Spring Literary Luncheon Welcomes Luis Alberto Urrea

Luis Alberto Urrea will be the featured speaker on Friday, May 11, at 11 a.m. at the Wisconsin Club, 900 West Wisconsin Avenue.

Urrea will discuss his newly published book, *The House of Broken Angels*, inspired by the death of his eldest brother, and his own upbringing on the border. In the final days of beloved patriarch Miguel Angel De La Cruz, affectionately known as Big Angel, the entire family is summoned to say their farewells at his birthday party. As the day approaches, his mother dies at the age of 100. Urrea explains, “I wanted a family epic of my own - the story of an American family. One that happens to speak Spanish and admire the Virgin of Guadalupe.”

“The story of the De La Cruzes is the American story. This indelible portrait of a complex family reminds us of what it means to be the first generation and to live two lives across one border. Teeming with brilliance and humor, authentic at every turn, *The House of Broken Angels* is Luis Alberto Urrea at his best, and it cements his reputation as a storyteller of the first rank.” (Bustle.com)

Born in Tijuana, Mexico to a Mexican father and an Anglo mother, Urrea’s cross-cultural background influences his perspective and writing. Although Urrea is recognized as a border writer, he says, “I am more interested in bridges, not borders.” He wrote *Across the Wire*, from experiences as a missionary with Tijuana garbage pickers. The book was named a New York Times Notable Book.

Another celebrated work, *The Devil’s Highway*, won the Lannon Literary Award. It is a non-fiction account of 26 Mexican immigrants lost in the barren and unrelenting Arizona desert. The book was a Pulitzer Prize finalist for non-fiction and a Kiriyama Prize finalist. His book, *The Hummingbird’s Daughter*, won the Kiriyama Prize for fiction. The historical novel tells the story of his great-aunt Teresa Urrea, known as the Saint of Cabora and the Mexican Joan of Arc. In his research, he spent time learning from shamans, midwives and curanderas that every moment of life is sacred.

Urrea lives with his family in Naperville, Illinois, where he is a professor of creative writing at the University of Illinois at Chicago.

At the luncheon, Urrea will talk about his new novel and sign copies which guests will receive with their reservation. One of the raffle prizes will be an opportunity to sit with the author at lunch. For reservations, please see the enclosed invitation or register online at mpl.org/litlunch.

- Contributed by Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library Board President Barbara Franczyk.

Photo credit: Joe Mazza Brave-Lux
Having grown up with Wisconsin winters, the phrase “curling up with a good book” often conjures the image of a cozy chair, a warm afghan, a comforting cup of tea and a great read.

While the library prides itself on its vast selection of services and programs, reading continues to be the number one attraction for our customers, and the passion of our staff.

More than 50% of the library’s circulation is of physical books, and we’re also seeing a steady double-digit increase in the use of e-books and downloadable audio books.

Reading may be a solitary endeavor, but sharing the passion and pleasure we derive from literature lends itself to the social aspect of popular book clubs, literary programs and discussions.

Events like the Spring Literary Luncheon allow us entry to the inspiration and thought process of an author. Programs like Sense and Sensibility and Saturday Afternoon Tea transport us to a time and place we embrace with the author, and provide us an opportunity to enjoy a shared literary experience with other readers.

It goes without saying that some of our most enthusiastic patrons are parents who share their lifelong love of reading with their children. Their excitement at introducing reading and their love of libraries to a new generation is evident at every story time and children’s program we offer, and leads to a steady stream of young readers through our doors.

While I may relish the idea of curling up with a good book on a winter evening, it doesn’t mean I’ve relegated the book to paper and print. Currently, in addition to reading a print book on project management, I’m also reading an e-book about social class and listening to an audio book mystery. Different formats, different subjects, but with one origin - the Milwaukee Public Library. Visit your library soon to share the passion.
Leaving a Legacy for the Library

The Milwaukee Public Library Legacy Leaders Society honors library donors who have made a planned gift to the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation to support the Milwaukee Public Library. These gifts demonstrate an abiding commitment to the library’s mission, and provide an enduring benefit to generations yet to come.

