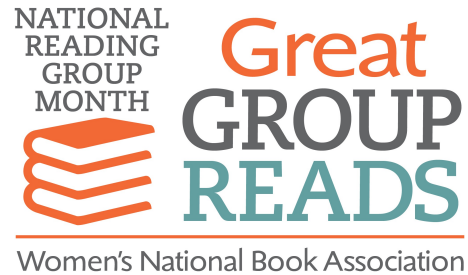


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NEWS FROM THE WOMEN'S NATIONAL BOOK ASSOCIATION

National Reading Group Month Announces Great Group Reads 2019 Program

NEW YORK – FEBRUARY 11, 2019 – The organizers of National Reading Group Month invite publishers to participate in the Great Group Reads 2019 program. Now in its eleventh year, Great Group Reads is a highly regarded and anticipated resource for book clubs, reading groups, and individual facilitators to choose books – and likewise, for bookstores and libraries to recommend books.

Titles for Great Group Reads are selected on the basis of their appeal to reading groups for whom they are certain to open up lively conversations about an array of timely and provocative topics, from the intimate dynamics of family and personal to major cultural and global issues. The Selection Committee also make a conscious resolve to focus its attention on under-represented books from independent presses and lesser-known mid- list releases from larger houses. All should be books with strong narratives people by fully realized characters; books which perhaps have flown under the radar of reviewers, bloggers, and reading groups overwhelmed by the vast number of new releases each year.

Preliminary submission guidelines:

- 1) Genre: literary fiction (novels, novellas, short stories) and memoir, including books in translation published in the U.S. between **October 1, 2018 and September 30, 2019**;
- 2) Submissions: titles for consideration must be submitted by publishers; limited to two titles per publisher or imprint; titles must be readily available through customary distribution channels;
- 3) Format: all eligible, including trade-paper reprints published within the designated time frame; exception: original e-books are ineligible.
- 4) Ineligible: previously submitted titles; previously selected authors; self-published books. The Selection Committee timeline is as follows: reading period will range from February through July; final decision to be made late July; formal announcement will be made to media outlets early-to-mid September. **Submissions must be made on or before Friday, April 12, 2019.**

Publishers are asked to contact **Kristen Knox, Great Group Reads Selection Committee Manager** via email at kknnox.natlreadinggrpmonth@gmail.com (subject line tagged: Great Group Reads 2019) with submissions, including suggested titles accompanied by a brief description.

Great Group Reads 2018 Selections:

America for Beginners by Leah Franqui (William Morrow)

As Wide as the Sky by Jessica Pack (Kensington)

Beasts of Extraordinary Circumstance by Ruth Emmie Lang (St. Martin's Press)

Dear Mrs. Bird by AJ Pearce (Scribner)

The Home for Unwanted Girls by Joanna Goodman (Harper Paperbacks)

A House Among the Trees by Julia Glass (Anchor)

Indian Horse by Richard Wagamese (Milkweed Editions)

In the Distance by Hernan Diaz (Coffee House Press)

In the Shadow of 10,000 Hills by Jennifer Haupt (Central Avenue Publishing)

Invitation to a Bonfire by Adrienne Celt (Bloomsbury Publishing)

The Lido by Libby Page (Simon & Schuster)

Maggie Boylan by Michael Henson (Ohio University Press/Swallow Press)

The Mercy Seat by Elizabeth H. Winthrop (Grove Press)

Plum Rains by Andromeda Romano-Lax (Soho Press)

The Second Mrs. Hockaday by Susan Rivers (Algonquin Books)

Shores Beyond Shores: From Holocaust to Hope, My True Story by Irene H. Butter with John D. Bidwell and Kris Holloway (White River Press)

Tigerbelle: The Wyomia Tyus Story by Wyomia Tyus and Elizabeth Terzakis (Edge of Sports)

The Vain Conversation by Anthony Grooms (University of South Carolina Press/Story River Books)

The Widows of Malabar Hill by Sujata Massey (Soho Crime)

Wolf Season by Helen Benedict (Bellevue Literary Press)

(Great Group Reads 2018 Selections www.nationalreadinggroupmonth.org/ggr_selections.html)

Great Group Reads marketing campaigns from 2009-2018 have included an array of professionally designed display materials such as shelf-talkers and table-top posters on the National Reading Group Month Web site for anyone to download and use in promoting Great Group Reads titles. These and other promotional materials are made available to independent bookstores through the ABA September Red Box mailing. In addition, Great Group Reads authors are extended invitations to participate in nation-wide WNBA 11-chapter National Reading Group Month programming during October.

National Reading Group Month is an initiative of the Women's National Book Association (WNBA). The Women's National Book Association is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization connecting, educating, advocating, & leading since 1917.

Further information is available at: NationalReadingGroupMonth.org and wnba-books.org.

Press release prepared on February 11, 2019, by Jill A. Tardiff, National Reading Group Month Chair and Kristen W. Knox, Great Group Reads Selection Committee Manager.

Visit National Reading Group Month on Twitter ([WNBA_NRGM](https://twitter.com/WNBA_NRGM)) and Facebook.