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Mosaic Winners Announced

Award winning author, poet, educator, and "one of the country's most innovative children's book authors" named by *The New York Times*, Kwame Alexander congratulated and encouraged this year's Mosaic winners. Mosaic is an annual language arts program that showcases the creative talents of middle school students through written expression of their cultural identities.

Join us in congratulating:

6TH GRADE

Zayn Bandukwalla, Cabin John, *Essay – Winner*

Rohan Giare, Cabin John, *Essay – Honorable Mention*

Arjun Nair, Argyle, *Essay – Honorable Mention*

Ashwin Gopalaswami, Parkland, *Poem – Winner*

Renuka Rubin, Eastern, *Poem – Honorable Mention*

Milla A. Brizhik, John Poole, *Short Story – Winner*

Andrea Iskandar, Cabin John, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*

Weronika Kitlinska, John Poole, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*

Amber Li, Francis Scott Key, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*

Emma Sakala, Silver Creek, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*

7TH GRADE

Olivia Frank, Herbert Hoover, *Essay – Winner*

Yuvraj Rekhi, Herbert Hoover, *Essay – Honorable Mention*

Angelina Silva, Lakelands Park, *Poem – Winner*

Alison Stanton, John Poole, *Poem – Honorable Mention*

Veronica Peter, Benjamin Banneker, *Short Story – Winner*

Shayyan Ahmed, Robert Frost, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*

8TH GRADE

Rohan I. Ojha, Takoma Park, *Essay – Winner*

Sofia Moreira, Martin Luther King, Jr., *Essay – Honorable Mention*

Valeria Rivera, Ridgeview, *Poem – Winner*

Mariana Ruiz, Ridgeview, *Poem – Honorable Mention*

Ansh Patel, Lakelands Park, *Short Story – Winner*

Violeta Zamorano-Scott, Silver Spring International, *Short Story – Honorable Mention*



Kwame Alexander (center) congratulates this year's Mosaic winners.

FOL Chapter Sponsored Events

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

JULY

- 9 1 p.m., Davis: Pop-up Summer Science Camp
- 9 6:30 p.m., Little Falls: Didgeridoo Down Under
- 14 11 a.m., M. J. Prasiner: Hip Hop Artist
- 28 2 p.m., Kensington Park: ZooMobile

AUGUST

- 4 2 p.m., Silver Spring: Being Ourselves
- 9 10:30 a.m., Potomac: Magic, Music, and Stuff!
- 9 7 p.m., Olney: Amazing Dog Tricks
- 11 11 a.m., Connie Morella: Groovy Nate
- 16 4 p.m., Twinbrook: Teen Afternoon Craft

SEPTEMBER

- 1 10:30 a.m. Little Falls: Spanish Storytime
- 6 10:30 a.m. Damascus: Construction Crew: DUPLO
- 6 10:30 a.m. Chevy Chase: Toddler Arts & Crafts
- 6 4:00 p.m. Connie Morella: Build and Learn with Legos
- 8 10:00 a.m. Potomac: FOL Book Sale
- 12 2:00 p.m. Chevy Chase: Non-Fiction Book Group
- 14 4:30 p.m. Gaithersburg: Lego Crew
- 21 10:30 a.m. Chevy Chase: Jefferson Cafe
- 22 10:00 a.m. Marilyn Praisner: FOL Book Sale
- 22 1:30 p.m. Kensington: Make Your Own Egg Shaker
- 22 3:00 p.m. Kensington: Luis Garay concert
- 26 2:00 p.m. Chevy Chase: Fiction, Memoir and Biography Book Group

For more information on the Mosaic writing program and/or registering your school, or to purchase a published anthology of the students' work visit www.folmc.org/mosaic/.

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arts & humanities
council of montgomery county

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

From the President of the Board and the Executive Director

Tom Thomson and Ari Z. Brooks, MSW

Thank you again to our sponsors and donors who contributed to the great success of our fourth annual Library After Dark gala. Because of your generosity, we were able to raise nearly 30% more in revenue over last year's event which will help with our support of MCPL programs. We were thrilled to bestow the Charles W. Gilchrist award to Richard Freedman of Aggregate Industries and honor former MCPL director Parker Hamilton by renaming the Library Professional of the Year award for her and unveiling her professional portrait by artist Maud Taber-Thomas. The portrait will be displayed in the MCPL administrative offices alongside the previous directors. In addition, the inaugural B. Parker Hamilton award was given to Susan F. Cohen for her work on the Deaf Culture Digital Library. Visit www.folmc.org/lad/ to see photos of the evening.

