



Every aspect of our lives is a vote for the kind of world we want to live in.

— Frances Moore Lappé

June 16, 2009

Dear Member of the Class of 2013:

Each summer, we invite the students of the incoming class to create a work in response to our upcoming campus-wide theme. Your work is collected in an exhibition, which serves as the first in a college-wide series of events—speakers, films, reading groups and community service activities—that investigate the theme. The year-long program, which this year will focus on our habits of consumption, is designed to uncover the interesting connections that emerge when artists, scientists, social observers and writers of prose and poetry think together for a moment, and along the way, to draw us deeper into the community of thinkers that Denison comprises.

This year's theme is "Consumption." Our prompt asks you to describe to us something about how our habits of consumption are mirrors of our selves. The prompt is printed on the reverse of this page. We hope you'll read, imagine, ponder, and then produce something uniquely yours.

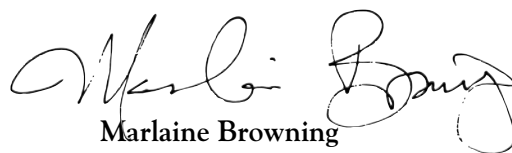
On the evening of September 10, 2009, Denison will welcome author and entrepreneur Frances Moore Lappé to present the academic year's Opening Convocation. Ms. Lappé is an internationally recognized authority on food and world hunger issues and an advocate for democracy. She won the 2008 James Beard Humanitarian of the Year Award and is the recipient of the Right Livelihood Award (a.k.a. "the Alternative Nobel"). Also in 2008, her seminal book, *Diet for a Small Planet*, as well as her most recent book, *Getting a Grip: Clarity, Creativity and Courage in a World Gone Mad* were designated as "must-reads" for the next U.S. President. Ms. Lappé is warm, energetic, and enthusiastic about meeting all of you. If you submit a creative response, you will receive an invitation to a VIP reception exclusively for contributors and have the opportunity to personally meet and chat with her about your creative project.

What we find most rewarding, though, is the opportunity to kick off your college experience in a fun and creative way, truly demonstrating the spirit of creativity and intellectual engagement at the heart of a liberal arts education. I hope you'll join with other First-Year students, Denison faculty and staff in submitting a creative contribution. If you have any questions about this project, please contact me at 740-587-6224 or e-mail at [kretchmar@denison.edu](mailto:kretchmar@denison.edu). *Remember that all contributions must be received by Monday, August 3rd in order to be included in the gallery exhibit and possibly the anthology.*

Have a fine and creative summer. We look forward to seeing you in August.



Matt Kretchmar  
Dean of First-Year Students



Marlane Browning  
Academic Events Coordinator

FIRST YEAR PROGRAM • DENISON UNIVERSITY • BOX 810  
GRANVILLE, OHIO 43023 • 740.587.6224



CALL FOR CONTRIBUTIONS  
**CONSUMPTION**

DENISON'S CAMPUS-WIDE THEME FOR 2009-10

It may be said that our habits of consumption are mirrors of our selves. As the momentous economic disruptions of this past year have signaled, our future lives will present profound challenges, especially as regards the ways we think about and access the resources available to us. Our campus-wide theme in 2009-10 engages the issue of human consumption at both the broadest and most particular levels, including subjects such as food, production, media, natural resources, health and health care, education and distribution of resources.

We ask you to consider these and other issues in the many areas you experience, with an eye to questions such as the following: What are your attitudes toward consumption, and how do they compare with those at the national and global levels? What can we learn by comparison with other historical periods and to other cultures? How do our practices of consumption relate to our notions of community, power, equity, and opportunity?

Denison University and the Office of First-Year Programs invite you to join us as we begin our year-long investigation of our consumption habits. Your response can take virtually any form: a poem or short story, a report of research, a photograph or drawing, a piece of music or a short film. You can be artistic or scholarly, philosophical or applied. The only requirements are that your work be entirely your own, and that it be your best.

Submissions must be *received* in the Office of First Year Programs by Monday, August 3, 2009. Because works received will be displayed in an exhibition and selections published in an anthology, no late submissions can be accepted. Written submissions should be sent as an attachment to an e-mail to the Office of First-Year Programs at [first-year@denison.edu](mailto:first-year@denison.edu). Artwork may also be submitted electronically, if appropriate. Please mail other contributions to: The Office of First-Year Programs, 119 Higley Hall, Granville, OH 43023.

In addition to your works being exhibited and considered for inclusion in the creative anthology, contributors will be invited to a special reception with our Opening Convocation presenter, Frances Moore Lappé, on Thursday, September 10, 2009. Ms. Lappé will receive a copy of the anthology in advance of the event.