



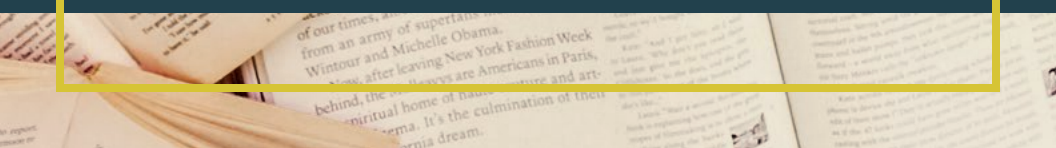
CHARLESTON LITERARY FESTIVAL

BOOKS ▶ IDEAS ▶ CONVERSATIONS



November 5 - 14, 2021

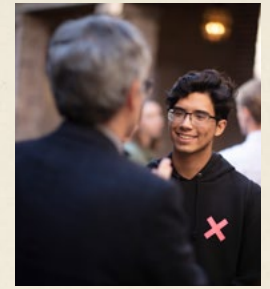
2021 DONOR BROCHURE



ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The unique origins of the Charleston Literary Festival make it completely distinctive in the cultural landscape. Inspired by its association with an illustrious English arts organization, the Festival maintains a strong transatlantic dimension. Since its inception just five years ago, the Festival has developed an enviable reputation with both audiences and speakers for the quality and ambience of its events, live and virtual. Featuring high-profile and diverse writers, creators, and thought-leaders, the Festival is both intellectually stimulating and entertaining. Every event is conceived as a dynamic conversation designed to resonate with audiences and promote discussion.

The Festival is closely linked to a belief in the arts and the exchange of humanitarian ideas as positive forces for social good, thus engendering shared experiences, enrichment, empathy, and enjoyment. A celebration of books, ideas, and conversations, the Festival emanates from Charleston; originally intended for in-person audiences, it now reaches via virtual technology audiences around the world and includes internationally acclaimed speakers.



WHAT MAKES US UNIQUE

There are several reasons why the Charleston Literary Festival is remarkable: its Charleston base ensures a beguiling atmosphere in historic and aesthetic settings; all venues are within easy reach of the historic downtown; events can be experienced live in Covid-secure indoor and outdoor settings or virtually from historic homes, classic theaters or cozy living rooms. The intimacy of personal engagement is available via submitted questions or a virtual chat facility. An added bonus is the opportunity for audience interaction in small, elegant gatherings in the private homes and gardens of historic Charleston.

Despite the unprecedented turmoil caused by Covid, we were able to present a Festival in 2020 that surpassed expectations. By turning to all virtual presentations, we expanded our reach worldwide to include more than 7,000 attendees from six continents and won acclaim from both audiences and speakers alike. We will build on this achievement in 2021 and beyond.

The 2021 Festival is scheduled to run for ten days, beginning November 5, including the first two weekends of the month. The program will combine live and virtual sessions, taking advantage of the best that each has to offer. This hybrid approach will allow us to include speakers whose schedules would otherwise preclude their participation. Audiences, too, will have increased flexibility.

DONOR LEVELS

PRINCIPAL SPONSOR - \$50,000

SUSTAINING SPONSOR - \$25,000

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accorded to such Principal and Sustaining Sponsors.*

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EXECUTIVE SPONSOR - \$10,000

*Presenting sponsor of a session, six VIP passes to all sessions,
receptions, donor lounge*

PARTNER SPONSOR - \$5,000

four VIP passes to all sessions, receptions, donor lounge

PREMIER SPONSOR - \$2,500

two VIP passes to all sessions, receptions, donor lounge

FESTIVAL SPONSOR - \$1,500

two VIP passes to all sessions, opening night gathering, donor lounge



WHAT THEY'RE SAYING

“Dear Diana, It’s you and your colleagues who must be thanked — especially by me, for putting on your spurs in the face of the great plague and charging forward with an entirely credible facsimile of the Charleston Literary Festival. I was very, very impressed — and as you noted, I’ve ‘done’ a few of these virtual events in the past months. Yours was quite the best.”

RICHARD FORD
Pulitzer Prize-Winning Novelist

“Thank you for your hospitality. It was one of the best experiences I’ve had on the speaker circuit. Yesterday I was talking to a colleague who is starting on a book and said that I hoped he ended up at [Charleston Literary Festival] once it comes out.”

