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Frontier Nursing University to Award Degrees to Nurse-Midwife and Nurse Practitioner Graduates from Across the U.S. Eastern Kentucky Author Silas House to Deliver Keynote Address

HYDEN, KENTUCKY – Frontier Nursing University (FNU), a graduate school educating nurse-midwives and nurse practitioners, will host its 2015 commencement ceremony in Hyden, Ky., on Saturday, Oct. 24 at 2:00pm at the Nixon Center at 150 Wendover Road in Hyden. Over the past year, more than 500 nurse-midwives and nurse practitioners from almost every state across the nation have completed an FNU distance-education program. Nearly 70 of the 2015 graduates are Kentucky natives. The commencement ceremony to honor these graduates will be held in Hyden, Ky, the home of the historic FNU campus.

Started by nurse-midwifery pioneer Mary Breckinridge, FNU has been educating nurses and midwives for more than 75 years and has grown into one of the country's leading graduate schools with an enrollment exceeding 1600, and is recognized as the #1 nurse-midwifery program in the nation as well as one of the Top 30 online graduate nursing schools by U.S. News & World Report. FNU offers doctoral and master's degrees for nurse-midwives and nurse practitioners. The university utilizes innovative distance-education methods to reach nurses throughout the country and the world. FNU graduates provide primary care for women and families residing in all areas, with a focus on rural and underserved communities.

FNU President Dr. Susan Stone will preside over the commencement ceremony and degrees will be conferred on graduates of FNU's Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) and Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs. MSN graduates have completed the Nurse-Midwifery, Family Nurse Practitioner or Women's Health Care Nurse Practitioner specialty tracks.

Award-winning author Silas House will deliver the keynote address to FNU's 2015 graduates. House was born and raised in Eastern Kentucky near FNU's home town of Hyden. House is the author of five novels and serves as the NEH Chair of Appalachian Literature at Berea College and as fiction faculty at Spalding University's MFA in Creative Writing program. He is a frequent contributor to *The New York Times*, a former commentator for NPR, and a former contributing editor for *No Depression* magazine. www.silashouse.org

Who: Frontier Nursing University

- Dr. Susan Stone, FNU President, to preside over ceremony
- Silas House, award-winning Eastern Kentucky author, to deliver commencement address

What: Annual Commencement Ceremony

When: Saturday, October 24th at 2:00pm

Where: Nixon Center at 150 Wendover Road in Hyden, Ky

FNU will be offering guided tours of the historic Wendover Bed & Breakfast Inn for all guests. The commencement ceremony will also be available as a live-streamed event which can be accessed at <https://portal.frontier.edu/web/fnu/live/> at 2pm on Saturday October 24.

For more information, contact Brittney Edwards, Director of Marketing and Communications, at 859-899-2515 or visit the Frontier Nursing University web site at www.frontier.edu.