

COLUMBUS BOOK FESTIVAL

Featured Author Schedule

Saturday, July 12 | 10 a.m.–6 p.m.

Books can be purchased in the Official Festival Bookstore.

Book signings are immediately after each session in the 2nd floor Reading Room.

Headliners will sign books near the Auditorium after their sessions.

Adult Fiction & Nonfiction
Young Adult
Kids & Middle Grade
Local Interest
Writing & Publishing
Author Speed Matching
Ticketed Headliner Talk

		Signings				
		10-11 AM	11:30AM-12:30 PM	1-2 PM	2:30-3:30 PM	4-5 PM
Main Library	AUDITORIUM	<div><div>In Conversation with Mary Alice Monroe</div><div>Mary Alice Monroe, <i>Where the Rivers Merge</i> Mary Alice Monroe discusses her new dual timeline epic. <i>Where the Rivers Merge</i> is a sweeping love letter to South Carolina's low country and an emotional introduction to the indomitable Eliza Rivers. Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Amy Juravich, WOSU</div></div>	<div><div>Tropes, Tension, and Transformation</div><div>Katie Naymon, <i>You Between the Lines</i> Anna Todd, <i>The Last Sunrise</i> Denise Williams, <i>Just Our Luck</i> Fake dating, coming-of-age, enemies to lovers! Bring on the butterflies with these stories of self-discovery, vulnerability and the transformative power of love. Mod: Terreece M. Clarke, author</div></div>	<div><div>In Conversation with Amal El-Mohtar</div><div>Amal El-Mohtar, <i>The River Has Roots</i> In her solo debut, Amal El-Mohtar, co-author of <i>This is How You Lose the Time War</i>, brings her lyrical voice to a fantasy murder ballad that will sing to your very soul. Hugo Award-winning author Arkady Martine joins Amal in conversation. Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Arkady Martine, author</div></div>	<div><div>Other Worlds: Building Sci-Fi Spaces</div><div>Matt Dinniman, <i>Dungeon Crawler Carl</i> Arkady Martine, <i>Rose/House</i> Khan Wong, <i>Down in the Sea of Angels</i> From a time-hopping dystopian universe and an absurd reality show gaming dungeon to an A.I. haunted house, the settings of these speculative Sci-Fi books burst with imagination. Mod: Andrew Frost, Columbus Metropolitan Library</div></div>	<div><div>In Conversation with Wally Lamb</div><div>Wally Lamb, <i>The River Is Waiting</i> Wally Lamb's first book in nine years is a profound, compassionate exploration of the human condition. <i>The River Is Waiting</i> tells a tale of tragedy and hope that tackles addiction, grief, incarceration and atonement. Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Lauren Hagan, CEO, Columbus Metropolitan Library</div></div>
	MEETING ROOM 1A	<div><div>Alternate Lives: Literature with a Hint of Magic</div><div>Megan Giddings, <i>Meet Me at the Crossroads</i> Ruben Reyes Jr., <i>Archive of Unknown Universes</i> Edward Underhill, <i>The In-Between Bookstore</i> These speculative stories plumb the depths of humanity, mystery and possibility including eerie dimension doorways, time portal bookshops and tech that shows alternate timelines. Mod: Laura Maylene Walter, Cleveland Public Library</div></div>	<div><div>How To: Marketing and Publicity Workshop</div><div>Literary publicist, Leann Schneider Webb, will help new or aspiring authors develop the tools to get books into reader's hands on a scale and budget that's right for you. Presented by: Leann Schneider Webb, publicist</div></div>	<div><div>Our Stories, Our Roots: Memoirs</div><div>Rebe Huntman, <i>My Mother in Havana: A Memoir of Magic & Miracle</i> Nicole Graev Lipson, <i>Mothers and Other Fictional Characters: A Memoir in Essays</i> Chyana Marie Sage, <i>Soft as Bones</i> From a mother's past in Cuba to escaping poverty and abuse in Indigenous Canada, to the day-to-day job of parenting, join three female writers on a quest for meaning and identity. Mod: Sarah Gormley, author</div></div>	<div><div>Period Pieces: 1800's and 1900's Christian Fiction</div><div>Michelle Griep, <i>Of Silver and Secrets</i> Christine Hill Sultz, <i>The