**Event outline for Here’s Why It Matters: Responding to Contemporary Issues in Fiction**

**Introduction of authors** by moderator Steve Woodward

**Author Bios:**

**Belle Boggs** is the author of three books, including the novel *The Gulf*, the essay collection *The Art of Waiting* and the story collection *Mattaponi Queen*. Her stories and essays have appeared in *Orion, Harper’s*, the *Paris Review, Ecotone, Slate,* and many other publications. She teaches in the MFA program at North Carolina State University.

**Wayétu Moore** is the author of the novel *She Would Be King*,named a best book of 2018 by *Publishers Weekly*, *Booklist*, *Entertainment Weekly*, and *BuzzFeed*. Her memoir *The Dragons, the Giant, the Women* is forthcoming from Graywolf Press in June. She is the founder of One Moore Book, a nonprofit organization that creates and distributes culturally relevant books for underrepresented readers. Moore is a graduate of Howard University, Columbia University, and the University of Southern California. She lives in Brooklyn, New York.

**Susan Steinberg** is the author of the recently released novel *Machine*, as well as the story collections *Spectacle*, *Hydroplane*, and *The End of Free Love.*She is the recipient of a United States Artists Fellowship, a National Magazine Award, and a Pushcart Prize. She teaches at the University of San Francisco.

**Deb Olin Unferth** is the author of six books, including the recently released novel *Barn 8* and the story collection *Wait Till You See Me Dance*. She has received a Guggenheim Fellowship and three Pushcart Prizes, and was a National Book Critics Circle Award finalist. Her work has appeared in *Granta*, *Harper’s*, *McSweeney’s*, and the *Paris Review*.

**Author Readings:**

* Reading by Belle Boggs from *The Gulf*
* Reading by Wayétu Moore from *She Would Be King*
* Reading by Susan Steinberg from *Machine*
* Reading by Deb Olin Unferth from *Barn 8*

**Followed by a conversation with the authors** moderated by Steve Woodward

**Q&A with audience**