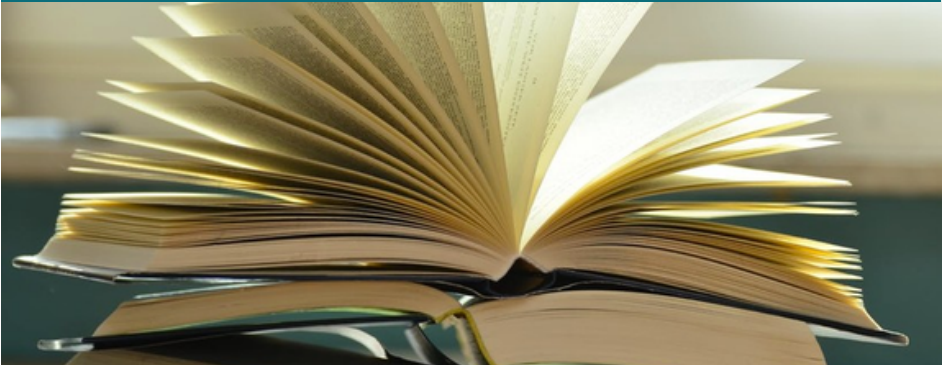




Experiencing LITERATURE & AUTHORS

2023-2024 SCHEDULE OF AUTHORS



The Literary Society is committed to hosting new and seasoned authors and to embracing the promotion of contemporary literature and literacy in Arizona. Our annual roster of books is from various genres with settings and cultures worldwide. Our members play an integral part in the author selection process to ensure diversity of tastes and subject matter while maintaining the literary quality that is the Literary Society's hallmark.

Luncheons create and nurture member-friendships through a welcoming opportunity to meet and spend time with others passionate about reading. Our members expand their knowledge and appreciation of contemporary literature along with their personal libraries. Our luncheons also offer a distinctive opportunity to participate in engaging book discussions with accomplished authors in a unique setting.

“

I'd heard wonderful things about the Literary Society from other writers, and my week lived up to all expectation. What a delight to be welcomed into this community of passionate and generous readers. The work the Literary Society does in fostering both literature and literacy is remarkable, and I feel extraordinarily lucky to have been part of its program.

KATIE KITAMURA,
AUTHOR OF *INTIMACIES*





NOV. 14 - 17
**GERALDINE
 BROOKS**
Horse

This fascinating and engaging novel unravels the story of Lexington, the greatest racehorse and sire of all time, against the historical backdrop of enslaved Black horsemen. A young enslaved groom named Jarrett bonds with this magnificent antebellum horse from birth and eventually becomes his trainer and protector. This compelling storyline is woven with other plot lines that take you from before the Civil War to 1956 to current day.

Geraldine Brooks is known for impeccable research in her historical novels, such as her Pulitzer Prize winning novel, *March*. An avid horse woman and former war correspondent, this leader in literature will be making her second appearance at the Literary Society of the Southwest.



JAN. 9-12
**ANTHONY
 MARRA**
*Mercury Pictures
 Presents*

Set in 1940s Hollywood and Italy, this is a sweeping novel that centers around Maria Lagana, a strong-willed Italian refugee who emigrated to the US with her mother after her Socialist father was sentenced to internal exile in Mussolini's Italy. She is hired at a B-movie studio, Mercury Pictures, and rises through the ranks. Her boss, whose antics and often hilarious dialogue are right out of the screwball comedies of that era, helps to make for laugh-out-loud reading.

Marra, with his humor, compassion, and light touch, reminds us of the innocent immigrants that were either interred or labeled enemy aliens and what their life was like. This is an entertaining read that took Anthony Marra eight years to write and showcases his penchant for messy people. The Literary Society of the Southwest is pleased to have him as a returning speaker.

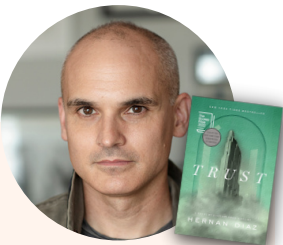


FEB. 13-16
TJ ENGLISH
*Dangerous
 Rhythms: Jazz and
 the Underworld*

Dangerous Rhythms is the true story of the historical relationship between jazz musicians and the American Mob. It is the inside story told in brisk prose. From the early 1900s through Prohibition until the '40s, jazz was written and performed mainly by African Americans in big cities like New Orleans, Chicago, and New York. Sadly these same musicians were not safe from the racist attitudes that surrounded them, so they sought protection from violence and unfair salaries. They found both in a mutually beneficial exchange with the Mob, who needed the entertainment to draw in crowds to support their enterprises. Jazz became hot.

