



CASE WESTERN RESERVE
UNIVERSITY

ThinkForum

The F. Joseph Callahan
Distinguished Lecture

WEDNESDAY,
APRIL 8, 2026

Colm Tóibín

*Fact and Fiction:
How to Shape a Story*

Three-time Booker Prize shortlist novelist
and *New York Times* bestseller; author of
Brooklyn and *Long Island*

SAMUEL H. MILLER
PLAZA

Program

University Welcome

Eric W. Kaler

President, Case Western Reserve University

Speaker Introduction

Walt Hunter

Professor and Senior Associate Dean, Department of English,
College of Arts and Sciences, Case Western Reserve University

Lecture

Colm Tóibín

Three-time Booker Prize shortlist novelist and *New York Times*
bestseller; author of *Brooklyn* and *Long Island*

Q + A

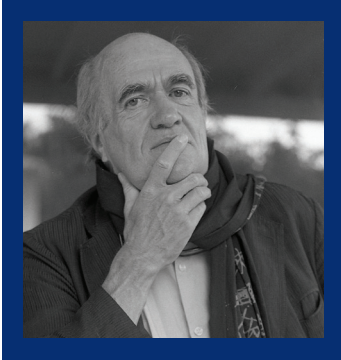
Colm Tóibín

Closing Remarks

Eric W. Kaler

President, Case Western Reserve University

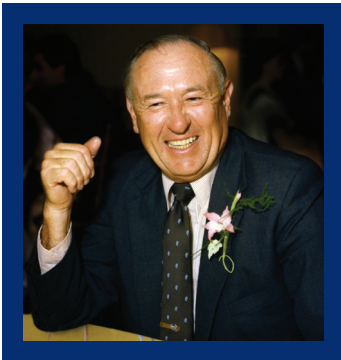
**Immediately following the lecture, please join us in the
PNC Lobby for a book signing with Colm Tóibín.**



Writer **Colm Tóibín** grew up in a home where, he once said, there was “*a great deal of silence.*” He has since made a career of talking to the world through his many volumes of fiction and non-fiction, drama, and poetry.

Born in Enniscorthy, Ireland, Tóibín is the author of 11 novels including *The Master, Brooklyn, Long Island, The Testament of Mary, Nora*

Webster, House of Names and *The Magician*. His work has been shortlisted for The Booker Prize three times, has won the Costa Novel Award and the IMPAC Award. He has also published two collections of stories and many works of non-fiction.



Born in his family home in Lima, Ohio, **F. Joseph Callahan** went on to excel in high school athletics, higher education classrooms, nuclear submarines and manufacturing. While working at Swagelok, a Cleveland-based fluid system company, for 42 years, Callahan secured 23 patents, ultimately becoming the company’s president and chairman.

Throughout his life, Callahan maintained a profound commitment to family, service and generosity to those under-resourced—while displaying a powerful intellect, a passion for innovation and overwhelming confidence in the potential of close-knit working groups. The F. Joseph Callahan Distinguished Lecture emphasizes the same values of excellence, integrity and respect that its namesake embodied as an executive and a family man.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, April 30-Sunday, May 3, 2026

The Alumni Association of Case Western Reserve University
Destination Weekend Cleveland

For details on this event and more, visit case.edu/alumni/events/destination-weekend-cleveland or call **216.368.6280**.

Tuesday, May 5, 2026

7:30 p.m. - The Millis Lecture
Think Forum featuring Claudia de Rham
Maltz Performing Arts Center

For details on this event and more, visit case.edu/events
or call **216.368.2229**.

Thursday, June 4, 2026

7:00 p.m. - Bicentennial Concert with The Cleveland Orchestra
Severance Music Center

For details on this event and more, visit case.edu/bicentennial
or call **216.368.0363**.



**CWRU PAGE
TURNERS**

All alumni, parents and friends are invited to join **CWRU Page Turners**, a virtual book discussion organized by The Alumni Association of CWRU in partnership with our signature lecture series, Think Forum. This series will discuss the works of our distinguished Think Forum lecturers.

For more information, please visit case.edu/alumni/pageturners
or email alumnirelations@case.edu.



Since the founding in 1826 of Western Reserve College, the creation of Case School of Applied Science in 1880, and the federation of the two in 1967, Case Western Reserve University has been known for its commitment to innovation in education and research. Now, the university marks its bicentennial—celebrating 200 years of history and an even more promising future.

Learn more at case.edu/bicentennial.