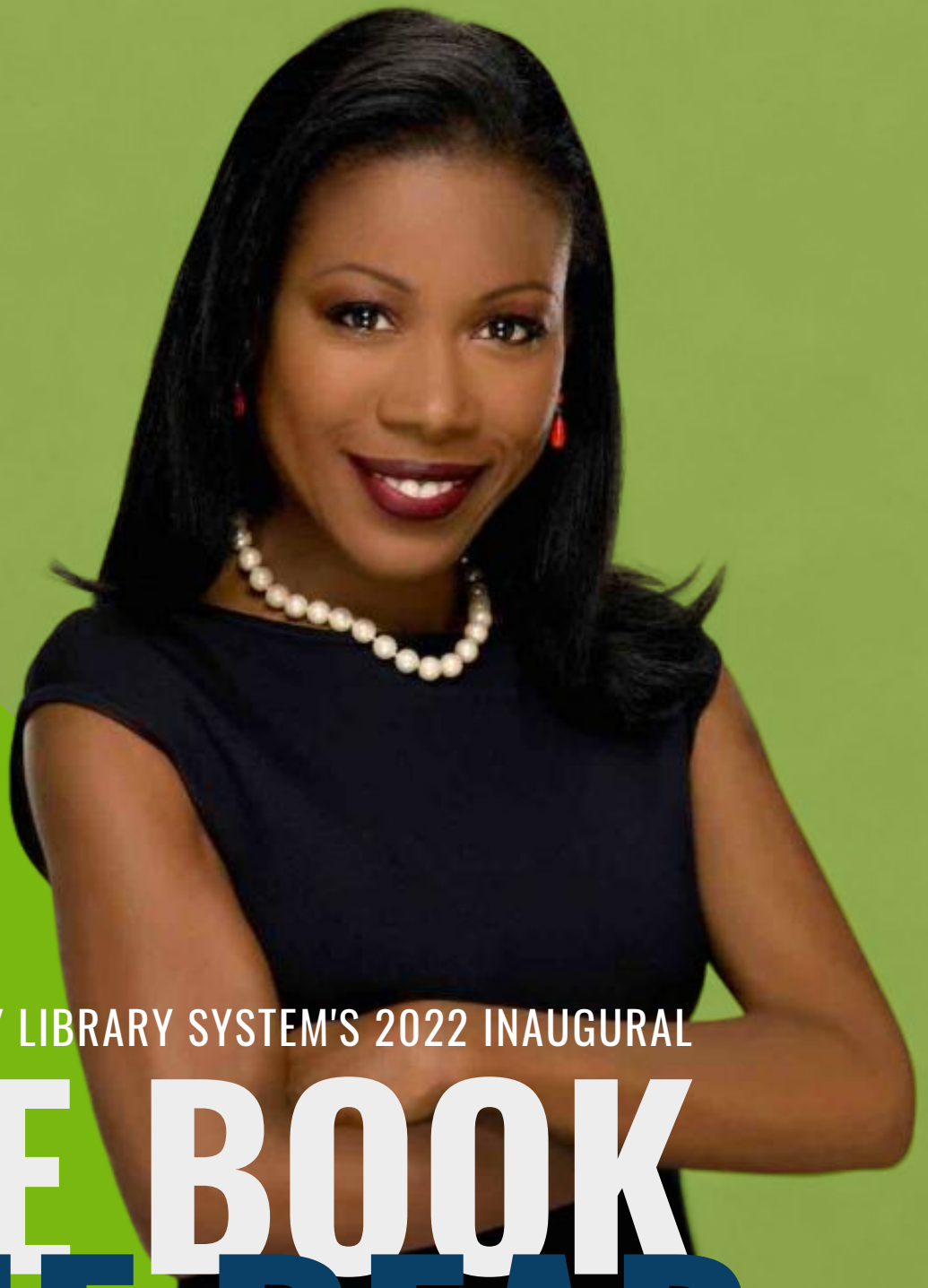




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FULTON
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FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM'S 2022 INAUGURAL

