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University of Minnesota, Morris to Host Michele Norris Convocation

Summary: Award-winning journalist Michele Norris will speak at Morris on Monday, October 1, at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium. Her lecture is entitled “Race, Gender, Inclusion and the Future of Leadership in America.”

(September 17, 2012)-Award-winning journalist Michele Norris will appear in a convocation at the University of Minnesota, Morris on Monday, October 1, at 7:30 p.m. in Edson Auditorium. The lecture is entitled “Race, Gender, Inclusion and the Future of Leadership in America.”

Prior to the lecture, the public may take part in a discussion of Norris’s book, The Grace of Silence, at 3:30 p.m. in Welcome Center Room 122. Books are available at the Morris Bookstore. The evening lecture will be held at 7:30 pm in Edson Auditorium and will include a question-and-answer opportunity. A reception and book signing will be held in the Student Center Alumni Room following the lecture. This event is co-sponsored by the Commission on Women, the Equity, Diversity, and Intercultural Program, and CAC Convocations.

Norris has more than two decades of experience interviewing world leaders, Nobel laureates, Oscar winners, American presidents, military leaders, influential newsmakers, and astronauts traveling in outer space. She is currently on hiatus from her position as one of the hosts of National Public Radio’s (NPR) newsmagazine All Things Considered, but will return to the show in 2013. Before coming to NPR, Norris spent almost ten years as a reporter for ABC News, where she earned both an Emmy Award and Peabody Award for her contribution to their coverage of 9/11.

In addition to reporting for NPR and ABC News, Norris has also reported for the Washington Post, Chicago Tribune, and Los Angeles Times. She has received numerous awards for her work, including the 2010 Alfred I. DuPont-Columbia University Award for the program “The York Project: Race and the 2008 Vote,” the National Association of Black Journalists’ 2009 Journalist of the Year award, the National Association of Black Journalists’ 2006 Salute to Excellence Award for her coverage of Hurricane Katrina, the University of Minnesota's Outstanding Achievement Award, and the 1990 Livingston Award. In 2007, she was honored with Ebony Magazine's eighth Annual Outstanding Women in Marketing & Communications Award and in 2009 was named one of Essence Magazine’s “25 Most Influential Black Americans.” She is on the judging committee for both the John Chancellor Award for Excellence in Journalism and the Livingston Awards.

Norris graduated from the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis, where she studied journalism. She currently lives in Washington, DC.

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