

INSIDE



Einstein Fellow Arrives

Peter DeCraene is the Library's newest Albert Einstein Distinguished Education Fellow.

PAGE 3



Pandemic Images Sought

The Prints and Photographs Division invites members of the public to share pandemic-related images for inclusion in a new Flickr group.

PAGE 3

Explore LOC at the Festival

A chance to chat with staff members from across the Library will be a highlight of this year's National Book Festival.

PAGE 5

A Weekend for Books

The lineup of authors to appear at the 20th annual National Book Festival on Sept. 25-27 includes festival stalwarts as well as newcomers.

PAGE 6



National Book Festival

Jenna Bush Hager (clockwise from top left), James McBride, Melinda Gates and Jason Reynolds are among many standout authors scheduled for the 2020 National Book Festival.

Navigating the 2020 Book Festival

More than 120 writers, poets and illustrators will appear during the all-virtual extravaganza.

BY WENDI A. MALONEY

The 2020 National Book Festival was always going to be special – it's the 20th year of the much-loved annual celebration of books and reading, after all. But exactly how unique it would be, no one could have foreseen.

The COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic makes it impossible to hold the festival in its usual venue, the Washington, D.C., convention center, where 200,000-plus book lovers typically come together. It's vast, but there is no way a crowd of that size could social distance, even in that space. So, the festival

will be entirely virtual this year.

It will take place on Sept. 25-27 and culminate in a national television broadcast on PBS stations.

No doubt, many regular festival-goers may worry they will miss meeting favorite authors in person or navigating the happy chaos of the convention center. Yet, the virtual version of the festival – titled "Celebrating American Ingenuity" – offers new advantages.

For one, attendees can see every author they wish to – no hard choices have to be made. For

NBF, CONTINUED ON 4

NOTICES

DONATED TIME

The following employees have satisfied eligibility requirements to receive leave donations from other staff members. Contact Lisa Davis at (202) 707-0033.

Shayerah Akhtar
Craig Andrews
Sharif Adenan
Lynette Brown
Eric Clark

Laurie Harris
Sharron Jones
Terri Harris-Wandix
Donna Williams

COVID-19 UPDATE

The Library's Health Services Division (HSD) continues to monitor Library staff members with symptoms, clinical diagnoses or positive test results for COVID-19. On Sept. 10, HSD announced that three employees reported symptoms associated with COVID-19 last week. Some employees reporting symptoms are not diagnosed to have COVID-19, but, out of caution, the Library is monitoring all reports of symptoms.

HSD is communicating with all staff members who become ill. In cases in which ill individuals were present in Library buildings, HSD is also notifying their close work contacts and cleaning and disinfecting the areas affected. The same process is followed when contractors in Library buildings become ill.

More information on the Library's pandemic response: <https://go.usa.gov/xdtV5> (intranet) or <https://go.usa.gov/xdtVQ> (public-facing staff web page)

REMINDER ABOUT POLITICAL ACTIVITIES

With election season underway, the Office of the General Counsel encourages you to review LCR 9-1780 (Political Activity), LCR 9-1730 (Outside Employment and Activities) and OGC's Political Activities FAQ (<https://go.usa.gov/xfScT>). Here's one Q&A:

May I volunteer for someone's campaign?

Yes, you may do so on your own time, with your own resources and in your personal capacity. Additional restrictions may apply if your Library duties involve providing nonpartisan support to the Congress, or if you are a supervisor and your actions could appear to pressure subordinate employees.

Questions? Contact ethics@loc.gov.

GAZETTE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

loc.gov/staff/gazette

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MISSION OF THE LIBRARY OF CONGRESS

The Library's central mission is to engage, inspire and inform Congress and the American people with a universal and enduring source of knowledge and creativity.

ABOUT THE GAZETTE

An official publication of the Library of Congress, The Gazette encourages Library managers and staff to submit articles and photographs of general interest. Submissions will be edited to convey the most necessary information.

Back issues of The Gazette in print are available in the Communications Office, LM 143. Electronic archived issues and a color PDF file of the current issue are available online at loc.gov/staff/gazette.

GAZETTE WELCOMES LETTERS FROM STAFF

Staff members are invited to use the Gazette for lively and thoughtful debate relevant to Library issues. Letters must be signed by the author, whose place of work and telephone extension should be included so we can verify authorship. If a letter calls for management response, an explanation of a policy or actions or clarification of fact, we will ask for management response.—Ed.