Lawyer and the Laundress</i> Vanessa Miller, <i>The Filling Station</i> Immerse yourself in a different era with these timeless tales. Hear about sisters in 1921 Tulsa, an archaeological dig in Victorian England, and a marriage of convenience in the British Colonies. Mod: Colette Harrell, author</div></div>	<div><div>Romantasy-esque</div><div>Jennifer K. Lambert, <i>Never the Roses</i> Ehigbor Okosun, <i>Exiled by Iron</i> Andrea Stewart, <i>The Gods Below</i> Revolutionaries vs. royalty, gods vs. mortals, rival sorcerers—despite the gulfs dividing them, love and magic spark between these characters. Mod: April & Molly, Book Besties Podcast</div></div>
	MEETING ROOM 2A	<div><div>Author Speed Matching</div><div>Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Ann H. Gabhart, Amy Lynn Green, Sarah Gormley, Darci Hannah, Rebe Huntman and Arkady Martine</div></div>	<div><div>Author Speed Matching</div><div>Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Julia DeVillers, Christine Hill Sultz, George Jreije, Vanessa Miller, Kaira Rouda and Amy Spalding</div></div>	<div><div>Author Speed Matching</div><div>Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. E.M. Anderson, Varun Gauri, Scott Longert, Megan Murphy, Rosalyn Ransaw and Annie Zaleski</div></div>	<div><div>Author Speed Matching</div><div>Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Nia Davenport, Lauren Marie Fleming, Roger Jerome, Jared Lemus, Nikhil Prabala and Jenna Voris</div></div>	<div><div>Author Speed Matching</div><div>Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Wes Blake, Roseanne A. Brown, Heather S. Cole, Helena Rho, Chyana Marie Sage and L.T. Thompson</div></div>
	MEETING ROOM 2B	<div><div>Small Town America: Contemporary Fiction</div><div>Varun Gauri, <i>For the Blessings of Jupiter and Venus</i> Miriam Gershow, <i>Closer</i> Nora Lange, <i>Us Fools</i> Small towns. Big stakes. These stories reflect on what it means to be part of a community and how the choices we make affect those around us. Mod: Kelly Young, Columbus Metropolitan Library</div></div>	<div><div>Ghosts of Power: Political Trauma in Fiction</div><div>Gina Maria Balibarrera, <i>The Volcano Daughters</i> Lauren Francis-Sharma, <i>Casualties of Truth</i> Helena Rho, <i>Stone Angels</i> Three countries are the backdrops for these dramatic, character-driven novels including El Salvador ruled by a genocidal dictator, Korea torn apart by Japanese occupation, and South Africa scarred by Apartheid. Mod: TBA</div></div>	<div><div>Beacon Through the Ages: Inspirational Fiction</div><div>Amanda Cox, <i>Between the Sound and Sea</i> Amy Lynn Green, <i>The Codebreaker's Daughter</i> Jaime Jo Wright, <i>Tempest at Annabel's Lighthouse</i> Through legends and letters, twists and turns, these time-blending tales tell of codebreakers in WWII and of lighthouse keepers in Michigan and the Outer Banks of North Carolina. Mod: Ann H. Gabhart, author</div></div>	<div><div>Writing Suspense: Page-Turning Fiction</div><div>Joseph Finder, <i>The Oligarch's Daughter</i> Clémence Michallon, <i>Our Last Resort</i> Neena Viel, <i>Listen to Your Sister</i> How do they do it? These horror and thriller authors will discuss how they keep you at the edge of your seat. Mod: Carter Wilson, author</div></div>	<div><div>Casinos, Cooks and Killers</div><div>V.M. Burns, <i>The Next Deadly Chapter</i> Colleen Cambridge, <i>A Fashionably French Murder</i> Darci Hannah, <i>A Fatal Feast at Bramsford Manor</i> Murder awaits, whether it's at a casino resort, a haunted English manor or a fashion house in postwar Paris, in these cozy-ish mysteries spanning decades. Mod: Darcie Wilde, author</div></div>
