

BOCK& AUTHOR EVENT

Presented By:



AGENDA

THE 75TH ANNUAL BOOK & AUTHOR EVENT MAY 7, 2020

Welcome

Kayley Perkins, Chair, Junior League Book & Author Committee

Opening Program

Savon Sampson, President, Junior League of Richmond

Remarks

Wendy Wellener, Vice President-Shared Services, Dominion Energy

Presentation of Authors

Bob Deans, Master of Ceremonies & Author

Natalie Jenner

The Jane Austen Society

Grady Hendrix

The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires

Lily King

Writers & Lovers

Phuc Tran

Sigh, Gone: A Misfit's Memoir of Great Books, Punk Rock, and The Fight To Fit In

Melissa M. Martin

Mosquito Supper Club: Cajun Recipes From A Disappearing Bayou

Bob Deans

The Bicycle Man

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Clasina Damaulea

ABOUT THE EVENT

Since the end of World War II, Richmonders have gathered in the spring to celebrate the love of reading and the tradition of writing. Born of a creative partnership between the Junior League of Richmond and Miller & Rhoads in 1947, the best and the brightest of the literary world descend on Richmond each year to the Book and Author Event where they discuss their creative process, inspirations and latest best-sellers. Year after year, the event draws sellout crowds leading it to become the longest running event of its kind in the country.

In 1948, LIFE Magazine provided extensive coverage of the event, referring to it as a "social-literary cult", one reminiscent of "bygone salons" of the Lost Generation of Hemingway, Stein and Fitzgerald. Past authors have included Robert Frost, who notably in 1951, had a memory lapse during his speech and remarked "this embarrasses you more than it does me" and Rita Dove, past Poet Laureate of the United States. Throughout the years, notable authors have included Pat Conroy, Katherine Graham, Alice McDermott, David Baldacci, Marry Higgins Clark, Lesley Stahl and Cokie Roberts. This event has become woven into the fabric of the City of Richmond, connecting generations of readers with literary giants, but also with the community.

OUR COMMITTEE

The Junior League of Richmond would like to thank the 75th Book & Author Committee for its enthusiastic dedication for this event:

Kayley Perkins, Chair Deanna Hathaway, Assistant Chair Ashley Allen, VPE Fund Development Lara D'Antonio, VP Fund Development

Shelby Bartilotti Colleen Dennis
Cheryl Fields Kindra Kirkeby
Heather Lam Chelsey Pearson

Juel Secosky

ABOUT US

The Junior League of Richmond is an organization of women trained for effective leadership in community service. We are dedicated to the belief that voluntarism is an essential part of responsible citizenship. Women working together, organizing for community, is a powerful catalyst for community action.

Since its beginning in 1926, the Junior League has set its sights on the Richmond community, and its commitment to children and families has remained steadfast. The volunteer spirit is what the Junior League is all about. Trained by the League and on the job, volunteers give their time and talents to help others in need...without pay, but not without rewards.

Every moment shared in the spirit of community is both priceless and timeless. Seeing Richmond's families grow in strength and in confidence is our ultimate reward... one that has come back to each volunteer in countless ways.



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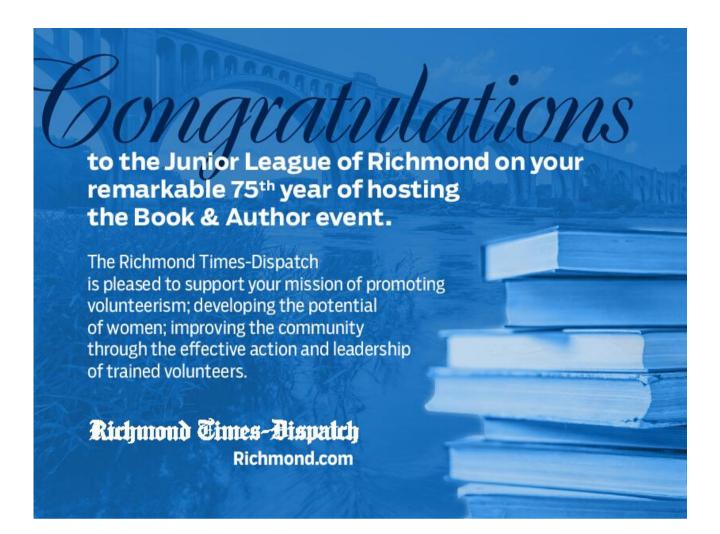
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Natalie Jenner

The Jane Austen Society



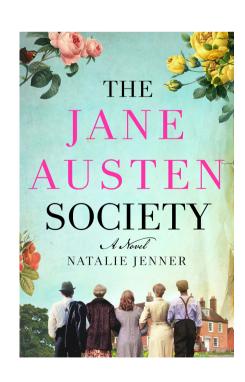
"Fans of The Chilbury Ladies' Choir and The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society will adore The Jane Austen Society... A charming and memorable debut, which reminds us of the universal language of literature and the power of books to unite and heal."

