



## LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

Sandra Gioia Treadway  
Librarian of Virginia

# Library of Virginia Announces Special Guests & Programming Schedule for 2021 Literary Awards Week – Winners Announced Live at Virtual Awards Celebration on October 16! (full list of events, finalists and honorees below)

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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(RICHMOND, VIRGINIA) – The Library of Virginia Literary Awards will be celebrated virtually this year with a week of author conversations and special events beginning Tuesday, October 12, 2021. Anchoring the week will be the **Library of Virginia Literary Awards Celebration, on Saturday, October 16**, with our author finalists, presenters, special guests, and host **Adriana Trigiani**. This year’s Pulitzer Prize for Commentary winner, **Michael Paul Williams**, will be honored for his distinguished contributions to journalism in the commonwealth of Virginia. This annual event, sponsored by **Dominion Energy**, is an excellent opportunity for anyone who loves the written word to interact with amazing Virginia authors through an engaging and informative online format.

Each virtual event begins at 6:00 PM and will be accessible to the public, free of charge, through the Library of Virginia’s Facebook ([Facebook.com/LibraryofVA](https://www.facebook.com/LibraryofVA)) and YouTube ([Youtube.com/LibraryofVA](https://www.youtube.com/LibraryofVA)) pages. The Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award, a ticketed event, will take place in person on October 15 at the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts and will also be livestreamed via the Library’s Facebook and YouTube pages.

### Virtual Programming Schedule

**Nonfiction Panel** – Tuesday, October 12, 6:00 PM

Author, former Library of Virginia Fellow, and 2016 Library of Virginia Nonfiction Award winner **Kristen Green** will moderate a conversation with Nonfiction Award finalists **Chip Jones, Ryan Smith, and Nicole Myers Turner**.

**Fiction Panel** – Wednesday, October 13, 6:00 PM

Author, 2018 Library of Virginia People’s Choice Fiction Award winner, and Library of Virginia Foundation Board member **Brad Parks** will moderate a conversation with Fiction Award finalists **Rachel Beanland, Brian Castleberry, and Alma Katsu**.

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**Poetry Panel** – Thursday, October 14, 6:00 PM

Writer, teacher, and poetry contributor to *The New Yorker* **Anna Scotti** will round out the author conversations with Poetry Award finalists **Bill Glose**, **Annie Kim**, and **Kiki Petrosino**.

**Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award** – Friday, October 15, 6:00 PM (IN-PERSON TICKETED EVENT)  
**Marble Hall, Virginia Museum of Fine Arts, 200 N. Arthur Ashe Blvd, Richmond**

**Purchase Tickets:** [www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/kotz-register.htm](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/kotz-register.htm)

This unique award, established in 2013, is named in honor of Mary Lynn Kotz, author of the award-winning biography *Rauschenberg: A Life*. The award recognizes an outstanding book published in the previous year that is written primarily in response to a work (or works) of art while also showing the highest literary quality as a creative or scholarly work. The judges selected **Gaylord Torrence's** book *Continuum: Native North American Art at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art* as this year's winner. Torrence will be recognized on Friday, October 15, 2021, during the Art in Literature: The Mary Lynn Kotz Award in-person event in partnership with the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts. The author will also be recognized on Saturday, October 16, 2021, during the virtual Literary Awards Celebration.

**Literary Awards Celebration** – Saturday, October 16, 6:00 PM

Award-winning Virginia author **Adriana Trigiani** returns as host for the virtual **Literary Awards Celebration** on Saturday, October 16, 2021, where the winners will be announced, including the annual People's Choice Awards.

Each winner will receive an engraved crystal book award and a monetary prize of \$2,500. For awards information and a list of past winners and finalists, please visit [www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/](http://www.lva.virginia.gov/public/litawards/).

For sponsorship information or more information about the virtual events for the 24th Annual Library of Virginia Awards Celebration honoring Virginia authors and friends, please call 804.692.3813.

Find related photographs here:

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/nxam0ezh34h5qo5/AAB1jigj7VtPr3kSRWBK9mNna?dl=0>

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## ABOUT THE LITERARY AWARDS

*In 1997, the Library of Virginia established its annual Literary Awards program to honor Virginia writers and celebrate their contributions to the literary landscape of our state and nation. Given to Virginia authors in the categories of fiction and poetry—and to nonfiction authors for works about a Virginia subject as well—the awards are presented at an annual celebration that has become the Library's signature event and an eagerly anticipated cultural tradition in Richmond. While the main award recipients are selected by independent panels of judges, the Library also invites book lovers and readers to vote for their favorite works for the People's Choice Awards for Fiction and Nonfiction. In the past, the Library has also bestowed a Literary Lifetime Achievement Award to recognize the enduring influence of an outstanding Virginia writer, with past winners including Earl Hamner, Lee Smith, Jan Karon, Tom Robbins, Charles Wright, Barbara Kingsolver, Rita Dove, John Grisham, Tom Wolfe, and David Baldacci.*

## ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA

*The Library of Virginia is the state's oldest institution dedicated to the preservation of Virginia's history and culture. Our online offerings attract nearly 4 million website visits per year, and our resources, exhibitions, and events bring in more than 100,000 visitors each year. The Library's collections, containing more than 130 million items, document and illustrate the lives of both famous Virginians and ordinary citizens.*

**ABOUT THE LIBRARY OF VIRGINIA FOUNDATION**

*Founded in 1984, the Library of Virginia Foundation supports the Library of Virginia and its mission by raising private financial support, managing its endowment, and overseeing programming that brings Virginia's history and culture to life.*

September 30, 2021