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

5TH ANNUAL LIBRARY AFTER DARK GALA

Thank you to all the guests, donors, sponsors, and volunteers who attended our Library After Dark Gala this year. Your participation is the reason for our continued success in supporting Montgomery County Public Libraries. Congratulations again to our awardees.

Charles W. Gilchrist Award – Aileen Klein



Dale Tibbitts, Ari Z. Brooks, Aileen Klein, and Jim Gilchrist

For nearly two decades, Aileen Klein's volunteer fundraising and advocacy efforts have supported MCPL; from raising \$100,000 for enhancements to the new Rockville Memorial Library, to orchestrating efforts to revitalize the FOL Twinbrook Chapter. Most recently, as a member of the FOLMC Board of Trustees, Aileen mobilized support for the county public libraries and launched a campaign to raise \$15,000 to address the book budget crisis.

B. Parker Hamilton Award – Mark Santoro

When Mark Santoro's supervisor and co-workers moved into different roles in 2018, he found himself as a one-person Digital Strategies team. Despite this challenge, Mark prevailed, providing high quality customer service while managing multiple social media platforms seamlessly - his Library Matters Podcast and Library of Things: Music website were particular high notes. Described as an "unsung hero" always willing to lend a hand, Mark is thoughtful, persistent, curious, and hardworking.



Ari Z. Brooks and Mark Santoro

FOLMC Chapter Sponsored Events

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

JUNE

- 22** 10:30am, Chevy Chase, Sciencetellers presents Aliens: Escape from Earth!
- 22** 11am, Davis, Let's Meet a Martian! with Tom Crowl
- 24** 11am, Potomac, Blast Off to Reading
- 26** 11am, Connie Morella, FutureMakers Present Kinetic Crawlers
- 29** 2pm, Damascus, Virtual Reality Game: Beat Saber

JULY

- 6** 11am, Rockville Memorial, Cuentos & Canciones with Ms. Mabelle
- 6** 11am, Connie Morella, Kaydee Puppets Present Nursery Rhyme and Rhythm & Red Hen's Wacky Week
- 13** 11am, Gaithersburg, Animals in My Backyard
- 13** 2pm, Olney, Science Saturday – Engineering Challenge
- 20** 11:30am, Kensington Park, ZooMobile
- 27** 11am, Silver Spring, Preschool STEM Storytime - Outer Space and More

AUGUST

- 7** 2pm, Germantown, Magic that Came from Outer Space
- 10** 2pm, Olney, Science Saturday – What's Up with the Weather?
- 15** 6:30pm, Little Falls, Star Wars Science Show
- 17** 11am, Potomac, Meet a LIVE Kangaroo or Wallaby
- 28** 10:30am, Connie Morella, Music with Mr. Jon

Officers

Tom Thomson, *President*
Fred Evans, *Vice President*
Larry Matthews, *Secretary*
Eric R. Smith, *Treasurer*

Trustees

Lynn Abrahamson	Hannah Padilla, CPA
Awo Sarpong Ansu	Laura Rich
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Larry Friend	Carla Satinsky
Frances M. Frost	Pamela H. Saussy
Gary Funkhouser	Tony Spearman-Leach
Rachel Maleh	Kristen Theiss
James M. Montgomery	Martin White
Denise Neary	Joel Yesley

Student Representative

Vacant

Counsel

Dennis M. Horn, Esq.

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Lysette House, *Deputy Director*
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Lance Salins, *Director of Business Operations*

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MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MD

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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

Transparency is a goal that continues to be of great importance. It's a major part of our 3-year strategic plan to strive for open communication about our organization. Who we are, what we do, and why we do it should be clear to our donors, staff, volunteers, and the community at-large. Investing your time and money in any not-for-profit gives you the right to know the intended use of donated resources and our capacity to use them effectively. You should also expect professional and courteous relationships with those you entrust to use those resources. We are pleased to share our annual report which answers these three aforementioned questions. In this report, you will find information about our programs and a financial summary. We've included bios and descriptions of our professional staff so you can know our backgrounds and work areas. This talented group of people is passionate and dedicated about supporting libraries. Our print newsletters, like this one, highlight board and staff members (see pages 4 and 3 in this issue). Visit our website at www.folmc.org, call the office at (240) 777-0020, or visit your local library branch for a print copy of the annual report.

We invite you to join us at our annual meeting on November 13 to learn about our accomplishments and goals. In the meantime, please sign up for our electronic newsletters so you can have timely information about how your donations support our mission all year long.

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.**

Did you know we manage email lists to serve our bookstore comic and vinyl record shopping community? Send an email to bookstores@folmc.org and let us know which list you would like to be added to for updates regarding particularly large quantity and/or high quality donations.