Your Legacy Gift is Important

Those who remember the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation in their estate plans will benefit Milwaukee in a variety of ways, including:

- Continue the library’s award-winning preschool, school-age and teen outreach programs
- Expand the library’s world class collections and digital resources
- Grow the library’s extensive business resources and free databases
- Provide expanded access for all Milwaukeeans to 21st century technology
- Enhance adult education and workforce development programs
- Provide families in distressed neighborhoods with safe spaces to learn, create and grow

To learn more, please join us for lunch and this informational session ~

Planned Giving for 2018 and Beyond

Thursday, April 19, 2018
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Central Library - Richard E. and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room
814 W. Wisconsin Avenue

Please RSVP by April 15 to Patricia Swanson
pjswans@mpl.org or 414 286-3066

You are warmly invited to attend our first annual Leaders Legacy Society Informational Session:
Planned Giving for 2018 and Beyond. Joining Milwaukee Public Library Director Paula Kiely for an overview of the library in 2018 and beyond, our featured speaker attorney Bradley J. Kalscheur of Michael Best & Friedrich, LLP will share strategies for reducing uncertainty in your long-term plans.

He will reveal effective and creative ways to ensure the well-being of yourself and your family, while considering Milwaukee Public Library Foundation and/or charities of your choice in your plans.

Mr. Kalscheur’s Honors & Recognitions Include:
- Leaders in the Law, Wisconsin Law Journal, 2017
- The Best Lawyers in America®, Trust and Estates, 2013-present
- “Wisconsin Super Lawyers” list, Super Lawyers magazine, 2014-2017
- Marquette University Business Administration Alumni Association Service Award, 2012
- Marquette Partner in Philanthropy, Association of Fundraising Professionals Southeastern Wisconsin Chapter, 2012
Spring Used Book Sale
Saturday, March 3, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. ~ Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Coincides with Dr. Seuss’ Birthday Celebration on Saturday, March 3,
10 a.m.-1 p.m. at the Central Library

Featuring a large selection of used books, audio books, magazines, comics, sheet music,
children’s books and more. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library.
Friends members may enter sales 30 minutes before the public with current membership
card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card. There will be a 2-for-1 sale
in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the sale.

During the month of March, the Bookseller will feature a selection of half-priced music CDs.
Next Sale: Saturday, June 16, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Summer Sale at Central Library

From the Friends of the Library

There’s no better time to join or renew your Friends Membership than for the Spring
Literary Luncheon! Join the Friends and their literacy efforts by renewing your annual
membership. Stay tuned for exclusive membership benefits like field trips, behind-the
scenes tours, events with special access to new release books and more. Please
check this newsletter mailing label for your Friends membership status.
Call (414) 286-8720, or visit mpl.org/friends.

Photos at left from 2017 Spring Literary Luncheon featuring Elizabeth Strout;
Andrew Holman, photographer.

Welcome to New Friends Board Members
The Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library Board of
Directors would like to welcome new members Daria
Kempka, Kellee Selden, and Matthew Sullivan. New
member Barb Hofstetter has also been elected Board Treasurer.

Many thanks to retiring board members Kelly Goodmon and Lorie
Rieden. The library is grateful for the hard-working board of the Friends
for their leadership and volunteer commitment working behind the scenes,
planning fascinating programs, leading library tours, organizing book sales and
funding special library projects.

Architectural Tour of Central Library and a FREE Book at
the Bookseller and Cafe

Experience fascinating Milwaukee Public Library history every Saturday at
11 a.m. at the Central Library, located at 814 West Wisconsin Avenue. Tours
begin in the rotunda and tour goers will receive a coupon for a free book at the
end of the tour in the Bookseller Book Store and R Cafe. Central Library is listed
on the National Register of Historic Places.

To arrange for a special tour or to learn more about becoming a docent, please
call (414) 286-TOUR.

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RSVP Seating is limited. Please reply by Thursday, May 3. Reservations will be held at the door. Ticket price includes a hardcover copy of the book.

