CityLit Festival
Celebrating the Literary Arts in Baltimore

CENTRAL HALL (1ST FLOOR)
10 A.M.-5 P.M. LITERARY MARKETPLACE
Visit an array of self-published authors, literary organizations, small presses, magazines, and journals representing Baltimore’s diverse and talented literary arts community.

10:30 A.M. WELCOME TO CITYLIT FESTIVAL
CityLit Project executive director Gregg Wilhelm and Pratt Library CEO Dr. Carla Hayden open the 11th annual CityLit Festival.

WHEELER AUDITORIUM (3RD FLOOR)
11 A.M.-12:30 P.M. LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE AWARDS CEREMONY
Meet the Maryland winners in this national essay program for students grades 4-12, sponsored by the Maryland Humanities Council/Maryland Center for the Book (mdhc.org). Featured author: Elisabeth Dahl, Genie Wishes. This sweet, funny novel follows fifth-grader Genie Kunkle through a tumultuous year as she confronts many of the issues typical of the transition from childhood to adolescence.

1 P.M.-2:30 P.M. WESEDY STACE
Singer-songwriter Wesley Stace, better known by his former stage name John Wesley Harding, discusses his just-published novel, Wonderkid. The novel is a backstage epic of sex, drugs, and rock-and-roll, but also sippy cups, pillow fights, and Baby Bjorns when the band in question discovers success among quite an unexpected audience. Join Wes Stace for a conversation with WTMD’s Erik Deatherage and a short acoustic set of music.

3 P.M.-4 P.M. JAMES MCBRIDE
James McBride won the 2013 National Book Award for Fiction for The Good Lord Bird. This retelling of events leading up to John Brown’s unsuccessful raid on Harper’s Ferry dramatizes Brown’s pursuit of racial freedom and delusions of divine infallibility through the eyes of a slave boy—mistaken for a girl—fearful of coming of age on the threshold of the Civil War. James’s memoir, The Color of Water, remained on the New York Times bestseller list for two years. James McBride talks with WYPR’s Tom Hall, followed by audience Q&A.

SCHOOL AND STUDENT SERVICES (2ND FLOOR)
11 A.M.-11:50 A.M. NATIONAL POETRY MONTH CELEBRATION WITH POET LORE
Join Genevieve DeLeon, managing editor, for readings by Megan Foley, Amy Eisner, and the winner of the Pratt Library’s poetry contest. Celebrate 125 years of Poet Lore!

12 NOON-12:50 P.M. UMBCREATIVE WRITING
Join UMBC faculty writers Lia Purpura (Rough Likeness), Michael Fallon (The Great Before and After) and Holly Sneeringer (“Under Water”) with student-winners of the English Department’s literary contest.

1 P.M.-1:50 P.M. SLICES OF LIFE
Leah Eskin writes the food column “Home on the Range” for Tribune newspapers, including The Sun. Her new book, Slices of Life: A Food Writer Cooks through Many a Conundrum, is a memoir readers can savor in small or large bites. Hosted by Mary Zajac, co-host of WBJC’s “Word on Wine.”

2 P.M.-2:50 P.M. THE TAMPA CONNECTION
Join Jeff Parker (The Taste of Penny and translator, Sankya), Jason Ockert (Neighbors of Nothing) and Nathan Deuel (Friday Was the Bomb: Five Years in the Middle East) of the University of Tampa’s MFA in Creative Writing program. Writers interested in a dynamic, low-residency program should attend.

POE ROOM (2ND FLOOR)
11:30 A.M.-12:20 P.M. RELEASING THE MUSE
Three poets with local connections read from their new collections: Lalita Noronha (Her Skin, Phyllo-thin), Erica Dawson (The Small Blades Hurt), and Natasha Sajé (Vivarium). Hosted by Kristen Harbeson, board chair, Poe Baltimore.

12:30 P.M.-1:20 P.M. AN AUTHENTIC CAPTAIN MARVEL RING
Alan Cheuse reads from his just-published An Authentic Captain Marvel Ring, which collects the best short stories and novellas from this National Public Radio reviewer. Introduced by Andrew Gifford, publisher, Sante Fe Writer’s Project.

1:30 P.M.-2:20 P.M. POETRY IN TRANSLATION
Presented by the DC-area Literary Translators Network and Loch Raven Review, this discussion features Nancy Naomi Carlson (French), Ahmad Karimi-Hakkak (Persian), Danuta E. Kosk-Kosicka (Polish), and Katherine E. Young (Russian) reading poems in the original and translation.

LITERARY MARKETPLACE, FIRST FLOOR: BARNES AND NOBLE WILL SELL COPIES OF THE AUTHORS’ BOOKS, AND AUTHORS WILL SIGN HERE AFTER THEIR PROGRAMS.

FOR A COMPLETE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS VISIT CITYLITPROJECT.ORG OR PRATTLIBRARY.ORG
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FINE ARTS DEPARTMENT (2ND FLOOR)

11:30 A.M.-12:30 P.M. SHORT LEASH: A MEMOIR OF DOG WALKING AND DELIVERANCE

Short Leash is a moving tale of love and loss, the journey of two broken souls finding their way toward wholeness. Janice Gary takes the reader on “a vast inward journey toward freedom from the effects of real trauma in her youth as she walks her dog in a public park.” wrote Meredith Hall, author of The New York Times bestseller Without a Map. Join Janice for a conversation with Lisa Robinson of WBAL-TV and audience Q&A.

1 P.M.-1:45 P.M. THE MEMOIR AND YOU

Author and teacher Janice Gary presents a mini-workshop on “The Memoir and You: On Writing About Yourself.” Janice leads writing workshops throughout the U.S. Bring your memories, your aspirations, and your pen!

2 P.M.-3 P.M. NEW MERCURY AT CITYLIT

Join hosts Deborah Rudacille and John Barry for their monthly installment of this popular nonfiction reading series. Readers include Elaine Eff (The Painted Screens of Baltimore), D. Watkins (“Too Poor for Pop Culture”) and former City Paper columnist Joe MacLeod.

CityLit Festival

is supported in part by

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CityLit Project was founded in 2004 to serve readers and writers through the literary arts. Its annual festival, outreach to youth, and publishing imprint have been recognized as significant contributions to Baltimore’s cultural scene. Learn more about special events during CityLit’s 10th anniversary year at www.CityLitProject.org.