Staff Spotlight

Meet Will LeCorn



I turned 30 on December 29, 2003. A week later, my wife and I were married at Stellenbosch, South Africa – a true destination wedding. My wife was a semester from finishing medical school in Ireland, so afterwards, we flew together to Dublin, and then I was off to Michigan where I was beginning my career as a high school teacher.

On the flight across the Atlantic, I was struck by a somewhat morbid thought – what if I only lived until seventy? And then, what if I only read an average of one book a month during that time? Quick cashier’s math: $12 \times 40 = 480$ books! Not enough time; not enough books!

Right then, I decided to make a list of books I had to read, or re-read at least once in my life. One hundred seemed like a good place to start. What books did I love? What *should* I read? What were my friends’ favorites? One hundred wasn’t enough; I changed my parameters to 144 and started collecting.

Unfortunately, my epic plans were matched by my epic procrastination.

I spent more time collecting than reading. I spent time plotting and planning rather than actually sitting and reading. Life intruded. As an English teacher, I re-read the same dozen or so books every year but didn’t have the discipline to carve out space for other books.

Well, I’ve been married for 15 years, two months and a couple of days. I’ve probably read 40% of the original 144. And of course, the list has evolved. Recently, my co-worker Tom Skallerup introduced me to the work of the historian, Barbara Tuchman, only to have her classic, *Guns of August* come in a few hours later. I’m adding it to my list...

What’s on your reading bucket list? Will is eager to compare notes – and help you locate those hard-to-find books at our Rockville and Wheaton @ Old Silver Spring Library bookstores.

Mosaic Awards Ceremony

Congratulations to our 2018-2019 Awardees

Mosaic is our annual language arts program for middle school students enrolled in Montgomery County Public Schools to showcase their creative talents and express their cultural identities in the theme of "My Culture." Winners and honorable mentions are published in an anthology and, this year, the students were able to engage with National Book Award winner Elizabeth Acevedo, author of *The Poet X*.

Purchase the anthology of their works here: <https://www.folmc.org/events-calendar/mosaic/anthology/>



Essay Winners

Serena Dutky, 6th Grade, Eastern

Ella Rubie Moore, 7th Grade,
John Poole

Julieth Vanegas Londono, 8th Grade,
Lakelands Park

Essay Honorable Mention

Hana Massarueh, 6th Grade, Parkland
Leonardo Jorge, 7th Grade, John Poole

Angelina Herмосilla Roman,
8th Grade, Robert Frost

Shayyan Ahmed, 8th Grade, Robert Frost

Poem Winners

Grace Adigun, 6th Grade, Lakelands Park

Marissa Boucher, 7th Grade, Eastern

Hrishita Mareddy, 8th Grade, Hallie Wells

Poem Honorable Mention

Noor Mahmoud, 6th Grade, Robert Frost

Mason Chen, 7th Grade, Julius West

Sarah Bamba, 8th Grade, Neelsville

Short Story Winners

Natalie Rivera, 6th Grade, Forest Oak

Maxwell Bingham, 7th Grade, John Poole

Caroline Chou, 8th Grade, Herbert Hoover

Short Story Honorable Mention

Isabella Melendez, 6th Grade,
Takoma Park

Obina Onyeson, 7th Grade, Benjamin
Banneker

Aliya Voyles, 8th Grade, Robert Frost

Mark Your Calendars

Sign Up for events at www.folmc.org, fill out the included flyer, or call the office at (240) 777- 0020.

Literary Luncheon

Thursday, October 10, 11:30 a.m.

Twinbrook Library
202 Meadow Hall Drive, Rockville

FOLMC hosts Vaddey Ratner, author of *In the Shadow of the Banyan* and *Music of the Ghosts* as the Opening Lecture of the F. Scott Fitzgerald Literary Festival. Join us on a journey to discover the unbreakable bonds of family, and the power of stories to transcend loss and suffering. Ratner's novels are based on her family's experiences as decedents of King Sisowath during the time of the Khmer Rouge, escape to a new world, and a fictionalized take on returning to your home country, still trying to heal from its past.



Seasoned Spellers Senior Spelling Bee

Saturday, November 2, 2019, 11:00 a.m.

Gaithersburg Library, 18330 Montgomery Village Ave.

Adults, aged 55 years and over, are invited to participate in FOLMC's 9th 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 required to participate.
Registration deadline: Friday, October 25



Board Spotlight Frances Frost

Why did you decide to join the FOLMC board?

How did you hear about FOLMC?