- Pam Jenoff, New York Times bestselling author of The Lost Girls of Paris

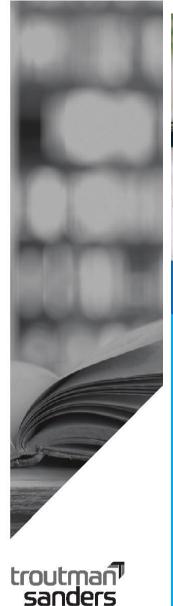
Just after the Second World War, in the small English village of Chawton, an unusual but like-minded group of people band together to attempt something remarkable.

One hundred and fifty years ago, Chawton was the final home of Jane Austen, one of England's finest novelists. Now it's home to a few distant relatives and their diminishing estate. With the last bit of Austen's legacy threatened, a group of disparate individuals come together to preserve both Jane Austen's home and her legacy. These people—a laborer, a young widow, the local doctor, and a movie star, among others—could not be more different and yet they are united in their love for the works and words of Austen. As each of them endures their own quiet struggle with loss and trauma, some from the recent war, others from more distant tragedies, they rally together to create the Jane Austen Society.

A powerful and moving novel that explores the tragedies and triumphs of life, both large and small, and the universal humanity in us all, Natalie Jenner's The Jane Austen Society is destined to resonate with readers for years to come.









NewMarket Corporation is proud to support our local community. We congratulate the Junior League of Richmond in celebrating the 75th anniversary of their Book & Author Event as they continue to serve and empower women, youth, and families within the Greater Richmond Region.



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Grady Hendrix

The Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires

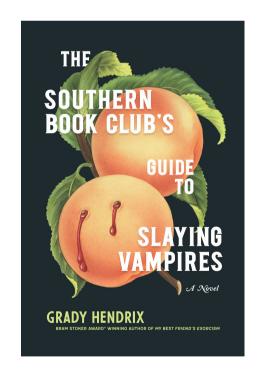


Steel Magnolias meets Dracula in this '90s-set horror novel about a women's book club that must do battle with a mysterious newcomer to their small Southern town, perfect for murderinos and fans of Stephen King.

Patricia Campbell's life has never felt smaller. Her husband is a workaholic, her teenage kids have their own lives, her senile mother-in-law needs constant care, and she's always a step behind on her endless to-do list. The only thing keeping her sane is her book club, a close-knit group of Charleston women united by their love of true crime. At these meetings they're as likely to talk about the Manson family as they are about their own families.

One evening after book club, Patricia is viciously attacked by an elderly neighbor, bringing the neighbor's handsome nephew, James Harris, into her life. James is well traveled and well read, and he makes Patricia feel things she hasn't felt in years. But when children on the other side of town go missing, their deaths written off by local police, Patricia has reason to believe James Harris is more of a Bundy than a Brad Pitt. The real problem? James is a monster of a different kind—and Patricia has already invited him in.

Little by little, James will insinuate himself into Patricia's life and try to take everything she took for granted—including the book club—but she won't surrender without a fight in this blood-soaked tale of neighborly kindness gone wrong.



"I find

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TURNS

On The Set

I go into the other room

AND READ A

Book"

