

Arts & Ideas: Conversations @ The Wallis

The Wallis and Writers Bloc Present

Senator Barbara Boxer

with Paula Poundstone

Sunday, June 12, 2016 at 4:00pm

(Beverly Hills, CA May 2, 2016) Continuing its partnership with Writers Bloc, the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts presents the next installment of its highly-popular **Arts & Ideas** series with a conversation featuring trailblazing **U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer** with comedienne **Paula Poundstone**. The conversation will take place on the stage of the Bram Goldsmith Theater on Sunday, June 12 at 4:00pm. Tickets are currently on sale.

Since 1992, Barbara Boxer has stood for progressive politics in the U.S. Senate. She has been a steadfast advocate for women's rights, environmental protection and healthcare. In ***The Art of Tough: Fearlessly Facing Politics and Life***, her new memoir about her decades in politics representing California's interests in the House of Representatives and in the Senate, Senator Boxer unveils her weaknesses and reminds us of her great strength as a pioneer in Washington. She takes us back to her involvement in significant political struggles, from the Clarence Thomas hearings to Iraq, with environmental challenges such as climate change. Sometimes she's won, and often she has lost. But she proves that by speaking up and speaking out, doing the right thing matters.

The Senate is indeed a perplexing place, and although it has its shining moments, it is not really what we would call hilarious. But Paula Poundstone is. Comedy Central ranks her as one of the best American comedians of all time and she is a member of the Comedy Hall of Fame. She was the first woman to host the Washington Press Club dinner and is the spokesperson for the esteemed American Library Association. She has had comedy specials on HBO and Bravo, and has appeared regularly on late night television. You can catch her comedy acts all over the country and hear her on NPR's "Wait, Wait...Don't Tell Me."

"The Wallis' *Arts & Ideas* series serves as a great public forum for the community to come together and hear new ideas or get compelling insight into public figures," said Paul Crewes, The Wallis' new Artistic Director. "Welcoming our own U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer in discussion with the astute Paula Poundstone, is very timely and will continue the political discussion sparked by Anthony Giardina's remarkably relevant drama *The City of Conversation*, debuting at The Wallis in May."

Tickets for **Arts & Ideas: Conversations @ The Wallis – Senator Barbara Boxer with Paula Poundstone** are now available for \$49 and \$59 and include a copy of Barbara Boxer's book *The Art of Tough: Fearlessly Facing Politics and Life*. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit TheWallis.org, call 310.746.4000, or stop by in person at the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts Ticket Services located at 9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd., Beverly Hills, CA 90210. Ticket prices subject to change.

About Writers Bloc

Writers Bloc is a nonprofit literary series dedicated to bringing to Los Angeles our favorite writers and thinkers, as they discuss their ideas with other interesting personalities. Writers Bloc is now in its 19th season, and has hosted many of the most influential voices, who have made a significant impact on our cultural and literary landscape. Writers Bloc seeks to expand the general public's access to and understanding of literature through community-based programs featuring writers, thinkers, public figures and others in conversation about fictional and nonfictional work, and to create and foster opportunities for dialogue and interaction between the general public and writers, thinkers, public figures or others about reading, writing, literature, the literary process, the role and relationship of literature to music, film and other media, and the relevance and impact of literature on modern society.

About the Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts

Since opening its doors in October 2013, The Wallis has produced or presented more than 100 dance, theatre, opera, classical music and children's programs to an ever expanding audience. Located in the heart of Beverly Hills, California, The Wallis brings audiences world-class theater, dance and music, performed by many of the world's most talented and sought-after artists. With eclectic programming that mirrors the diverse landscape of Los Angeles, and its notability as the entertainment capital of the world, The Wallis offers original and revered works from across the U.S. and around the globe. The mission of The Wallis is to be a vital cultural hub that uses unique arts events and education programming to entertain, enlighten and inspire children and adults in our community and across the nation.

Nominated for 26 Ovation Awards, four L.A. Drama Critic's Circle Awards and the recipient of five architectural awards since opening in 2013, The Wallis is a breathtaking 70,000-square-foot venue that celebrates the classic and the modern and was designed by Zoltan E. Pali, FAIA of Studio Pali Fekete architects. The building features the restored, original 1933 Beverly Hills Post Office (on the National Register of Historic Places) that serves as the theater's dramatic yet welcoming lobby, and houses the 150-seat Lovelace Studio Theater, GRoW at The Wallis: A Space for Arts Education (a gift of Gregory Annenberg Weingarten and Family and the Annenberg Foundation) and the contemporary 500-seat, state-of-the-art Bram Goldsmith Theater. Together, these structures embrace the city's history and its future, creating a performing arts destination for L.A.-area visitors and residents alike.

For downloadable photos, please visit TheWallis.org/Press.

For more information about The Wallis, please visit: TheWallis.org.

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TICKET INFORMATION:

What: Arts & Ideas: Conversations @ The Wallis
The Wallis and Writers Bloc present
Senator Barbara Boxer
with Paula Poundstone

Where: Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
Bram Goldsmith Theater
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA, 90210

When: June 12, 2016

Tickets: Prices: \$49 and \$59, and include one copy of Barbara Boxer's book *The Art of Tough: Fearlessly Facing Politics and Life* (prices subject to change).
Online – TheWallis.org
By Phone – 310.746.4000
Box Office – Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts
9390 N. Santa Monica Blvd, Beverly Hills, CA 90210

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