

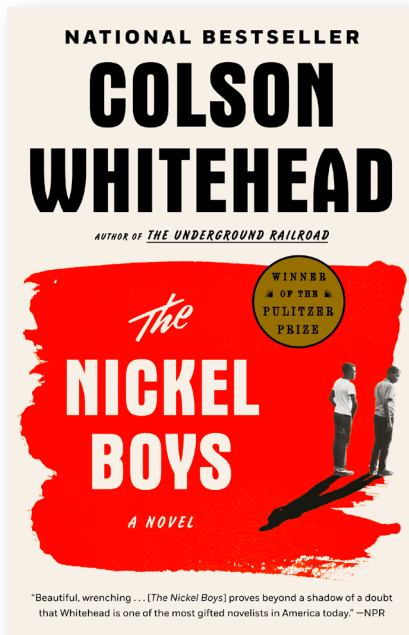


Read Together  
Palm Beach County  
One Book, One Community

# Read Together

## Virtual Finale

November 18, 2020



Proceeds to benefit the programs of the



# Read Together Palm Beach County

**"one book, one community"**

**PURPOSE:** The Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County is working to involve thousands of adults throughout Palm Beach County in reading the same book at the same time. This community reading campaign will entice adults who can read, but often don't, to get involved in the habit of reading again. It will also promote community dialogue and engagement as citizens gather together to discuss key themes.

**HISTORY:** Based on the success of similar campaigns in Seattle and Chicago, the Campaign Coordinating Committee conducted Read Together Palm Beach County biannually from 2002 to 2016. Building on the excitement, momentum and success of the 2016 campaign, the Literacy Coalition and the Read Together Committee decided to coordinate the initiative annually. In each campaign, thousands of adults read and discuss the chosen book.



# PROGRAM



**Ben Montgomery, Journalist and Author**

Ben Montgomery is a former senior writer for the *Tampa Bay Times* and author of four books, including the bestselling *GRANDMA GATEWOOD'S WALK*, and the forthcoming *A SHOT IN THE MOONLIGHT* (Jan. 2021). His work on a series called *FOR THEIR OWN GOOD*, about abuse at the Dozier School for Boys, was honored as a Pulitzer finalist in local reporting in 2010 and won the Casey Medal and Dart Award.



**Dr. Lauren Chambers, Palm Beach State College**

Dr. Lauren Chambers is a native of Virginia and she earned a Ph.D. in English Literature from The University of Georgia in 2013. She currently serves as an English faculty member at Palm Beach State College in Palm Beach Gardens.



**Laurie Gildan, Greenberg Traurig, P.A.**

Laurie Gildan is an attorney and shareholder with 30 years of practice at the firm of Greenberg Traurig with wide-ranging experience in real estate. Laurie is a past president of the Literacy Coalition board and chaired the Building Committee for the Blume Literacy Center for Education, Training & Outreach. She serves as the Read Together Book Selection chair and she is a graduate of Harvard Law School.



**Adam Davis, Palm Beach County Library**

Adam Davis is the System Services Director of the Palm Beach County Library System, overseeing the Main Library and various outreach units serving the entire County. He received his Master's Degree in Library and Information Science from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, and is a graduate of Leadership Palm Beach County, Class of 2019.



**Carol Rose, Palm Beach Daily News and The Palm Beach Post**

Carol Rose is the Editor of *the Palm Beach Daily News* and has been a part of *The Palm Beach Post* staff since 1998 where she worked as a copy editor, assistant suburban editor, a senior editor on the production desk, editor of *Neighborhood Post* and community editor. She earned a bachelor's degree in mass communications from the University of the West Indies and a master's degree in journalism from Ohio State University. She is a member of the Literacy Coalition board and a member of various Coalition committees.

## About the Author: Colson Whitehead



Colson Whitehead is the #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of *The Underground Railroad*, which in 2016 won the Pulitzer Prize in Fiction and the National Book Award and was named one of the Ten Best Books of the Year by *The New York Times Book Review*.

Whitehead's 2019 book, *The Nickel Boys*, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller and won the 2020 Pulitzer Prize in fiction. It was also longlisted for the 2019 National Book Award and nominated for The National Book Critics Circle Award. Whitehead was named as one of *Time Magazine's* 100 Most Influential People in the World in 2017. A PEN/Faulkner Award finalist, he is the recipient of both a MacArthur Fellowship and a Guggenheim Fellowship. He has taught at universities across the country.

