



VASSAR

Institute for the Liberal Arts 2022-2023

Access and Disability: Creating a World Where Everyone Is a Participant

At its founding, Vassar was an institution that championed (and created) access to higher education for women at a time when this was thought to be a radical or unwise thing to do. Since then, Vassar has created a name for itself as an institution of higher education that prioritizes access to higher education independent of a student's socioeconomic status.

Access and Disability—the Institute's theme for 2022-23—broadens questions of access to include access to technologies, housing (and other basic human necessities like food and healthcare), institutions, knowledge of all kinds, and more. In addition, the Institute Committee would like to consider a related topic: disability.

Please Join us for the Summer Institute for the Liberal Arts Panel

Friday, July 15 at 11:00 a.m. on [Zoom \(RSVP here\)](#)

The Vassar Institute for the Liberal Arts Committee invites you to attend a virtual panel that will kick off the Institute programming for the 2022-2023 academic year based on the theme above. This panel will explore the topic of accessibility, particularly through the lens of language, as discussed in the New York Stage and Film/Powerhouse Theater production of *The World Is Not Silent*. *The World Is Not Silent* is a multilingual play that explores how language simultaneously divides and unites us. The play follows an astrophotographer, who returns home to reconnect with his estranged Vietnamese father only to discover that the communication gap between them has grown even wider in the wake of his father's recent deafness. The panel will feature the following guests:

Leslie C. Dunn, Professor of English, Vassar College
Rebecca Holderness (Vassar BA, Drama), Moderator and Award-Winning Director
Marya Mazor, Director, *The World Is Not Silent*
Don Nguyen, Playwright, *The World Is Not Silent*

If you are interested in viewing *The World Is Not Silent*, please visit <https://www.vassar.edu/powerhouse/season> for tickets.

View Vassar's recently published [2022-2024 Vassar College Accessibility Plan](#) which contains a blueprint for addressing barriers to access encountered by those who live and work on the campus as well as to those outside the campus.

