



A Message from Kara Nunnally, Durham Library Foundation Interim Executive Director

Dear Durham,

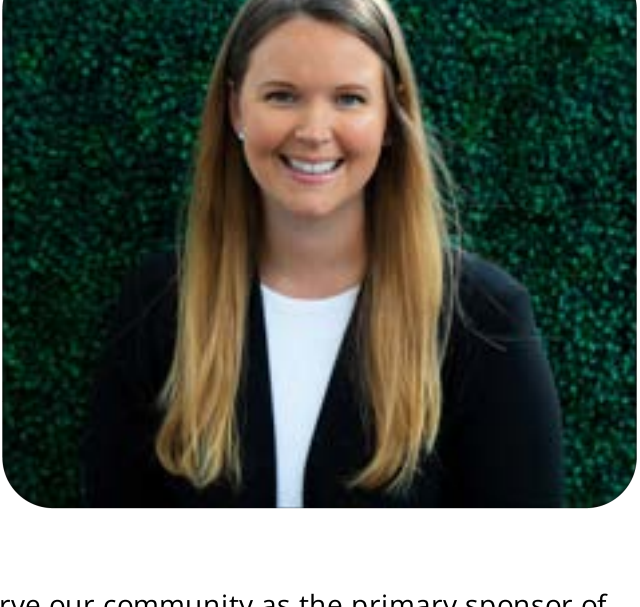
When I think about community, I imagine the spaces and places where everyone can learn, grow, and laugh alongside each other. After about a decade in the area, I have come to see there is no better community than the seven brick-and-mortar locations that make up our Durham County Library system.

I am deeply honored to serve as the Durham Library Foundation's Interim Executive Director as the Foundation celebrates 25 years of providing the vital funding and resources that help Durham County Library fulfill its mission of inspiring lives and transforming Durham.

[The Durham Library Foundation](#) is excited to serve our community as the primary sponsor of the annual Library Fest celebration. We are also proud of our role in the Durham County Library Family, which also includes the [Friends of the Durham Library](#) and the [Board of Trustees](#). In addition to the programming grants that support events like Library Fest, the Foundation also provides larger donations when necessary. During the recent renovation of Main Library, for example, the Foundation contributed approximately \$1 million in support of furnishing and construction costs.

What an exciting time it is to be here in Durham with our Fifth Annual Library Fest right around the corner! I hope you'll join us for some of the wonderful Library Fest programs and events that celebrate all things North Carolina from April 7 - 12. I can't wait to see you there.

Warm Regards,
Kara Nunnally



LIBRARY FEST KEYNOTE SPEAKER

TRESSIE McMILLAN COTTOM



Library Fest Keynote: Tressie McMillan Cottom

Monday, April 7, 6 - 8 p.m.
[Main Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

As a UNC-Chapel Hill professor, sociologist, and public intellectual, Dr. Tressie McMillan Cottom has revolutionized the way many Americans think about higher education. Her 2017 work *Lower Ed: The Troubling Rise of For-Profit Colleges in the New Economy*, led to appearances in multiple national media outlets. Her second book, *Thick: And Other Essays*, was a finalist for the 2019 National Book Award, and shortly thereafter Dr. Cottom received a MacArthur Foundation Fellowship. Join Dr. Cottom at Main Library to kick off our fifth annual Library Fest!

Spanish language interpretation is available; please contact mramirez@dcnc.gov by Monday, March 31 to accommodate your request.

LIBRARY FEST SPECIAL EVENT

WRITING YOUR MULTIGENERATIONAL STORY with DR. ZELDA LOCKHART



Writing your Multigenerational Story with Dr. Zelda Lockhart

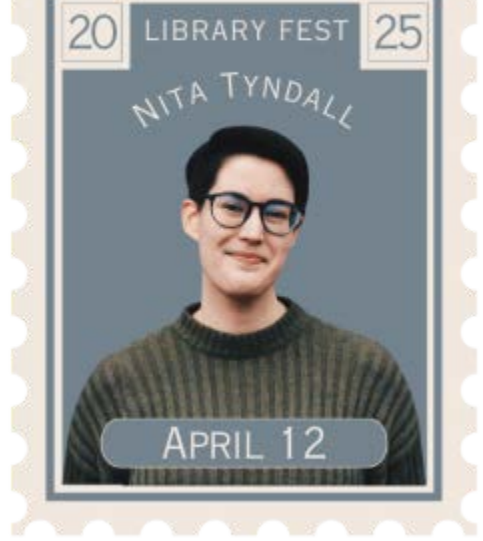
Thursday, April 10, 4 - 6 p.m.
[Offsite at the Nasher Museum of Art](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Dr. Zelda Lockhart's work focuses on the power of nature to connect us across barriers and heal our generations. Her works include her novels *Trinity*, *Fifth Born* and *Fifth Born II*, and *Cold Running Creek* in addition to a collection of essays on writing titled *The Soul of the Full-Length Manuscript*. For this Library Fest event, Dr. Lockhart will share the unanswered family questions that led to her genealogy research for *Trinity* and *Cold Running Creek* while leading attendees in an interactive experience.