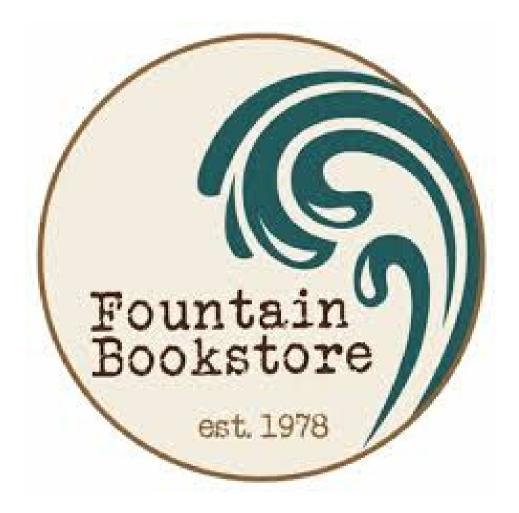
- Groucho Marx



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WOULD LIKE TO THANK



For its' support of the 75th Annual Book & Author Event

Lily King

Writers & Lovers

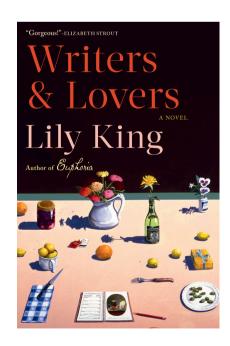


An extraordinary new novel of art, love, and ambition from Lily King, the New York Times bestselling author of Euphoria

Following the breakout success of her critically acclaimed and award-winning novel *Euphoria*, Lily King returns with another instant New York Times bestseller: an unforgettable portrait of an artist as a young woman.

Blindsided by her mother's sudden death, and wrecked by a recent love affair, Casey Peabody has arrived in Massachusetts in the summer of 1997 without a plan. Her mail consists of wedding invitations and final notices from debt collectors. A former child golf prodigy, she now waits tables in Harvard Square and rents a tiny, moldy room at the side of a garage where she works on the novel she's been writing for six years. At thirty-one, Casey is still clutching onto something nearly all her old friends have let go of: the determination to live a creative life. When she falls for two very different men at the same time, her world fractures even more. Casey's fight to fulfill her creative ambitions and balance the conflicting demands of art and life is challenged in ways that push her to the brink.

Writers & Lovers follows Casey—a smart and achingly vulnerable protagonist—in the last days of a long youth, a time when every element of her life comes to a crisis. Written with King's trademark humor, heart, and intelligence, Writers & Lovers is a transfixing novel that explores the terrifying and exhilarating leap between the end of one phase of life and the beginning of another.





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Phuc Tran

Sigh, Gone: A Misfit's Memoir of Great Books, Punk Rock, and The Fight To Fit In

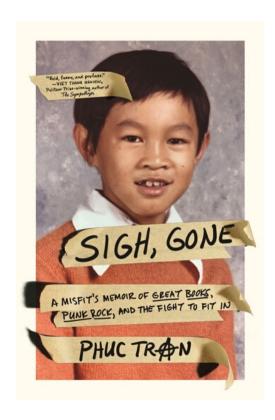


"The United States was already a better country because Phuc Tran refused to change his name. Then he went even further in changing this country by giving us this bold, funny, and profane memoir: a portrait of a young punk refugee and of heartland America itself, each of them as defiant and compelling as the other."
- Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of the Pulitzer Prize winner

- Viet Thanh Nguyen, author of the Pulitzer Prize winner The Sympathizer and The Refugees

For anyone who has ever felt like they don't belong, *Sigh*, *Gone* shares an irreverent, funny, and moving tale of displacement and assimilation woven together with poignant themes from beloved works of classic literature. In 1975, during the fall of Saigon, Phuc Tran immigrates to America along with his family. By sheer chance they land in Carlisle, Pennsylvania, a small town where the Trans struggle to assimilate into their new life. In this coming-of-age memoir told through the themes of great books such as The Metamorphosis, The Scarlet Letter, The Iliad, and more, Tran navigates the push and pull of finding and accepting himself despite the challenges of immigration, feelings of isolation, and teenage rebellion, all while attempting to meet the rigid expectations set by his immigrant parents.

Appealing to fans of coming-of-age memoirs such as Fresh Off the Boat, Running with Scissors, or tales of assimilation like Viet Thanh Nguyen's The Displaced and The Refugees, *Sigh*, *Gone* explores one man's bewildering experiences of abuse, racism, and tragedy and reveals redemption and connection in books and punk rock. Against the hairspray-and-synthesizer backdrop of the '80s, he finds solace and kinship in the wisdom of classic literature, and in the subculture of punk rock, he finds affirmation and echoes of his disaffection. In his journey for self-discovery, Tran ultimately finds refuge and inspiration in the art that shapes - and ultimately saves - him.



