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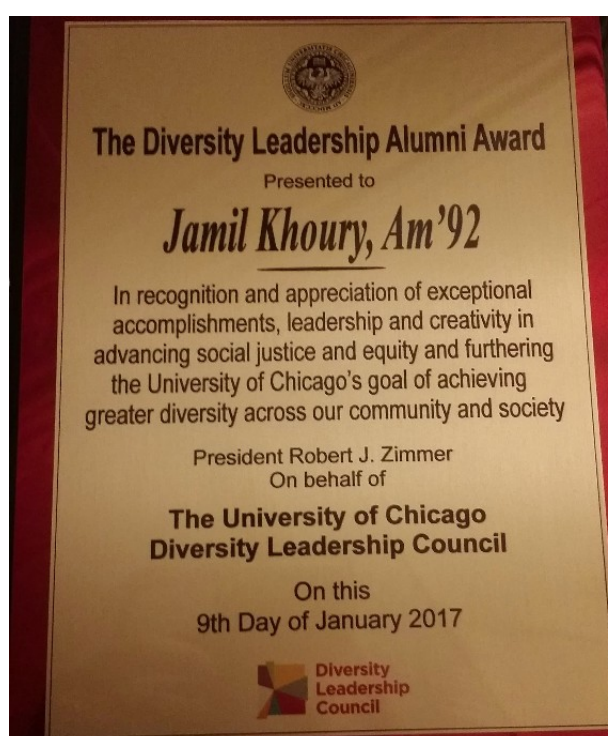


Jamil Khoury Receives The University of Chicago Diversity Leadership Award

Last night, January 9, 2017, Silk Road Rising's Founding Artistic Director, Jamil Khoury, was presented with the **2017 Diversity Leadership Alumni Award** by the University of Chicago.

This annual award recognizes an alum of the University who has shown exceptional leadership in advancing social justice, equity, and achieving greater diversity across the community and society.

Honoring his work as a theatre producer, playwright, essayist, and filmmaker focused on Middle Eastern themes and questions of Diaspora, Jamil was presented with the Award as part of the Annual Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. President's Reception at Ida Noyes Hall.



"Jamil has worked tirelessly to challenge stereotypical narratives against Asian, Middle Eastern, and Muslim Americans," said University President Robert J. Zimmer. "He has created opportunities for writers, artists, and performers of color to bring their stories and craft to the stage."

Congratulating Jamil on his award, President Zimmer went on:

"As an alumnus of this university, your use of the arts to counter dominant narratives, to educate the community, and to promote inclusion and social justice for underrepresented groups exemplifies the values of the university and its commitment to diversity and inclusion."

Jamil was honored to share the dais with fellow 2017 recipients Rudy Nimocks (Diversity Leadership Staff Award) and Margaret Beale Spencer (Diversity Leadership Faculty Award). [Learn More »](#)



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FEBRUARY 9-19

Silk Road Rising's series "Semitic Commonwealth" is part of Chicago Theatre Week 2017. "Semitic Commonwealth" is a staged reading series comprised of six plays by Arab and Jewish playwrights exploring the human toll of the Israeli–Palestinian conflict. Rather than strive to achieve balance and moral equivalency between "competing" narratives, these works investigate themes of identity, occupation, exile, and home with remarkable honesty.

"Semitic Commonwealth" runs February 10th to 26th. [Learn More About the Series»](#)

We are proud to participate in Chicago Theatre Week February 9 - 19, 2017. Check out www.ChicagoTheatreWeek.com for special deals to more than 120 participating shows!



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