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GAZETTE DEADLINES

The deadline for editorial copy for the Oct. 2 Gazette is Wednesday, Sept. 23.

Email editorial copy and letters to the editor to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

To promote events through the Library's online calendar (www.loc.gov/loc/events) and the Gazette Calendar, email event and contact information to calendar@loc.gov by 9 a.m. Monday of the week of publication.

Boxed announcements should be submitted electronically (text files) by 9 a.m. Monday the week of publication to mhartsell@loc.gov and wmal@loc.gov.

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New Albert Einstein Fellow Starts Work at Library

The Library of Congress has welcomed Peter DeCraene as its newest Albert Einstein Distinguished Education Fellow. DeCraene will work with the Library's Learning and Innovation Office (LIO) to make primary sources from the collections more accessible to teachers nationwide.

"We have been on a mission for the past few years to demonstrate the value of primary sources across the curriculum and across the grade spectrum," Lee Ann Potter, LIO's director, said. "We look forward to working with Peter to make the treasures of the Library more discoverable, usable and valuable – especially for math teachers!"

DeCraene has taught mathematics and computer science to middle and high school students for over 30 years. He has spent the past 23 years at Evanston Township High

School in Evanston, Illinois.

DeCraene is active in conversations regarding equitable access to math and computer science education across race and gender. He has spoken at local, state and national conferences on the subject and served on the board of directors for the Metropolitan Mathematics Club of Chicago. In 2011, DeCraene was awarded the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching, the highest honor bestowed by the U.S. government for K-12 math and science teachers.

DeCraene holds a bachelor's degree in mathematics and a master's degree in computer science from DePaul University and a certificate of advanced study in educational leadership from National Louis University.



Learning and Innovation Office

Peter DeCraene

The Einstein fellowship program allows K-12 educators in science, technology, engineering and math fields to spend 11 months working in federal agencies and U.S. congressional offices, contributing their knowledge to national education programs and education policy efforts.

More information: science.osti.gov/wdts/einstein ■

Library Seeks Images of the Pandemic

The Library is collaborating with the photo-sharing site Flickr to expand its documentation of American experiences during the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic.

To that end, the Prints and Photographs Division is inviting the public to contribute photographic and graphic arts images to the Flickr group "COVID-19 American Experiences" (<https://bit.ly/2ZqwXv2>). Library curators will review submissions and select images to feature on Flickr and to preserve in the Library's permanent collections.

The Library has already secured pandemic-related collections from nationally recognized artists and photographers, and Library staff members have contributed scenes from the D.C. area. Now, curators aim to represent more parts of the country and more aspects of the



Tracy Meehleib

A masked employee works inside a City Bikes store in the Adams Morgan neighborhood of Washington, D.C., in May.

pandemic – although contributions from Library staff continue to be welcome. The goal is to create a diverse collection that can help future generations understand how COVID-19 has affected daily life and communities.

What subjects are best? That's up to individual photographers, although it's important to keep in mind that the Library has a family-friendly Flickr account. Examples might include pictures related to masks, online celebrations or

street scenes. Photos of caregiving, distance learning, new kinds of jobs and daily routines could also work. Pictures that capture grief, hope, uncertainty, joy. The choices are many.

To participate, those who already have a Flickr account can go to "COVID-19 American Experiences" (<https://bit.ly/2ZqwXv2>) and ask to join the group. Nonmembers can set up a free account at <https://www.flickr.com/> and then join the group.

Contributors should upload only images they have created themselves. When they contribute up to five images to the group, they are giving the Library permission to add their photography or graphic artwork to its permanent collections and to display it on the Library's website.

Images that are selected will first be shared in the "Galleries from the Library of Congress" Flickr account and ultimately on the Library's website. ■

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

NBF, CONTINUED FROM 1

another, no queuing is required. For yet another, links and interactive features will make it possible to engage with Library collections throughout the event – a festival first.

In other ways, the festival experience will approximate what fans have come to expect. There will be book talks across multiple genres – more than 120 writers, poets and illustrators are presenting this year – and audience members will have opportunities to address questions to authors. There will be book buying through Politics and Prose, the festival's official bookseller. And there will be virtual spaces where attendees can chat with Library staff and festival sponsors and discover an array of fun activities and resources for children and teachers.

Live engagement with the festival will occur through a special National Book Festival platform, accessible on the Library's website: www.loc.gov/bookfest.

"The platform aims to provide the best representation of the amazing content festival attendees are accustomed to," Jarrod MacNeil of the Center for Learning, Literacy and Engagement (CLLE) said. He directs the Library's Signature Programs Office, which manages the festival.

