



Photo: MacArthur Foundation

keynote speaker:
Matthew Desmond, Ph.D.
author of *Evicted*

“An exhaustively researched, vividly realized, and above all, unignorable book – **after *Evicted*, it will no longer be possible to have a serious discussion about poverty without having a serious discussion about housing.**”

— JENNIFER SENIOR,
New York Times

MacArthur “Genius” Matthew Desmond’s New York Times bestselling book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City* draws on years of embedded fieldwork and painstakingly gathered data. *Evicted* won the Andrew Carnegie Medal for Excellence in Nonfiction and is a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Awards, Barnes & Noble’s Discover New Writers Award, and PEN/John Kenneth Galbraith Award for Nonfiction. It was named one of the Top Books of 2016 by nearly three dozen outlets including The New York Times, The Washington Post, Publishers Weekly, Entertainment Weekly, Kirkus, Boston Globe and Wall Street Journal.

In vivid, intimate prose, Desmond provides a ground-level view of one of the most urgent issues facing America today. As we see families forced into shelters, squalid apartments, or more dangerous neighborhoods, we bear witness to the human cost of America’s vast inequality—and to people’s determination and intelligence in the face of hardship.

“Desmond’s book manages to be a deeply moral work, a successful nonfiction narrative, and a sweeping academic survey—all while bringing new research to his academic field and to the public’s attention.”

— JACOB BLUMGART
Slate

Desmond is John L. Loeb Associate Professor of the Social Sciences and co-director of the Justice and Poverty Project at Harvard University. His primary teaching and research interests include urban sociology, poverty, race and ethnicity, organizations and work, social theory, and ethnography. In 2015, Desmond was awarded his MacArthur “Genius” grant for “revealing the impact of eviction on the lives of the urban poor and its role in perpetuating racial and economic inequality.”

**everyone deserves a
decent place to live**