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NEW HEIGHTS

Friends of the Library, Montgomery County • www.folmc.org

F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival

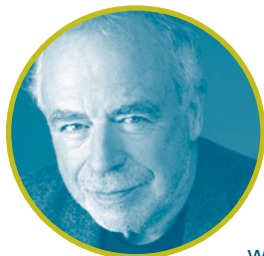
Opening Lecture: Lisa Lucas

Thursday, October 18, 11:30 a.m.

Mansion at Strathmore, 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville

Opening the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival, FOLMC hosts Lisa Lucas, executive director of the National Book Foundation. Lucas is the first woman and African-American to lead the non-profit foundation that hands out the prestigious National Book Awards. An advocate for diversity and inclusivity in publishing, and for inspiring the next generations of readers, she calls herself a cheerleader for literature.

Purchase your tickets at <https://www.folmc.org/events-calendar/literary-series/>.



Awards Ceremony: Richard Russo

Saturday, October 20, 12:45 p.m.

Richard Montgomery HS, 250 Richard Montgomery Dr., Rockville

The centerpiece of the Literary Festival (Saturday 7:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.), is an awards presentation to acclaimed author Richard Russo whose works include eight novels, two collections of short stories, and *Elsewhere*, a memoir. Russo received the Pulitzer Prize for *Empire Falls*, which like *Nobody's Fool*, was adapted to film, in a multiple-award-winning HBO miniseries. Check out <http://fscottfestival.org/> for more information on the Festival that also includes writer-led workshops, a film screening of *Nobody's Fool*, and book signings.

Leading up to this literary event, MCPL offers several free programs related to F. Scott Fitzgerald, Zelda Fitzgerald, and 2018 Festival Honoree Richard Russo.

Note: events will be held at Twinbrook Library unless indicated otherwise.

Sep. 18 at 6:30 p.m. – The Book Discussion Group delves into Festival awardee Richard Russo's book, *Trajectory*.

Sep. 24 at 7:00 p.m., Rockville Memorial Library – Screening of *Bernice Bobs Her Hair*, a short story by F. Scott Fitzgerald, and shown on F. Scott's birthday.

Sep. 27 at 6:30 p.m. – National literary experts, authors, Festival organizers, and University of Maryland alumni Dr. Eleanor Heginbotham and Dr. Jackson Bryer discuss

continued on page 4

FOL Chapter Sponsored Events

Visit our website for more upcoming events: www.folmc.org/events-calendar.

OCTOBER

- 6 10:30 a.m., Little Falls: Spanish Storytime with Vanessa Cabrera
- 6 Gaithersburg Chapter booksale
- 6 2 p.m., Rockville Memorial: De Colores Mexican Folk Dance Group
- 18 4 p.m., Connie Morella: Board Games
- 25 10:30 a.m., Potomac: Beale Street Puppet's Halloween Hijinx!
- 27 10:30 a.m., Chevy Chase: Global Cardboard Challenge
- 27 2 p.m., Germantown: Creepy Reptiles!
- 30 6 p.m., Twinbrook: Michael Chamberlin's Magic Show!

NOVEMBER

- 1 10:30 a.m., Chevy Chase: Toddler Arts and Crafts
- 3 2 p.m., Olney: Science Saturday – Olney Building Challenge
- 6 3 p.m., Germantown: Maryland STEM Festival 2018: Cosmic Adventures – Traveling Planetarium
- 10 11 a.m., Gaithersburg: Scales and Tales present: Owl Prowl
- 10 11 a.m., Connie Morella: Sciencetellers Present The Wild West
- 29 10:30 a.m., Damascus: Construction Crew: DUPLO

DECEMBER

- 1 2 p.m., Chevy Chase: Foreign Film Showings "Incendies"
- 7 4:30 p.m., Gaithersburg: LEGO Crew
- 15 11 a.m., Potomac: Christiana Drapkin's Jingle Bell Jazz for Kids!

Officers

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From the President of the Board and the Executive Director

Tom Thomson and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

With our combined 20-year-history of service, what continues to impress us is how many different kinds of people the library system reaches through its programs and services. Like MCPL, FOLMC strives to provide "a place for everyone"; no matter their age, background, or interest. It starts with our board of trustees which represents a diverse group from retirees to high school students to young professionals, like Venchele Saint Dic who you can read about on page 3.

Our programming is as broad as our volunteer base. The Seasoned Spellers Senior Spelling Bee gives older adults an activity where words are used to help strengthen their minds. The event also engages and familiarizes them with targeted MCPL services. Another way FOLMC interacts with the spectrum of our community is through our two bookstores. Our shoppers run the gamut from seasoned treasure hunters to early readers. And many retirees find their second careers working at our bookstores. The Mosaic creative writing program turns middle school students into published authors and gives them a platform for expressing their cultural identity.