	MEETING ROOM 3A	<div><div>Love and Loss: Writing Grief</div><div>Kate Fussner, <i>13 Ways to Say Goodbye</i> Megan Murphy, <i>Fake It Like You Mean It</i> Marty Ross-Dolen, <i>Always There, Always Gone: A Daughter's Search for Truth</i> Three authors reflect on putting grief into words and what comes after loss. Mod: Michele Castleman, author</div></div>	<div><div>Middle Grade Monsters</div><div>Roseanne A. Brown, <i>Serwa Boateng's Guide to Saving the World</i> Sam Subity, <i>Valor Wings</i> Alby C. Williams, <i>Where There Be Monsters</i> Shape-shifting vampires, warrior dragons and magical monsters abound in these fantastical kids' stories. Mod: Meg Brown, Thurber House</div></div>	<div><div>Revise, Revise, Revise</div><div>Nat Cassidy, <i>When the Wolf Comes Home</i> Matthew Gavin Frank, <i>Submersed: Wonder, Obsession, and Murder in the World of Amateur Submarines</i> Mia P. Manansala, <i>Death in the Cards</i> It's said that "writing is revising", but what does that look like? Listen to these authors discuss how they take their work from good to great. Mod: Rebecca Thorne, author</div></div>	<div><div>Windows, Mirrors, Doors: Representation in KidLit</div><div>Tamika Burgess, <i>Danilo Was Here</i> Kate Fussner, <i>13 Ways to Say Goodbye</i> George Jreije, <i>Bashir Boutros and the Jewel of the Nile</i> A discussion of how children's books reflect our own experiences, show us the lives of others and unlock new worldviews. Mod: Swati Teerdhala, author</div></div>	<div><div>Bringing Literature to Life: Illustrators Panel</div><div>Yangsook Choi, <i>Slippery, Spicy, Tingly: A Kimchi Mystery</i> R. Gregory Christie, <i>Nana's New Soul Food</i> Will Hillenbrand, <i>Summer Is Here</i> Acclaimed children's book illustrators discuss what it means to bring a story to life with their own unique designs. Mod: Johari Mitchell, author</div></div>
Topiary Park	MEETING ROOM 3B	<div><div>Turtle Island: Indigenous History</div><div>Peg Bobel, <i>Native Americans of the Cuyahoga Valley: From Early Peoples to Contemporary Issues</i> Taylor Keen, <i>Rediscovering Turtle Island: A First Peoples' Account of the Sacred Geography of America</i> Learn about the Indigenous history of North America, including the Cuyahoga Valley and the land that is now part of Ohio. Mod: Stacia Kuceyeski, Ohio History Connection</div></div>	<div><div>The Heart of it All: Ohio Places</div><div>Sandra Gurvis, <i>Day Trips from Columbus: Getaway Ideas for the Local Traveler</i> Robin Smith, <i>This Place of Silence: Ohio's Cemeteries and Burial Grounds</i> Discover your next Ohio adventure with destinations from recreational to the sacred. Mod: Jeff Darbee, Benjamin D. Rickey & Co.</div></div>	<div><div>The Power of Black Activism</div><div>Steven Conn, <i>Picturing Black History</i> Forest Issac Jones, <i>Good Trouble: The Selma, Alabama and Derry, Northern Ireland Connection 1963-1972</i> Sherri Marie Williams, <i>Black Social Television: How Black Twitter Changed Television</i> Explore Black influences in the American Civil Rights Movement, on TV and on the world's culture at large. Mod: Dr. Marilyn Howard, Columbus State Community College</div></div>	<div><div>The World Around Us</div><div>Jarod K. Anderson, <i>Something in the Woods Loves You</i> Deborah Fleming, <i>Ghosts of an Old Forest: Essays on Midwestern Rural Heritage</i> Carmella Van Vleet, <i>Frozen In Time: What Ice Cores Can Tell Us About Climate Change</i> Examine how the natural world impacts our lives, from supporting mental health to providing the environment in which we live. Mod: Angela O'Neal, Columbus Metropolitan Library</div></div>	<div><div>Kith and Kin: Family Stories</div><div>Sarah Gormley, <i>The Order of Things</i> Marty Ross-Dolen, <i>Always There, Always Gone: A Daughter's Search for Truth</i> Delve into the personal journeys of these Ohio authors and learn about the transformative power of storytelling. Mod: Regan Walsh, author/speaker</div></div>