Once festivalgoers register on the platform, they can build schedules. All of the authors recorded presentations in advance that can be viewed anytime during the festival and afterward. In addition, dozens will participate in question-and-answer sessions each day of the event. Attendees might want to first add live question-and-answer sessions to their personal calendars – the festival schedule lists times for them – then fill out their calendars with prerecorded on-demand videos. Or, they can forgo a schedule entirely and just follow their interests.

The festival will launch on Sept. 25 with a daylong celebration of

children's and teen literature. The timing – a Friday – coincides with a school day, so teachers and students can listen to author talks together. On-demand videos for children's and teen stages will be released at 9 a.m., and live sessions with some of the authors will follow – among them Gene Luen Yang, the 2016-17 national ambassador for young people's literature, and Mike Curato, whose first graphic novel, "Flamer," was published this month.

Other children's and teen's authors will appear live during the festival's following two days, and videos for all the other festival stages will be released at 9 a.m. on Sept. 26. Live sessions will begin at 10 a.m. that day and continue through Sunday.

All on-demand videos will be made available simultaneously on the platform, the Library's YouTube page and the National Book Festival site, loc.gov/bookfest. So, festivalgoers will have options as to where they view prerecorded presentations.

Live interaction will occur exclusively on the platform, however. Live sessions will be recorded as they occur and posted on the platform soon afterward – anywhere from an hour to a few hours later, depending on a session's length, to ensure quality.

Within on-demand videos, no matter where they're accessed from, pop-ups will invite viewers to dig deeper into topics under discussion by accessing Library content and offerings. Links will open in separate browser windows, so attendees won't have to leave the festival.

"We're identifying these neat Library moments within presentations, whether it's an author talking about copyright or mentioning being a veteran," MacNeil said.

Between author talks, attendees might choose to engage in favorite festival activities in a virtual version of the traditional expo floor.

"We have spaces for communicating as if you were walking the expo floor," MacNeil said. "You can talk

with sponsors. You can talk with Centers for the Book from around the U.S. You can engage with Library staff to talk about specific content areas."

Significant Library collections materials in an area titled "Explore the Library of Congress" will link to three newsworthy threads (<https://go.usa.gov/xGBy6>) that thematically tie together books across the festival's stages.

"Fearless Women" marks the 100th anniversary this year of women's suffrage by highlighting books by and about strong women for readers of all ages – from Chelsea Clinton's new children's book about American Olympians and former Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's memoir about leadership to Melinda Gates' book about women's empowerment and Erica Armstrong Dunbar's account of the life and times of Harriet Tubman.

"Hearing Black Voices" showcases Black voices across genres – biography, sci-fi, poetry, memoir. The lineup of more than a dozen writers includes two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Colson Whitehead, winner of the Library's 2020 Prize for American Fiction, in conversation with the festival's literary director, Marie Arana. And Jason Reynolds, the national ambassador for young people's literature, will talk about "Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You," the young adult title he co-wrote with National Book Award winner Ibram X. Kendi.

A third theme, "Democracy in the 21st Century," brings together books for all ages focusing on where democracy stands today. Children's writer Don Tate will present the remarkable, little-known story of William Still, known as the father of the Underground Railroad. Authors Christopher Caldwell and Thomas Frank will discuss "The Road to Populism." And three of America's most notable political journalists – Peter Baker (New York Times), Susan Glasser (New Yorker) and George Packer (The Atlantic) – will explore how Washington works and the statesmanship necessary to navigate it.

New to the festival this year is the Family, Food and Field stage. It centers around books about the home, family life and recreation. Jesse Dougherty will present her new book, “Buzz Saw: The Improbable Story of How the Washington Nationals Won the World Series,” while Bill Buford will discuss “Dirt: Adventures in Lyon as a Chef in Training, Father and Sleuth Looking for the Secret of French Cooking.”

An all-time favorite festival activity – book signing – will take place in advance of the festival. Many authors are signing a commemorative 2020 National Book Festival book plate that will be included with book purchases while supplies last. Attendees can buy books through links provided with author videos that will take them to the Politics and Prose online store.

Toward the end of the live segment of the festival, at 5 p.m. on Sunday afternoon, a systemwide notification will invite attendees to view the PBS broadcast special on their local stations. At 6 p.m., interactive functionality will close down.

Unlike in past years, however, attendees can end their days with no regrets: If they missed seeing an author during the festival, all is not lost. They can view all the festival content online right away and for as long as they’d like – certainly one of the best benefits of an all-virtual festival.

