

READER

Events • Books • Services

March 2019

Vol. 77 No. 2

Spring Literary Luncheon Welcomes Jon Meacham



photo credit © Heidi Ross

Pulitzer Prize winner and renowned presidential historian Jon Meacham will be the featured speaker at the Spring Literary Luncheon hosted by the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library on **Thursday, May 9**, at the Wisconsin Club, 900 West Wisconsin Avenue.

Meacham won the Pulitzer in 2009 for *American Lion: Andrew Jackson in the White House*. At the luncheon, Meacham will share highlights from his latest book, *The Soul of America: The Battle for Our Better Angels*, which gives an historical perspective on today's political climate.

A former executive editor and executive vice president at Random House and a former Editor in Chief of *Newsweek*, Meacham is a contributing writer to *The New York Times Book Review*, a contributing editor to *TIME* magazine, and a regular guest on cable

news television. One of today's most prominent political intellectuals, Meacham is known for his in-depth knowledge of politics, religion, and current affairs.

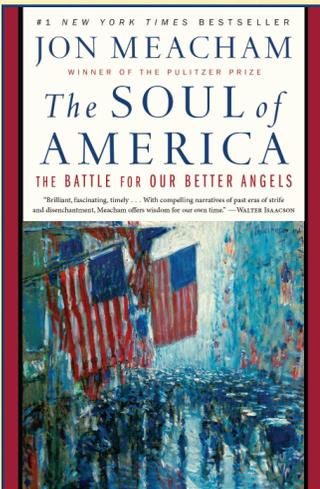
In his inspiring book, *The Soul of America*, Meacham examines moments in American history when the nation was divided by partisan fury and racial strife. He reminds readers that during dramatic hours, the nation looked forward rather than back, and chose hope over fear. In times of conflict and discord, Meacham sees history as giving people a sense of proportion.

Meacham paints portraits of Abraham Lincoln, Ulysses S. Grant, Theodore Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Harry S. Truman, Dwight Eisenhower, and Lyndon B. Johnson. He also highlights the courage of citizen activists, early suffragettes, and civil rights pioneers, as well as the Civil War, Reconstruction, and the birth of the Lost Cause, bringing to life turning points in our nation's history.

One of four people chosen to deliver a eulogy at George H.W. Bush's funeral, Meacham shared the words of the speech with the president before he died. He is a distinguished visiting professor at Vanderbilt University and has taught history at his alma mater, The University of the South.

At the luncheon, Jon Meacham will discuss *The Soul of America* and answer questions from the audience. He will personalize signed copies, which guests will receive with their reservations. Boswell Book Company will offer additional titles by Meacham for purchase. One of the raffle prizes will be an opportunity to sit at the author's head table. For reservations to the Spring Literary Luncheon, please see the enclosed invitation or register online at supportmpl.org/litlunch.

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



FROM THE



CITY LIBRARIAN

PAULA A. KIELY

I'm going to share with you a very special secret – I read children's and young adult literature. I'm sure it's easy to envision the City Librarian

sitting before a fire on a winter's evening with a leather-bound volume of poetry or great literature. It's a little harder to picture her with a copy of *Elephant and Piggie*.

As a children's librarian I needed to be well-versed in picture books and easy-readers. I often recommended children's books for older students to entice them into reading, expose them to art through illustration, and to create empathy through visual connections with characters.

I may no longer *need* to be as familiar with children's literature, but I still read books recommended to me. I recently finished *Touching Spirit Bear* by Ben Mikaelson, a novel about a young man named Cole who is sentenced to live on a remote Alaskan Island in lieu of going to prison. The sentencing alternative is based on Native American Circle Justice and results in Cole's encounter with a Spirit Bear that changes his life.

Adults needed little encouragement to join teens and preteens in the Harry Potter craze that began in the late 1990s and quickly launched several young adult series that lured parents back to reading books together as a family. *Lemony Snicket*, *Alex Rider*, *The Hunger Games* – suddenly it wasn't so unusual to see adults browsing the children's and young adult sections.

The recently announced Newbery and Caldecott winners are always a good place to start if you're looking for the best in children's literature. This year Meg Medina won the Newbery Medal for her book *Merci Suarez Changes Gears*, about a young girl growing up as part of an intergenerational Cuban-American family. Sophie Blackall received the Caldecott Medal for *Hello Lighthouse*, a picture book filled with delightful ink and watercolor illustrations.