Mark your calendars now for Library After Dark next year on April 13, 2018.

We would also like to thank Compass, a pro bono nonprofit consulting group, for working with us over the past several months to examine aspects of our current operations. Led by Project Director, Victoria Pierce and her Deputy Andrew McIntyre, a team of seven highly skilled business professionals donated services valued at \$150,000. Their findings and recommendations led to the adoption of new vision and mission statements and will inform decisions to improve the alignment of our strategic objectives.



2018 Library After Dark. Pictures from left to right: Ari Brooks, Parker Hamilton, Ike Leggett and Catherine Leggett

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.**

Summer Read and Learn: Libraries Rock!

School's out and that means MCPL's Summer Read and Learn program is ready to rock! Make sure to sign up either online or at your local branch to participate. Thank you to Aggregate Industries for their support of this year's program and premiering the Summer Read and Learn t-shirts at their annual Quarry Day open house. This family-friendly event supports the FOL Quince Orchard Chapter. Shirts are available at our bookstores for \$7 for child sizes and \$10 for adult sizes. Summer Read and Learn is funded by FOLMC. Go to montgomerycountymd.libguides.com/kids to register.



Kensington Park Branch Manager and Staff show off their Libraries Rock t-shirts.



Board Spotlight Jahin Nawar

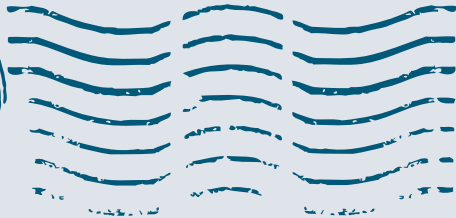
Libraries have always been a big part of my life. Back in my home country of Bangladesh, I spent a lot of time at the library - mostly to access consistent technology. Being familiar with this resource, I sought out my local branch here in the United States, so it's no surprise that I spend a great deal of time there as well. Early on, I attended the English speaking classes at Davis Library with my mom. The classes not only improved my English but also made me feel comfortable in a country that is vastly different from Bangladesh. Libraries have helped me find a new home in America.

In addition to English language classes and the use of various technologies at the library that I was able access, another reason I love the library is that I simply love to read. Prior to moving

to the United States three years ago, I read a lot of translations of English classics by authors ranging from Sir Arthur Conan Doyle to Shakespeare. *A Valley of the Fear* is a personal favorite in the Sherlock Holmes series.

By serving on the board of FOLMC as a student representative, I have an opportunity to give back to an organization that has given me so much. I've enjoyed working with the other wonderful board members who are equally passionate about libraries as I am. Collectively we support the mission of FOLMC and support our fantastic library system. I encourage everyone to get involved in some way and to visit their local branch.





Renew Your Membership Today!

As we prepare for the slower days of summer, take the time to discover all that the county library system has to offer. Preparing for a road trip? Access the travel guides available in the library's collection to research your trip and find tips on local eateries and sites. Check out the vast digital library collection and download books or music for the road. Planning a staycation? Explore the area or travel to another world through a book. Your librarian will have lots of recommendations.



While in your branch, make note of all of the ways your membership dollars have helped enrich the library experience. From funding the Summer Read and Learn program to piloting Go! Kits - take home e-devices with learning games - you make it possible for readers to explore, learn, and grow. You contribute to the richness of the vast resources found in libraries.

If you haven't already, take a moment to renew your membership or join FOLMC. As a member, you will be rewarded with great benefits such as discounts at our used bookstores, special rates on event tickets, and advance notice of programs.

And if you renew or rejoin now at the Novel level—\$50 or more—you will receive a car magnet, while supplies last, just in time for that road trip.

It's easy as 1-2-3:

1. Visit www.folmc.org/join
2. Mail to FOLMC, Attn: Membership
21 Maryland Avenue, Suite 310, Rockville, MD 20850
3. Call (240) 777-0020 during normal business hours with credit card information.

