



OUR STORIES, OUR SHELVES

MLA • DLA Conference 2026

Don't Miss!



50/50 RAFFLE

Tickets are **\$1** each and can be purchased from **Conni Strittmatter** or **David Dahl!** The winner takes home half the pot.



PUB QUIZ

Thursday, May 7
8:00 – 10:00 p.m.
Choptank Ballroom



SILENT AUCTION

Visit the Silent Auction in the exhibitor hall to place your bids **before 10:45 a.m. on Friday, May 8th.**



KARAOKE

Thursday, May 7
8:00 – 11:00 p.m.
Windjammer



OUR STORIES, OUR SHELVES

MLA • DLA Conference 2026

What the Maryland Center for the Book can do for you!

PRESENTERS:

Aditya Desai

**Program Officer Literature, Maryland Humanities
Director, Maryland Center for the Book**

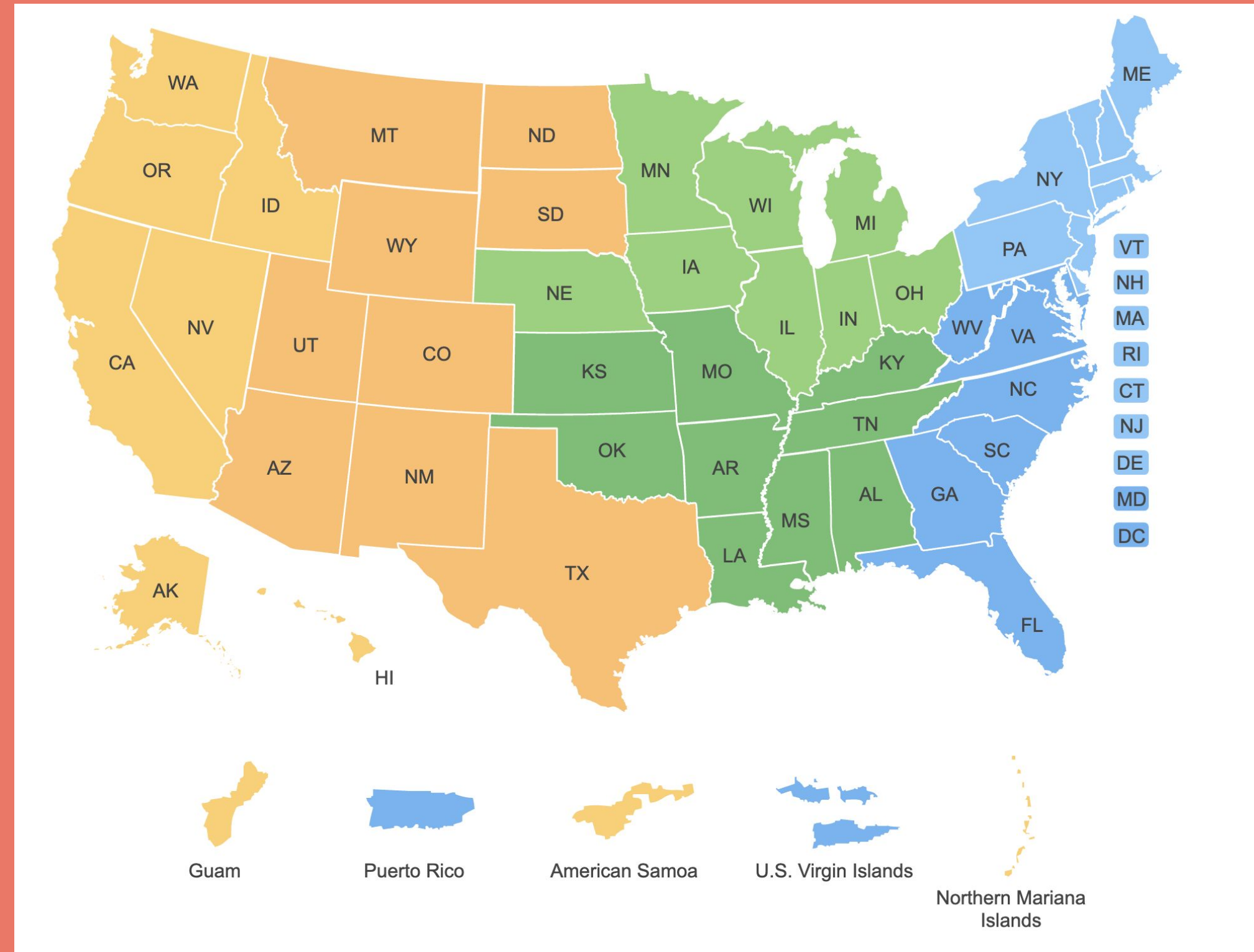
May 6-8, 2026 | Cambridge, MD

What is the Library of Congress' Center for the Book Program?

