



## COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

February 2025



Wonders was honored to host Governor Wes Moore on January 31, for a roundtable discussion focused on the importance of Maryland's Child Care Scholarships and PreK expansion, and other ideas to further strengthen childcare services in Maryland.

"Expanding access to affordable, quality childcare is one of the best ways we can support our children and grow our economy at the exact same time," said Gov. Moore. "In partnership with the General Assembly, we will continue to help more Marylanders enter the workforce and ensure that every Maryland child grows up with a strong foundation by preserving our commitment to investments in childcare. It's good for our economy and good for our future."

The roundtable included Maryland State Department of Education Superintendent Dr. Carey Wright; State Board of Education President Josh Michael; Delegate Jared Solomon; and Governor's Office of Children Special Secretary Carmel Martin; County Executive Marc Elrich; Wonders educators and staff: Liza Pringle, Rafiqah Mahdi, Griselda Moreno, Anila Rawasia, and Joanne Hurt; and Wonders parents Jamie Fragale and Brandon Howard.

The visit concluded with Gov. Moore reading "Jabari Jumps" to Leland's Butterfly class. The children loved the Governor's animated reading and sang their "Thank You" song in appreciation.

Joanne Hurt  
Executive Director



P.S. If you're looking for activities to celebrate Black History Month with your child, [check out these events going on throughout February!](#) From theater, to museums, to art projects, there's many ways to get your child excited about learning.

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## Save Your Seat!

### A Night of Learning and Growing Together

Join us on March 3, 2025, for a special presentation by [Michael Thompson](#), Ph.D., co-author of "Raising Cain: Protecting the Emotional Life of Boys." With over thirty-five years of experience, Dr. Michael Thompson is a consultant, author, and psychologist specializing in children and families. The presentation will explore the compelling case that emotional literacy is the most valuable gift we can offer our sons, urging parents to recognize the price boys pay when we hold them to an impossible standard of manhood. Thompson will address the emotional struggles that boys face today and explore how to give them the support that they need. This presentation will provide insights into the challenges boys encounter in school and guidance for parents on fostering emotional awareness and empathy.

- **Date:** March 3, 2025 at 7pm
- **Location:** St. Dunstan's Church, 5450 Massachusetts Ave, Bethesda, MD 20816
- **Tickets:** \$12
- For more information, please contact Wonders at 301-654-5339.

[Register here!](#)

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## Wonders News & Highlights

## A Wider Circle Family Day of Service



Thank you to the families and staff who participated in our annual family day of service at A Wider Circle on January 20th in celebration of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. It was a special day to make a positive impact for the families who benefit from A Wider Circle's services. As families around the region participated in community service projects, we were grateful to join A Wider Circle once again!

## Early Learning Chili Night!



Our Early Learning centers hosted their annual chili night fundraiser! Parents and family members of our Early learning centers purchased chili, cornbread, and treats made by our classrooms, teachers, and staff. Our early learning centers raised \$1,600 in Chili Night contributions to benefit Wonders Carol E. Smith Lifelong Learning Fund, providing grants to Wonders Early Learning teachers who are actively seeking a certification or degree to further their learning and meet NAEYC accreditation requirements. Thank you, everyone, for your chili contributions and donations to make this event a success!

[It's not too late! Make a contribution to the Carol E. Smith Lifelong Learning fund here.](#)

## First Friday Reader

Our friends at Edgemoor enjoyed a visit from Julie Yang, President, Montgomery County Board of Education. During her visit, Julie read the book "Boa's Bad Birthday" by Jeanne Willis, which taught us an important lesson while filling us with laughter during morning circle time. Thank you, Ms. Yang!



Julie Yang began her first term as president of the Montgomery County Board of Education last month. Her commitment to ensuring every student has access to the resources they need for academic success aligns with our shared goal of supporting children and families. We look forward to the positive impact her leadership will have on our community and the future of local students.