I'm sure you remember a favorite children's story growing up. Whether it was the colorful illustrations, engaging story, or memorable characters that stayed with you, those books left a lasting impression. Why allow those great literary moments to end with the advent of adulthood? Take a look at what your children are reading, browse the bookshelves, or ask a librarian for a picture book recommendation – we won't tell.

Spring Discovery Lunches

Inspiration starts here! Discovery Lunches are one-hour programs that let you explore and connect with fellow learners. Continue your journey to discovery via your Milwaukee Public Library. A light lunch is provided. A spring slate of programs is available at the Capitol, Central, and Zablocki libraries. Ask for a flyer at your library or see the schedule online at mpl.org. The programs for this spring include:



Brain Training: The Best Brain Booster Apps

Playing games is a great way to keep your mind sharp. In this interactive program you will learn the best apps to challenge your thinking and improve your brain's cognitive ability.



Becoming an Herbalist

Deepen your understanding of the plant kingdom and herbs to support your wellness in this interactive program.



Introduction to Essential Oils

Not sure what essential oils are or how to use them? Hear from Lynne Herro how to incorporate essential oils into your routine to promote personal wellness.



Essential Oils for Stress Reduction

Learn how essential oils can help reduce stress and anxiety.

Eating Better on a Budget

Plan nutritious and cost-saving meals with help from UW-Extension FoodWise.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY



Vision: The Milwaukee Public Library is an anchor institution that helps build healthy families and vibrant neighborhoods – the foundation of a strong Milwaukee.

Mission: Inspiration starts here – we help people read, learn, and connect.

- Library Director Paula A. Kiely
- Board of Trustees Michele Bria, president;
Joan Prince, vice president; Chris Layden, financial secretary; Ald. Milele Coggs,
Ald. Nik Kovac, Prof. James Marten, Ald. Michael Murphy, Supv. Marcella Nicholson,
Dir. Mark Sain, Jennifer Smith
- MPL Foundation Board of Directors President Dan Renouard
- Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library President Barbara Franczyk

The Reader is published ten times per year by the Milwaukee Public Library to celebrate reading and share news about books, library services and events. The Reader is mailed to members of the Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library, distributed free at library locations and available at www.mpl.org. Call (414) 286-3572 or send an e-mail with questions or comments to mailbox@mpl.org

Let's Talk Investing @ Your Milwaukee Public Library

Everyone agrees on the importance of investing and contributing towards a solid retirement plan - even from that very first paycheck. From 401(k) plans to IRAs, retirement readiness has gained more attention in the news as baby boomers approach retirement age in record numbers.

Your Milwaukee Public Library has added an investment program to its current list of business classes which are offered on a rotating basis at the Central Library. "Let's Talk Investing" introduces library investment databases including *Morningstar Investment Research Center* and *Value Line*. *Morningstar* offers up-to-date independent analysts' opinions and in-depth data on thousands of stocks, mutual funds and exchange-traded funds. *Value Line* provides complete stock and investment research. Both of these databases are available online for free to all City of Milwaukee library cardholders.

The investment class also introduces *Gale Courses*: "Stocks, Bonds, and Investing: Oh, My!" and "The Analysis and Valuation of Stocks." *Gale Courses* offer a wide range of interactive, instructor-led courses that are taken entirely online. City of Milwaukee library cardholders can take these classes for free. Courses run for six weeks and new sessions begin every month.

On the library's website at mpl.org, the Personal Finance page under Research lists other helpful websites, booklists and resources that can help you reach your personal financial goals.



Let's Talk Investing

Curious about investments, or thinking about your retirement? Join Central Library business staff for this free program. This no-pressure presentation will cover basic investments terms, tips from the experts, and resources available from the library.

**Central Library
Conference Room 2B**

Thursdays, 12-1:30 pm

March 14

June 13

September 12

December 5

MONEY SMART WEEK® MARCH 30 - APRIL 6, 2019



Ask your librarian for information on Milwaukee Public Library programs coming this spring!

Business Resources

The Central Library Business Department offers help to entrepreneurs, small business owners and inventors through monthly programming. All programs take place at the Central Library, 2nd floor, Conference Room 2B and include:

Small Business Resources 101

Learn how to find the right information to help you start your own business with useful print and electronic resources for small business planning.

Thursdays, 12-1 pm

January 31

July 11

April 11

October 24

Patent Searching 101

Protect Your Product!
Business librarians will explain the 7-step strategy for conducting a patent search.

Thursdays, 12-1:30 pm

February 28

May 23

August 22

November 14



Book a Business Librarian

Work one-on-one with business librarians as they guide you through the library's business resources.