Starting in 1984, the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress began to establish Affiliate Centers, starting with the 50 states.

Today, there is an Affiliate Center for the Book in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam and Northern Marianas (56 in total!).

Members of the Center for the Book Affiliates network carry out the national Center's mission nationwide, sponsor programs that highlight their area's local literary heritage and call attention to the importance of books, reading, libraries and literacy.



Centers for the Book Overview

What They Are:

- Humanities Councils
- State Libraries
- Independent Nonprofits

Support, Funding, and Reach Varies!

What They Do:

- Library Programming
- Statewide Reading Programs
- Literary History and Heritage Programs
- Book Clubs and Discussion Groups
- Writing Contests
- Book Festivals and Bookstore Crawls
- Virtual and Online Programming (Podcasts, Streams, and Panels)



What does MCFB do?

Highlights the state's literary heritage and calls attention to the importance of books, reading, literacy and libraries.

Sponsor and Support literature programming across the state.

Our audience is Maryland's readers and connecting them to authors and their works.

Partnerships with:

- Public Library Systems
- Colleges and Universities
- Museums
- Local & Independent Publishers
- News and Journalism Media
- and more!

**LIBRARY
OF CONGRESS**

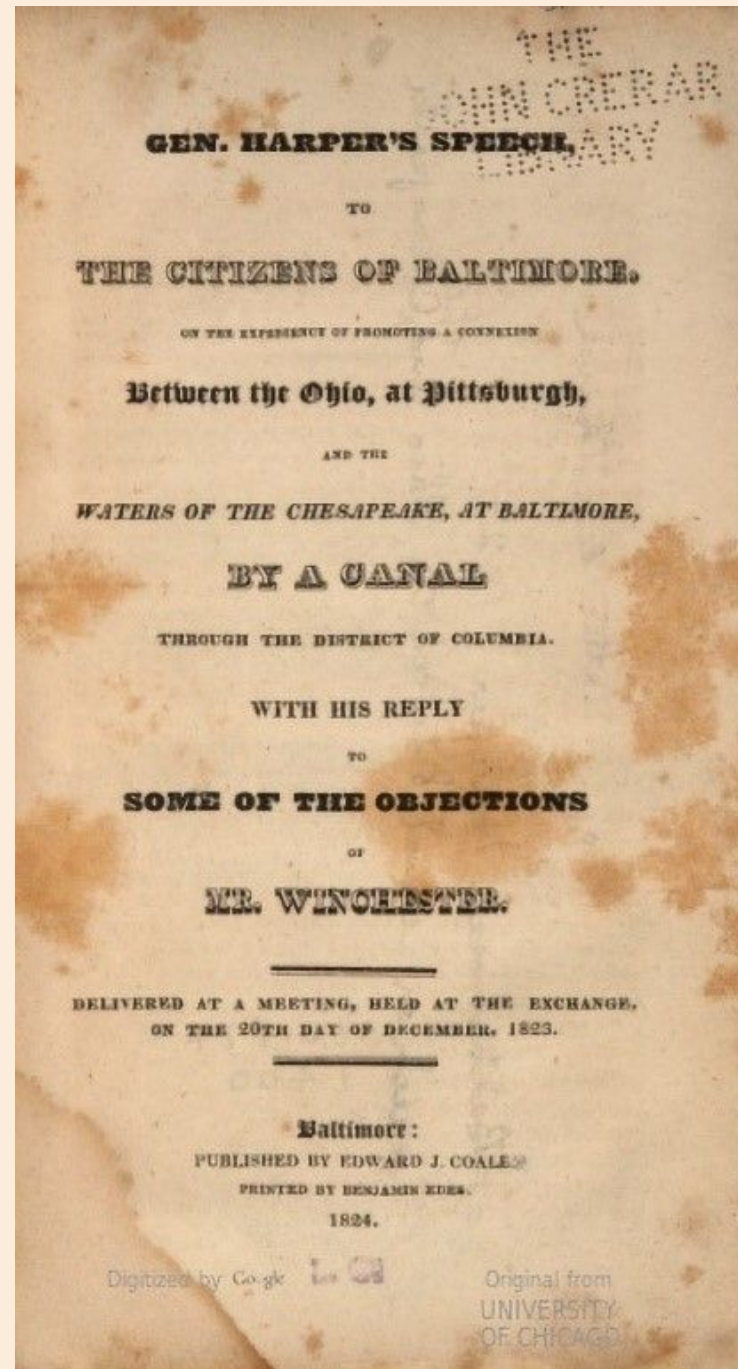
**CENTER
FOR THE
BOOK**

MARYLAND AFFILIATE

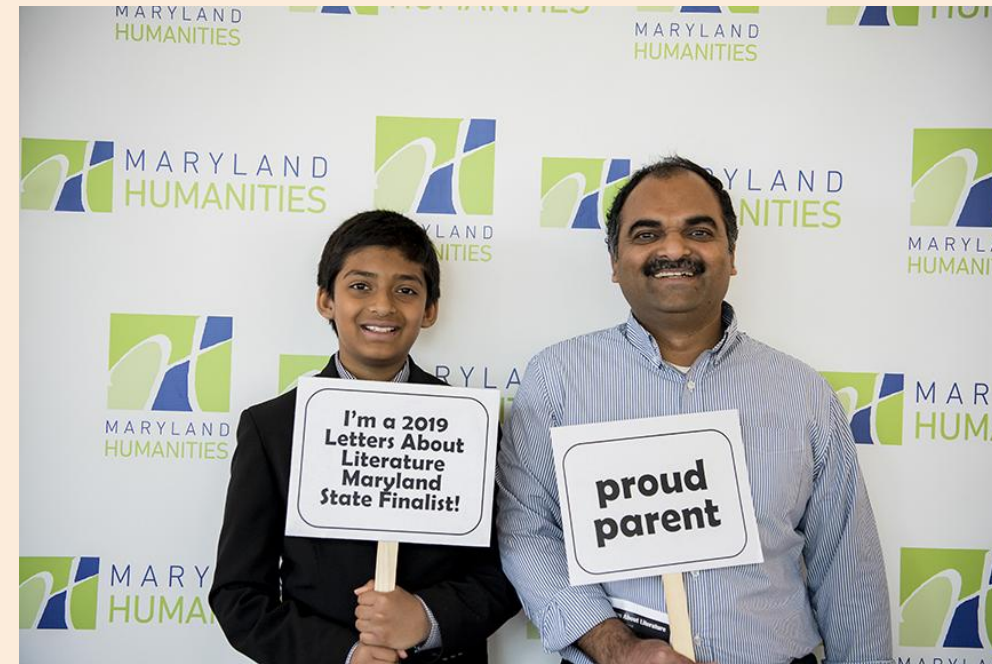
National Book Festival and Great Reads



Past Projects Examples



Stevenson University's "Poetry and Politics: Baltimore's Small Presses Then and Now"



