

# EVERYBODY READS 2011

A community reading project of Multnomah County Library

**What if everybody  
read the same book?**

We'd talk to each other about  
issues that matter, and we'd  
celebrate the power of books in  
creating a stronger community.

**Join us for the ninth annual  
Everybody Reads project.**

Made possible in part by

THE  
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Regional Arts &  
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MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
LIBRARY

LITERARY ARTS

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The **Other** Wes Moore

by Wes Moore

Photo © Hemera Technologies



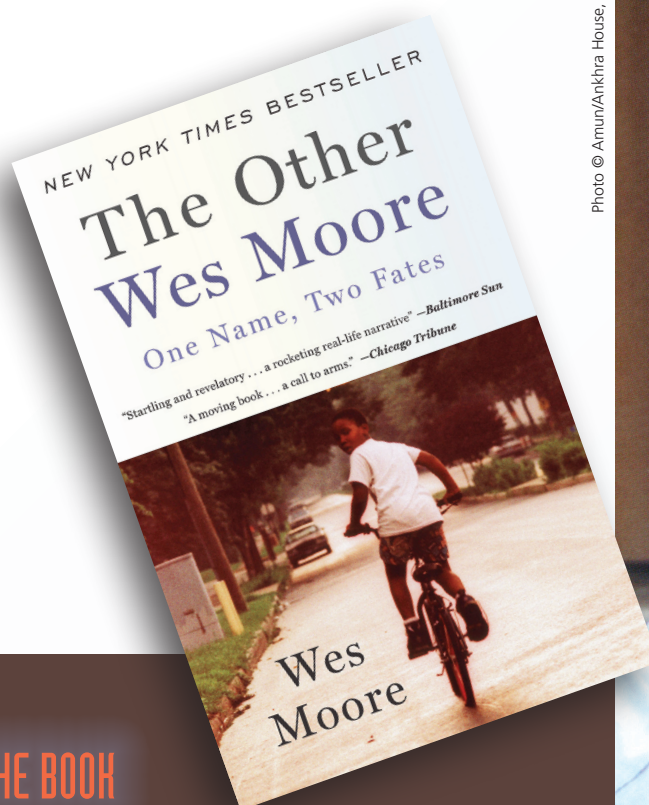
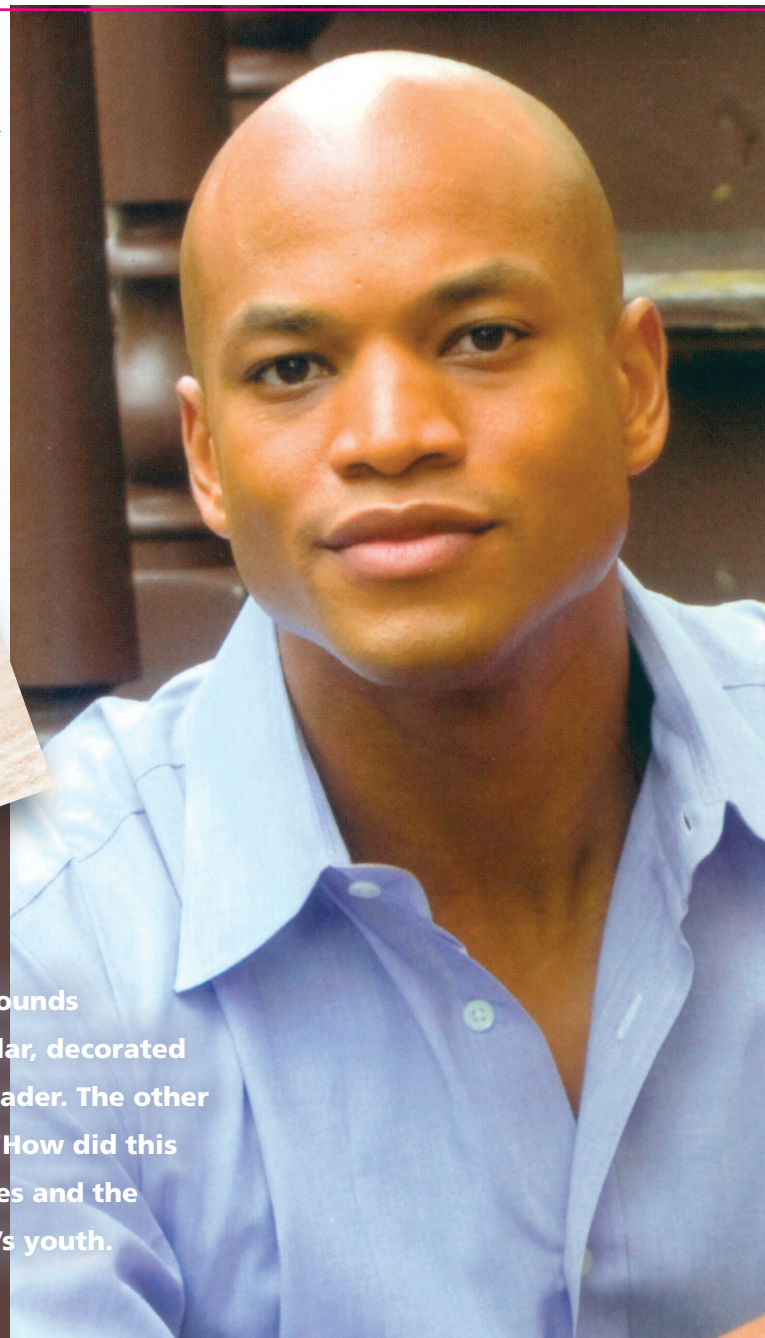


