



Wayne
County
Community
College
District

Division of Student Services
Presents



G L O B A L
C O N V E R S A T I O N S
S P E A K E R S E R I E S



NIKKI GIOVANNI:

American Poet, Author, Teacher, and Storyteller

Thursday, March 22, 2018

11:00 a.m.

Eastern Campus

Cooper Community Room

5901 Conner Street, Detroit, MI 48213

Nikki Giovanni is one of the best-known African-American poets who reached prominence during the late 1960s and early 1970s. Her unique and insightful poetry testifies to her own evolving awareness and experiences: from child to young woman, from naive college freshman to seasoned civil rights activist, from daughter to mother. Frequently anthologized, Giovanni's poetry expresses strong racial pride and respect for family. Her informal style makes her work accessible to both adults and children. She gained an intense appreciation for her African-American heritage from her outspoken grandmother, explaining in an interview, "I come from a long line of storytellers." This early exposure to the power of spoken language influenced Giovanni's career as a poet, particularly in her propensity towards colloquial speech. "Writing is ... what I do to justify the air I breathe," Giovanni wrote. Giovanni has received numerous awards and accolades for her work.

*For more information, please contact the Division of Student Services
at 313-496-2634 or visit our website at www.wcccd.edu*