Letters About Literature



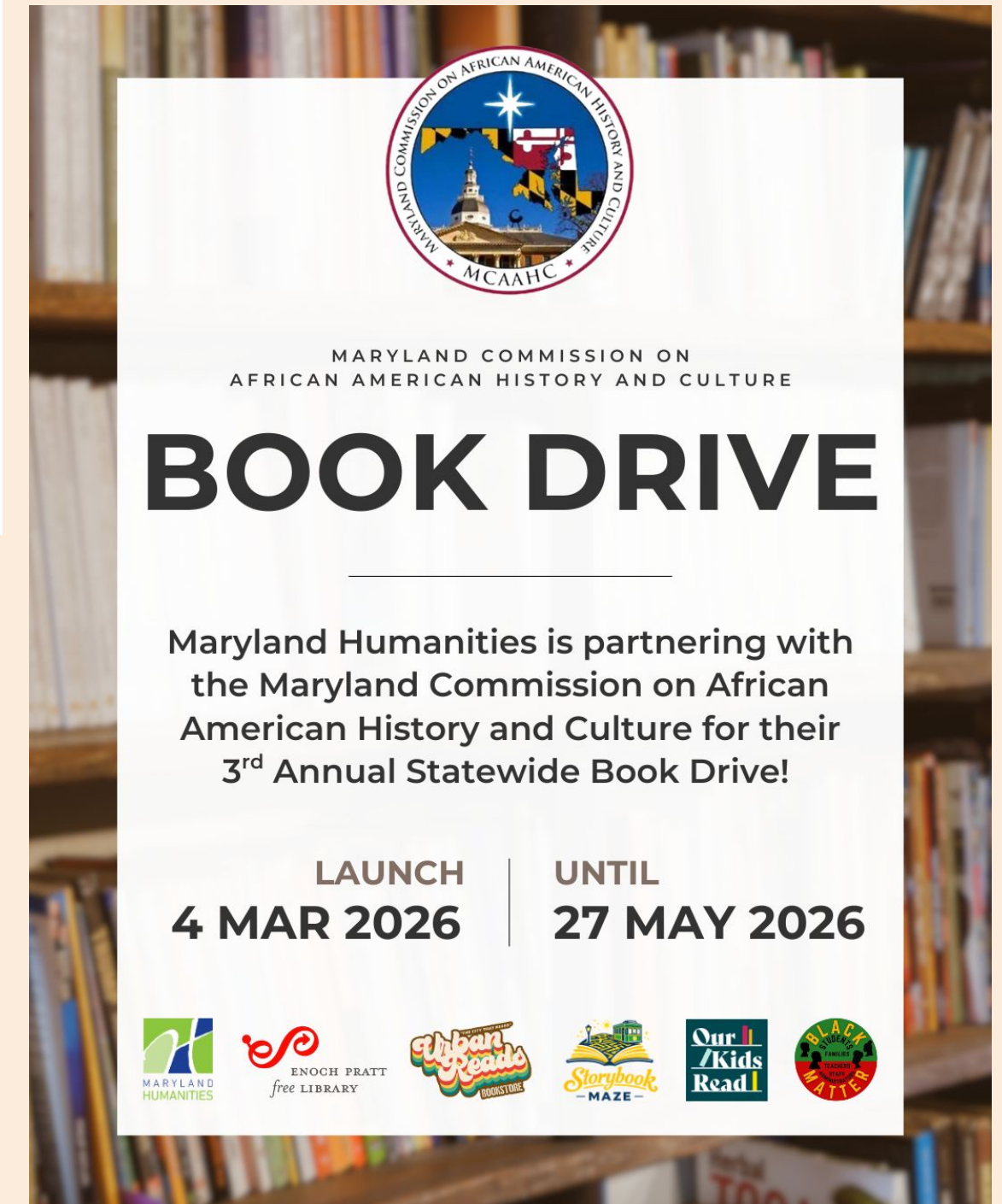
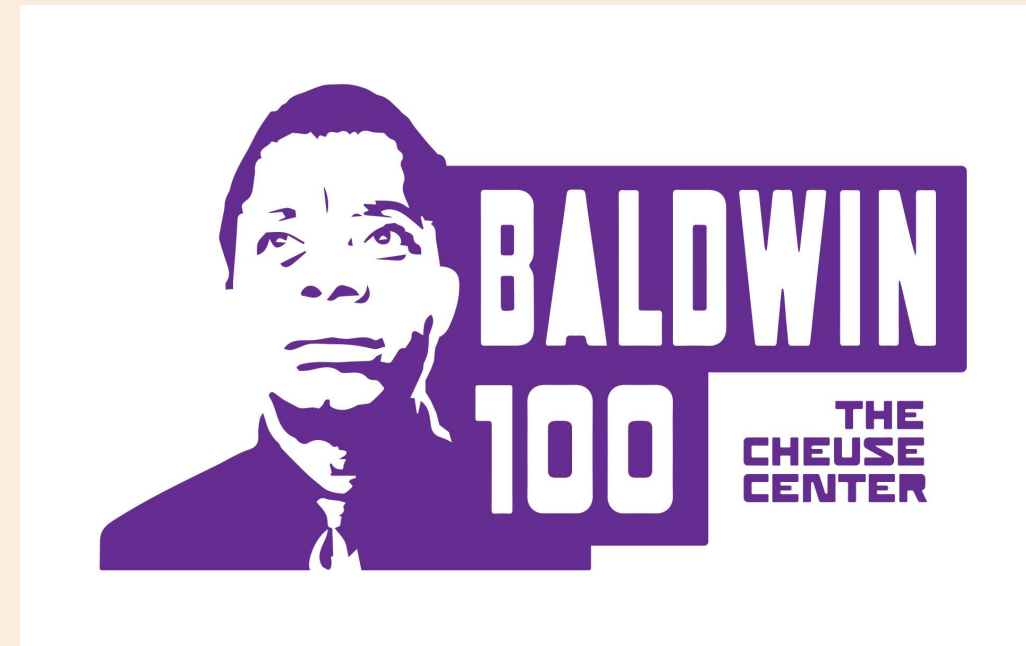
Veteran's Book Groups