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## ABOUT THE BOOK

**Two kids with the same name and similar backgrounds lived in Baltimore. One grew up to be a Rhodes scholar, decorated combat veteran, White House Fellow and business leader. The other is serving a life sentence in prison. The author asks “How did this happen?” and explores the impact of personal choices and the influences of environment and community on today’s youth.**

## ABOUT WES MOORE

Wes Moore is a youth advocate, Army combat veteran, business leader and author.

Wes graduated Phi Theta Kappa as a commissioned officer from Valley Forge Military College in 1998 and Phi Beta Kappa from Johns Hopkins University in 2001 with a bachelor’s degree in International Relations. At Johns Hopkins, he was honored by the Maryland College Football Hall of Fame. He completed an Master of Letters in International Relations from Oxford University as a Rhodes Scholar in 2004. Wes was a para-trooper and captain in the United States Army, serving a combat tour of duty in Afghanistan in 2005–

2006. A White House Fellow from 2006–2007, Wes served as a special assistant to Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. Following his time at the White House, Wes became an investment professional in New York at Citigroup, focusing on global technology and alternative investments. In 2009, he was selected as an Asia Society Fellow. Moore was named one of *Ebony* magazine’s “Top 30 Leaders Under 30” for 2007 and *Crain’s New York Business*’ “40 Under 40 Rising Stars” in 2009.

Wes is passionate about supporting U.S. veterans and examining the roles education, mentoring and public service play in the lives

of American youth. He serves on the board of the Iraq Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA) and founded an organization called STAND! through Johns Hopkins University that works with Baltimore youth involved in the criminal justice system. Wes was a featured speaker at the 2008 Democratic National Convention in Denver and addressed the crowd from INVESCO Field. He has also spoken at the National Foundation for Teaching Entrepreneurship Business Plan Competition, Southern Regional Conference of the National Society of Educators, the education reform session of the

third annual Race & Reconciliation in America conference, and the first 9/11 National Day of Service and Remembrance.

Seeking to help other young people to redirect their lives, Wes is committed to being a positive influence and helping kids find the support they need to enact change. Pointing out that a high school student drops out every nine seconds, Wes says that public servants — the teachers, mentors and volunteers who work with our youth — are as imperative to our national standing and survival as are our armed forces.