Renew Friends Membership:
$40__; $70__; $150__; $250__; other $____

Individual Seat  Friends Member Seat
$75 each - Qty: ____  $65 each - Qty: ____

Patron Seat*
$150 each - Qty: ____

Corporate & Book Club Sponsor Table of 8*
$1,000 each - Qty: ____

Total enclosed: $ ____

I cannot attend. Please accept my enclosed contribution $__________

*Includes preferred seating, sponsor recognition, Friends membership, and a $10 gift certificate to the Bookseller at Central Library.

Special thanks to our event partners

Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library
invite you to their 20th annual
Spring Literary Luncheon

Friday, May 11, 2018
The Wisconsin Club
900 West Wisconsin Avenue
11:00 a.m. to 11:45 a.m.
Author Signing
Raffle - Win a chance to lunch with Mr. Urrea

Noon to 1:30 p.m.
Lunch and Program

Check enclosed, made payable to: MPL Foundation

Visa  MasterCard

Name on Card__________________________

Account #_____________________________ 3 digit security #____

Exp. _______ Signature ______________________

Attendee Name: ________________________________

Corporate/Book Club Sponsor Name (list additional guests with meal choice)

________________________________________

Address _____________________________________

City ___________________ State _____ Zip ______

Phone ____________ Email _____________________

Menu Selection: (1) Cranberry Walnut Salad Qty: ___
(2) Chicken & Mushroom Ravioli Qty: ___
or (3) Salmon Entrée Qty: ___
The Best We Could Do: An Illustrated Memoir by Thi Bui. 92 B9317A.

In this graphic novel, Thi Bui chronicles her arduous journey from Vietnam to the United States in the 1970s, beginning with the birth of her child. She explores her own childhood, as well as the tumultuous history of her parents in Vietnam and their immigration to the United States.

A Darkness Absolute by Kelley Armstrong. Mystery.

Det. Casey Duncan lives off-the-grid in Rockton, hiding from a dangerous past. In this second mystery in the series, Casey and her deputy Will Anders take refuge in a cave during a blizzard where they come upon a case involving a mysterious woman and a multiple murder.


Caprice flees Atlanta after a horrific trauma and returns years later as Wicket, an international pop star. Wicket insinuates herself both into Atlanta’s music scene and the lives of her former tormentors. When she begins to unravel, putting herself and the people she loves at risk, will she continue to seek vengeance?

The Rising by Heather Graham and Jon Land. Mystery.

High school hero Alex and his tutor Samantha have promising futures until Alex’s parents are murdered and he appears to be next on the list. Alex and Samantha must stay alive long enough to uncover the secret to Alex’s past—where he really came from.

Lady Killers: Deadly Women Throughout History by Tori Telfer. 364.15232 T272.

This riveting read will thrill true crime enthusiasts, specifically those who think female serial killers didn’t exist before Aileen Wuornos. Lady Killers follows the stories of 14 female murderers from around the world, dating from the early 1600s to the beginning of the 20th century.

The Girls in the Picture by Melanie Benjamin. Fiction.

An intimate reimagining of the powerful creative partnership between Hollywood superstars Frances Marion and Mary Pickford traces their friendship and boundary-breaking achievements against a backdrop of pre-World War I Hollywood. With cameos from such notables as Charlie Chaplin, Louis B. Mayer, Rudolph Valentino, and Lillian Gish, this is a story of the dawn of a glittering new era.

Wrong to Need You by Alisha Rai. Romance.

If you’re a romance reader looking for something a little different, look no further. Sparks fly in this second book in the Forbidden Hearts series when strong-minded widow and mother Sadia is reunited with her shy and reserved former brother-in-law Jackson. The one-time friends must work through complicated family histories and personal demons before they can find Happily Ever After, but the journey is very much worth it.

