

5TH ANNIVERSARY
BAY AREA
BOOK
FESTIVAL

MAY 4 + 5, 2019
DOWNTOWN BERKELEY
225 AUTHORS • 100 SESSIONS
FREE OUTDOOR FAIR



FOR TICKETS + INFO:
BAYBOOKFEST.ORG

History and Economics Programming

Saturday, May 4

11:45 - 1:00

The Browns of California (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Shattuck Ballroom)

Joseph Kelly, Kathleen Kelly, Miriam Pawel, moderated by Peter Richardson

In “The Browns of California: The Family Dynasty that Transformed a State and Shaped a Nation,” journalist Miriam Pawel tells the story of this extraordinary family, which saw both Pat Brown and Jerry Brown as influential governors. She is joined by two Brown relatives, powerful political players in their own right: Kathleen Kelly, Brown’s niece and a San Francisco Superior Court Judge who has focused much of her career on juvenile justice, and Joseph Kelly, former city commissioner in San Francisco and campaign strategist. They’ll discuss the legacy and ongoing contributions of a family that has helped shape California for four generations.

1:30 - 2:45

Daring to Dream of a More Just World: Conversation with Adam Hochschild (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Boiler Room)

Adam Hochschild interviewed by Julia Flynn Siler

Bestselling author Adam Hochschild's new collection of essays explores, as he writes, “people who took a stand against despotism, who spoke out against unjust wars, or who saw the evils of institutions like slavery or colonialism when, all

around them, others took such things for granted." "Lessons from a Dark Time" profiles the survivor-director of a Congolese center for rape victims, the humane penal system in Finland, Mandela on the campaign trail—and much more. A Festival favorite, Hochschild has the skills of a journalist, the knowledge of a historian, and the heart of an activist.

1:30 - 2:45

Prophet of Freedom: Frederick Douglass (Chronicle Stage)

David Blight interviewed by Otis R. Taylor Jr.

Frederick Douglass was arguably the most important African American of the nineteenth century, an escaped slave who became the greatest orator of his day and one of the leading abolitionists and writers of the era. Join David Blight, American history scholar and author of the new, definitive biography "Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom," selected as a Top Ten Book of 2018 by the New York Times and numerous other outlets. San Francisco Chronicle columnist Otis R. Taylor, Jr. interviews Blight and helps uncover this towering figure that Blight calls "thoroughly and beautifully human."

7:30 - 8:45

Festival Keynote: Speaking Truth to Power with Anand Giridharadas and Robert Reich (Berkeley Community Theater)

Anand Giridharadas and Robert Reich, moderated by Kat Taylor, overture by Isheetta Ganguly

Each year, the Festival Keynote showcases a stellar writer who exhibits fearlessness, literary mastery and unique insight—a writer you simply must hear, illuminating a topic that touches us all. This year, we present Anand Giridharadas, author of "Winners Take All: The Elite Charade of Changing the World," in conversation with Robert Reich. Inequality between the rich and the rest of us has never been greater, and many of the uber-wealthy now have grand schemes to "solve poverty." Giridharadas points to the ways that many elites, while praised for their generosity, are perpetuating the very practices that create inequality in the first place. Get ready for a riveting evening with two people who pull no punches. The conversation will be moderated by the equally fearless Kat Taylor, CEO and co-founder of Beneficial State Bank. The evening will open with a musical overture by Isheetta Ganguly, coming to us from Mumbai. Sponsored by Beneficial State Bank.

Sunday, May 5

11:45 - 1:00

A Tale of True Love (The Marsh Cabaret)

Victoria Riskin interviewed by Joseph McBride

She was the blonde in the diaphanous gown who was set by King Kong atop the Empire State Building. He was the longtime collaborator with Frank Capra and the Academy Award-winning screenwriter who wrote ornery, resilient

women. It happened one night, we could say: They fell in love and embarked upon a marriage that was truly fairytale until it ended tragically. In "Fay Wray and Robert Riskin: A Hollywood Memoir," their daughter, an acclaimed writer and producer, tells the story from Hollywood's golden age.

11:45 - 1:00

Unlikely Alliances and Other Surprises in Historical Fiction (Berkeley City College, Theater)

Yangsze Choo, Terry Gamble, Christopher Tilghman, moderated by Janis Cooke Newman

Lushly written, utterly engrossing, and often funny, these historical novels transport us to worlds full of surprising connections that cross divisions of class, race, and more. Yangsze Choo ("The Night Tiger"), Terry Gamble ("The Eulogist"), and Christopher Tilghman ("Thomas and Beal in the Midi") explore power dynamics and tricky relationships from 1930's colonial Malaysia, to pre-Civil War Ohio, to the streets of Paris and the vineyards of Midi at the close of the Victorian era. Moderated by Janis Cooke Newman, author of the historical novels "A Master Plan for Rescue" and "Mary: Mrs. A. Lincoln" (USA Today's Historical Novel of the Year).

1:30 - 2:45

The Business of Brutality: Slavery and the Foundations of Capitalism (Shattuck Plaza Hotel, Shattuck Ballroom)

David Blight, Stephanie Jones-Rogers, Caitlin Rosenthal, moderated by Jennifer D. King

Look around. How much of our infrastructure—from roads and bridges to factories and food supplies—was built on the backs of American slaves? Three writer-researchers examine how the brutal history of slavery laid the foundation of American capitalism and shaped today's racial and economic inequality. In "They Were Her Property," Stephanie Jones-Rogers reveals the active role that white women played in the American slave economy. In "Accounting for Slavery," Caitlin Rosenthal examines how elite planters turned their power over enslaved people into a productivity advantage. In "Frederick Douglass: Prophet of Freedom," David Blight investigates the legacy of the escaped slave and abolitionist, who wrote, "The white man's happiness cannot be purchased by the black man's misery." Sponsored by the Stephen M. Silberstein Foundation.