



Presented by Family Action Network (FAN), in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Bluhm Legal Clinic at Northwestern University Pritzker School of Law, James B. Moran Center for Youth Advocacy, Law Office of the Cook County Public Defender, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, North Shore Country Day School, Northside College Preparatory High School, Temple Jeremiah, and the Women's Center at Northwestern University.

TWO EVENTS!

American Injustice: Mercy, Humanity, and Making a Difference

Bryan Stevenson

Founder and Executive Director, Equal Justice Initiative
Author, *Just Mercy: A Story of Justice and Redemption*

Thursday, April 7, 2016

4:15 PM

**Evanston Township High School Auditorium
1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston**

Thursday, April 7, 2016

7:00 PM

**New Trier High School/Winnetka
Gaffney Auditorium
385 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka**

Free and open to the public. Suitable for ages 12+

INFO: familyactionnetwork.net



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: BRYAN STEVENSON – TWO EVENTS

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EVENT #1: Thursday, April 7, 2016, American Injustice: Mercy, Humanity, and Making a Difference, **4:15 PM**, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, 60201.

EVENT #2: Thursday, April 7, 2016, American Injustice: Mercy, Humanity, and Making a Difference, **7:00 PM**, New Trier High School, Winnetka Campus, Gaffney Auditorium, 385 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, 60093.

Activist attorney **Bryan Stevenson's** deeply moving book *Just Mercy* is about mass incarceration in America and the disconnection most experience with the realities of the criminal justice system. The U.S. has the highest incarceration rate in the world, primarily due to the mandatory sentencing guidelines of the war on drugs that began in the 1980s. Mr. Stevenson, a graduate of **Harvard Law School** and Harvard's **Kennedy School of Government**, is the **Founder** and **Executive Director** of the **Equal Justice Initiative** in Montgomery, Alabama, and a law professor at **New York University School of Law**. He has won wide acclaim for his work challenging bias against the poor and people of color, having won relief for over 100 prisoners on death row. Mr. Stevenson is the recipient of numerous awards and honors, including a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant," the American Bar Association's Wisdom Award, the Olof Palme Prize, and the ACLU's National Medal of Liberty, among many others.

Stevenson's powerful 2012 TED talk, "We need to talk about an injustice," has been viewed nearly 3 million times, and in it he persuades us to believe that our response to pervasive injustice must be deep engagement, that a person is always more than their worst act. Recently, Stevenson's work at the Equal Justice Initiative bends towards trying to change the conversation about race in the U.S. He terms the era between Reconstruction and World War II an era of "racial terrorism," and he favors the concept of "transitional justice" with a focus on the process of truth and reconciliation. Layering issues of poverty on issues of race, Stevenson observes that the opposite of poverty isn't wealth – it's justice.

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