

## **Bowdoin College's 2019 Honorary Degree Recipients**

For the Degree of Doctor of Humane Letters

EARL LEWIS



Earl Lewis is a prominent social historian and champion of the humanities and the liberal arts. Former president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, he is currently founding director of the Center for Social Solutions and professor of history and Afro-American and African studies at the University of Michigan. A graduate of Concordia College, he earned a PhD at the University of Minnesota in 1984. After teaching at the University of California–Berkeley and the University of Michigan, he moved to Emory University, where he served as executive vice president for academic affairs and provost as well as the Asa Griggs Candler Professor of History and African American Studies. Lewis was Emory's first African American provost and at the time the highest-ranking African American administrator in the university's history. In 2013, Lewis became the sixth president of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, where he reshaped key program areas and reaffirmed the Foundation's commitment to the humanities, the arts, and higher education. Lewis was elected a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 2008.