The event platform will remain accessible for two months after the festival itself, and videos will be available in perpetuity through the Library’s book festival and YouTube sites.

View the full festival lineup: www.loc.gov/bookfest.

The transition to a virtual festival this year benefited from the expertise and engagement of staff throughout the Library, including CLLE, the Office of Communications, the Multimedia Group, the Development Office, the Design Office, the Office of the General Counsel, the Contracts and Grants Directorate, the Office of the Chief Information Officer and Library Services. ■

Explore the Library of Congress

Throughout the festival, expert staff members will be available on a virtual version of the expo floor to chat with attendees and answer questions about the Library and its programs and services. More than 90 live sessions are scheduled; a complete lineup is available under the “Explore the Library of Congress” subheading at <https://go.usa.gov/xGNtf>. Here are some of the topics and activities that will be on offer.

Library Collections

Explore collections related to:

- Africa and the Middle East
- Geography and Maps
- Manuscripts
- Music
- Newspapers and Comics
- Prints and Photographs
- Science, Technology and Business

Programs and Services

Find out about the holdings, services and expertise of the:

- American Folklife Center

- U.S. Copyright Office
- John W. Kluge Center
- Law Library
- National Library Service for the Blind and Print Disabled
- Preservation Directorate
- Veterans History Project

Experiments

Learn about the LC Labs projects:

- Citizen DJ
- By the People

Professional Opportunities

Learn about becoming a part of the Library:

- Work at the Library
- Internships and Fellowships

Also available on the virtual version of the expo floor will be fun activities for families, deep dives into the festival’s three thematic threads through Library collections, an area to “discover great reads” from across U.S. states and offerings from the Library’s festival partners. ■

FEARLESS WOMEN



Two attendees at the 2019 National Book Festival pose with suffragist cutouts. The theme “Fearless Women” (<https://go.usa.gov/xGX8F>) at this year’s festival celebrates the 100th anniversary of implementation of women’s right to vote throughout the United States

Ralph Small

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL

Prerecorded videos of all children's and teen authors will be released on Sept. 25 at 9 a.m. Live question-and-answer sessions with select authors will occur throughout the festival.

Prerecorded videos of all adult authors will be released on Sept. 26 at 9 a.m., and live question-and-answer sessions with some will occur on Sept. 26 and 27.

Children	Live Q&A
Sophie Blackall	Sept. 27, 11 a.m.
Dan Brown	
Veronica Chambers	
Chelsea Clinton	
Jerry Craft	Sept. 27, 3 p.m.
Jessica Curry	Sept. 25, Noon
Parker Curry	Sept. 25, Noon
Kate DiCamillo	Sept. 27, 11 a.m.
Angela Dominguez	Sept. 26, 1 p.m.
K.A. Holt	Sept. 27, 4 p.m.
Deborah Hopkinson	Sept. 27, 1 p.m.
Megan McDonald	Sept. 26, Noon
Kwame Mbalia	
Frank Morrison	
Pam Muñoz Ryan	
Peter H. Reynolds	
Barb Rosenstock	Sept. 27, Noon
Connie Schofield-Morrison	
Jon Scieszka	
Nic Stone	
Don Tate	Sept. 26, 2 p.m.
Steven Weinberg	
Mo Willems	Sept. 27, 10 a.m.
Kelly Yang	

Teen	Live Q&A
Becky Albertalli	Sept. 25, 1 p.m.
M.T. Anderson	Sept. 26, Noon
Tonya Bolden	
Mike Curato	Sept. 25, 2 p.m.

Jason Reynolds	Sept. 26, 2 p.m.
Jo Rioux	Sept. 26, Noon
Lucinda Robb	Sept. 27, Noon
Rebecca Boggs Roberts	Sept. 27, Noon
Grace Ruo	
Aisha Saeed	Sept. 25, 1 p.m.
Nic Stone	Sept. 27, 2 p.m.
Sabaa Tahir	Sept. 26, 1 p.m.
Gene Luen Yang	Sept. 25, Noon

Family, Food and Field	Live Q&A
Bill Buford	Sept. 26, 4 p.m.
Gail Collins	Sept. 27, Noon
Jesse Dougherty	Sept. 26, Noon
Bruce Feiler	Sept. 26, 3 p.m.
David Kamp	Sept. 26, 11 a.m.
Megan Twohey	
Judith Warner	Sept. 27, 2 p.m.
Esther Wojcicki	Sept. 27, 2 p.m.

