

POUGHKEEPSIE BIG READ 2024

RECOGNIZING 60 YEARS OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT

Registration is required for each Big Read program unless otherwise indicated; please visit poklib.org/big-read or call x3707 for more information. Registration opens August 26.

Opera Talk & Performance: Marian Anderson, an American Icon

Friday, October 4, 7 pm, Christ Episcopal Church (20 Carroll Street)

Marian Anderson is a cultural icon whose contralto voice broke through racial barriers in the operatic world and ultimately in American society. Her beautiful illustrious voice is most memorable through her controversial recital on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in 1939 and her Metropolitan Opera debut in 1955. This presentation by opera singer, arts librarian, and founder of Opera Talks Tanisha Mitchell will include an audio-visual look at Marian Anderson's career, as well as a live aria performed by Tanisha.



Foundations of a Movement: Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts

Saturday, October 5, 4 - 5 pm, Henry A. Wallace Center, FDR Presidential Library

The Presidential Library's annual Paul M. Sparrow Lecture, featuring Basil Smikle, PhD, will focus on the Roosevelt-era foundations of the Civil Rights Movement. Smikle, a political strategist and policy analyst, is a Library Trustee and Columbia University School of Professional Studies Professor of Practice.

This program will also be streamed live to the official FDR Library YouTube and Facebook accounts. Registered attendees can visit the Library's special exhibition, *Black Americans, Civil Rights, and the Roosevelts*, free of charge before the program, from 2-4 pm. **Free; registration required.** Visit fdrlibrary.org to register.

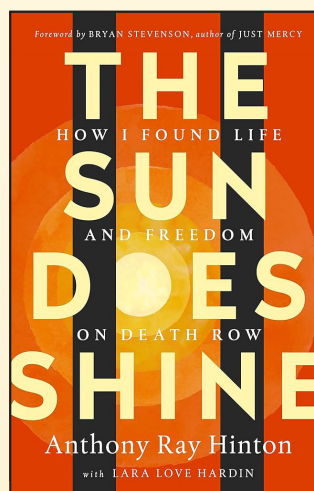


Keynote Event! An Afternoon with Author ANTHONY RAY HINTON

Saturday, October 19, 2:30 pm, Lateef Islam Auditorium, Family Partnership Center (29 N. Hamilton Street)



"I was 29 and mowing the lawn at my mother's house in Birmingham, Alabama, on a hot day in July 1985, when I looked up and saw two police officers."



So begins the story of *The Sun Does Shine: How I Found Life and Freedom on Death Row*. Anthony Ray Hinton tells a powerful, revealing story of hope, love, justice and the power of reading by a man who spent 30 years on death row for a crime he didn't commit. Since

his release, Hinton has devoted his life to help counter discrimination, bolster justice and share his message of forgiveness. **Registration required.**

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Redlining in Poughkeepsie

Thursday, October 10, 6:30-8pm, SPD

Dr. Jen Brown, Esq. leads a discussion on the local history of redlining, the discriminatory practice of denying services like mortgages and loans based on race or ethnicity, in Poughkeepsie.

Let's Get Personal: Stories from Black Leaders in our Community

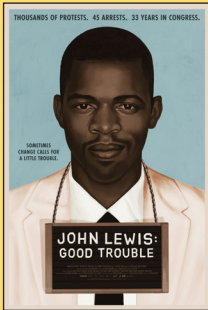
Thursday, October 17, 6:30-8:30 pm, SPD

In this conversation, panelists share their powerful stories that focus on social injustices and their breakthrough experiences.

Eleanor Roosevelt and the Fight for Civil Rights

Thursday, October 24, 7-8:30 pm, SPD

Join Historian Shannon Butler as she showcases the growth and wisdom of Eleanor Roosevelt and her desire to take part in the Civil Rights Movement. From its early beginnings during the Roosevelt administration up until her death in 1962. *No registration required.*



Film Screening: John Lewis: Good Trouble

Wednesday, October 16, 6:45-8:20 pm, BRD

Come and view an intimate account of legendary US Representative John Lewis' life, legacy, and more than 60 years of extraordinary activism – from the bold teenager on the front lines of

the Civil Rights movement to the legislative powerhouse he was throughout his career. All ages welcome.

Activism-Inspired Art Workshop

Wednesday, October 23, 6-8 pm, BRD

Join us for an exciting workshop designed for teens, though all ages are welcome. Explore various forms of art as well as important issues. Experienced artists and activists will inspire and empower young minds to advocate for positive change through creative expression. No prior art experience is required, and all materials will be provided.



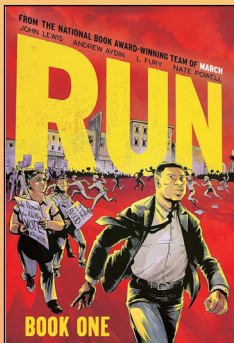
In Concert: SWEET HONEY IN THE ROCK

Sunday, November 3, 3 pm,
The Bardavon 1869 Opera House

Sweet Honey in the Rock is an all-woman, African-American a cappella performance ensemble rooted in history and culture. Founded in 1973, the American three-time Grammy Award–nominated troupe combines their contemporary rhythms and narratives with five-part harmony and a musical style rooted in Gospel music and spirituals. Sweet Honey express their history as Black women through song, dance, and sign language to educate, entertain and empower audiences worldwide. *Free tickets will be available at the Bardavon from October 1.*

Photo: Christopher Robison, modified by PPLD.

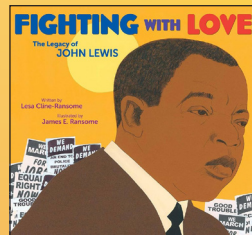
THE TEEN READ



Run by John Lewis & Andrew Aydin

Graphic novel *Run* by civil rights icon John Lewis and Andrew Aydin is the sequel to #1 NYT–bestselling graphic novel series *March* and Lewis' autobiography.

THE LITTLE READ



Learn more about these options at poklib.org/big-read!