Thank you for your steadfast support of our mission. I hope to see you at the library this summer or spot your car magnet while on the road to one.

** If you recently renewed with a chapter, please disregard.*

Vinyl Day Record Festival

This spring we celebrated all things vinyl at our inaugural Vinyl Day record festival at the Silver Spring Library. The event coincided with Record Store Day, an international festival of the independent record store and the culture surrounding it.



Three hundred people came to the library where they joined us in testing their knowledge in the trivia room, singing karaoke, trying their own hand at playing records, and creating art in dual makerspaces. Many children and children-at-heart left with their own upcycled repurposed records and buttons made from donated CD booklets. In addition, attendees learned about various facets of vinyl culture including disc jockeying, vinyl collecting, and the Eritrean recording industry, a panel held in conjunction with NEA Big Read Montgomery County. Keynote speaker John Corbett topped off our panels with a discussion about his book *Vinyl Freak*. There were also sales of records sourced from FOLMC bookstores and DJ performances inside as well as outside the library, where crowds sang and danced to the music. We hope you will join us next year for this new annual event. Partners for the Vinyl Day were Levine Music, Open Sky Jazz, Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter, and MCPL.

FOLMC Night at Bethesda Big Train

Thursday, July 12, 5:30 p.m.

Shirley Povich Field, 10600 Westlake Drive, Bethesda

FOLMC wants to take you out to the ballgame. Donors, members, and volunteers can receive up to four (4) free tickets to the Bethesda Big Train baseball game against the Baltimore Dodgers. Visit www.folmc.org/big-train/ to register. Once your current status is verified, you will receive the tickets via email. Stop by the FOLMC booth on the concourse to say hello. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; game time is 7:00 p.m. Wear your 70s apparel and enjoy music from the Rolling Stones, Stevie Wonder, Blondie, and more!

From the Library Director

Anita Vassallo, Acting MCPL Director



On March 24, MCPL kicked off our 1000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative, a fun way to help prepare children for kindergarten. Based on The 1000 Books Foundation program, this initiative is for children from birth until they start kindergarten. Reading to children is a great way to expand their vocabularies, preparing them for kindergarten, and is a great opportunity for parents to bond with children, creating lifelong memories.

The program is flexible and encourages free choice of reading selections. Repeating the same book, counts every time. Families who read a book per day will exceed their goal in less than three years.

Tracking is easy. Use our online tool, Beanstack, or a printed log provided by one of our 21 branches to track each book read and each early literacy moment, which includes singing a song, sharing a poem, doing a fingerplay, or any other early literacy activity that encourages family engagement. Logs can also be downloaded from our website (www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library). After each level,

children receive stickers and have the opportunity to add their names to the library wall in celebration of their accomplishments. The 1000 Books Before Kindergarten initiative supports MCPL's focus on early literacy by encouraging parents to read to their children briefly every day. Children who are read to are more likely to want to read on their own.

It also supports the County Executive's policy objective, *Children Prepared to Live and Learn*, by promoting their education and development in early childhood and broadening out-of-school opportunities. County Executive Leggett participated in the kickoff of this initiative as the guest reader for the Preschool and Toddler Storytime at the Noyes Library for Young Children.

I am excited that MCPL is bringing this initiative to our communities. We want to celebrate every child who reads 1000 books before kindergarten!

From the Stacks

You never know what you'll find when you go to one of FOLMC's used bookstores. These treasures had lives before arriving to our bookstores – and what if they could tell their own stories in addition to those between the covers?

Recently one of these books did tell us a remarkable story! While flipping through a rust colored, jacketless board bearing a gilt stamped parallelogram with the following text, "They almost killed Hitler," we were shocked to find the following inscription and signature on the front end page:

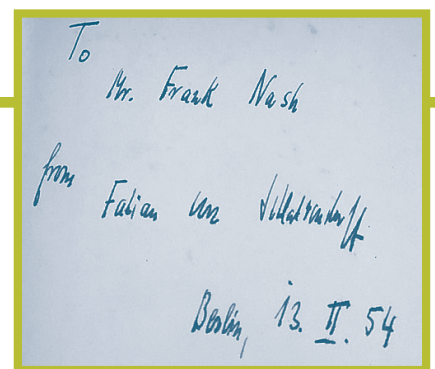
*"To Mr. Frank Nash
from Fabian von Schlabrendorff
Berlin, 13.II.54"*