ONE BOOK ONE READ

**A CONVERSATION WITH ISABEL WILKERSON
ON 'CASTE: THE ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS'**

MARCH 27, 2022
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WELCOME

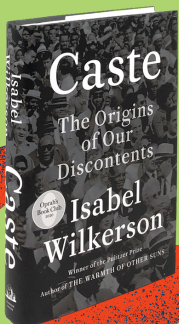
ABOUT ONE BOOK, ONE READ

The Fulton County Library System, in partnership with Auburn Avenue Research Library and the Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation, is thrilled to launch its inaugural One Book, One Read program. One Book, One Read is a county-wide book program with the aim of getting as many people across Fulton County reading, talking about, and engaging with the same book at the same time. The goal is to promote critical conversations, community building, and literacy all while having fun with friends, family, and neighbors.

This occasion marks the Library System's first-ever book in the One Book, One Read series, "Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents" by Pulitzer Prize-winning author Isabel Wilkerson. The book's core resides in comparisons between the caste system in India, the American race system, and the rise of the Third Reich in Germany.

It also examines the current state of governance and influence over race and ethnicity. The 2022 One Book, One Read program has been a huge success over the last several months, with hundreds of participants throughout Fulton County engaging through book clubs and other organizations.

We look forward to the robust conversation around Caste and the many books to follow. Thank you for your engagement and support.



GREAT LIBRARIES.
STRONG PARTNERSHIPS.

ABOUT US

FULTON COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

The Fulton County Library System serves as a cultural and intellectual center enriching the community and empowering all residents with essential tools for lifelong learning. The Fulton County Library System serves citizens of Fulton County and the City of Atlanta (including the portion of the city in DeKalb County). It is the largest in the state, with 34 libraries. It offers innovative programs, services, and virtual resources tailored to meet the needs of each branch's community. Children, teens, and adults may choose from a variety of classes, visit exhibitions, listen to authors discuss their work, check out videos, DVDs, and CDs, attend book club discussions, get homework help, hear music and see live performances.

The Central Library, originally designed by Marcel Breuer, recently reopened to the public after a 3-year renovation project, part of the Fulton County Library Bond Program, which also saw the renovation of 21 branch libraries, the new construction of 8 libraries, and the expansion and renovation of 2 libraries. The Central Library's newly completed facility was reopened to the public in October 2021.

The Auburn Avenue Research Library on African-American History and Culture contains one of the foremost collections of African-American literature and historical documents in the nation. To fulfill its mission as "The People's University," the library also provides a wide variety of classes, workshops, seminars, and ongoing learning opportunities for library users at all learning and interest levels.

ATLANTA-FULTON PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

The Atlanta-Fulton Public Library Foundation ("AFPLF") is a non-profit organization that partners with the Fulton County Library System ("Library") to provide advocacy, fundraising, partnerships, and strategic programming to maximize the Library's impact in the broader Atlanta and Fulton County Community. AFPLF provides critical support to Library programs and initiatives fostering literacy access from cradle to grave at all 34 Library branches, building communities where a love of reading and lifelong learning thrive.

AFPLF supports the Library in delivering essential literacy, training and digital access to address our most difficult challenges. AFPLF promotes and expands the Library's unique resources to build a brighter future for all of Fulton County.