	AUTHOR STAGE 1	<div><div>Queer Mayhem: YA stories</div><div>Carlyn Greenwald, <i>Murder Land</i> Mia P. Manansala, <i>Death in the Cards</i> L.T. Thompson, <i>Devils Like Us</i> Jenna Voris, <i>Say a Little Prayer</i> From pirate ship fantasy to amusement park murder; from church camp lesbians to tarot card detectives; these YA books are a just a bit queer. Mod: Erin Upchurch, Kaleidoscope Youth Center</div></div>	<div><div>For the Ones We Love: Romantasy Heroines</div><div>Nia Davenport, <i>Love Spells Trouble</i> Nikhil Prabala, <i>The Duchess of Kokora</i> Amélie Wen Zhao, <i>The Scorpion and the Night Blossom</i> What do a witch, a warrior and a duchess have in common? They'll do anything to protect those they love. Explore immortality trials, marriage games and enchanted bakeries with these fearless YA heroines. Mod: Ehigbor Okosun, author</div></div>	<div><div>Licensed to Thrill</div><div>Tracy Clark, <i>Echo</i> Joseph Finder, <i>The Oligarch's Daughter</i> Gregg Hurwitz, <i>Nemesis</i> Brad Taylor, <i>Into the Gray Zone</i> Body counts, double agents, hostages and soul-searching—these high-stakes stories have it all! Hear from thriller authors who know how to keep your pulse racing. Mod: Donna Zuiderweg, Columbus Metropolitan Library</div></div>	<div><div>Romance is in the Air</div><div>Savannah Carlisle, <i>The Summer of Starting Over</i> Megan Murphy, <i>Fake It Like You Mean It</i> Shirlene Obuobi, <i>Between Friends & Lovers</i> On the beach, at a star-studded birthday bash or even at the bedside of a dear older relative, love will find you where you least expect it. Mod: Denise Williams, author</div></div>	<div><div>Not Quite Human: Otherworldly Characters</div><div>Lindy Ryan, <i>Another Fine Mess</i> Vivian Shaw, <i>Strange New World</i> Nghì Vo, <i>Don't Sleep with the Dead</i> Ghouls, demons, angels, zombies, wax women and paper men—the undead are not always the biggest threat in these deliciously eerie explorations of humanity. Mod: Christy Hayes, BookCrushin Book Blog</div></div>
	AUTHOR STAGE 2	<div><div>Ups and Downs of Publishing</div><div>Tracy Clark, <i>Echo</i> Rosalyn Ransaw, <i>Smoke & Mirrors</i> Lindy Ryan, <i>Another Fine Mess</i> From a debut children's mystery to acclaimed books in the thriller and horror genres, these industry professionals will share about the wild ride of writing. Mod: Lauren Marie Fleming, author</div></div>	<div><div>Humanity in a Snapshot: Short Stories</div><div>Wes Blake, <i>Pineville Trace</i> Bob Johnson, <i>The Continental Divide</i> Jared Lemus, <i>Guatemalan Rhapsody</i> Lena Valencia, <i>Mystery Lights</i> Short but not always sweet, these stories span desert landscapes, Guatemalan jungles, and more. Their backdrops showcase human nature's clash with desire, violence and a search for meaning. Mod: Claudia Plumley, Great Lakes Studios</div></div>	<div><div>Gay and Spicy</div><div>Jonny Garza Villa, <i>Futbolista</i> Adib Khorrarn, <i>I'll Have What He's Having</i> Julian Winters, <i>I Think They Love You</i> Mistaken identities, fake dating, opposites attract and so much pining! These queer love stories will take you from sweet and tender to next-level spice, all with an undertone of profound emotion. Mod: Karen Hewitt, The Culture of You</div></div>	<div><div>Tell Me Something I Don't Know: The Creative Life</div><div>Megan Giddings, <i>Meet Me at the Crossroads</i> Kaira Rouda, <i>Jill Is Not Happy</i> Maggie Smith, <i>Dear Writer</i> These authors are more than just writers. They are professors, editors, retired journalists, and leaders in the industry and they know what they're talking about. You'll want to take notes! Mod: Cynthia Reeves, author</div></div>	<div><div>Digging up the Past: Historical Fiction</div><div>Katherine Bryant, <i>Give My Love to Berlin</i> Carolyn Korsmeyer, <i>Riddle of Spirit and Bone</i> Ashton Lattimore, <i>All We Were Promised</i> Unearth uncomfortable truths from various points in history including the 1850's American spiritualist movement, Black abolitionists in pre-Civil War Philadelphia and the queer underworld of Nazi Germany. Mod: Mike Thompson, WOSU</div></div>

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Adult Fiction & Nonfiction
Young Adult
Kids & Middle Grade
Local Interest