Poetry Out Loud



Current & Ongoing Projects

- National Book Festival '26
- Local Author Promotion
- Event and Festival Sponsorships
- One Maryland One Book
- MCAAHC Book Drive



How can we work with libraries:

- Celebrate local literary landmarks
- Bring authors to your communities
- Coordinate multi-district or -county initiatives
- Build partnerships with other literary or humanities organizations
- Engage communities at the grassroots level on literacy initiatives

Questions?

Comments?

Suggestions?

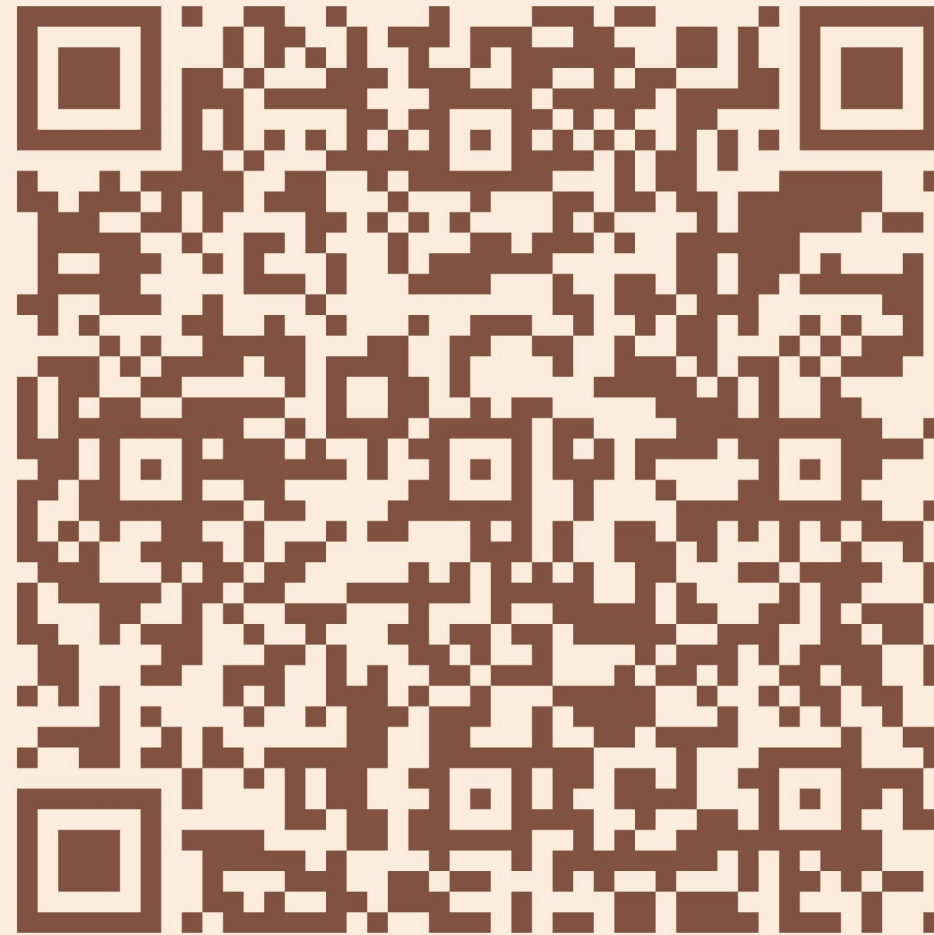
Thank you!

Aditya Desai
adesai@mdhumanities.org

Sign Up For our MCFB Newsletter



**Please take a moment to
complete the program survey.**



SCAN ME!



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