Fiction	Live Q&A
Kali Fajardo-Anstine	Sept. 27, 4 p.m.
John Grisham	Sept. 26, 1 p.m.
Marlon James	
James McBride	Sept. 27, 2 p.m.
Emily St. John Mandel	Sept. 27, 1 p.m.
Téa Obreht	Sept. 26, 10 a.m.
Ann Patchett	Sept. 27, 11 a.m.
Salman Rushdie	Sept. 26, 2 p.m.
Jeff VanderMeer	
Colson Whitehead	Sept. 26, 11 a.m.

Genre Fiction	Live Q&A
Tomi Adeyemi	
Leigh Bardugo	Sept. 27, 1 p.m.
Alaya Dawn Johnson	Sept. 27, 10 a.m.
N.K. Jemisin	
Mary Robinette Kowal	Sept. 27, 11 a.m.

Walter Mosley	
History and Biography	Live Q&A
Madeleine Albright	
Peter Baker	
Sarah M. Broom	
Laura Bush	
Christopher Caldwell	
Erica Armstrong Dunbar	
Eric Foner	Sept. 26, 2 p.m.
Thomas Frank	
Susan Glasser	
Jenna Bush Hager	
Harold Holzer	
Walter Isaacson	
Nicholas Lemann	Sept. 26, 11 a.m.
Jon Meacham	
George Packer	
Rick Perlstein	Sept. 26, 11 a.m.
Heather Cox Richardson	
David Rubenstein	Sept. 27, 3 p.m.
Ted Widmer	

Poetry and Prose	Live Q&A
Ishmael Beah	Sept. 26, Noon
Frannie Choi	
Sandra Cisneros	
Mark Doty	
Rita Dove	
Joy Harjo	
Juan Felipe Herrera	
Carmen Marie Machado	
Maaza Mengiste	Sept. 26, Noon
Susan Minot	Sept. 27, 4 p.m.
Robert Pinsky	
Karen Russell	Sept. 27, 4 p.m.
Jenn Shapland	
Danez Smith	
Tracy K. Smith	
Elizabeth Tallent	

Amy Tan

Science

Live Q&A

Ann Druyan Sept. 27, 3 p.m.

Katherine Eban Sept. 27, 10 a.m.

Mario Livio Sept. 26, Noon

Edward D. Melillo

Leland Melvin

Sarah Scoles Sept. 26, 10 a.m.

Wendy Williams

Understanding Our World

Live Q&A

Marie Arana

Jared Diamond

Peter Florence

Melinda Gates

Robert M. Gates

Barton Gellman Sept. 27, 3 p.m.

Haben Girma Sept. 26, 1 p.m.

Richard Haass Sept. 26, 2 p.m.

David Ignatius Sept. 27, 3 p.m.

Mitchell Kaplan

Ibram X. Kendi

Lois Kim

Saeed Jones

Cristina Fuentes La Roche

Daniel Markovits Sept. 27, 10 a.m.

Thomas Rid Sept. 27, 3 p.m.

James A. Robinson

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JOIN THE LCPA ONLINE

The Library of Congress Professional Association (LCPA) has unveiled a new website (<https://staff.loc.gov/sites/lcpa>) and a new option for paying dues electronically. LCPA is open to Library staff, contractors and retirees. Dues are \$10 a year and help to finance the organization's programs, activities and Continuing Education Fund, which offers staff professional development grants annually.

To join online, click the "become a member" link, complete the online membership form and select the option to pay electronically. You will then be taken to PayPal, where you can submit your payment. You can also join by completing the PDF membership form that is available on the website and returning it with payment by postal mail.

Questions? Contact Khadijah Camp at kcamp@loc.gov.

MODIFIED CORONAVIRUS COMMUNICATIONS

As the Library continues to resume on-site operations, the frequency of regular all-staff coronavirus updates is being modified. Now, staff can expect to receive three messages a week, to be sent on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. Library leaders will continue to share personnel information, operations updates and health information through these regular messages. When there is new or important information on a Monday or a Friday, an unscheduled update will be sent.

LDP INFORMATION SESSIONS

Are you interested in participating in the Leadership Development Program (LDP)? Two virtual information sessions will be held on Oct. 6, one from 10:30 a.m. to noon and the other from 1:30 to 3 p.m. Sessions will include an overview of LDP content, important dates and application details. More information about LDP: go.usa.gov/xGXrj

Questions? Contact Tonya Dorsey at tdor@loc.gov