## 2020 Read Together Palm Beach County

### Book Selection Committee:

Laurie Gildan, Chair, Greenberg Traurig, P.A.

Stacy Alesi, Lynn University

Sharon Hill, Literacy Coalition Board Member

Tina Maura, Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach

Deborah Nix, Retired Educator

Carol Rose, *The Palm Beach Post/Palm Beach Daily News*

Tom Streit, Attorney (retired)

Christina Wood, Freelance Writer & Editor

Helena Zacharis, Palm Beach State College

### Campaign Committee:

Sharon Hill, Chair, Literacy Coalition Board Member

Aurora Arthay, Palm Beach County Library

Craig Clark, Boynton Beach City Library

Lisa Hathaway, Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach

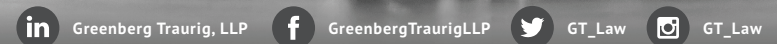
Lynn Kalber, Literacy Coalition Board Member

Carol Rose, *The Palm Beach Post/Palm Beach Daily News*

Christina Wood, Freelance Writer & Editor

# Our Community, Our Responsibility

Greenberg Traurig is proud to support the **Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County** and its mission to ensure that every child and adult can read.



GREENBERG TRAURIG, P.A. | 2100 ATTORNEYS | 41 LOCATIONS WORLDWIDE\*

### Laurie Gildan | Shareholder

777 South Flagler Drive | Suite 300 East  
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### WORLDWIDE LOCATIONS

United States  
Europe  
Middle East  
Asia  
Latin America

## LITERACY COALITION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Gale G. Howden

#### CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kristin Calder

\* Past President

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

### VOLUNTEER

You can volunteer to tutor an adult or child in need of literacy skills. There are also opportunities to help an adult learn English and/or prepare to take the GED exam. No experience is required as we will provide training.



### BOOK DRIVES



Organizations and individuals can conduct book drives for the Literacy Coalition. The collected books are shared with the children's literacy programs operated by the Literacy Coalition such as *Budding Readers* or *Reach Out and Read* or distributed to partner agencies serving economically disadvantaged children. We have shared 2,025 of these donated books in the last year to groups in need including teachers, schools and organizations. We have many more requests for gently used children's books.

### MAKE A DONATION

Your tax-deductible donation will help provide literacy services to adults, children and families who are working to achieve a better life by improving their literacy skills.



#### MAKE A BIGGER IMPACT

Donate long-term appreciated securities, including stocks, bonds, and mutual funds, directly to the Literacy Coalition. Compared with donating cash, or selling your appreciated securities and



contributing the after-tax proceeds, you may be able to automatically increase your gift to the Literacy Coalition and your tax deduction.

#### IMPACT FUTURE GENERATIONS

Consider an endowment gift to the Literacy Coalition that will allow us to sustain the impact in our community for future generations. Include the Literacy Coalition in your retirement plans, will, living trust or related planned giving methods allowing you to extend your legacy of literacy to future generations. Planned gifts – large and small – are a lasting way to help us continue the success we know today in helping families be successful in school and in life.

### READ TO A CHILD

Read together everyday. Point out print everywhere. Do not limit yourself to reading books with your child. Street signs and cereal boxes count too. Tell your child how much you enjoy reading with him or her. This attention lets them know they are special and loved.



### ATTEND AN EVENT

There are various events to attend throughout the year that support our literacy programs and initiatives. Events include LOOP for Literacy, the Love of Literacy Luncheon, The Grand Bee Literary Fun & Games and the Literacy Links Golf Tournament.



### PROMOTE LITERACY

You can support the mission of the Literacy Coalition and become an advocate for literacy. Share our posts and information on your social media accounts. Follow LiteracyPBC today!



# THANK YOU TO OUR READ TOGETHER PARTNERS & SPONSORS

**GT** GreenbergTraurig

**CHRIS & TOM STREIT**



*The Palm Beach Post*  
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WEST PALM BEACH

Mandel Public Library of West Palm Beach



**LITERACYPBC.ORG**

## Blume Literacy Center

on the Brenda & C.P. Medore Campus  
3651 Quantum Blvd., Boynton Beach, FL 33426  
**561-279-9103 | LiteracyPBC.org**

## Our Mission

The mission of the Literacy Coalition of Palm Beach County is to improve the quality of life in our community by promoting and achieving literacy.

## Our Vision

That every child and adult in Palm Beach County becomes a reader.



Only 1% of rated charities across the country have received 4 out of 4 stars for 12 consecutive years.



**FOLLOW LITERACYPBC TODAY!**