Writing & Publishing
Author Speed Matching
Ticketed Headliner Talk

	Signings			
	10:30-11:30 AM	12-1 PM	1:30-2:30 PM	3-4 PM
AUDITORIUM	Author Talk with Victoria Christopher Murray  Victoria Christopher Murray, <i>Harlem Rhapsody</i> New York Times bestselling author of over 30 books, Victoria Christopher Murray shares a bold, vibrant love story about the woman who ignited the Harlem Renaissance. <i>Harlem Rapsody</i> is well-researched, imaginative historical fiction at its best. Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Lauren Hagan, CEO, Columbus Metropolitan Library	In Conversation with Gregg Hurwitz  Gregg Hurwitz, <i>Nemesis</i> Thriller author Carter Wilson joins critically acclaimed author Gregg Hurwitz to discuss the latest installment in his bestselling Orphan X series. The former black ops assassin Evan Smoak pits his principles against an old friend in <i>Nemesis</i> . Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Carter Wilson, author	In Conversation with Anna Todd  Anna Todd, <i>The Last Sunrise</i> Screenwriter, film producer and bestselling author of the After series, Anna Todd, discusses her newest swoony romance, <i>The Last Sunrise</i> . A sheltered and chronically-ill young woman experiences self-discovery and romantic awakening during a summer in Spain. Reserve seat starting June 11. Mod: Alissa Henry, ABC6	It's All in Your Head: Psychological Thrillers Clémence Michallon, <i>Our Last Resort</i> Kaira Rouda, <i>Jill Is Not Happy</i> Carter Wilson, <i>Tell Me What You Did</i> A mother, a brother, a partner. How far would you go to protect your family and their gruesome secrets? Mod: Jesse Lockwood, blogger
MEETING ROOM 1A	Explore the Darkness: Gothic Atmosphere Emily Carpenter, <i>Gothictown</i> Arkady Martine, <i>Rose/House</i> Cynthia Pelayo, <i>Vanishing Daughters</i> Haunted houses, towns and people - shadows creep through the cracks of society in these stories designed to fill you with dread. Mod: Rachel Estep, New and Olde Pages Bookshoppe	Love and Intrigue Through the Ages Dianne Freeman, <i>A Daughter's Guide to Mothers and Murder</i> Ann H. Gabhart, <i>The Pursuit of Elena Bradford</i> Darcie Wilde, <i>The Matter of the Secret Bride</i> Hear from authors who pen mystery and romance stories in the historical settings of 1840's Kentucky, Regency London and Belle Époque France. Mod: April & Molly, Book Besties Podcast	Richer Writing Through Research Matthew Gavin Frank, <i>Submersed: Wonder, Obsession, and Murder in the World of Amateur Submarines</i> Forest Issac Jones, <i>Good Trouble: The Selma, Alabama and Derry, Northern Ireland Connection 1963-1972</i> Cynthia Reeves, <i>The Last Whaler</i> These research-based writers aren't afraid to dive deep into history, science and true crime cases to enrich their work. Mod: Christopher Purdy, WOSU	Cuentistas: Latinx/Latine Storytellers Jonny Garza Villa, <i>Futbolista</i> Cynthia Pelayo, <i>Vanishing Daughters</i> Ruben Reyes Jr., <i>Archive of Unknown Universes</i> These writers bring their Salvadoran, Chicane and Puerto Rican identities to their stories, weaving in romance, horror and speculative fiction. Mod: Fernanda Díaz-Basteris, OSU College of Arts & Sciences
MEETING ROOM 2A	Author Speed Matching Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Nat Cassidy, Matthew Gavin Frank, Kate Fussner, Michelle Griep, Cynthia Reeves and Carter Wilson	Author Speed Matching Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Katherine Bryant, Miriam Gershow, Nicole Graev Lipson, Marty Ross-Dolen, Jeffrey L. Smalldon and Neena Viel	Author Speed Matching Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Tamika Burgess, Savannah Carlisle, Darren C. Demaree, Sandra Gurvis, Sam Subity and Sherri Marie Williams	Author Speed Matching Find your perfect literary match at these author round tables! Small groups of readers spend 5 minutes with each author to learn about their newest book. Matt Dinniman, Dianne Freeman, William Haldeman, Carlyn Greenwald, Denise Williams and Julian Winters
