



Eastern Connecticut State University

NEWS

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For Immediate Release

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Author Lena Williams to Speak to Eastern About “The Little Things”

Willimantic, CT—Lena Williams, author of “It’s the Little Things,” will present an interactive lecture at Eastern Connecticut State University on Feb. 15 in the Paul E. Johnson, Sr. Community Conference Room located in the J. Eugene Smith Library. This event is sponsored by the Division of Student Affairs. The public is invited. Admission is free.

This lecture focuses on ending interracial misunderstanding. Throughout the lecture, four individuals from diverse backgrounds and life experiences participate in role reversal exercises. Topics discussed will include “the ‘n’ word,” “the hair thing,” “why all blacks kids sit together,” “affirmative action,” “the race card,” “jungle fever and the white girl problem,” and “it’s not just a black/white thing.”

“It’s the Little Things,” is *New York Times* “Notable Book of the Year.” It addresses what blacks and whites say about each other but not to each other. Throughout her 30-year career at *The New York Times*, Williams has covered an array of topics, including sports, politics and style and established the paper’s first civil rights beat in the Washington bureau. She has held the position of chairperson of the Newspaper Guild at *The New York Times* for the past eight years. She has received numerous awards, including the 2001 *Ebony* “Outstanding Women in Marketing & Communications”

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Award and the prestigious Penney-Missouri and *New York Times* Publisher's Awards. "It's the Little Things" also won the National Association of Black Journalists award for feature writing.

For more information, contact Sonya Kutschker, administrative assistant for the Division of Student Affairs at (860) 465-0090 or kutschkers@easternct.edu; or Paul Bryant, dean of the Division of Student Affairs at (860) 465-5247 or bryantpa@easternct.edu.

It is the policy of Eastern Connecticut State University to ensure equal access to its events. If you are an individual with a disability and will need accommodations for this event, please contact the Office of University Relations at (860) 465-5735.

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Eastern Connecticut State University is part of the Connecticut State University (CSU) system and is the state's public liberal arts university. ECSU serves more than 5,000 students each year on its Willimantic campus.