

2018 Thomas Berry Award Committee

Dr. Margaret Berry, sister of Thomas Berry, honorary member

Ann Berry Somers, Biology Department, UNCG

Melanie Buckingham, Environmental Resources Librarian,
Greensboro Public Library

Sarah B. Dorsey, University Libraries, UNCG

Jane Hutson, Manager,
Greensboro Public Library

Dr. Andrew Levitt, Author and Performance Artist

Randal Scott Romie, MPS, ASLA, Landscape Architect

Elaine Stover, Greenschemes

Nelson Stover, Emerging Ecology

Carolyn Toben, Timberlake Earth Sanctuary

Dr. Valerie Vickers, Eco-educator

Dr. Peggy Whalen-Levitt, The Center for Education,
Imagination and the Natural World

Jim Young, Facilities Manager/Special Projects
Greensboro Public Library

Upcoming Events

Journey of the Universe: Film and Discussion

Nov 28, 2018

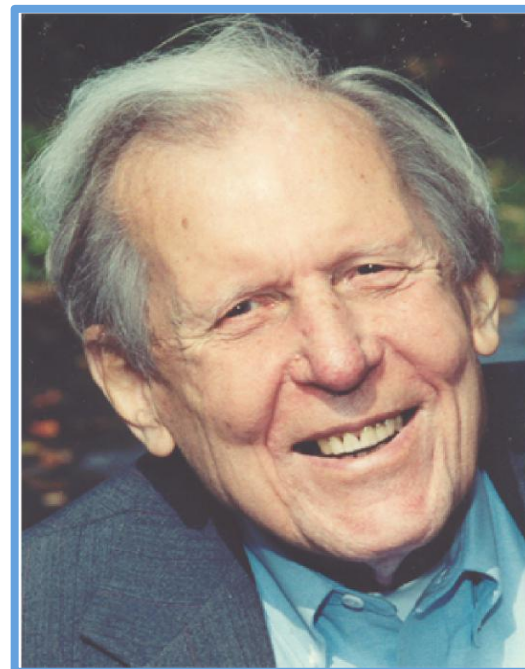
7:00 pm – 8:30 pm

Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library

Join us for this Emmy award winning film written by Brian Thomas Swimme and Mary Evelyn Tucker, which weaves a story about the role of humans and the nature of the universe combining astronomy, geology, biology, ecology and biodiversity. The film is inspired by *The Universe Story* written by Thomas Berry and Brian Thomas Swimme.

The Greensboro Public Library's

2018 Thomas Berry Award



November 11, 2018

Kathleen Clay Edwards Family Branch Library

3:00 pm – 5:00 pm

Commemorating the Life and Work of
Thomas Berry (1914–2009)



Thank you for joining us this afternoon to celebrate the life and work of Thomas Berry (1914-2009), one of Greensboro's most beloved native-born citizens. An internationally recognized historian of cultures, Thomas Berry focused his writings and lectures on the relation of humans with the cosmos and Earth. His thought has influenced the intellectual and spiritual history of the twentieth and early twenty-first centuries, affirmation of which includes eight honorary degrees.

His books include *The Dream of the Earth* (1988), *Universe Story* (1992, co-authored with Brian Swimme), *The Great Work: Our Way Into the Future* (1999), *Evening Thoughts: Reflecting on Earth as Sacred Community* (2006), *The Sacred Universe: Earth, Spirituality, and Religion in the 21st Century* (2009) and *The Christian Future and the Fate of Earth* (2009).

Honored Guests

Peter Berry

A native of Greensboro, Peter Berry is one of the 45 nieces and nephews of Thomas, and is deeply inspired by his uncle's wisdom and vision. Peter lives in Seattle where he learned to play the Celtic harp, which he has now been playing for exactly half his life. He has two other harps back in Seattle, which are different than the harp you are hearing today. They are replicas of medieval Irish harps strung with high tension brass and silver wire strings. He plays regularly for meditation workshops in the Seattle area as well as for weddings and memorial services, and twice a year for the Seattle Irish community's Mass for Peace and Gaelic Mass for the Dead. He is proud and delighted to be able to be present with his harp at this award ceremony today.

Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim are Senior Lecturers and Research Scholars at Yale University. They teach in the joint MA program in religion and ecology and direct the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale. Mary Evelyn and John studied world religions with Thomas Berry in graduate school and worked closely with him for 30 years. They are the managing Trustees of the Thomas Berry Foundation. Mary Evelyn edited several of Thomas Berry's books including *The Great Work*, *Evening Thoughts*, *The Sacred Universe*, and with John *The Christian Future and the Fate of the Earth* and *Thomas Berry: Selected Writings on the Earth Community*. Together with Brian Swimme, Mary Evelyn and John co-created and co-produced the Emmy award winning film, *Journey of the Universe*, an epic story of cosmic, earth, and human transformation.

Program

Gathering music performed by Peter Berry on Celtic Harp

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Ann Berry Somers

Thomas Berry's "North American Continent"

Andrew Levitt

Reflections on Thomas Berry's Life and Work

Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim

Musical Interlude by Peter Berry

"Port na bPucaí", Irish traditional tune

Thomas Berry Award

The Greensboro Public Library is pleased to present the
2018 Thomas Berry Award to Mary Price "Pricey" Harrison

Presented by Jim Young

Postlude performed by Peter Berry

"Sean Jones," 17th Century Irish, by Toirealach O' Cearullain

Dedication of Thomas Berry Award Tree of Life Sculpture

by local artisan E. Michael, Sr. in honor of award recipients:

2005 – Dr. Charlie Headington

2007 – The Center for Education, Imagination and the
Natural World

2011 – Dr. Valerie Vickers

2012 – F. Nelson and Elaine K. Stover

2014 – Sarah B. Dorsey

2016 – Dr. Andrew Levitt

2016 – Randal Scott Romie

2018 – Mary Price "Pricey" Harrison

Refreshments and Reception

Courtesy of Environmental Stewardship Greensboro