Submitted by Villard Branch staff and Central librarian Jacki Potratz.
Women’s History Month Features Great Books to Inspire Readers

The opportunity for children to find themselves represented in books and to read about experiences different from their own remains critical to fostering compassionate and well-rounded youth bound for success. The Milwaukee Public Library celebrates Women’s History Month by recognizing the impact women have had throughout history and by offering programs and highlighting fantastic stories that feature indomitable women. Explore www.mpl.org for program opportunities like “Book Jacket Bingo” and “Harriet Led the Way,” and be sure to check out one of these great books to get inspired!

**Mae Among the Stars** by Roda Ahmed; illustrations by Stasia Burrington. PIC AHMED. Ages 4-8.
Young Mae Jemison dreams of one day reaching space, despite facing social barriers. With an encouraging family and her fierce determination and intellect, Mae eventually finds herself among the stars.

**She Persisted: 13 American Women Who Changed the World** by Chelsea Clinton; illustrated by Alexandra Boiger. 920.72 C641. Ages 4-9.
Brief vignettes presented in simple, yet powerful text provide a glimpse into the lives of thirteen diverse women throughout American history who achieved remarkable accomplishments through persistence.

**Amazing Women** by Caryn Jenner. EASY LEVEL 4 JENNER. Ages 6-9.
This substantial beginning reader highlights women in science, politics, art, business and sports. Readers can expand their vocabulary with glossary words or take the Amazing Women Quiz.

**Katherine Johnson** by Thea Feldman; illustrated by Alyssa Petersen. EASY LEVEL 3 FELDMAN. Ages 5-9.
This early reader explores Katherine Johnson’s role in moving NASA’s program forward by calculating important numbers by hand despite numerous obstacles.

**100 Women Who Made History: Remarkable Women Who Shaped Our World** by Stella Caldwell, Clare Hibbert, Andrea Mills, and Rona Skene; consultant, Philip Parker. 920.72 C147. Ages 8-12.
From queens to mountain climbers, this thoroughly engaging book is filled with photos and colorful caricatures. Each remarkable woman is depicted in historical context to illustrate the significance of her contribution.

Ranging from stuntwomen to scientists, this collection of short biographies highlights the daring and incredible achievements of 52 unique women.

**Because I Was a Girl: True Stories for Girls of All Ages** edited by Melissa de la Cruz. 305.4 B388. Ages 12 & up.
This collection of short, autobiographical accounts of inspiring women touches upon the struggles women face in society, while offering an uplifting message of the power they possess to advocate for change.

**Little Leaders: Bold Women in Black History** by Vashti Harrison. 920.7208996 H318. Ages 6-12.
Children will be inspired by 40 introductory biographies and charming illustrations of trailblazing women in history.
Celebrate Women’s History Month by taking part in a film screening and discussion of *Vel Phillips: Dream Big Dreams*, which tells the story of one remarkable woman and the struggles she undertook to build a better community. Discover how *Vel Phillips*, Milwaukee’s first African American and first alderwoman, rose to prominence as one of Wisconsin’s great civil rights activists boasting a list of “firsts” as part of her legacy. A discussion of the film follows each screening. Developed by Wisconsin Public Television.

- Tuesday, March 6, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Capitol Branch
- Monday, March 19, 6-7:30 p.m. at the Center Street Branch
- Tuesday, March 20, 5:30-7 p.m. at the Atkinson Branch

**Author Amy Stewart** will join the East Branch Book to Art Club via Skype. Discuss *Girl Waits with Gun* while creating an art project inspired by the forgotten true story of one of the nation’s first female deputy sheriffs. Registration is required; call 414-286-3011.

- Tuesday, March 27, 6-7 p.m. at the East Branch

**Harriet Tubman House: An Armchair Tour.** Learn more about Harriet Tubman on a “road trip” to the Harriet Tubman House in Auburn, New York, featuring pictures, stories and a brief stop at the home of her friend William Seward.

- Monday, March 5, 6-7 p.m. at the Atkinson Branch
- Thursday, March 8, 4:30-5:30 p.m. at the Mitchell Street Branch
- Monday, March 19, 6:30-7:45 p.m. at the Capitol Branch