



## The Study of Human Life Joshua Bennett, Ph.D.

Poet, performer, and Professor of English and Creative Writing at Dartmouth College.  
2021 Guggenheim Fellow and Whiting Award recipient.

## Jesse McCarthy, Ph.D.

Assistant professor jointly appointed in the Department of English and the  
Department of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. 2022 Whiting Award recipient.

**Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 7:00 PM CT (on Zoom)**

**Register: [www.bit.ly/BennettFANWebinar](http://www.bit.ly/BennettFANWebinar)**

**PLUS: After-Hours Event!**

Purchase a copy of *The Study of Human Life* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall to receive a link to an interactive "After-Hours" event hosted by Dr. Bennett.

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**, in partnership with

**Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Catherine Cook School, Compass Health Center, Countryside Day School, Evanston Township High School D202, Family Service of Glencoe, Francis W. Parker School, Gorton Community Center, Haven Youth and Family Services, Hyde Park Day School, Kenilworth D38, Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools, New Trier High School D203, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Rebel Human, Regina Dominican High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Science & Arts Academy, Stevenson High School D125, The Avery Coonley School, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, The Frances Xavier Warde School, University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, Wilmette Public Library, and Youth & Opportunity United.**

This event is #freeandopentothe public and will be recorded. Suitable for youth 12+ [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)

**Sponsors**

Martin & Mary L. Boyer Foundation



Nevila & Jordan Lowe



**Partners**

Butler Family Foundation

Nancy & Nick Giampietro

The Graboys Family



Alison & Andrew McNally

Modestus Bauer Foundation



**Supporters**

The Anderson Family  
Joanne & Jeff Burgess  
Connections for the Homeless  
Fusion Academy  
Gorton Community Center  
Stephanie & Roger Hochschild  
Maureen & Collin Kebo

Lori & Ross Laser  
Mammel Foundation  
The McCall Family  
New Trier Parents' Association  
Northwestern University/SESP  
Rebel Human  
Santa Clara University College of Law

Julene & John Stellato  
The Alliance for Early Childhood  
University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice  
University of Chicago Laboratory Schools Parents' Association  
Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.)

**Community Allies**

Evanston Scholars  
Family Service Center  
Family Service of Glencoe Foundation 65  
Haven Youth and Family Services  
Karen & Steven Malkin  
Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools (LMAIS)

Mindful Psychology Associates  
New Trier Multifaith Alliance  
Northwestern University Office of Neighborhood & Community Relations  
Cari & Michael Sacks  
Lonnie Stonitsch & Eric Dynowski  
Wilmette Public Library  
Winnetka-Northfield Public Library District  
Wintrust Financial

**In-Kind**

Acclaim Media  
Deft  
Kirkland & Ellis  
The Book Stall



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JOSHUA BENNETT, Ph.D. – ON ZOOM**

**CONTACT:** Lonnie Stonitsch, Executive Director of FAN, lonnie@familyactionnetwork.net

**Tuesday, November 1, 2022, 7:00-8:00 PM, The Study of Human Life, a FAN webinar featuring Joshua Bennett, Ph.D., in conversation with Jesse McCarthy, Ph.D.**

**REGISTER:** [www.bit.ly/BennettFANWebinar](http://www.bit.ly/BennettFANWebinar).

**BONUS AFTER-HOURS EVENT:** Attendees who purchase a copy of *The Study of Human Life* from FAN's partner bookseller The Book Stall are invited to attend an AFTER-HOURS event hosted by Dr. Bennett that will start immediately after the webinar. Details on the webinar registration page.

In *The Study of Human Life*, poet, performer, and scholar **Joshua Bennett, Ph.D.** takes another step forward in his career, extending his range into the realm of speculative fiction for the first time to address issues including abolition, Black ecological consciousness, and the boundless promise of parenthood. This powerful, urgent, and formally innovative new work is divided into three sequences, which Dr. Bennett sees as a meditation on the cycle of human life, taking readers through the phases of death, reincarnation, and new life.

The first sequence, “Trash,” is a set of somber autobiographical poems that deal with themes of family life, the natural world, and the joys and dreams of youth. The second section, “The Book of Mycah,” is a mythic alternate history where Malcolm X is resurrected from the dead in 1965. Warner Bros. will produce “The Book of Mycah” as a scripted television series, with Lena Waithe’s Hillman Grad Productions adapting the work, Waithe serving as executive producer, and Dr. Bennett writing the pilot. The third section, “Dad Poem,” focuses on fatherhood and Dr. Bennett’s experience raising his son, who was born in 2020.

Dr. Bennett, the author of three previous works, received his Ph.D. in English from Princeton University and is currently Professor of English and Creative Writing at Dartmouth College. He was the recipient of both a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Whiting Award in poetry and nonfiction in 2021.

Dr. Bennett will be in conversation with **Jesse McCarthy, Ph.D.**, assistant professor in the departments of English and of African and African American Studies at Harvard University. Dr. McCarthy is an editor at *The Point*, and has written for *The New York Times Book Review*, *The Nation*, *The New Republic*, *n+1*, and *Dissent*. He is a recipient of a 2022 Whiting Award in nonfiction for his essay collection *Who Will Pay Reparations on My Soul?* Dr. Bennett and Dr. McCarthy are launching a new Penguin Classics series in 2023 called *Minor Notes* that seeks to recover and rediscover the work of minor African American poets from the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> centuries.

This event suitable for youth 12+. It will be recorded and available on our website and YouTube channel.

Sponsored by **Family Action Network (FAN)**, in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Beacon Academy, Catherine Cook School, Compass Health Center, Countryside Day School, Evanston Township High School D202, Family Service of Glencoe, Francis W. Parker School, Gorton Community Center, Haven Youth and Family Services, Hyde Park Day School, Kenilworth D38, Lake Michigan Association of Independent Schools, New Trier High School D203, New Trier Parents' Association, North Shore Country Day, Northwestern University School of Education and Social Policy, Rebel Human, Regina Dominican High School, Rogers Park Montessori School, Roycemore School, Science & Arts Academy, Stevenson High School D125, The Avery Coonley School, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, The Frances Xavier Warde School, University of Chicago Crown Family School of Social Work, Policy, and Practice, Wilmette Public Library, and Youth & Opportunity United.