The beautifully researched book will enrich your appreciation of the people who created jazz and the unlikely individuals who protected them.

OPPORTUNITY TO *Host an Author*



MAR. 12-15
HERNAN DIAZ
Trust

The roaring twenties of New York is the setting of this intricate and smart novel. This is a story about the dissonance between money as a taboo and a force that shapes and supports lives. Different narrators and styles tell the story.

Unpredictability is the author's device in structure as well plot, making this novel fascinating and difficult to put down. Whom do you *Trust*?

Hernan Diaz's first novel, *In the Distance*, was shortlisted for the Pulitzer Prize and Pen Faulkner Award. *Trust* is under development with HBO and Kate Winslet. Will Hernan Diaz win his Pulitzer this year? We will find out in May.



APR. 16-20
MAGGIE O'FARRELL
The Marriage Portrait

Set in Florence in the Renaissance in the house of de'Medici, this novel centers around Lucrezia de'Medici, an obscure daughter of the Grand Duke of Tuscany. Unexpectedly thrust into marriage to the ruler of Ferrero, Modena, and Reggio, her life forever changes in an unfamiliar, sometimes unwelcoming court, with a husband she finds captivating as well as repulsing. Despite her rank and nobility, Lucrezia's future truly hangs in the balance until she realizes her paramount responsibility—to provide an heir for her husband.

From the author of *Hamnet*, Maggie O'Farrell, with beautiful prose, creates a compelling portrait of a woman who must use her mind to survive. Maggie O'Farrell is the winner of The Women's Prize for Fiction and the Book Critics Circle Award for her novel *Hamnet*.

Design Your Own Private Author Event

Designed for a truly personalized experience, these opportunities are an important way to raise funds to bring literary luminaries each year. These customized events give hosts and their guests a closer connection with the author and elevate the Society's reputation in the industry. An invitation from the Literary Society is becoming a coveted honor for contemporary authors.

Many Ways to Host

Anyone can host...an individual, family, group of friends, company, or social club. Even non-members can host an event. Event options include breakfast, cocktail reception or dinner (*based on author schedule and availability*). As host, you decide who attends.

What's Included

Your \$5,000 tax-deductible donation for a Private Author Event includes the following:

- Private event with the author and up to 25 guests of your choice
- Host/s to underwrite the event and select the venue and theme.*
- A Literary Society board member to assist your planning, from invitations to author logistics, and present to share the mission of the Literary Society.
- 10 signed books/plates by your chosen author.
- Receive recognition as Author Host on the website, in newsletters, and at the chosen author's luncheon.

**In support of the Society's mission, the event cannot be used to promote or benefit another non-profit organization.*

Host AN AUTHOR

How to Secure Your Preferred Author and Date:

1. Complete the "Private Author Event" sponsorship request form listing the season's authors and dates online or email it to info@literarysoc.com.
2. Based on availability, three events are offered per author for either breakfast, cocktails or dinner.
3. If there are more requests than dates for a specific author, a drawing will be held. A current list of remaining authors and dates will be kept up-to-date on the donate/make a donation page on our website.



2022 PRIVATE AUTHOR EVENT
WITH MAGGIE SHIPSTEAD

Membership dues make up 70% of total income needed to fulfill our programs and grantmaking each year, with a fundraising goal of \$100,000 or more annually.

Sponsorships and contributions are critical in filling the gap and allowing the Society to support our members, host exceptional authors, and advance and promote literacy in our communities.

Your financial support:

- Allows the Literary Society to exist and continue to provide a forum that values and promotes contemporary literature by offering excellent books, engaging author interaction, and growing friendships through reading and learning together.
- Extends to others through grants to nonprofit literacy programs and student scholarships.
- Enriches community programs that acquaint Arizona students with new literary possibilities.

Private Author Events help the Literary Society continue and thrive!

The Literary Society has renewed and expanded our commitment to lifelong learning through contemporary literature while increasing the impact of the Society's grantmaking.

Please support our mission through your membership and consider a generous stretch gift or sponsorship to help us continue to sustain and grow our unique and meaningful programs and achieve our mission.

Contact Carrie Ostroski at carrieo@literarysoc.com for further information. Thank you!



LITERARY SOCIETY OF THE SOUTHWEST
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