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Melissa Martin

Mosquito Supper Club: Cajun Recipes From A Disappearing Bayou



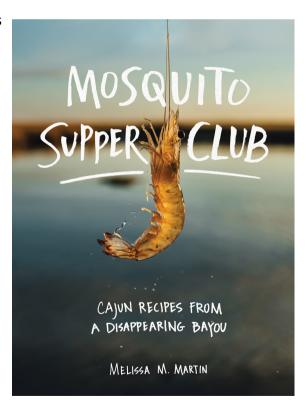
"Sometimes you find a restaurant cookbook that pulls you out of your cooking rut without frustrating you with miles long ingredient lists and tricky techniques. Mosquito Supper Club is one such book. . . . In a quarantine pinch, boxed broth, frozen shrimp, rice, beans, and spices will go far when cooking from this book."

-Epicurious, The 10 Restaurant Cookbooks to Buy Now

For anyone who loves Cajun food or is interested in American cooking or wants to discover a distinct and engaging new female voice—or just wants to make the very best duck gumbo, shrimp jambalaya, she-crab soup, crawfish étouffée, smothered chicken, fried okra, oyster bisque, and sweet potato pie—comes Mosquito Supper Club.

Named after her restaurant in New Orleans, chef Melissa M. Martin's debut cookbook shares her inspired and reverent interpretations of the traditional Cajun recipes she grew up eating on the Louisiana bayou, with a generous helping of stories about her community and its cooking. Every hour, Louisiana loses a football field's worth of land to the Gulf of Mexico. Too soon, Martin's hometown of Chauvin will be gone, along with the way of life it sustained. Before it disappears, Martin wants to document and share the recipes, ingredients, and customs of the Cajun people.

Illustrated throughout with dazzling color photographs of food and place, the book is divided into chapters by ingredient—from shrimp and oysters to poultry, rice, and sugarcane. Each begins with an essay explaining the ingredient and its context, including traditions like putting up blackberries each February, shrimping every August, and the many ways to make an authentic Cajun gumbo. Martin is a gifted cook who brings a female perspective to a world we've only heard about from men. The stories she tells come straight from her own life, and yet in this age of climate change and erasure of local cultures, they feel universal, moving, and urgent.



JANET BROWN interiors



Bob Deans

The Bicycle Man

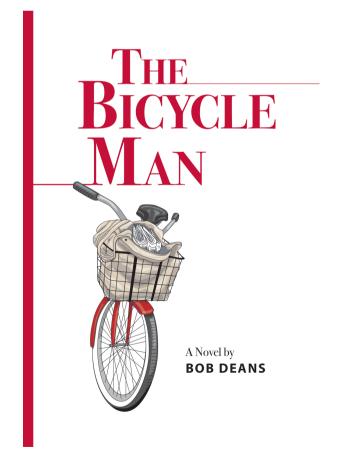


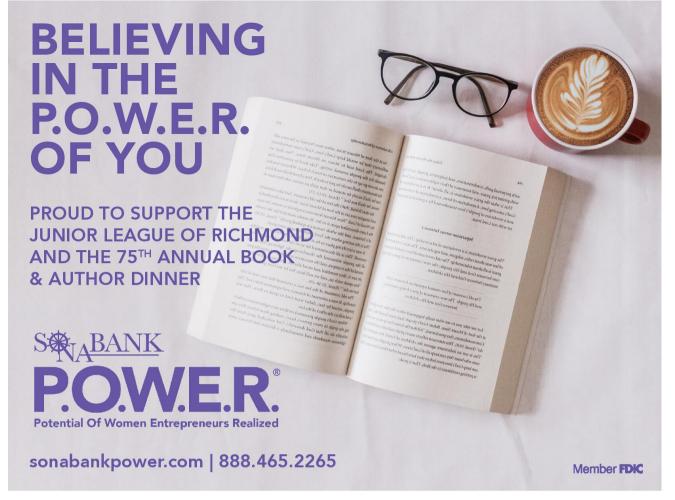
"Lyrical, lustrous and tender. Deans is a craftsman, and the words here flow with certainty, truth and ache, taking us into the promise, discovery and heart of a boy as the world outside both marches forward and encroaches on his own. A beautiful and captivating story."

- Major Garrett, Chief Washington Correspondent for CBS News

In 1968, delivering the newspaper each morning becomes a hero's journey into the riven heart of a nation torn by racial ferment and divisive war. For the community outside Richmond, the racial fault line is a bamboo grove by a honeysuckle swamp. The messenger for national promise and peril is Sandy, whose morning paper route becomes a kind of hero's journey into the troubled soul of a nation torn by the fight for civil rights, war in Vietnam and the larger search for national purpose. And helping him sort it all out is a mysterious figure with a tragic secret who stands by the boy as Sandy confronts a staggering loss.