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## Be True to Your Shelf

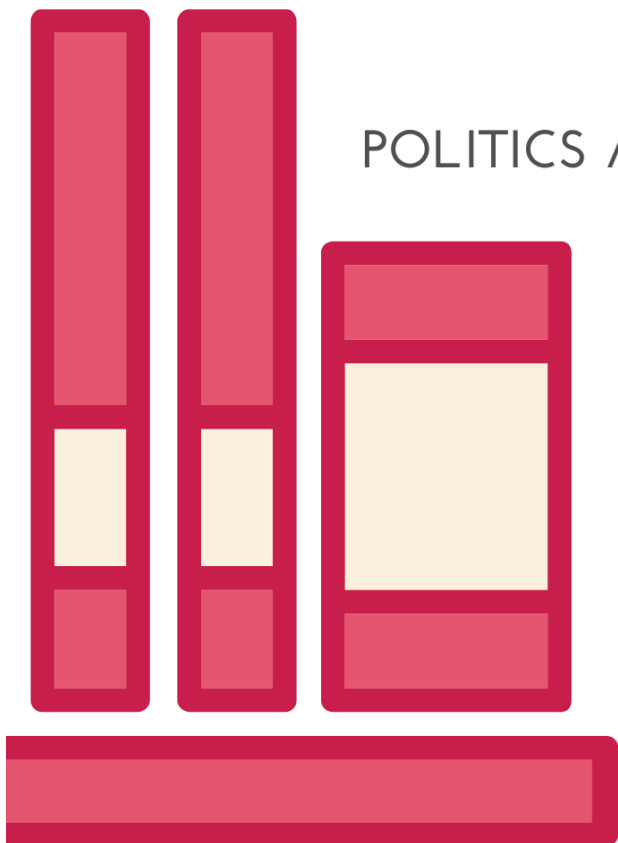
Check out our annual book fair!





POLITICS AND PROSE BOOKSTORE

# Book Fair



**SAT, FEB. 15, 2025**

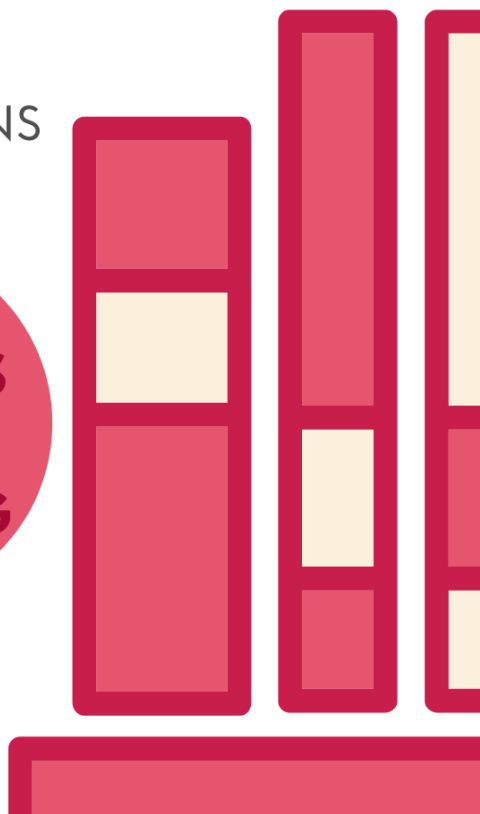
ALL POLITICS & PROSE LOCATIONS  
9:00 AM-7:00 PM

**FRIENDLY REMINDER:**

PRESENT THIS FLYER AT  
CHECK OUT FOR 20%  
OF YOUR PURCHASE TO  
GO TOWARDS SCHOOL  
FUNDRAISING!



[WWW.POLITICS-PROSE.COM](http://WWW.POLITICS-PROSE.COM)



## Upcoming! Parent & Guardian Workshops



### February Parent Workshop: *He Can Hear: Why Doesn't he Listen? Discover the Mysteries of Auditory Processing*

- Date: Friday, February 21, 2025 via Zoom
- Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM
- This workshop will be hosted by Child Development Consultants
- **Register here:** <https://bit.ly/3PtU6q3>

### March Parent + Caregiver Workshop: Developing Communication and Conflict Resolution Skills in Young Children

- Date: Friday, March 21 2025 via Zoom
- Time: 1:00 - 2:00 PM
- This workshop will be hosted by Child Development Consultants
- **Register here:** <https://bit.ly/3Wy61qD>

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## Summer is Just Around the Corner

Reserve your spot in Wonders Summer Camp!

[www.wonderslearning.org/summercamp](http://www.wonderslearning.org/summercamp)

Join us with a contribution!

Teaching children through play and a nurturing and diverse community.  
[Make a donation today to ensure access to quality care and education.](#)

### Follow Us On Social Media



## **Contact Us**

### **Our Contact Information**

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