Find out for yourself. Attend one of our programs. Sign up for the senior spelling bee. Apply to work in one of our open positions at the bookstore or office (see page 4). Or join us for an author luncheon featuring Lisa Lucas to discuss inclusivity in publishing. We know you'll "find your place" with us.



Vision: Everyone in the County values, benefits from, and supports Montgomery County Public Libraries.

Mission: To strengthen, promote, and champion Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL), for it to better serve the learning interests and needs of the diverse and changing communities of the County, by

- **Raising funds to enhance and supplement library programming, equipment, and services;**
- **Increasing public awareness of library resources and connecting local communities with their branch libraries;**
- **Creating volunteer opportunities for County residents to support MCPL;**
- **Engaging with the County's library support community to address the ongoing needs of the library system, and advocating for MCPL's budget to the County government.**

friends OF THE LIBRARY
MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

(240) 777-0020 • staff@folmc.org

From the Library Director

Anita Vassallo, Acting MCPL Director



Delighted Montgomery

Identify and work with partner organizations and County agencies to provide a broader range of resources to customers

The REAL (**R**eading and **E**ducating to **A**dvance Lives) Program is an innovative partnership between the Department of Health and Human Services' (DHHS) Office of Eligibility and Support Services (OESS); the Jewish Council for the Aging's Heyman Interages® Center (JCA Interages); and Montgomery County Public Libraries (MCPL). The REAL Program brings together staff and volunteers from these organizations with the goal of transforming the time children spend waiting at DHHS service centers into a fun and educational experience.

JCA Interages senior volunteers read and engage children and their families in literacy and healthy living activities as they wait for services at four DHHS offices. Permanent "Community Collections" of MCPL-owned children's books are regularly refreshed and are available to be read while waiting or the books can be taken home. The Community

Collections at the DHHS sites are geared to children ages 2 to 12 years old to support and emphasize the importance of reading development. MCPL Outreach Team members visit the sites and assist visitors by issuing free library cards and providing information about library programs, services and resources. DHHS staff ensure that the Program runs efficiently through active coordination efforts among the partners and by maintaining the offices' lobbies to appeal to clients. Through the REAL Program, DHHS, JCA Interages, and MCPL convey the partners' commitment to outstanding customer service, to creating unique ways to support the community, and to empowering connections among generations within the County.

The REAL Program, one of the many ways MCPL is providing services and materials beyond our walls, was recognized by the National Association of Counties with a 2018 Achievement Award.



Board Spotlight Venchele Saint Dic

Growing up in the United States and the Caribbean, I read books that showcased stories of people who lived at the intersection of multiple cultures. Reading books such as *The Alchemist* and the *Traveler's Gift* at an early age shaped my identity, and nurtured a genuine curiosity of the world around me.

I attended Simmons College, a private liberal arts school in Boston. Simmons inspired me to lead a life of service, which led me to the Peace Corps. Since my career goals are in public health and international development, I worked in Senegal, West Africa in a rural village named Dassalami Soce. My students did not have a community library to support their learning outside of the classroom. This experience taught me that young women in parts of the world are not always given

opportunities to learn and develop career aspirations; which further reinforced that knowledge is key to unlocking the door to possibilities. My second project during my service was to build a neighborhood library to enable hundreds of students to supplement their learning.

I joined the FOLMC Board because I wanted to serve with like-minded people to preserve and promote the relevance of libraries in my own community. Serving on the Board allows me to engage with the community through interactive, fun events. In my spare time, I visit the Smithsonian, attend fencing classes, or hike local trails.



Help FOLMC Fundraise for a Truck With Your Holiday Shopping

Why?

FOLMC needs our own truck to easily and seamlessly move book donations throughout the 500+ square miles of our county. Help us expand our donation pickup service so we can improve our inventory and increase our ability to raise funds for MCPL.



How?

Here are ways you can help FOLMC while shopping from the comforts of home:

- Shop **Boon Supply** for your houseware needs and 50% of your purchase will go to FOLMC.
- Start your online shopping at **GoodShop** where you can get the best online coupons at thousands of top retailers AND a portion of what you spend will be donated to FOLMC.
- Use **GoodSearch** for your web searches and FOLMC will receive a donation each time you click.
- Designate FOLMC as your charity of choice on **Amazon Smile**.
- Donate at: www.folmc.org/donate

For all the links to get started go to www.folmc.org/support/other-ways-to-give/



BOON SUPPLY



We're Hiring

Bookstore Manager, Wheaton Bookstore at Old Silver Spring Library

The Bookstore Manager is a part-time position that oversees retail sales activities of the bookstore to benefit FOLMC under the supervision of the Director of Business Operations. This position ensures high quality, responsive customer service and requires knowledge of used books, pricing, and merchandising.



