

**Toni Morrison and Angela Davis illuminate
this year's College Theme for
Faculty and Students at the NYPL**

Students and faculty were privileged to be part of the audience at the New York Public Library live conversation between Nobel Prize winner Toni Morrison and celebrated professor, writer, and activist Angela Davis on Wednesday October 27th.

Morrison and Davis spoke informally, but compellingly, for almost two hours to an enthusiastic audience on Frederick Douglass, literacy, libraries, liberation, and the continuing struggle against racism.

Concordia students in COM 100 (Using Language to Inform), which is a required core course for all students that focuses on writing and speech as the building blocks of communication, have been reading Douglass as one of their core texts in relation to the College-wide theme: Freedom and Responsibility. COM 100 class activities and discussion have been linking writing and speech to freedom, education, and responsibility.

“It was a fabulous opportunity and experience for the students,” enthused Dr. Kate Behr, a COM 100 instructor. “Not only could the students hear, see, question, and eventually meet two inspiring communicators, but every element of the conversation related to issues the classes have been and will be discussing. We are all very grateful to the College for sponsoring this activity.”

Olivia Thompson, a current Concordia sophomore who waited on line 45 minutes to ask the last question of the evening, said it was the experience of a lifetime. “Hearing Toni Morrison speak was really inspiring—especially when she said that freedom is knowledge and wisdom and you can't have that without faith and belief.”

Knowledge, wisdom, faith, and belief—key terms for Toni Morrison that are the heart of the Concordia Experience!