

The Friends of Lamond-Riggs Library celebrates Black History Month with 3 Special Events hosted in Meeting Room One

Saturday, February 7, 2026 at 3pm – Mrs. Lavonda Broadnax discusses the writings of African American Women during the Civil War Era



This project capitalizes on the discovery of lesser-known works by African American women of the US Civil War era (1861-1865). The documents, all available in digital format, consist of an array of various types of fiction and nonfiction. Their writings provide a unique perspective on the trials and triumphs of the enslaved. Their texts also reflect their post-slavery politics, spirituality, and activism. This remarkable collection of documents enables users to acquire new information regarding African Americans that has traditionally been omitted. The current project expands the initial compilation, which won the Zora Neale Hurston Award given by the American Library Association.

Tuesday, February 10th at 5pm – Mr. Hans Charles – Cinematographer/Producer



Hans Charles is an Emmy-nominated and three time Peabody winning cinematographer/producer. His recent work includes cinematographer and one of the executive producers of the Showtime documentary feature, *The Honey Trap*, and cinematographer of the CW's television series *All American: Homecoming*, Showtime's docu-series *We need to Talk about Cosby*, *Bitchin: The Sound and Fury of Rick James*, *Wu-Tang Clan: Of Mics and Men*, and *Mr. Soul!* and Netflix's *13th*. Hans's photography practice centers around the history and application of portraiture.

Hans is the co-creator and co-host of a film and pop culture podcast called "Back Of The Theater." He is also a film associate professor at George Mason University in Virginia. He is a principal partner at Align Pictures and currently resides on the Mid Atlantic of the United States.

Tuesday, February 17th at 3pm – DC Office of Planning (OP) – Commemoration of Sterling A. Brown



Join the Lamond-Riggs Library Friends and the DC Office of Planning during Black History Month for a program honoring the legacy of poet and scholar Sterling A. Brown. Representatives from OP's Commemorate DC initiative will share an overview of the commemorative project, including the design process and community engagement that informed it. The program will feature members of Sterling A. Brown's family and the project artist team, who will reflect on his life, local ties to the neighborhood, and the significance of commemorating his legacy in public space.