ONE BOOK, ONE READ 2022 | WWW.AFPLF.ORG | WWW.FULCOLIBRARY.ORG



ONE BOOK, ONE READ 2022

PROGRAM AGENDA

WELCOME & PURPOSE

INTRODUCTION OF SPEAKER

ISABEL WILKERSON LECTURE + Q&A

REFLECTIONS: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

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THE AUTHOR

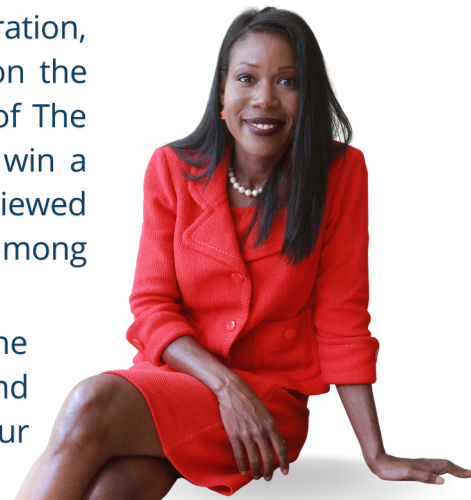
ISABEL WILKERSON

Isabel Wilkerson, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Humanities Medal, has become a leading figure in narrative nonfiction, an interpreter of the human condition, and an impassioned voice for demonstrating how history can help us understand ourselves, our country, and our current era of upheaval. Through her writing, Wilkerson brings the invisible and the marginalized into the light and into our hearts. Through her lectures, she explores with authority the need to reconcile America's karmic inheritance and the origins of both our divisions and our shared commonality.

Her debut work, *The Warmth of Other Suns*, won the National Book Critics Circle Award, the Heartland Prize for Nonfiction, the Anisfield-Wolf Award for Nonfiction, the Lynton History Prize from Harvard and Columbia universities, and the Stephen Ambrose Oral History Prize and was shortlisted for both the Pen-Galbraith Literary Award and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize.

She is a native of Washington, D.C., and a daughter of the Great Migration, the mass movement that she would go on to write about. She won the Pulitzer Prize for Feature Writing in 1994, as Chicago Bureau Chief of *The New York Times*, making her the first African-American woman to win a Pulitzer Prize in journalism. She then devoted fifteen years and interviewed more than 1,200 people to tell the story of the six million people, among them her parents, who defected from the Jim Crow South.

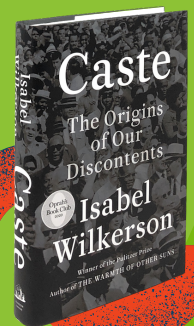
As for her new book, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*, the venerable U.K. bookseller, Waterstone's calls it an "expansive, lyrical and stirring account of the unspoken system of divisions that govern our world."



BOOK DESCRIPTION: 'CASTE: ORIGINS OF OUR DISCONTENTS'

In this brilliant book, Isabel Wilkerson gives us a masterful portrait of an unseen phenomenon in America as she explores, through an immersive, deeply researched narrative and stories about real people, how America today and throughout its history has been shaped by a hidden caste system, a rigid hierarchy of human rankings. Beyond race, class, or other factors, there is a powerful caste system that influences people's lives and behavior and the nation's fate. Linking the caste systems of America, India, and Nazi Germany, Wilkerson explores eight pillars that underlie caste systems across civilizations, including divine will, bloodlines, stigma, and more.

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PANELIST SPEAKER

REFLECTIONS:

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



JILL SAVITT

PRESIDENT & CEO, NATIONAL CENTER
FOR CIVIL AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Jill Savitt, the President and CEO of the National Center for Civil and Human Rights, is a human rights advocate with expertise in genocide and atrocity prevention. She assumed the role in March 2019, but has been involved with The Center since 2010 when she curated the Center's exhibit on global human rights.

Previously, Savitt was the Acting Director of the Simon-Skjodt Center for the Prevention of Genocide at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. The Center stimulates global action to prevent genocide and to catalyze an international response when it occurs.

In 2007, Savitt founded and directed Dream for Darfur, a high-profile advocacy campaign that pressed the Chinese government to take specific actions regarding the genocide in Darfur in the lead up to the 2008 Beijing Games. The New York Times Magazine profiled Savitt and the initiative.

Savitt was the Director of Campaigns at Human Rights First from 2001 to 2007, where her team ran the campaign to assist a group of retired military leaders to speak out against torture. The campaign also worked with Hollywood to present a more accurate portrayal of interrogation in movies and TV shows.