Office Coordinator

The Office Coordinator is a full-time, exempt position that supports the administrative, development, and program activities of FOLMC under the supervision of the Deputy Director.

For details and to apply, go to www.folmc.org/careers/.



F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival (continued from page 1)

F. Scott Fitzgerald's short stories and the love letters between F. Scott and Zelda.

Oct. 6 at 3:00 p.m. – Screening of *Benjamin Button* followed by discussion with members of the Festival planning committee.

Oct. 11 at 6:30 p.m. – Student finalists in the Festival Short Story Writing Contest read and discuss their work.

Note: FOLMC, F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival, and Strathmore members in good standing receive reduced ticket prices. All ticket sales are final. No refunds or exchanges.



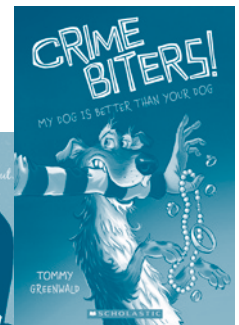
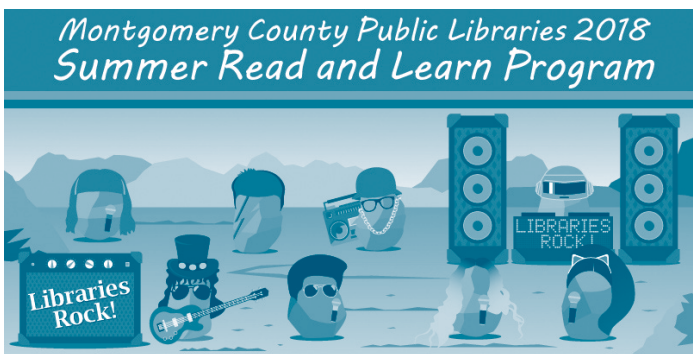
STRATHMORE

Check It Out: See Where Your Dollars Go



Summer Read & Learn Update

As a long time funder of MCPL's Summer Read and Learn program, FOLMC is also pleased to offer participating students coupons to one of our bookstores. Each participant that successfully completed the program received a coupon good through the end of September. Coupon recipients were asked for their favorite book this summer in order to redeem the coupon. The top three books from participants in the summer reading program are: *Wonder*, followed by the *Dog Man* series, and *Crime Bitters*. Check these books out at your local library or visit our bookstores to find your own copy.



From the Stacks

As we approach the 15th anniversary of the Rockville Bookstore, we are thrilled to be part of a county-led project to revitalize the Randolph Hills Shopping Center as part of the Montgomery County Planning Department's White Flint 2 Sector Plan. The placemaking effort will be facilitated by Better Block Foundation. Better Block, based in Dallas, is a non-profit that specializes in citizen lead initiatives to create vital, vibrant, and engaging community spaces.

This shopping center has long been eyed by the county as an area that could benefit from a makeover. Long term plans call for a portion of the impermeable surface lot to be converted into green space. The planning department sees placemaking as, "a collaborative process of reshaping our public realm in order to maximize



our shared values." A weekend placemaking festival is tentatively scheduled for October 12-13. FOLMC looks forward to collaborating as the community actively crafts its place. Discussions are underway for bookstore-related features, including potentially an outdoor reading lounge and open mic events.

Interested in how to improve the Rockville Bookstore or revitalize the shopping center? Fill out a volunteer form at www.folmc.org/support/volunteer-with-us/

FOLMC CHAPTERS

Aspen Hill

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President: Chris Swan
aspenhill@folmc.org

Chevy Chase

8005 Connecticut Avenue
Chevy Chase, MD 20815
President: Judy McGuire
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Connie Morella Library (Bethesda)

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Damascus

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Germantown

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President: Robert Fuss
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Kensington Park

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President: Eli Sola-Sole
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Little Falls

5501 Massachusetts Avenue
Bethesda, MD 20816
President: Jane Snyder
littlefalls@folmc.org

Chapter Spotlight

QUINCE ORCHARD

President: Dawn Fairbanks

At every Children's Poetry Club and Read to a Dog event at Quince Orchard Library, you'll feel the impact of the FOLMC, Quince Orchard Chapter (FOLMCQO). That's because the Chapter provided carpet squares to make seating more comfortable for the youngest library-goers during these and other children's programs. But the chapter's contributions aren't limited to the youngest members using the Quince Orchard Branch - take a walk through the Quince Orchard garden and notice the brick pavers donated by supporters to honor or memorialize someone they love. With funds that FOLMCQO raises through the brick paver and used book sales, they enhance programming and funding to support the library branch. For example, the Chapter was able to provide Summer Reading t-shirts for all the staff at the branch; update the staff area during the Refresh project with new furniture, carpeting, paint, and lower cubicle panels; fund "Lazy Susan" computer stands for the information and circulation desks; as well as provide office supplies for events and laser printer cartridges which enable patrons to print at the branch. Through their hard work and dedication, FOLMC Chapters, including Quince Orchard Chapter, help libraries provide a place for everyone.

