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CONTACT:

Emily Stack Davis

517-803-3745

PR@hillsdale.edu

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Hillsdale College Hosts Chigozie Obioma for Lecture on Confrontation in Literature
Obioma leads Hillsdale's Creative Writing Honors Program.

HILLSDALE, Mich. — Hillsdale College hosted Distinguished Teaching Fellow Chigozie Obioma on Nov. 11 for a lecture titled “Confrontation in Literature.” Obioma visits campus annually as part of Hillsdale’s Creative Writing Honors Program.

“Professor Obioma first came to campus in 2021 as part of the Visiting Writers Program,” said Professor of English Dutton Kearney. “He made such an impression that Dr. Arnn suggested he return regularly to teach a class at Hillsdale. He has taught a course for us each year since.”

Born in Akure, Nigeria, Chigozie Obioma has written three novels: “The Fishermen,” “An Orchestra of Minorities,” and “The Road to the Country.” He is a two-time Booker Prize finalist.

“Students have always asked for creative writing classes, but the challenge is finding professors who do not loathe the Western literary tradition,” Kearney said. “Professor Obioma has been a great fit — he’s an interlocutor with whom students can have lengthy and fruitful conversations about the virtues and vices of classic and modern literature alike.”

Obioma teaches Hillsdale’s Creative Writing Honors Program, an annual creative writing class limited to ten students. During the eight-week course, students read and discuss successful works of modern fiction. Each student then writes two original short stories. The class is mostly remote, but Obioma visits campus each year to have dinner with the students and read from his work or present a lecture.

“Hillsdale continues to hold a special place in my heart,” Obioma said. “It is a privilege to teach here and to visit every year. I cherish the students I have had over the past few years and believe

that we will have great writers who will bring new blood and perspectives into American literature in the coming years.”

This year’s course culminated in a talk on notable character confrontations in fiction — a dive into tense moments in contemporary and classic fiction.

For photos from Obioma’s 2023 appearance on The Larry Arnn Show, click [here](#). To listen to the interview, click [here](#). For photos of Hillsdale College, click [here](#). For a high-resolution copy of the Hillsdale College clocktower logo, click [here](#).

About Hillsdale College

Hillsdale College is an independent, nonsectarian, Christian liberal arts college located in southern Michigan. Founded in 1844, the College has built a national reputation through its classical liberal arts core curriculum and its principled refusal to accept federal or state taxpayer subsidies, even indirectly in the form of student grants or loans. It also conducts an outreach effort promoting civil and religious liberty, including a free monthly speech digest, *Imprimis*, with a circulation of more than 7.1 million. For more information, visit hillsdale.edu.

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