MEETING ROOM 2B	Choose Your Own Adventure: Publishing Edition Nicole D. Collier, <i>The Best Friend Bracelet</i> Matt Dinniman, <i>Dungeon Crawler Carl</i> Rebecca Thorne, <i>Tea You at the Altar</i> From self-publishing to the traditional route, from hybrid publishers to the "Big Five", there are many paths to get your book to readers. Mod: Savannah Carlisle, author	It Builds Character! (Development) E.M. Anderson, <i>The Keeper of Lonely Spirits</i> Carlyn Greenwald, <i>Murder Land</i> Denise Williams, <i>Just Our Luck</i> A ghost hunter, an amusement park ride operator and a lucky lady who just bought a winning lottery ticket. What do they all have in common? Character development! Mod: Kate Fussner, author	Adrenaline Spike! Horror Novels Nat Cassidy, <i>When the Wolf Comes Home</i> Alex Grecian, <i>Rose of Jericho</i> Neena Viel, <i>Listen to Your Sister</i> These authors' horror stories can twist our insides and leave us gasping for air. Protagonists are tasked with taking care of others as the world comes undone...threatening to take them with it. Mod: Lindy Ryan, author	A Colorful World: Writing for Kids Josh Funk, <i>Attack of the Scones</i> Quartez Harris, <i>Go Tell It: How James Baldwin Became a Writer</i> John Schu, <i>Ruthie Rose's Big Idea</i> Historical narratives and imaginative tales all come together as we engage in the wide array of children's literature. Mod: Paula Johnson Neal, author
MEETING ROOM 3A	TV, Twitter and Taylor Swift: Pop Culture Books Bruce Vilanch, <i>It Seemed Like a Bad Idea at the Time: The Worst TV Shows in History and Other Things I Wrote</i> Sherri Marie Williams, <i>Black Social Television: How Black Twitter Changed Television</i> Annie Zaleski, <i>Taylor Swift: The Stories Behind the Songs</i> Spanning pop culture influences fom social media to SNL, from the Oscars to the Grammys, these books dive into media, music and memoir. Mod: Donna Marbury, journalist	Starry-eyed Newbies: Debut Authors Nora Lange, <i>Us Fools</i> Ashton Lattimore, <i>All We Were Promised</i> Alby C. Williams, <i>Where There Be Monsters</i> You never forget your first! Join debut authors from a variety of genres to discuss the thrilling roller coaster of publishing their first book. Mod: Nikhil Prabala, author	Stories of Grace Amanda Cox, <i>Between the Sound and Sea</i> Vanessa Miller, <i>The Filling Station</i> Joanna Davidson Politano, <i>The Curious Inheritance of Blakely House</i> Whether in Jim Crow America, a remote island estate, or at the North Carolina shore, grace abounds in these stories of Christian fiction. Mod: Michelle Griep, author	Magic, Murder, Moose? Nicole D. Collier, <i>The Best Friend Bracelet</i> Julia DeVillers, <i>Meet Me at Wonderland</i> Rosalyn Ransaw, <i>Smoke & Mirrors</i> Twens and teens navigate magical friendship bracelets, cold-case murders, first love and summer jobs in these contemporary stories suitable for young readers. Mod: Annamarie Carlson, Westerville Public Library
MEETING ROOM 3B	Wordsmithing: Local Poetry Darren C. Demaree, <i>So Much More</i> Rikki Santer, <i>Shepherd's Hour</i> Scott Woods, <i>Black Night is Falling</i> Dive into the emotional and intellectual inspiration of three Ohio-based poets who highlight the power of poetry to connect, heal and inspire. Mod: Nicole Sutton, Columbus Metropolitan Library	POTUS: From Ohio to the Oval Office Heather S. Cole, <i>Ohio's Presidents: A History and Guide</i> William Haldeman, <i>Meeting the Moment: Inspiring Presidential Leadership That Transformed America</i> The U.S. presidency has been described as the most powerful position in the world. Panelists discuss the attributes of several presidents and Ohio's many connections to the office. Mod: Dayna Jalkanen, Ohio Statehouse	Life and Legacies: Biographies Roger Jerome, <i>Dickens in Ohio</i> Scott Longert, <i>Love and Loss: The Short Life of Ray Chapman</i> Caitlin McGurk, <i>Tell