

OSTROM WORKSHOP FARM TRANSFER EVENT

Map of My Kingdom: a play about farmland transfer **by Iowa Poet Laureate Mary Swander**

Sunday, NOVEMBER 12, 2017

2:00 PM

Free admission—doors will open at 1:30 PM

Immediately followed by a talk-back with the playwright

Ivy Tech John Waldron Arts Center

Rose Firebay (122 Walnut St., downtown Bloomington)



Intergenerational transfer is a notoriously difficult turning point for farm and ranch families. Observing the difficulty, the Practical Farmers of Iowa commissioned Mary Swander, the Iowa Poet Laureate, to write a play about it. An Indiana tour of this play, *Map of My Kingdom*, aims to translate research on farm transfer conducted by the Human Dimensions Lab of the Ostrom Workshop and the School of Public Health.

Who's going to get the farm? And what are they going to do with it? Will your future plans for your land create harmony or strife for your family? Or have you even started to think that far ahead? *Map of My Kingdom* tackles the critical issue of land transition. In the drama, a lawyer and mediator in land transition disputes, shares stories of how farmers and landowners she has worked with over the years approached their land successions.

Today, a vast amount of land in the United States is owned by those over 65 years old. Some have made their wishes clear for the future of their property. Others are courting family upheaval by not planning in concrete ways. An age-old problem, evident in literature from the Bible to King Lear to Willa Cather, land transition asks hard questions.

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Mary Swander is Professor Emerita of English and Distinguished Professor of Liberal Arts and Sciences, Iowa State University; Poet Laureate of Iowa; and Executive Director of AgArts.

Sponsors include: Monroe County Farm Bureau, Purdue Institute for Family Firms, Hancock County Community Foundation, University of Indianapolis Master of Art in Social Practice, and several groups at IU: Office of the Vice Provost for Research, Integrated Program in the Environment, Office of Sustainability, Campus Farm, Food Project, and Department of American Studies.

View more Farm Transfer Events at: <https://ostromworkshop.indiana.edu/events/conference/farm.html>