By appointment only. Sign up for a 45-minute session by calling the Business & Technology Desk at 414.286.3051.

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

Thursday, May 9

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. Meacham*

Noon to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch and Program

Featuring

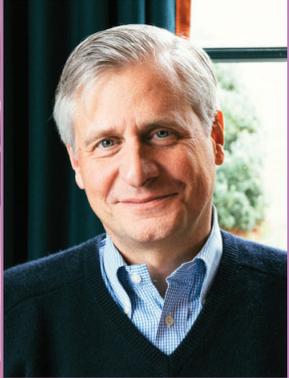
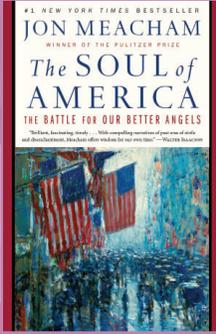


photo © Heidi Ross



Jon Meacham
and his book "The Soul of America"



FRIENDS of
the MILWAUKEE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

Spring Literary Luncheon Online Reservations and Friends Membership:
supportmpl.org/litlunch

RSVP Seating is limited. Please reply by Thursday, May 2. Reservations will be held at the door. Ticket price includes a signed copy of the book.

Friends Membership Level:
\$40__ ; \$70__ ; \$150__ ; \$250__ ; other \$__

Individual Seat **Friends Member Seat**
\$85 each - Qty: __ \$75 each - Qty: __

Patron Seat*
\$150 each - Qty: __

Corporate & Book Club Sponsor Table of 8*
\$2,000 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



Check enclosed, made payable to: **MPL Foundation**

Visa MasterCard AMEX

Name on Card _____

Account # _____

Exp. _____ Signature _____

Name/Corporate Name (list additional guests)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Menu: Quartet Plate of Seasonal Fresh Fruit, Vinaigrette Glazed Vegetables, Northwoods Salad, & Herb Roasted Chicken Salad*

*Vegetarian substitute available; please note on registration form.

MPL Foundation/Friends of the Milwaukee Public Library
814 West Wisconsin Avenue, Milwaukee, WI 53233
(414) 286-8720 Friends@mpl.org



FROM THE FRIENDS

OF THE LIBRARY

Renew Your Friends Membership Today

There's no better time to join or renew your Friends Membership than in time for the 2019 Spring Literary Luncheon! Join the Friends and their literacy efforts by renewing your annual membership. As a member, you will receive exclusive membership benefits like first access to priority seating and special ticket pricing, invitations to members-only events, early admission to book sales, events with new release books, and more. Please check this newsletter mailing label for your Friends membership status. Call (414) 286-8720, or visit supportmpl.org/friends to renew today.



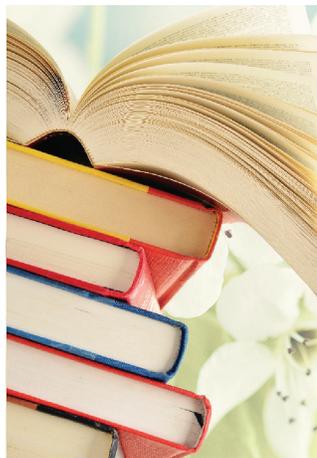
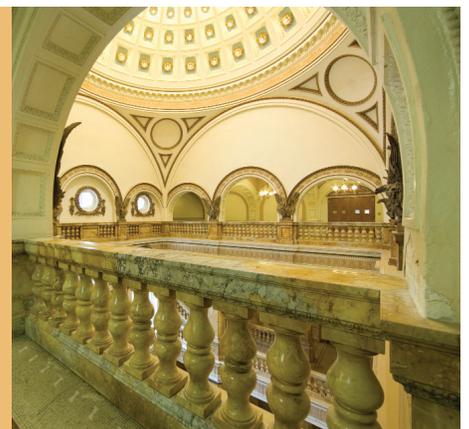
Photos from 2018 Spring Literary Luncheon featuring Luis Alberto Urrea. *Photos by Andrew Holman.*

Docent Tours

Learn about the fascinating history of the Milwaukee Public Library during a free Architectural Tour of Central Library, located at 814 West Wisconsin Avenue. Docent led tours are offered every Saturday at 11 a.m. beginning in the Rotunda and last approximately one hour.

End your tour in the Bookseller Used Bookstore & Café and receive a coupon for a FREE book.

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.



Spring Used Book Sale ~ Saturday, March 2, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.; Bookseller Corridor.