This is a story of friendship. This is a story of hope. It's the story of an era that helped shape our country and define our times, told through one boy's extraordinary journey through his own small patch of America. And it's the story of a debt he can never repay to someone he knows only as, *The Bicycle Man*.



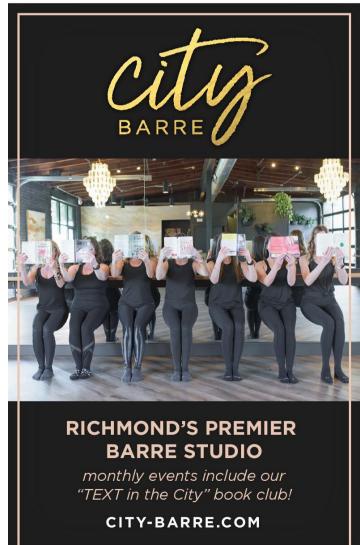




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OUR PAST

Come take a glimpse at our past and see opportunities for the future.

1920s Junior League of Richmond Founded

1926 Fifty-nine young women, committed to finding workable solutions to the problems confronting their community, established the Junior League of Richmond (JLR), an organized volunteer service for women. The young pioneers concentrated their efforts on initiating programs for children and supporting community organizations in need. The group was recognized for its achievements and admitted into the Association of Junior Leagues of America in 1927.

1930s The economic and social upheaval of the Great Depression created an unprecedented need for services. The Junior League endeavored to help fund and support a variety of community organizations. We also became increasingly involved in community and legislative affairs. Our volunteers continued to initiate innovative programs that focused on the welfare of Richmond's children.

1940s World War II brought a new sense of patriotism and community spirit to League members, resulting in significant contributions to the war effort. As well, the Junior League continued to strengthen its commitment to the needs of local citizens, children, and community organizations.

1950s The Junior League saw tremendous growth in the 1950s. The Baby Boom at the end of World War II produced an enormous need for schools, teachers, and programs for gifted and challenged children. Radio and television development helped bring League contributions in the area to the public's attention. We performed extensive research to identify unmet needs in the community and initiate invigorating, new projects.

1960s Events of the 1960s forced new definitions of freedom and democracy, pushed the frontiers of science and space, and eventually forged an uneasy acceptance of fundamental new realities in politics, race and sex. As society wrestled with this rapid change in attitude and its expression, the Junior League responded to local needs by extending its reach into the community with twenty-seven placements for volunteers. We gave aid to numerous agencies, stimulated interest in mental health issues, and expanded cultural offerings for Richmond's children.

OUR PAST

Come take a glimpse at our past and see opportunities for the future.

1970s Along with the cultural upheaval brought on by the Vietnam War, the feminist movement, the drug revolution, and school desegregation came the dawning of a new age in our society. The Junior League responded with cutting-edge initiatives.

1980s For the Junior League of Richmond, the 1980s was a decade of raised public consciousness. The League continued its advocacy and education efforts in the areas of child abuse, juvenile justice, and substance abuse. We hosted conferences and introduced new placements and programs that addressed the needs of area children and promoted community involvement.

1990sAfter extensive study of pressing community needs, the membership determined that Richmond's children and families could best be served through educational programs related to parenting and literacy and initiated several major projects that continue to serve the community today.

2000s Recognizing that today's children are tomorrow's families, the League continued to develop and deliver child-centered programs that promoted parental involvement and fostered healthy families. Through its innovative outreach programs that met the constantly changing and ever growing needs of this community, the Junior League of Richmond worked wonders in the lives of Richmond families.

2010s Community Outreach Programs provide volunteer support to other nonprofit organizations in projects targeting the needs of children and families. Today's programs continue the Junior League's focus on community and outreach to those most in need.





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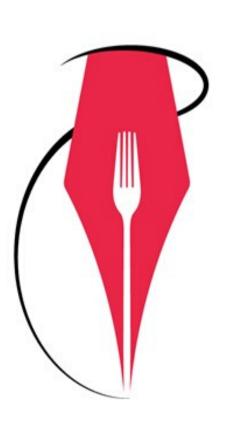
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