I've always loved the library, am a reader and author, so a friend suggested that I consider applying for the FOLMC Board several years ago. I got involved by participating as a judge for the Mosaic writing contest. After learning more about FOLMC, now seemed a good time to get involved with supporting the libraries as a Board member.

What is your hometown, professional background, where did you go to school?

I grew up in San Antonio, TX and Randallstown, MD. And although we had a library in school, it was in Randallstown that I discovered the public library - I could walk there whenever I wanted to, and I thought that was one of the best adventures. I went to the University of Delaware and Wake Forest University, earning Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Finance and Operations Management, respectively. I work in education and family engagement in schools.

What do you like to read?

I mostly read novels and poetry by women authors of color, I love the variety of stories and insight into life. I particularly

enjoy Asian historical fiction and stories about African-American women. As a busy person, I enjoy poetry because it offers a complete read in a short span of pages, when I don't have time to delve into a full novel.

What's on your nightstand?

A pile of about 20 books – a mixture of a to-read pile and an already-read pile. A journal for writing inspiration. A notepad for random thoughts late at night and early in the morning. And a pair of glasses (I keep glasses everywhere.)

What's a fun memory of your local library?

When we were children, I used to make my little brother go with me to the library. After picking out books, we would decide to stay at the library, especially if it was really cold or raining outside, and play hide-and-go seek between the library shelves. (Apologies to the Randallstown Public Library staff.)

What do you enjoy most of working/volunteering with FOLMC?

I enjoyed planning this year's Library After Dark Gala. The idea of having a party in the library is almost like a dream come true, so I was really excited to be involved.



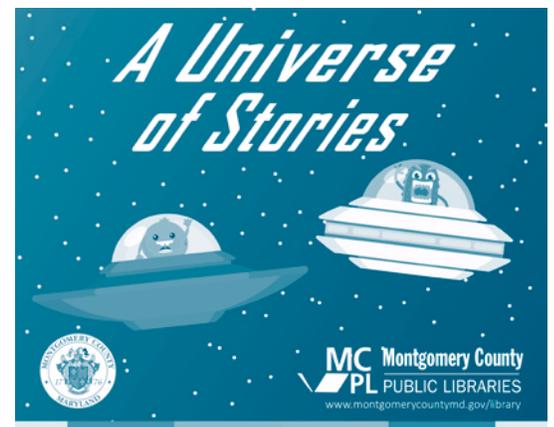
From the Library Director

Anita Vassallo, Acting MCPL Director



Reading is important at every age. This summer, take advantage of all MCPL offers to help develop early literacy skills, prepare children to enter kindergarten, build reading skills, motivate teens to read and discuss books, and to beat summer slide.

- 1,000 Books before Kindergarten is a fun way to help prepare children for kindergarten. Reading to a child expands their vocabulary and is a great bonding experience that will create lifelong memories. Track every book read (yes, repeats count!), song sung, fingerplay done, poem recited, or storytime attended at the library.
- Go! Kits, Little Explorers (ages 3-6), and Young Voyagers (ages 7-12), are backpacks developed by MCPL to get children excited about science and math. Designed to encourage the parent/caregiver and child to actively explore the world around them, each kit contains several books, science tools, and a tablet with recommended apps.
- Storytimes are great fun and model activities that parents/caregivers can use at home to guide children along the road to reading, writing, and how to incorporate math and science activities into daily life. For children, storytimes promote a love of reading, science, math, and the arts, and they help develop children's early literacy skills.
- Read to a Dog helps to improve a child's reading skills and confidence as they practice reading aloud to a certified, patient therapy dog.
- Lists of suggested books to read for babies through teens.
- Summer Read and Learn (June 15 - August 31) encourages reading and learning while providing opportunities to participate in exciting programs that showcase art, animals, magic, music, and STEM-related events.
- Extended summer weekend hours at Connie Morella, Gaithersburg, Germantown, Rockville Memorial, and Silver Spring branches: May 31 – August 24, Fridays and Saturdays, 10am – 9pm.



Check out these and other exciting programs and resources to make summer learning delightful!

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/library

Get Social!

Stay up to date on all the latest FOLMC news!

 [Facebook.com/FOLMC](https://www.facebook.com/FOLMC)  [@FOLMC](https://twitter.com/FOLMC)  [@folmcmd](https://www.instagram.com/folmcmd)

 [Friends of the Library, Montgomery County](https://www.linkedin.com/company/friends-of-the-library-montgomery-county)



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Chapter Spotlight

SILVER SPRING

President: Joseph House

Friends of the Library, Silver Spring Chapter (FOLSS) supports a range of programming at the branch and is responsible for a fundraising effort that brought one of the country's preeminent Early Literacy Centers to Montgomery County. Programming is funded by donations from the local community and two semi-annual book sales, one occurring in the late spring and one occurring near Christmas.

