 a.m.
Captain Scott Kelly, former NASA astronaut and retired Navy captain

Please note that all lectures are located at Saint Andrew's United Methodist Church in Omaha (see details below) and following each lecture you are invited to attend a luncheon, during which speakers host an informal Q&A session (see reservation instructions below).

A final important notice: due to ongoing supply chain issues, membership cards and patron passes will be mailed during the second week in September. Upon receipt, please sign the membership card. To enter the lecture hall, you will need to show your membership card, and if you are unable to attend a lecture, you may share your membership card with a friend.

We look forward to seeing you on September 28th!

Jill Thomsen
President, Board of Directors
Omaha Town Hall Lecture Series

Luncheon at the Omaha Marriott Regency with Megan Twohey

Immediately following the lecture and featuring an informal Q & A session.

Omaha Marriott Regency
10220 Regency Circle
Cost \$28 - Advance reservations required

Reservations **MUST BE POSTMARKED** on or after **Wednesday, September 7th**.
We will **STOP** accepting reservations on **Wednesday, September 14th**.
Seating is assigned as reservations are received.

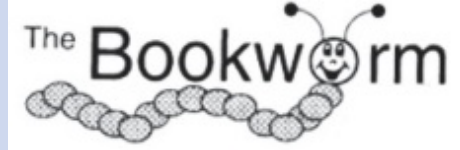
For group reservations (2 - 8), please submit only one check.
Include all names in your group to avoid double seating.

Make checks payable to **OMAHA TOWN HALL LECTURE SERIES**
Send to: Kathy Mrla, 14010 Grand Circle, Omaha, NE 68164
Questions? mrlaomaha@aol.com or 402.445.8941

Please note:

- Include your email and phone number on your check.
- Pick up all tickets from the luncheon table at the lecture and distribute to your group.
- No tickets will be sold day of event.
- If your luncheon plans change, your ticket may be used by a friend.
- There are no cancellations or refunds.

with The Bookworm, an independent family-owned bookstore in Loveland Centre, to offer book sales at our lectures and luncheons. The Bookworm contributes a percentage of sales back to OTH, helping us continue the tradition of providing outstanding lecturers.



Megan Twohey's book, *She Said: Breaking The Sexual Harassment Story That Helped Ignite A Movement*, will be available for purchase at the lecture. Hardcover \$28+tax, Paperback, \$18+tax. Ms. Twohey will sign books following the lecture.

The Bookworm Omaha | info@bookwormomaha.com | 402-392-2877
2501 S. 90th St., Omaha, NE, 68124

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

Derreck Kayongo Wednesday, October 26, 2022

Derreck Kayongo is the founder of the Global Soap Project, a humanitarian aid organization that collects discarded and unused soap from thousands of hotels worldwide, reprocesses it, then distributes it to in-need populations around the world. The project was born from his simple observation about how much soap is available in hotels, and how much is thrown away. This simple observation became an innovative idea now battling global health issues in 90 countries. Hygiene-related diseases, and the resulting deaths, have dissipated in many at-risk communities, thanks in part to Kayongo's creative problem solving. From Ugandan refugee to successful entrepreneur, CEO and renowned human rights activist, Kayongo's journey inspires audiences to dream big.



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OCTOBER SOAP DRIVE

In honor of October's speaker, Derreck Kayongo, and his role as founder of the Global Soap Project, we would love you to join the Omaha Town Hall Board of Directors in helping those in need within our own community. **Please bring NEW bars of soap (hotel or regular size) to Mr. Kayongo's lecture on Wednesday, October 26, 2022**. Donation boxes will be located throughout St. Andrew's lobby. The soap collected will be donated to Nebraska's largest provider of services to individuals experiencing homelessness. Located in downtown Omaha, the shelter uses 1,400 bars of soap each month. Thank you for your generosity and support!

Sarah Thomas

Wednesday, March 22, 2023

Sarah Thomas changed the game in the world's most quintessential male-dominated sport - football - when she became the first female NFL official, officiating her first game on September 13, 2015 between the Kansas City Chiefs and Houston Texans - and on February 7, 2021 when she became the first female to officiate a Super Bowl. Named one of *Sports Illustrated* 100 most influential figures of all time, Sarah is no stranger to being the first or breaking gender barriers. Since joining the NFL's roster of officials, she has become a trail-blazing inspiration to women everywhere, embodying the notion that with a belief in self, inner drive, hard work, preparation and a mindset of being the best you can be, no barrier or ceiling is impenetrable.

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Captain Scott Kelly

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

Former NASA astronaut and retired U.S. Navy Captain Scott Kelly shares the remarkable story of his “Year in Space” mission. He holds the record for the single longest mission of an American astronaut in space; previously he held the record for the total accumulated number of days spent in space. When he and his twin brother Mark were selected to become astronaut candidates in April 1996, they were the first relatives ever selected. After completing his training, Scott became the first American in his class of 44 prospective astronauts assigned to a space flight as the pilot of STS-103, an emergency repair mission to the Hubble Space Telescope. On his second mission, Kelly was assigned to command space shuttle mission STS-118, a rare feat given that most shuttle commanders are assigned after two flights as a pilot. He describes the effects of isolation, the physical impact on the body and the psychological pressures of living in a confined space, as well as the many dangers. Chief among the lessons Scott shares: the importance of preparation, attention to detail and teamwork—any of which can mean the difference between life and death, or success and failure for a team.

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Important Information

NEWSLETTERS

Newsletters are electronic and sent via email. **If you know someone who is NOT**

receiving this newsletter, please tell them to check their spam and junk folders.

ATTEND IN PERSON

- We continue to monitor Covid in our community. Please consider how you feel the morning of the lecture and please stay home if you do not feel well.
- For those who join the lecture in person, masks and sanitizer will be available.
- **The 2022 - 2023 membership card will be mailed the second week of September.** It is **FUSCHIA PINK** and will be the only card accepted for entry.

ATTEND VIRTUALLY ONLINE

- For those who would like to watch virtually, **please email Jennifer Peterson at j-n-peterson@cox.net by Sunday, September 25th** to reserve your space.
- **Please email your request only once.**
- Last minute virtual viewing requests are very difficult to accommodate.
- Those who reserve an online space will receive an email from Omaha Town Hall with a distinctive link to the lecture **on Tuesday the evening** before the lecture.
- **Please do not share the link.** Omaha Town Hall is charged for use of this service.
- Omaha Town Hall's legal contracts with our speakers **prohibit recording** of lectures, which must viewed live and in real time.

SEAT SAVING

Saved seats are limited to **one per person**. Large groups must enter the lecture together.

KEEP MEMBERSHIP CARDS ON HAND

Members find seats early and then leave the lecture hall to purchase a book, visit with friends or use the restroom. Ushers check membership cards **each time** a person enters.

HEARING IMPAIRED

St. Andrew's has a comfortable room at the back of the lecture hall with volume control.

QUESTIONS?

Membership: Bev Austin, 402.484.7846, baustin9637@gmail.com

September Luncheon: Kathy Mrla, 402.445.8941, mrlaomaha@aol.com

General Information: omahatownhalllectureseries@gmail.com

Omaha Town Hall Social Media

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Omaha Town Hall Lecture Series

St. Andrew's United Methodist Church, 15050 West Maple Road, Omaha, Nebraska 68116

Wednesday, September 28, 2022, at 10:30 a.m.

Doors open at 9:30 a.m.

Please bring your **Fuschia Pink** membership card to all lectures.



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