NASHVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

Literary Award Weekend

November 8-9, 2024

SPONSORSHIP & PATRONAGE OPPORTUNITIES

CONTACT

Phone  615-862-5814
Website  www.nplf.org
Email  elizabeth.sherrard@nplf.org
Address  615 Church Street, Nashville TN 37219
About Nashville Public Library Foundation

Since its creation in 1997, the Nashville Public Library Foundation (NPLF), has raised over $68 million, from individuals and organizations, to advance the impact and reach of Nashville Public Library programs and initiatives that exist beyond the budget of Metro government. Gifts to the Foundation ignite a world of opportunity and access for people of all ages through investment in library resources that build literacy, digital skills, workforce readiness, lifelong learning, and ultimately, create better lives. By raising private funds from generous supporters like yourself, the Nashville Public Library Foundation expands what is possible for the Library and thus for our community.
The Nashville Public Library Literary Award recognizes distinguished authors for their illustrious contributions to the world of books, literacy, and reading. Each year, we bring an outstanding individual to Nashville for a weekend-long celebration honoring their achievements while simultaneously raising critical funding in support of NPL's essential education and literacy programs and resources.

Established in 2004, the Nashville Public Library Literary Award Weekend draws more than 1,000 cultural, political, community, and business leaders from across Nashville and beyond.

**Friday Night - First Edition Reception**

This exclusive event will provide select invited guests (supporting at $10,000+) an opportunity to connect with the author in a private setting.

**Saturday Morning - Public Lecture**

The Public Lecture is a highlight of the weekend. This event allows the general public to hear from and celebrate the honoree.

**Saturday Night - Literary Award Gala**

The weekend will culminate in the Gala in the Grand Reading Room at the Main Library. This event promises delightful cocktails, conversation, and a delicious dinner in an elegant setting.

This year, the Gala will include a private VIP reception with an author meet and greet for those supporting at $5,000+.
About the Honoree

JAMES MCBRIDE

James McBride is an author, musician and screenwriter. His memoir, The Color of Water (Riverhead), is an American literary classic. He has written screenplays and teleplays for film icon Spike Lee (Miracle At St. Anna, Red Hook Summer) and television pioneer David Simon (Parting The Waters). James is a former staff writer for The Wilmington (Del.) News Journal, the Boston Globe, People Magazine, and the Washington Post (Style Section). His work has appeared in The New York Times, Rolling Stone, Essence, and National Geographic. In 2015, James was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Letters and in 2016, James was awarded that National Humanities Award by President Barack Obama. His 2013 novel, The Good Lord Bird, served as the basis for the 2020 Showtime miniseries of the same name. His 2020 novel, Deacon King Kong, was the Oprah Book Club pick of June 2020. His most recent work, The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store, was selected by both Barnes & Noble and Amazon as their Book of the Year for 2023 and won the Kirkus Prize in Fiction for 2023.

James holds several awards for his work as a musical theater composer, including The American Arts and Letters Richard Rodgers Award, The ASCAP Richard Rodgers Horizons Award, and The American Music Theater Festival’s Stephen Sondheim Award. He has written songs (music and lyrics) for Anita Baker, Grover Washington, Jr., Gary Burton, Silver Burdett Music Textbooks, and for the PBS television character “Barney.” He served as a saxophonist sideman with jazz legend Little Jimmy Scott. James was born and raised in New York City and attended New York City public schools. He studied at The Oberlin Conservatory of Music and holds a master’s degree in journalism from Columbia University. He is proud and delighted to be a Distinguished Writer-In-Residence at New York University.
Literary Award Honoree Sponsor

LITERARY AWARD WEEKEND BENEFITS

- Table for ten at the Gala with premier seating on Saturday evening
- Ten invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala
- Six invitations to the First Edition Reception on Friday evening
- Ten invitations to the Public Lecture with premier seating

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website
- Distinctive recognition on the Public Lecture print materials, promotional materials, and the website
- Distinctive recognition on the press materials for the Literary Award Weekend
- Verbal recognition at the First Edition Reception and Gala

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- One year membership for you to the Carnegie Society
Gala Sponsor

$35,000

LITERARY AWARD WEEKEND BENEFITS

- Table for ten at the Gala with premier seating on Saturday evening
- Four invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala
- Four invitations to the First Edition Reception on Friday evening
- Eight invitations to the Public Lecture with premier seating

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website
- Verbal recognition at the First Edition Reception and Gala

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- One year membership for you to the Carnegie Society
Public Lecture Sponsor

$35,000

LITERARY AWARD WEEKEND BENEFITS

- Table for ten at the Gala with premier seating on Saturday evening
- Four invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala
- Four invitations to the First Edition Reception on Friday evening
- VIP meet-and-greet at the Public Lecture
- Ten invitations to the Public Lecture with premier seating

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website
- Distinctive recognition on the Public Lecture print materials, promotional materials, and the website
- Verbal recognition at the First Edition Reception and Gala

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- One year membership for you to the Carnegie Society
Ten invitations to the First Edition Reception on Friday evening
Four tickets to the Gala with premier seating on Saturday evening
Four invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala
Ten invitations to the Public Lecture with premier seating

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website
- Verbal recognition at the First Edition Reception and Gala

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- One year membership for you to the Carnegie Society
Patronage

When you become a patron for the Nashville Public Library Literary Award Gala Weekend, you are investing in more than just this celebration. Your gift directly funds an organization that has unparalleled impact on our community. There is no single institution that addresses as many different needs in our community as Nashville Public Library and your dedication and support empowers one of Nashville’s greatest resources.

Your gift helps sustain the Library for generations to come.

Limited Edition Patron

$10,000

LITERARY AWARD WEEKEND BENEFITS

- Two invitations to the First Edition Reception on Friday evening
- Two tickets to the Gala on Saturday evening
- Two Invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website
- Verbal recognition at the Gala

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Five books donated to the Library honoring the people of your choosing
- One year membership for you to the Carnegie Society
Literati Patron

$5,000

LITERARY AWARD WEEKEND BENEFITS

- Two tickets to the Gala on Saturday evening
- Two Invitations to the VIP Cocktail Reception prior to Gala

RECOGNITION

- Distinctive recognition on the Gala invitation, Gala program, the NPLF annual report, and the NPLF website

ADDITIONAL BENEFITS

- Three books donated to the Library honoring the people of your choosing

To become an esteemed patron, please contact Elizabeth Sherrard, Director of Major Gifts, by email at elizabeth.sherrard@nplf.org or by phone at 615-862-5814.