At the time of signing Von Schlabrendorff was less than a decade removed from his involvement in the Nazi resistance that included a key role in an attempt to assassinate Adolf Hitler. Von Schlabrendorff had smuggled a bomb, disguised as liqueurs, onto one of Hitler's flights. When it failed to

detonate, he was forced to stealthily remove the dud to avoid detection. He was later imprisoned by the Gestapo but survived the war and became a jurist in post-war Germany.

Historical documents of the United States Department of State indicate that Mr. Frank Nash attended a conference in Berlin in February 1954 in his official capacity as Assistant Secretary of Defense.

This book definitely has a story beyond the one found in its pages. What treasures and additional stories will you find in one of FOLMC's bookstores? Visit www.folmc.org/bookstores for locations and hours.



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Chapter Spotlight

CONNIE MORELLA LIBRARY (BETHESDA)

President: Joan Greenbaum

After a refresh project, the Bethesda Library reopened in April with a new look and a new name in honor of former U.S. Representative and Ambassador Connie Morella. Her extensive career of public and community service includes having served on the FOLMC board of trustees. As part of the refresh, the chapter generously funded:

- Alphabet rugs for the children's storytelling area,
- New book shelving for the teen area,
- Colorful shelving panels for the children's room,
- Contemporary sign holders throughout the library,
- New FOL book sale shelving,
- A modern meeting room podium, and
- Monogrammed book baskets with handles.



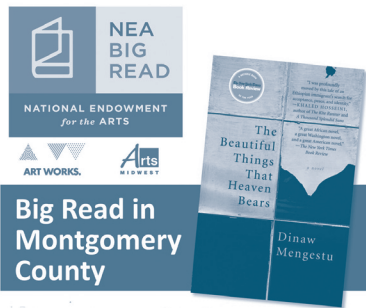
Ambassador Morella at the reopening of the Bethesda branch, now named after her, with County Executive Leggett and Delegate Lee.

Joan Greenbaum said "it's wonderful to get reacquainted with a staple of the community. There were many happy faces."

The Connie Morella Library is offering extended summer hours through August 25th, so make a plan to stop by and check it out.

In addition, the chapter supported the Grand Reopening Day festivities by funding refreshments, programs and music for children and adults, as well as children's crafts. Speakers included County Executive Leggett, Council President Riemer, U.S. Representative Raskin, author and journalist Cokie Roberts, and the former Congresswoman herself. Library patrons were excited that their local branch had reopened and were equally enthusiastic about the new look. Chapter President,

Big Read



The Big Read, a community reading program funded by the National Endowment for Arts (NEA), culminated in June with award-winning author and MacArthur Foundation Fellow, Dinaw Mengestu speaking about his inspiration for his work *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears* and his experiences as an Ethiopian immigrant living between different cultures and worlds. The Silver Spring Library hosted more than 100 attendees who had the opportunity to meet the author and sample local Ethiopian cuisine.

Mengestu is also the author of *How to Read the Air* and *All Our Names*; his journalism and fiction have appeared in *Rolling Stone*, *Harper's*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and numerous other publications. The event was sponsored by FOLMC, MCPL, and Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter.

FOLMC is pleased to be part of the partnership that brought the NEA Big Read to Montgomery County for the first time. Several activities leading up to the closing ceremony occurred throughout the county including a traditional Ethiopian Coffee Ceremony held at our Wheaton Bookstore hosted by Blessed Coffee. Participants gathered for this ritualized form of making and drinking coffee and learned about about its cultural and historical significance. View photos of the coffee ceremony at www.folmc.org./big-read. The Big Read focused on *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, which told of the immigrant experience from an Ethiopian narrator's perspective.



Award-winning author and MacArthur Foundation Fellow, Dinaw Mengestu, discusses his work at the closing ceremony of the Big Read.

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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>



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(301) 933-1110

GAITHERSBURG BOOKSTORE – CLOSED

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the latest FOLMC news.**

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

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