Moore lives with his wife Dawn in New Jersey.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE AUTHOR

It’s an incredible honor to participate in Multnomah County Library’s Everybody Reads 2011 program. *The Other Wes Moore* is the story of two boys named Wes Moore who shared a number of biographical details: They were born at roughly the same time in roughly the same place; they both had only fleeting contact with their fathers and were raised by their mothers; they both struggled through school for disciplinary and academic reasons; and they were both always looking for a better life, which always seemed tantalizingly out of reach. One of those boys was me. The other Wes Moore is serving a life sentence in prison for the murder of a police officer, the tragedy that in many ways sparked the writing of the book. When I first stumbled onto this heartbreaking story, I was seized with urgent questions: what makes one life different from another? How do our fates diverge? And how do we prevent these tragedies from repeating themselves over and over again in our communities? Ultimately, my hope for the book was that it would provoke conversations about the most universal issues, about choice and accountability, not just for each of us as individuals but for all of us as a society. I eagerly look forward to joining that conversation with you during this program.

**Elevate,**  
**Wes Moore,** October 2010



# Get involved!

## Read.

Borrow a copy of the book from any Multnomah County Library. When you are finished, please return it or pass it on to a friend, coworker or neighbor so that others may participate.

## Discuss.

Share your thoughts at a book discussion at your neighborhood library, local bookstore or elsewhere in the community.

## Be inspired.

Hear from author Wes Moore on Monday, March 7, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall.

## Do.

Find out what you can do to make a difference in your own life or in the life of a young person. Consult the Everybody Reads website for a list of resources and community organizations that can help.

Visit the website.

For the latest Everybody Reads information, events and resources, visit [www.multcolib.org/reads](http://www.multcolib.org/reads).

Literary Arts and Multnomah County Library  
present

## AN EVENING WITH WES MOORE

**One Name, Two Fates:  
A Moving & Inspiring True Story  
of Our Times**

**Monday, March 7, 2011 • 7:30 p.m.  
at The Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall**

Tickets and event information  
can be found at [Literary-Arts.org](http://Literary-Arts.org).

## EVENTS

Admission to all events is free unless otherwise noted. Library addresses are listed on the back of this guide. All addresses are in Portland, unless otherwise noted.

### Book Discussion Groups



#### Library Book Groups

Monthly Pageturners groups are sponsored by the Friends of the Library. (See "Library Locations" for addresses.)

**Thu., Feb. 3, 1:30–2:30 p.m.**

Capitol Hill

**Thu., Feb. 3, 2–3 p.m.**

Gresham

**Thu., Feb. 3, 2:30–4 p.m.**

Central

**Tue., Feb. 8, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Hillsdale

**Tue., Feb. 8, 6:45–7:45 p.m.**

Capitol Hill

**Tue., Feb. 8, 6:30–8 p.m.**

Northwest

**Tue., Feb. 8, 6:45–8 p.m.**

Midland

**Wed., Feb. 9, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

St. Johns

**Wed., Feb. 9, 7:15–8:15 p.m.**

Albina

**Wed., Feb. 9, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Belmont

**Sun., Feb. 13, 2–3 p.m.**

Hollywood

**Mon., Feb. 14, 1–2:15 p.m.**

St. Johns

**Tue., Feb. 15, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Hollywood

**Tue., Feb. 15, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Kenton

**Tue., Feb. 15, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

North Portland

**Tue., Feb. 15, 6:30–7:30 p.m.**

Sellwood-Moreland

**Wed., Feb. 16, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Troutdale

**Wed., Feb. 16, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Woodstock

**Wed., Feb. 16, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Gregory Heights

**Wed., Feb. 16, 1–2:15 p.m.**

Midland

**Thu., Feb. 17, 1–2:15 p.m.**

Hillsdale

**Fri., Feb. 18, 10–11 a.m.**

Rockwood

**Sat., Feb. 19, 10:30–11:45 a.m.**

Holgate

**Tue., Feb. 22, 6:30–7:45 p.m.**

Fairview-Columbia

**Tue., Feb. 22, 6:30–8 p.m.**

Northwest

#### Barnes & Noble Book Groups

(For teens and adults; refreshments will be served.)