Coincides with the Browser's Book Bash event at Central Library. The Friends of Milwaukee Public Library present their annual Spring Sale, featuring a large selection of children's fiction and non-fiction books. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members get VIP entry 30-minutes before the general public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card.

Anodyne Coffee and other refreshments are available for purchase in the R Café located in the Bookseller Used Bookstore. There will also be a half-price special in the Bookseller during the sale.

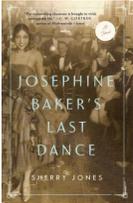
March Special in the Bookseller: Mysteries

Next Sale: Saturday, June 15, 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Summer sale at Central - Everything Half Off!



THE BOOKSHELF

Josephine Baker's Last Dance by Sherry Jones.



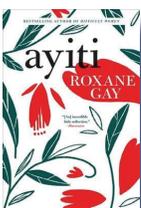
Paris, reeling from the aftermath of World War I, embraced Josephine Baker, an African-American woman who rose from nothing to become a world-renowned singer, dancer, actress, spy and civil rights activist and the only woman to give a speech at the 1963 March on Washington. Jones combines history and imagination to bring Baker to vivid, sparkling life.

Look Alive Twenty-Five by Janet Evanovich.



Stephanie Plum, Jersey girl and bounty hunter extraordinaire, is at it again in yet another wacky storyline that includes missing deli managers, suggestions of alien abduction, taco trucks, and a hard-to-track-down underground rock star. Suspend your disbelief and enjoy the insanity that follows Stephanie wherever her adventures lead.

Ayiti by Roxane Gay.



Gay's beautifully powerful collection of short stories, provides 15 different, but similar accounts of the Haitian-American experience. From a young boy's first months in an American school to the woman in love with a man who's been dead for decades, each story becomes more intense, leaving the reader completely satisfied with the ending of the story, yet craving another.

The Travelling Cat Chronicles by Hiro Arikawa; translated by Philip Gabriel.



Former stray Nana and his human companion take to the road for a very specific purpose. Translated from the original Japanese, this gentle novel explores bonds between humans, animals and most of all, between Satoru and Nana. Nana narrates the story of the quest that includes

his interactions with other animals that are sometimes comically misunderstood by their human counterparts.

Vegan Yack Attack on the Go by Jackie Sobon.



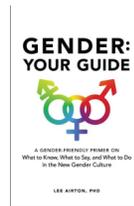
Sobon provides a bunch of tasty and not-too-fussy plant-based lunch and travel recipes. Highlights include Vanilla Chip Buckwheat Bars and Overnight Chia Seed Pudding. The recipes are easy to follow and tasty, and designed to be eaten on-the-go.

The Accidental Beauty Queen by Teri Wilson.



An allergic reaction renders beauty queen and identical twin Ginny unable to compete in preliminary week events for the Miss American Treasure Pageant. Her school librarian sister reluctantly agrees to stand in. Along with new respect for her fellow contestants, Charlotte discovers a few surprises about herself. A charming tale of sisterly bonding, a French bulldog, and a handsome stranger.

Gender: Your Guide: A Gender-friendly Primer on What to Know, What to Say, and What to Do in the New Gender Culture



by Lee Airton.

Gender and sexuality studies professor Lee Airton provides user-friendly and respectful information on navigating the gender spectrum. Topics include pronouns, gender expression and ways to support friends, colleagues and family members. Airton brings the objective view of an academic and their own lived experience as non-binary to this worthwhile and informative read.

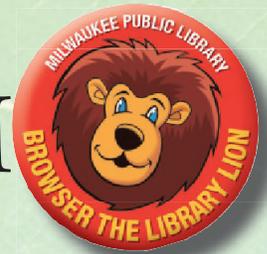
Suicide Club: a Novel About Living by Rachel Heng.



"Lifer" Lea Kirino's genetic makeup qualifies her for an extended lifespan. At 100, she's got it all — loving partner, posh apartment, prestigious job — and is on-track to receive the next generation of life-enhancing therapies. This perfect façade begins to crack when her estranged father re-enters her life, launching a chain of events that causes her to question everything she thought she knew.

Contributed by Mill Road Branch staff.

CHILDREN'S ROOM



Poetry & Science

A new collaboration between the Milwaukee Public Library and the Milwaukee Public Museum is providing opportunities for Milwaukee residents of all ages to engage with science and poetry. Field Work MKE explores the way poetry and science can inform how we see and understand the world around us.

