



## Nevada Humanities Presents 'The Constitution: What it Means to Me' Salon in Reno

### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**January 8, 2020—RENO, Nev**—Nevada Humanities presents the next installment of the bimonthly *Salon* series on Friday, January 17, 2020, 6:00-7:30 pm, at Sundance Books and Music in Reno. [\*The Constitution: What it Means to Me\*](#) will feature a conversation, discussion, and audience Q and A session about the U.S. Constitution. Moderated by Alison Gaulden, a diverse panel of experts including **Honorable Benes Z. Aldana, Dr. Eloisa Gordon-Mora, Dr. Debra Harry, and Dr. Amy Pason** will unpack the challenges, the opportunities, and the solace that this document brings to civic society. This event will be held on Friday, January 17, 2020, 6:00-7:30 pm, at Sundance Books and Music, which is located at 121 California Avenue in Reno. The *Salon* is free and open to the public.

### ***Nevada Humanities Salon Series participants include:***

**Honorable Benes Z. Aldana** is the president of The National Judicial College, the nation's oldest, largest, and most widely attended school for judges. Before joining the College, he was on active duty in the U.S. Coast Guard for over 22 years, retiring with the rank of captain and serving as chief trial judge during his last tour of duty, becoming the first Asian Pacific American to serve as a chief trial judge in U.S. military history. He received his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from Seattle University and his law degree from the University of Washington.

**Alison Gaulden**, APR, is a media ethics professor, public relations expert, negotiations trainer, business owner, political activist, and entertaining speaker. She has worked in reproductive rights, taught journalists and public relations practitioners, and mentored students. She has won three PRSA Sierra Nevada Chapter awards for professionalism and community service, five ASUN Faculty Adviser of the Year awards and two national faculty Adviser of the Year awards. Gaulden has worked for the University of Nevada Reynolds School of Journalism since 2005. Previously, she worked as a reproductive freedom fighter overseeing the public affairs strategy for Planned Parenthood Mar Monte.

**Eloisa Gordon-Mora** is the University Diversity and Inclusion Officer at the University of Nevada, Reno. Prior to this, she was Dean of the School of Social Science, Humanities, and Communication at Universidad Ana G. Méndez, as well as Vice-President for Academic Affairs at Universidad del Sagrado Corazón, also in San Juan, Puerto Rico. As an educator and political scientist, her work has focused on poverty and globalization, community organizing and urban politics, post-authoritarian/*delegative* democracies, and politics in Latin America and the Caribbean and has taught at numerous institutions around the world. Her research interests include higher education, diversity and inclusion, democratic theory, social violence, and post-colonial and post-structuralist literature.

**Debra Harry** serves as a lecturer for the Gender, Race, and Identity Program at the University of Nevada, Reno. Harry's research analyzes the linkages between biotechnology, intellectual property and globalization in relation

to indigenous peoples' rights. Harry also teaches online courses for the University of Nevada, Reno; the University of California, Los Angeles' Tribal Learning Community and Educational Exchange Program; and the University of Colorado, Denver's Department for Political Science. Harry is Numu (Northern Paiute), Kooyoee Dukaddo (from Pyramid Lake, Nevada), and is also a member of the Nevada Humanities Board of Trustees.

**Amy Pason** is an Associate Professor of Communication Studies at the University of Nevada, Reno. Dr. Pason received her PhD from the University of Minnesota in 2010. She studies persuasion and advocacy, and teaches courses in social movement campaigns, public speaking, and democratic deliberation and facilitation. Her interest and expertise in the Constitution comes from studying First and Second Amendment precedence and how public and legal meanings of those shift with citizen practices.

"Print edition sales of the United States Constitution are at an all-time high, with reports of close to 20,000 copies sold each month over the past few years," notes Stephanie Gibson, Assistant Director of Nevada Humanities. "We want to unpack this phenomena a bit, and understand the way the Constitution - a living document - continues to shape our lives today."

The bi-monthly *Nevada Humanities Salon Series* features a panel discussion with topics relevant to the humanities in Nevada.

**About Nevada Humanities:** Nevada Humanities is one of 56 independent, nonprofit state and territorial humanities councils affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. With offices in Reno and Las Vegas, Nevada Humanities creates public programs and supports public projects statewide that define the Nevada experience and facilitate the exploration of issues that matter to Nevadans and their communities. For more information about Nevada Humanities visit [nevadahumanities.org](http://nevadahumanities.org).

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