**Wed., Feb. 9, 11 a.m.**

Barnes & Noble

Washington Square Too

10206 S.W. Washington Square  
Road, Tigard

**Wed., Feb. 16, 7:30 p.m.**

Barnes & Noble

Tanasbourne Town Center

18300 N.W. Evergreen Pkwy.,  
Beaverton

**Thu., Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.**

Barnes & Noble, Jantzen Beach

1720 N. Jantzen Beach Center,  
Portland

**Tue., Feb. 22, 6:30 p.m.**

Barnes & Noble, Lloyd Center

1317 Lloyd Center, Portland

**Thu., Feb. 24, 7 p.m.**

Barnes & Noble

Clackamas Town Center

12000 S.E. 82nd Avenue, Portland

#### Looking at *The Other Wes Moore*

**Thu., Feb. 10, 7–8:30 p.m. • Portland State University, Smith Memorial Union (SMU), Room 236**

Scholars Dalton Miller Jones, Michael Smith and Martha Balshem will discuss the issues raised in *The Other Wes Moore* within the psychological, sociological and educational disciplines.

#### Portland's Wes Moores

**Tue., Feb. 15, 6–7:30 p.m. • Central Library**

Scholars Eric Mankowski, José Padin and Ethan Johnson will discuss the issues raised by *The Other Wes Moore* from a local perspective.

#### *The Other Wes Moore: Options and Opportunities for the Future*

**Tue., Feb. 22, 6–7:30 p.m. • North Portland Library**

Panel discussion with educators Julie Esparza Brown and Deborah Peterson and members of the Multnomah County Health Department's Communities Putting Prevention to Work grant team.

#### *"Others, Ourselves: An Exploration of Privilege, Positionality and Education"*

**Wed., Feb. 23, 6–7:30 p.m. • Central Library**

Lecture by Samuel Henry, associate professor in the Graduate School of Education at Portland State University and a founding executive director of Portland Educational Network.

Photo © Hemera Technologies

# Discussion Questions

1. Both Wes Moores grew up without fathers. How might have their lives been different had their fathers been present in their lives? Do you agree that their experiences were different because one father was not there because he couldn't be and the other because he chose not to be? Why or why not?
2. The author Wes Moore says, "I guess it's hard sometimes to distinguish between second chances and last chances." What do you think he means by this?
3. The incarcerated Wes Moore says that instead of products of our environments, maybe we are "products of our expectations" and possibly those of others. What do you think he means by this? Do you agree? Why or why not?
4. *The Other Wes Moore* has been criticized for sensationalizing the crime and reopening old wounds. Others have praised it for encouraging discussion about important issues of race and equality. What do you think?
5. The author Wes Moore encourages us to "elevate" not only ourselves, but those around us. What do you think he means by this? Are there barriers to raising up ourselves and others? What are they and how might they be confronted?

## Library Locations (all addresses in Portland unless otherwise noted)

**Albina Library —**  
3605 N.E. 15th Ave.

**Belmont Library —**  
1038 S.E. César E. Chávez Blvd.  
(39th Ave.)

**Capitol Hill Library —**  
10723 S.W. Capitol Hwy.

**Central Library —**  
801 S.W. 10th Ave.

**Fairview-Columbia Library —**  
1520 N.E. Village St.,  
Fairview

**Gregory Heights Library —**  
7921 N.E. Sandy Blvd.

**Gresham Library —**  
385 N.W. Miller Ave.,  
Gresham

**Hillsdale Library —**  
1525 S.W. Sunset Blvd.

**Holgate Library —**  
7905 S.E. Holgate Blvd.

**Kenton —**  
8226 N. Denver Ave.

**Hollywood Library —**  
4040 N.E. Tillamook St.

**Midland Library —**  
805 S.E. 122nd Ave.

**North Portland Library —**  
512 N. Killingsworth St.

**Northwest Library —**  
2300 N.W. Thurman St.

**Rockwood Library —**  
17917 S.E. Stark St.

**Sellwood-Moreland Library —**  
7860 S.E. 13th Ave.

**St. Johns Library —**  
7510 N. Charleston Ave.

**Troutdale —**  
2451 S.W. Cherry Park Rd.  
Troutdale

**Woodstock Library —**  
6008 S.E. 49th Ave.

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## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

### Major Sponsors

The Library Foundation  
Literary Arts

Thanks also to the following  
community partners for their  
participation:

Friends of the Library  
Portland State University

**Purchase a discounted  
copy of the book at the  
following bookstores:**

Barnes & Noble  
Powell's Books

MULTNOMAH COUNTY  
**LIBRARY** 

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