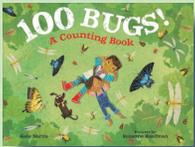
Field Work MKE will feature programming for children, teens and adults in the upcoming months. Children and families are invited to learn about wildlife in their own neighborhoods and write poetry about the natural world at an Urban Wildlife: Poetry in Your Backyard program.

In April, a joint MPL and MPM youth poetry competition will invite participants to answer the question: How do you see yourself in the natural world? Community poetry walks and a Poetry Path uniting the two institutions will also be coming soon. Visit www.fieldworkmke.org to find out more.

Check out some of these great books to further explore how poetry and science can intersect. If you're curious for more, talk to a librarian for other great books to inspire the young poets and scientists in your life!

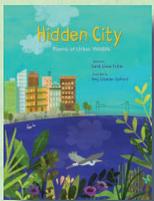
Field Work MKE

Recommended Reading:



100 Bugs!: A Counting Book by Kate Narita; illustrated by Suzanne Kaufman. Ages 3-7.

This rhyming, whimsical bug safari story instills math skills like addition and counting by 10s, as two young children search for lightning bugs, katydids, butterflies and lady bugs.



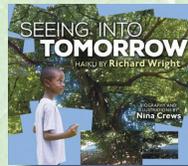
Hidden City: Poems of Urban Wildlife by Sarah Grace Tuttle; illustrated by Amy Schimler-Safford. Ages 3-8.

A colorful blend of science and poetry encourages children to discover and explore the natural world that exists in their own backyard—even when that backyard is a big city.



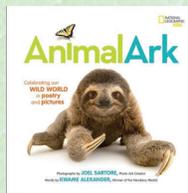
Fly with Me: A Celebration of Birds through Pictures, Poems, and Stories by Jane Yolen. Ages 4-12.

This diverse collection of songs, poems, and photography takes a loving look at the past and present lives of birds, including their important place in our world.



Seeing Into Tomorrow by Richard Wright; illustrated by Nina Crews. Ages 5-10.

Crews' vibrant photo collages accompany the haiku poetry of Richard Wright, depicting African American boys exploring nature. Wright's biography and bibliography complement the book.



Animal Ark: Celebrating Our Wild World in Poetry and Pictures by Kwame Alexander. Ages 5-10.

With an emphasis on conservation and appreciation of our natural world, this book highlights endangered animals using beautifully photographed portraiture and Kwame Alexander's insightful poems.



Twinkle Twinkle Little Star, I Know Exactly What You Are by Julia Kregenow; illustrated by Carmen Saldaña. Ages 4-9.

Astrophysics for children? Yes! Luminous illustrations reveal a new take on an old favorite, as the book follows the familiar rhyme scheme while describing different types of stars.



Introducing Artist-in-Residence Celeste Contreras



Gathering Art, Stories and Place programming continues at the Mitchell Street Branch in 2019 with new artist-in-residence Celeste Contreras.

Contreras, a Xicana-Indigenous artist and activist, uses her voice to share stories of ceremony, culture and tradition through expressions in mixed media.

Her work includes ceremonial illustrations, Día de Muertos workshops, books, print, dolls, and mixed media. She led and founded the Día de los Muertos Festival from 2009 until 2017 and holds a Studio Art and Art History degree from Alverno College.

Learn more about the Gathering Art, Stories and Place project at mpl.org/gasp



Visual Journals and Narrative Stories is a workshop series presented by Celeste Contreras and Artists Working in Education that focuses on codexes, zines, artist journals, artist books, traditional books and non-traditional books. Each participant will be able to create a book in numerous forms, as well as learn and interact with artists, art books and art forms. Resources will be provided for participants.

The series takes place every Wednesday now through April from 3:30-6:30 p.m. at the Mitchell Street Branch.

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARIES - 414.286.3000

Atkinson 1960 W. Atkinson Ave. • Bay View 2566 S. Kinnickinnic Ave. • Capitol 3969 N. 74th St.
 Center Street 2727 W. Fond du Lac Ave. • Central 814 W. Wisconsin Ave. • East 2320 N. Cramer St.
 Martin Luther King 310 W. Locust St. • Mill Road 6431 N. 76th St. • Mitchell Street 906 W. Historic Mitchell St.
 Tippecanoe 3912 S. Howell Ave. • Villard Square 5190 N. 35th St. • Washington Park 2121 N. Sherman Blvd.
 Zablocki 3501 W. Oklahoma Ave. • Wisconsin Talking Book and Braille Library 813 W. Wells St.
 MPL Express at Silver Spring 5550 N. 64th St. • Community Education and Outreach Services • www.mpl.org