

## NEWS RELEASE

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## University of Saint Mary Academic Dean to Give Two Lectures on Infamous Salem Witch Trials *Talks Coincide with Publication of Book, Halloween Season*

(Leavenworth, Kan.)—University of Saint Mary Academic Vice President and Dean Dr. Bryan Le Beau will give two lectures on the Salem Witch Trials this month at the Carnegie Arts Center in Leavenworth, Kan., and the Kansas City Public Library’s Central Library in downtown Kansas City, Mo.

The Leavenworth lecture will be at 3 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 16. The Kansas City talk will be at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 21. Both lectures are free and open to the public, and the sessions are timed to coincide with the Halloween season and the publication of the second edition of Dr. Le Beau’s book “*The Story of the Salem Witch Trials.*”

In his talks, Dr. Le Beau will explore historical elements that contributed to the trials, and the resulting widespread fear generated by the witch hunt.

“Between June and September of 1692 in Salem, Mass., 19 people were hanged for witchcraft, one man was pressed to death, and over 150 others were jailed,” Dr. Le Beau said. “Compared to other witch-hunts in the Western world, it was a minor affair. But it’s the largest of its kind in the history of what was to become the United States, and the story has never lost its appeal.”

Dr. Le Beau holds a Ph.D. from New York University and has been a professor of American history since 1982. He has held an endowed faculty chair at Creighton University, as well as various administrative positions, and he has authored seven books and dozens of articles on various topics in American history.

The Carnegie Arts Center is located at 601 South 5<sup>th</sup> Street in Leavenworth. Go to [http://www.carnegieartscenter.org/documents/carnegie\\_news.html](http://www.carnegieartscenter.org/documents/carnegie_news.html) on the web for more information on the Leavenworth lecture.

The Kansas City Central Library is at 14 West 10<sup>th</sup> Street in Kansas City, Mo. Go to <http://www.kclibrary.org/event/bryan-lebeau-story-salem-witch-trials> on the web to RSVP or for more information on the Kansas City talk.

*The University of Saint Mary is a Catholic co-educational applied liberal arts university founded and sponsored by the Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth. The University of Saint Mary is located at 4100 South 4th Street, Leavenworth, Kan., with additional locations in Overland Park and Kansas City, Kan. Visit [www.stmary.edu](http://www.stmary.edu) for more information.*

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