FOLMCQO is also active at two recurring community events, the annual Utsav Festival of Indian Culture and the biannual Aggregate Industries Quarry Day (where more than 200 attendees planted seeds courtesy of the FOLMCQO). A big supporter to FOLMCQO is Aggregate's Richard Freedman, who they nominated and was this year's Gilchrist Philanthropy Award recipient presented at the Library After Dark Gala.

Library patrons also have the Chapter to thank for the following events at Quince Orchard:

- chamber opera performances,
- a drumming program,
- Summer Teen Leadership Camp,
- a Rock Art program,
- the Tune'n Jazz Quartet, and
- funding to support QO's Penny Theater group.

If you'd like more information on FOLMCQO or have an idea for an event, they'd love to hear from you. Please contact the chapter president, Dawn Fairbanks at quinceorchard@folmc.org.



Seasoned Spellers Senior Spelling Bee



Saturday, November 3 at 11 a.m.

**Asbury Methodist Village, 301 Odendhal Avenue, Gaithersburg
Rosborough Cultural Arts and Wellness Center, Community Rooms**



Adults, age 55 years and over, are invited to participate in FOLMC's 9th Annual Senior Spelling Bee. Free and open to the public to watch. Contestants are encouraged to invite friends and family to cheer them on.

Pre-registration and a \$25 non-refundable competitor fee required to participate. Register online at www.folmc.org/events-calendar/seasoned-spellers/ by Friday, October 26.

Questions? Call 240-777-0020 or email staff@folmc.org. For mobility or auditory accommodations, please contact us at least two weeks prior to event.



Call for Nominations Due Nov. 30

FOLMC invites library patrons, MCPL employees, and the public to nominate a fellow library volunteer or philanthropist for the Charles W. Gilchrist award, which is given in memory of the former county executive who sought to encourage community participation in Montgomery County.

Submit your nomination at www.folmc.org/about/charles-w-gilchrist-award/

Save the Dates

**Library Lovers Month – Feb. 2, Gaithersburg Library
featuring Alex and the Kaleidoscope**

Library After Dark – April 13, Rockville Memorial Library

Vinyl Day: Record Festival – April 27, Silver Spring Library

**Mosaic: Diversity Through Creative Writing Awards Ceremony
May 22, Johns Hopkins University, Montgomery County Campus**

FOLMC CHAPTERS

Olney

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President: Salley Shannon
olney@folmc.org

Potomac

10101 Glenolden Drive
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President: Edythe Wingate
potomac@folmc.org

Marilyn J. Praisner

14910 Old Columbia Pike
Burtonsville, MD 20866
Co-chairs: Vicky Taheri & Nora Siegel
praisner@folmc.org

Quince Orchard

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President: Dawn Fairbanks
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Rockville Memorial

21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 100
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Silver Spring

900 Wayne Avenue
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President: Kathlin Smith
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Twinbrook

202 Meadow Hall Drive
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President: Elaine Joselovitz
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White Oak

11701 New Hampshire Avenue
Silver Spring, MD 20904
President: Paulette Wright
whiteoak@folmc.org

Chapter Book Sales

For a full list of book sales in library branches, visit the MCPL website at <http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library/about/bookdonations.html>



21 Maryland Avenue
Suite 310
Rockville, Maryland 20850-2389

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



A BOOK TO LOVE AT **FRIENDS' BOOKSTORES**

ROCKVILLE BOOKSTORE – EXPANDED

Randolph Hills Shopping Center
4886 Boiling Brook Parkway, Rockville, MD
(301) 984-3300

WHEATON BOOKSTORE – NOW OPEN!

at the Old Silver Spring Library
8901 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD
(301) 933-1110

GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED

Get social and stay up to date on all the latest FOLMC news.

Facebook.com/FOLMC @FOLMC @folmcmd

Workplace Giving

Designate **FOLMC** as your charity of choice as you plan your workplace giving. Some companies may match your individual donation. Check with your human resources manager for matching gift information.

- United Way #8729,
- Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) #42387
- Maryland Charities Campaign #5273
- DC One Fund #8729

Visit www.folmc.org/support/other-ways-to-give/give-through-your-workplace/ for more information



FOLMC is supported in part by funding from the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County.