CARL ZIMMER
Adjunct Professor of Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry at Yale University

“You made it so easy for me to get settled in and feel completely relaxed and ultimately cheerful, which is always good for any interview. I felt that the conversation probed so many fascinating areas. I hope your audience was pleased. Until the next time, I hope.”

ANDRÉ ACIMAN
Author of *Call Me By Your Name*

“Thanks so much. It was a very interesting conversation with Bernard Cornwell.”

MAGGIE O’FARRELL
Author of *Hamnet*

“Being part of the Festival was a total privilege.”

KIM DARROCH
Former UK Ambassador to the US



PAST SPEAKERS

2020

André Aciman, Paul Adamson, Anne Applebaum, Brit Bennett, Sarah Churchwell, Sara Collins, Bernard Cornwell, Kirk Curnutt, Kim Darroch, Monty Don, Emma Donoghue, Richard Ford, Bill Goldstein, Jonathan Green, Geoffrey Harpham, Maura Hogan, Mark Honigsbaum, Martha Rivers Ingram, Mary Kaldor, Kwame Kwei-Armah, Ken Lam, Regina Marler, John Mullan, Sandra Newman, Maggie O'Farrell, Jenny Offill, Gail Rebeck, Nigel Redden, Susan Rice, Simon Schama, Charlton Singleton, Elif Shafak, Robert Skidlesky, Joseph Stiglitz, Sue Stuart-Smith, Jia Tolentino, Claire Tomalin, Sheena Wagstaff, Richard Wolffe, Carl Zimmer

2019

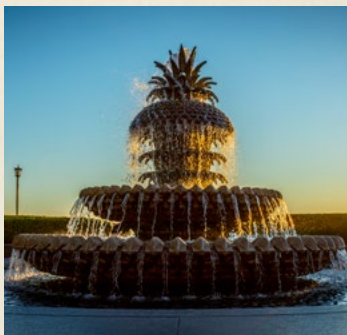
Jill Abramson, Stuart Bennett, Anne Blessing, David Blight, Jung Chang, Matthew D'Ancona, Deborah Eisenberg, Deborah Gage, Frye Gaillard, Belinda Gergel, Richard Gergel, Bill Goldstein, Nigel Hamilton, Geoffrey Harpham, Philip K. Howard, Melissa Hughes, Lei Jin, Nathaniel Kahn, Karen Kukil, Nana Kwame Adjei-Brenyah, Angela Mack, Rebecca Makkai, Regina Marler, Virginia Nicholson, William Nicholson, Joyce Carol Oates, James M. Scott, Lionel Shriver, Bart van Es, Carl Zimmer

2018

Elliot Ackerman, Lynsey Addario, John Avlon, Tina Brown, Bernard Cornwell, Christopher Dickey, Michael Farthing, Richard Gergel, Bill Goldstein, Stephen Greenblatt, David Hare, Geoffrey Harpham, Alexandra Harris, William Hubbard, Margo Jefferson, Deborah Lipstadt, Regina Marler, Madeline Miller, Sarah Milroy, Virginia Nicholson, Marva Smalls, Charles Spencer, Ramie Targoff, Anita Zucker

2017

Charles Anson, Edward Ball, Bernard Cornwell, Dominic Dromgoole, Julian Fellowes, Belinda Gergel, Jonathan Green, Carter Hudgins, Nan Morrison, Virginia Nicholson, William Nicholson, Juliet Nicolson, Ben Okri, Barbara Bellows Rockefeller, Miranda Sawyer, Frances Spalding, Margaret Bradham Thornton, Jeanette Winterson



THANK YOU

Thank you for considering sponsorship of the Charleston Literary Festival. It is your chance to make a valuable contribution to an outstanding cultural event based in Charleston with a world-wide outreach. Your help in this challenging time for the arts provides support and encouragement to writers, creators, and thinkers, allowing them opportunities to engage with the public. In addition, your sponsorship makes it possible for the Festival to broaden event access to students and others through free and reduced-price tickets.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that your donation is impactful and your experience rewarding.

SUZANNE POLLAK


Director of Development


843- 252 7479

suzanne.pollak@charlestonliteraryfestival.com



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*The Charleston Literary Festival is presented by Charleston to Charleston, Inc.,
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