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LIBRARY FEST YOUNG ADULT AUTHOR KEYNOTE

NITA TYNDALL



Library Fest Young Adult Author Keynote: Nita Tyndall

Saturday, April 12, 4 - 5:30 p.m.
[Main Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Nita Tyndall is an award-winning author of queer books for teens. Their work includes the novels *Who I Was with Her*, *Nothing Sung and Nothing Spoken*, and *Have You Seen This Girl?* Tyndall recently completed a Fulbright Teaching Fellowship in Austria and now works as an author and translator in North Carolina.

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LIBRARY FEST SPECIAL EVENT

COWGIRL CAMRYN



Cowgirl Camryn

Join NC author Abriana Johnson for a fun and inspiring Cowgirl Camryn session all about the Spirit of the Herd - a celebration of teamwork, belonging, and community. Discover how life on the farm teaches important lessons about kindness and connection and meet Encore the miniature horse in person! Perfect for families and animal lovers, this session blends engaging conversations, hands-on fun, and a little farm magic you won't want to miss. [Registration is required](#) for some of the events; please select from the available sessions below:

- Monday, April 7, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
[East Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)
- Tuesday, April 8, 10:45 - 11:30 a.m.**
[Southwest Regional Library](#)
[No Registration Required](#)
- Wednesday, April 9, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
[South Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)
- Thursday, April 10, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
[Main Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)
- Friday, April 11, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
[Bragtown Branch Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)
- Saturday, April 12, 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.**
[North Regional Library](#)
[No Registration Required](#)

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Library Fest Programs

Our incredible headliners are just one part of the Library Fest celebrations! See below for a selection of programs at each of our locations and view our [Library Fest events](#) page for the full list.

Carolina Cryptids: Monsters from the Tar Heel State
Tuesday, April 8, 6:30 - 7:30 p.m.
[South Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

You've heard of Bigfoot and Mothman, but do you know what lurks in your backyard? Join Michael G. Williams, co-creator of the award-winning Arcane Carolinas podcast, to uncover cryptids like the Santer and the Cape Fear Mermaids. They may be closer than you think!

Grounded Learning with Black Soil
Tuesday, April 8, 6 - 8 p.m.
[Stanford L. Warren Branch Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Join local organization Black Soil for a hands-on session to learn about environmental justice, equity, and health. Participants will hear stories of how people are working for change, discover what environmental justice is and why it matters, and uncover how fairness and health are tied to our environment.

Keep North Carolina Weird with Strange Carolinas
Wednesday, April 9, 4 - 5 p.m.
[Southwest Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

North Carolina is known for its incredible mountains and mesmerizing beaches - but we've got our odd spots too! Join Chris Hocker, editor of *Strange Carolinas*, for a journey through the wackier parts of our state. *Strange Carolinas* is known as the "Travelogue of the Offbeat", a wry look at the interesting, unique, and offbeat roadside attractions, people, music, art, and food of North and South Carolina.

Discover North Carolina's History and Culture with NCPedia.org
Thursday, April 10, 4 - 5 p.m.
[Bragtown Branch Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Join us at the Bragtown Branch Library for an exciting and informative session during Library Fest! In this program, we'll introduce you to [NCPedia.org](#), a comprehensive online resource dedicated to all things North Carolina. Whether you're a student, a history enthusiast, or simply curious about our state, NCPedia offers a wealth of information on topics ranging from famous figures and historic events to cultural landmarks and geographical wonders.

Read-a-Thon After Hours Kickoff Event
Thursday, April 10, 6:30 - 9:30 p.m.
[Main Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Book Nerds Unite! Join us as we countdown the start of our 48-hour Read-a-Thon! This is an exclusive, after-hours event just for adults. This event is for those who are still chasing the thrill of the Scholastic Book Fair. We will have activities and events on our main and lower levels, including mini challenges, the Poetry Fox, live poetry readings, crafts, STEAM technology, and more. [The Friends of the Durham Library](#) will be giving away free books, and mocktails will be provided by Melanated Wine and Spirits. This event is open to library patrons ages 21 and above.

Scented Storytime
Friday, April 11, 11 a.m. - Noon
[North Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

In partnership with Bright Black Candle Co., we'll discover the connection between storytelling and scent through music and books. All pre-school aged children are welcome to this special Library Fest themed event.

Butterfly Storytime
Saturday, April 12, 11 - 11:30 a.m.
[East Regional Library](#)
[Registration Required](#)

Join us at East Regional Library for a special Library Fest storytime! This storytime will be all about butterflies and their role in North Carolina's natural environment.

DURHAM COUNTY
Library

librarymarketing@dcnc.gov
DurhamCountyLibrary.org