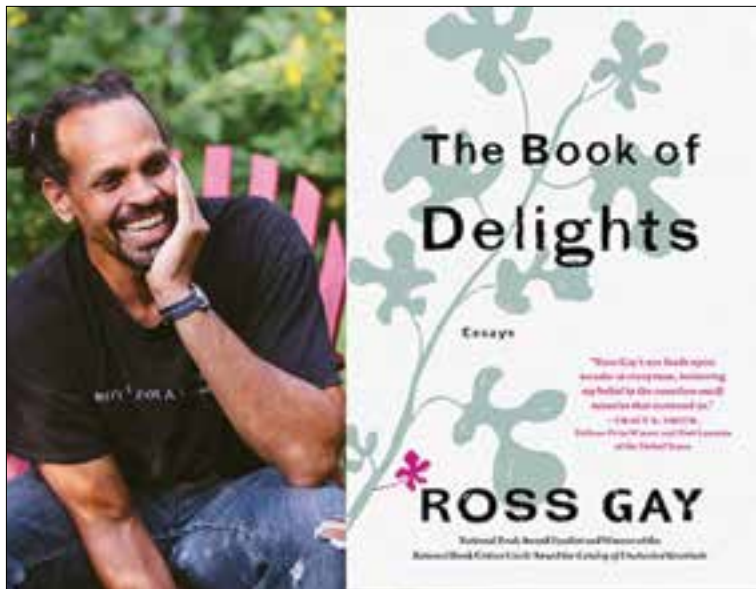


Arts & ENTERTAINMENT



Ross Gay and his collection of essays, 'The Book of Delights' has been chosen as the featured author and book for Multnomah County Library's "Everybody Reads" program for 2021.

'Everybody Reads' Ross Gay

Author headlines community reading project

Multnomah County Library will launch its 19th annual community reading project Everybody Reads with acclaimed author and poet Ross Gay and his collection of essays, *The Book of Delights*.

The *Book of Delights* presents a compilation of daily, lyrical essays written by Gay over a year. The observations and reflections are a reminder and joyful celebration of everyday wonders that often go overlooked. His essays drift across a wide range of topics from the natural world to his experience living in America as a Black man.

Gay's 2015 book of poetry, *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* received the National Book Critics Circle Award for Poetry, among other awards, and was a finalist for the National Book Award in Poetry.

Everybody Reads 2021 invites the community to explore daily, ordinary wonders and be awake to the beauty around us. *The Book of Delights* offers delight and attentiveness, and a chance to reflect on difficult subjects and discover humor, joy and charm.

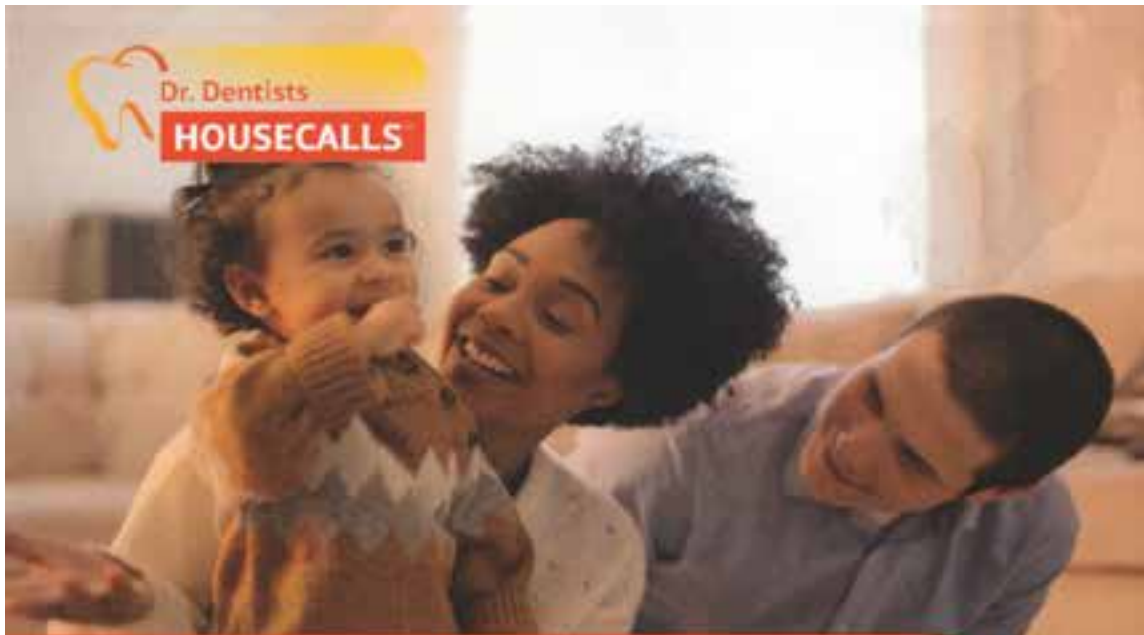
The library will distribute thousands of copies of *The Book of Delights* through libraries and high schools across Multnomah County as part of the project. Everybody Reads will culminate in a virtual author lecture with Ross Gay, presented by Literary Arts, on Thursday, April 8.

"The *Book of Delights* is a needed burst of sunshine at a time heavy with rage, sorrow and pain,"

said Director of Libraries Vailey Oehlke. "Ross Gay encourages us to exercise our delight muscle every day and to 'attend to the ways we make each other possible'."

Through a shared reading experience, participants in Everybody Reads discuss issues that matter, learn from each other and promote greater understanding.

Patrons can check out *The Book of Delights* now. Extra copies of the books will be available next month at all neighborhood libraries, and downloadable audiobooks are available from the library catalog, thanks to the generous support of The Library Foundation.



Dr. Edward E. Ward

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Are you a small business?

You are an important part of our local community and your health and safety is important to us. That's why we're postponing the Metro and Multnomah County annual Small Business Open House until March 2022.

To learn more about opportunities to work with us, visit:

multco.us/purchasing

oregonmetro.gov/contracts

