“Without understanding what it means to be racist, we cannot understand what it means to be an antiracist.” — Dr. Ibram X. Kendi, 2019

Tuesday, March 24, 2020 at 5:00 pm
Keynote Address and book signing
by Ibram X. Kendi, Ph.D.
UMBC’s Albin O. Kuhn Library, 7th Floor

Bestselling author and scholar of history and international relations, Ibram X. Kendi will discuss ways to understand, explain and solve the seemingly intractable problems associated with racial inequality through the ideology and political practice of antiracism. This transformative concept reorients the conversation about racism and points us toward liberating new ways of thinking about ourselves and each other.

He will address historical and contemporary racism and racial structures within and beyond the university setting. Through the lens of antiracism, he will offer a rich examination of how power creates systems of privilege and exclusion, while also providing tools that universities and community-based organizations can use to eradicate these systems.

This keynote address culminates the Inaugural Cedric Herring Symposium, a day-long event featuring thought provoking panel discussions surrounding the ways university and community scholars are continuing to address issues connected to the history of critical diversity, inclusion, professional development, and social stratification in research and practice. A book signing will follow Dr. Kendi’s address.

Dr. Kendi is professor of history and international relations and the founding director of the Antiracist Research and Policy Center at American University. He is a contributing writer at The Atlantic and is a frequent public speaker. He is the author of Stamped from the Beginning: The Definitive History of Racist Ideas in America, which won the National Book Award for nonfiction in 2016, and The Black Campus Movement: Black Students and the Racial Reconstitution of Higher Education, 1965-1972, which won the W.E.B. DuBois Book Prize. His current book, How to be an Antiracist, is a 2019 New York Times best seller.

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