She began her career as a reporter for WAMU, the NPR affiliate in Washington, DC. Savitt graduated summa cum laude, Phi Beta Kappa from Yale University and is a member of the Council on Foreign Relations.

PANELIST SPEAKER

REFLECTIONS:

A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



NATHANIEL SMITH

FOUNDER AND CHIEF EQUITY OFFICER OF
THE PARTNERSHIP FOR SOUTHERN EQUITY

Nathaniel Smith serves as Founder and Chief Equity Officer of the Partnership for Southern Equity, which advances policies and institutional actions that promote racial equity and shared prosperity for all in metropolitan Atlanta and the American South. PSE does this through the lenses of energy equity, economic inclusion, equitable development, health equity, youth leadership, and fee-for-service contracts. Under Smith's leadership, PSE created the South's first equity-mapping tool, the Metro Atlanta Equity Atlas, and led a coalition of diverse stakeholders to support a \$13 million transit referendum that expanded MARTA into a new county for the first time in 45 years.

PSE continues to support the racial equity ecosystem through the COVID-19 pandemic through its COVID-19 Rapid Relief Fund, which distributed more than \$200,000 to more than 30 organizations because of the initial investment of the Community Foundation for Greater Atlanta and the United Way of Greater Atlanta. The fund has now grown to more than \$400,000 and additional rounds of funding.

Smith's endeavors through PSE and as a racial equity champion throughout the American South has earned him numerous distinctions including being named to the Grist 50 by Grist Magazine in 2018 and the Atlanta 500 by Atlanta Magazine 2019-2021 and designated one of the 100 "Most Influential Georgians" by Georgia Trend magazine 2018-2021. His work was also featured in the U.S. News and World Report, Chronicle of Philanthropy, Nonprofit Quarterly, The Hill, Christian Science Monitor, Atlanta Journal-Constitution, Atlanta Voice and others.

PANELIST SPEAKER

REFLECTIONS: A COMMUNITY CONVERSATION



DR. BEVERLY TATUM

PRESIDENT EMERITA, SPELMAN COLLEGE

Dr. Beverly Daniel Tatum, president emerita of Spelman College, is a clinical psychologist widely known for both her expertise on race relations and as a thought leader in higher education. Her thirteen years as the president of Spelman College (2002-2015) were marked by innovation and growth and her visionary leadership was recognized in 2013 with the Carnegie Academic Leadership Award. The author of several books including the best-selling “Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?” and Other Conversations About Race (now in a new 2017 20th anniversary edition) and Can We Talk About Race? and Other Conversations in an Era of School Resegregation (2007), Tatum is a sought-after speaker on the topic of racial identity development, the impact of race in the classroom, strategies for creating inclusive campus environments, and higher education leadership. In 2005 Dr. Tatum was awarded the prestigious Brock International Prize in Education for her innovative leadership in the field. A Fellow of the American Psychological Association, she was the 2014 recipient of the APA Award for Outstanding Lifetime Contributions to Psychology.

A civic leader in the Atlanta community, Dr. Tatum is engaged in educational initiatives designed to expand educational opportunity for underserved students and their families, as well as to connect communities across lines of difference. Locally she serves on the governing boards of the Westside Future Fund, Achieve Atlanta, the Tull Charitable Foundation and Morehouse College. Her national service includes her membership on the boards of Smith College, the Educational Testing Service, and Sesame Workshop.

She holds a B.A. degree in psychology from Wesleyan University, and M.A. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from the University of Michigan as well as an M.A. in Religious Studies from Hartford Seminary. Over the course of her career, she has served as a faculty member at the University of California, Santa Barbara, Westfield State University, and Mount Holyoke College. Prior to her 2002 appointment as president of Spelman, she served as dean and acting president at Mount Holyoke College. In Spring 2017 she was the Mimi and Peter E. Haas Distinguished Visitor at Stanford University. She is married to Dr. Travis Tatum; they are the parents of two adult sons.

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