The sales are organized by numerous dedicated volunteers. Because the Silver Spring branch does not have a dedicated space for ongoing Chapter book sales, FOLSS operates a continuous book cart in the branch and has modified its semi-annual sales to be conducted on book carts, which can be more easily stocked and maneuvered, easing the burden of setup and breakdown.



Proceeds from these sales have enabled the Chapter to fund a range of high quality programming, including the Silver Spring Children's and Adult Authors Series, which bring in well-known authors to speak about their work and engage the community. Children's authors also lead engaging STEM and art activities as part of their presentations. Past children's authors have

included Ai-Ling Louie, Susan Stockdale, and Sue Fliess. Adult authors have included Kim Roberts, Elizabeth Baer, Annamaria Alfieri, and Alexandra Zapruder.

Additionally, the Chapter has also used funding to co-sponsor events with FOLMC, collaborating on the Just for the Record Vinyl Day Festival in both 2018 and 2019, providing funding for makerspace activities and equipment. It also partnered with FOLMC and MCPL for the finale of the NEA Big Read in 2018, a Contemporary Conversation with Dinaw Mengestu, who wrote the featured book, *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*.

Be sure to check out our website for upcoming events and more information about the Chapter at www.folmc.org/chapters/silver-spring-chapter. Please send an email to silverspring@folmc.org if you are interested in joining our board.



Summer Read & Learn

Prepare for launch! Summer Reading has begun in Montgomery County, and this year's theme is "The Universe of Stories." While our bookstores will not be selling summer reading t-shirts this year, students participating in summer reading with MCPL will receive a coupon for a free book at our bookstores - don't forget to tell us your favorite book you read this summer when you visit.

Select reading t-shirt sizes available for purchase by calling (240) 777-0020.



Summer Read & Learn t-shirt design

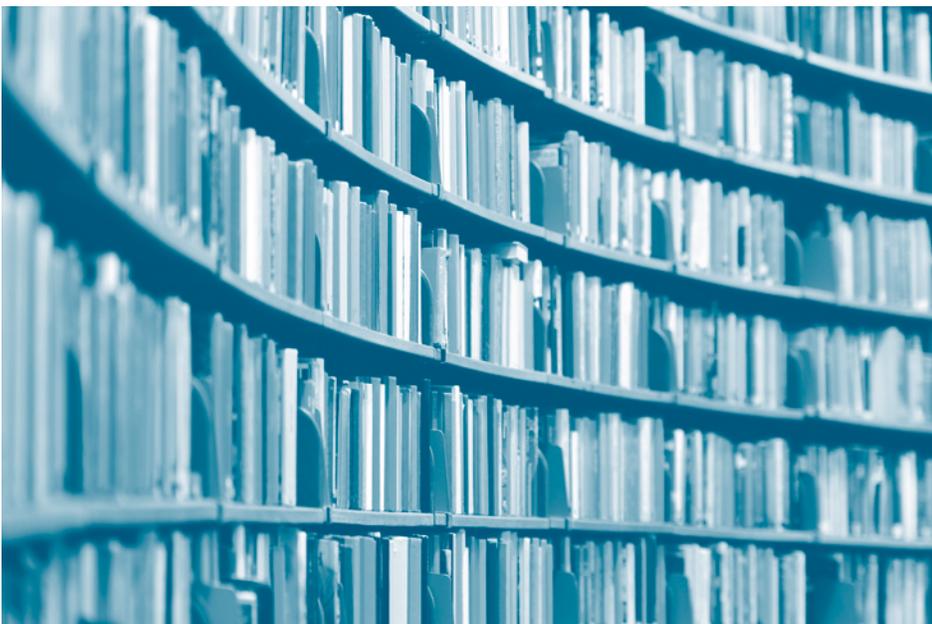
Save the Dates

Literary Luncheon – October 10, 11:30am at Twinbrook Library

Seasoned Spellers Senior Spelling Bee – November 2, 11:00 a.m.
at Gaithersburg Library

FOLMC Member Annual Meeting – November 13 at Rockville Memorial Library

6th Annual Library After Dark Gala – April 25, 2020 at Rockville Memorial Library



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Chapter Booksales

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



21 Maryland Avenue
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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

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the latest FOLMC news.**

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 Friends of the Library, Montgomery County



Board Recruitment

Are you looking for a meaningful way to become more involved in your community? FOLMC invites library lovers to join our Board of Trustees.

Apply online at www.folmc.org (click on Support, then Volunteer) or call (240) 777-0020 with questions.