



## News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY PARTNERS WITH BIG NAMES FOR COMMUNITY READ 2022

*Mayor Vi Lyles and Marcellus "MT" Turner to serve as spokespeople for March 2022 program*

**Charlotte, NC – January 5, 2022** – Charlotte Mecklenburg Library announces the return of Community Read in March 2022 with a focus on creating community dialogue around themes of gentrification and urban renewal. Community Read is the Library's monthlong effort to engage the community to collectively read (or listen) to books of current and relevant topics, and participate in discussions, book clubs and events. Community Read activities will be held online, at Library locations and hosted by community partners. The signature title, *Tomorrow's Bread* by Anna Jean Mayhew, includes a scheduled appearance by the author on March 23, 2022. Adults are encouraged to read and discuss the main title, and the Library-selected companion titles for children and teens including: *Windows* by Julie Denos (children), *The Blue House* by Phoebe Wahl (children), *The Epic Fail of Arturo Zamora* by Pablo Cartaya (middle grade), *Take Back the Block* by Chrystal D. Giles (middle grade) and *Pride* by Ibi Aanu Zobi (teen). More information can be found at [cmlibrary.org/community-read](http://cmlibrary.org/community-read).

New for this year, the Library is excited to welcome spokespeople to help amplify the significance of the Community Read program. Marcellus "MT" Turner, CEO and Chief Librarian for Charlotte Mecklenburg Library, along with Charlotte Mayor, Vi Lyles will serve as liaisons to lead, foster and encourage discourse within the community.

"As a long-time resident of Charlotte and as mayor, I have seen first-hand the tremendous growth our beloved city has made in the last four years," said Mayor Lyles. "I'm also interested in learning about the history of our city and what we can take away from our past in the midst of progress. That's why I am honored to partner with Charlotte Mecklenburg Library to serve as the co-spokesperson for this year's Community Read."

"Community Read has always been an important program supporting the Library's mission to improve lives and build a stronger community, and this year, more than ever, we look forward to everyone in the community participating with us," said Marcellus "MT" Turner. "By uncovering the hidden histories of the past, we can work to build a better future together."

Community Read is designed to bring people together around a single book while encouraging important dialogue. This year, the Library will again be joined by community partners to enhance the reach and impact of this significant reading program. Organizations, including Charlotte-Mecklenburg Schools, Levine Museum of the New South and YWCA Central Carolinas will support activities and participate in Library programs to promote the value of reading and literacy throughout the community. To sign up as a community partner, contact Meryle Leonard at [maleonard@cmlibrary.org](mailto:maleonard@cmlibrary.org).

Community Read is presented with support from the Charlotte Mecklenburg Library Foundation and the National Endowment for the Humanities.

All books for Community Read 2022 are available through the Library's catalog in print, digital and audio formats. The signature title will also be distributed through Community Read partner organizations leading up to events. In March, the Library will hold readings, book discussions and other programs for participants that bring the book's themes to life.

To learn more about Community Read, visit [www.cmlibrary.org/communityread](http://www.cmlibrary.org/communityread).

## About Charlotte Mecklenburg Library:

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library is one of America's leading urban public libraries, serving a community of more than one million citizens in Mecklenburg County, North Carolina. Through 20 locations, targeted outreach and online resources, the Library delivers exceptional services and programs, with a mission to improve lives and build a stronger community. For more, visit [cmlibrary.org](http://cmlibrary.org).

###

**Photo caption:** Join us in reading these titles for Community Read in March 2022.



The graphic features a group photo of diverse people at the top. Below it, a teal banner contains the quote: "For communities to survive, they must be built on common ground." Underneath the quote are five book covers: *Pride*, *Epic Fall Arturo Zamora*, *Tomorrow's Bread*, *Take Back the Block*, and *Windows*. To the right of the books is the cover of *The Blue House*. The right side of the graphic features the "COMMUNITY read" logo with a stylized leaf above the word "read", the text "MARCH 2022", and the website [cmlibrary.org/communityread](http://cmlibrary.org/communityread). At the bottom right is a colorful grid of squares.

PRESENTED BY



NATIONAL  
ENDOWMENT  
FOR THE  
HUMANITIES

CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG LIBRARY  
FOUNDATION

CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG

LIBRARY

## Media Contact:

Darrell Anderson  
Marketing & Communications Specialist  
Charlotte Mecklenburg Library  
704-416-0701  
[danderson@cmlibrary.org](mailto:danderson@cmlibrary.org)

## Media resources:

Charlotte Mecklenburg Library newsroom: [cmlibrary.org/library-news](http://cmlibrary.org/library-news)

## Social sharing:

Hashtags: #cmlibrary #communityread2022  
Facebook: [www.facebook.com/cmlibrary](http://www.facebook.com/cmlibrary)  
Twitter: @cmlibrary [www.twitter.com/cmlibrary](http://www.twitter.com/cmlibrary)  
Instagram: [www.instagram.com/cmlibrary](http://www.instagram.com/cmlibrary)  
LinkedIn: [www.linkedin.com/company/charlotte-mecklenburg-library](http://www.linkedin.com/company/charlotte-mecklenburg-library)