Me a Story Where the Bad Girl Wins: The Life and Art of Barbara Shermund</i> Join a discussion that promises to deepen your understanding of three extraordinary lives and their enduring legacies, whether you're a baseball enthusiast, an art lover or a literary aficionado. Mod: David Weaver, Ohioana	Fascinating Felonies Rena Glover Goss, <i>Murder on Perrin Run: A Historic Crime in Jefferson County, Ohio</i> Sara Kaushal, <i>Murder in Victorian Dayton: The Tragic Story of Bessie Little</i> Jeffrey L. Smalldon, <i>That Beast Was Not Me: One Forensic Psychologist, Five Decades of Conversations with Killers</i> Investigate true crime stories in Ohio history from the perspective of historians and a forensic psychologist. Mod: Andy Verhoff, Ohio History Connection
AUTHOR STAGE 1	Second Chance: Queer Romance Lauren Marie Fleming, <i>Because Fat Girl</i> Amy Spalding, <i>On Her Terms</i> Julian Winters, <i>I Think They Love You</i> Three queer authors discuss what it's like writing about starting over, fake relationships and doing anything to achieve your dreams. Mod: Christy Hayes, BookCrushin Book Blog	Realms of Men, Gods and Fairies: World-Building Roseanne A. Brown, <i>Serwa Boateng's Guide to Saving the World</i> Amal El-Mohtar, <i>The River Has Roots</i> Andrea Stewart, <i>The Gods Below</i> Amélie Wen Zhao, <i>The Scorpion and the Night Blossom</i> A shattered Earth is reshaped by a dark god, a competition offers immortality, vampires collide with slayers and two sisters are swept up in a fairytale in unique fantasy worlds. Mod: Kayla Toon, Upper Arlington Public Library	Fabulous Fantasy Jennifer K. Lambert, <i>Never the Roses</i> P. H. Low, <i>These Deathless Shores</i> Nghi Vo, <i>Don't Sleep with the Dead</i> Take a ride with an exiled Lost Boy who returns to Neverland, see Jay Gatsby rise from the dead in the Gilded Age of New York City, and join a bored sorceress who breaks into an enemy's library in these fantastic stories. Mod: Kristy Lorenz, Columbus Metropolitan Library	Freedom to Read Samira Ahmed, <i>The Singular Life of Aria Patel</i> Katherine Bryant, <i>Give My Love to Berlin</i> Adib Khorram, <i>I'll Have What He's Having</i> In a time of escalating book bans and challenges to free speech, these authors fight censorship with action and, of course, with their words. Mod: Marjory Wentworth, Right to Read Ohio
AUTHOR STAGE 2	Representation and Resilience in Fiction Lauren Francis-Sharma, <i>Casualties of Truth</i> P. H. Low, <i>These Deathless Shores</i> Ehigbor Okosun, <i>Exiled by Iran</i> How do worlds rooted in systems of oppression and trauma shape identities? Authors explore their stories of survival, resistance and identity in both imagined and historical settings. Mod: Tyiesha Radford Shorts, The Giovanni Collective	Tropes and Hopes: YA Romance Samira Ahmed, <i>The Singular Life of Aria Patel</i> Kristy Boyce, <i>Dating and Dragons</i> Swati Teerdhala, <i>Maya in Multicolor</i> Roll the dice on love in these teen tales that will take you from college Holi festivals and Dungeons & Dragons games to a multiverse of second chance romance. Mod: Julia DeVillers, author	No One Can Do It Alone: The Writing Community Wes Blake, <i>Pineville Trace</i> Lauren Marie Fleming, <i>Because Fat Girl</i> Khan Wong, <i>Down in the Sea of Angels</i> Writing doesn't have to be a solitary endeavor. Authors discuss the importance of connecting to the literary community and building a support system while writing. Mod: Kathryn Powers, Ohioana	Books, Plants and Tea: Gentle Fantasy E.M. Anderson, <i>The Keeper of Lonely Spirits</i> Rebecca Thorne, <i>Tea You at the Altar</i> Edward Underhill, <i>The In-Between Bookstore</i> In these cozy and magical stories, lesbian pirates plan their wedding, an immortal ghost hunter is haunted by loneliness and a trans man revisits his past in a mysterious bookstore. Mod: Kris Hickey, Columbus Metropolitan Library

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