



Media Contact: Amelia Peacock  
Community Engagement Coordinator  
apeacock@lectures.org  
206.621.2230 ext. 12

**Seattle Arts & Lectures and The Seattle Public Library Present the  
Third Year of Summer Book Bingo, a Reading Program for Adults**  
*Seattle Arts & Lectures Also Launches Bingo Board For Kids 0-12*

**SEATTLE, WA – May 18, 2017:** Seattle Arts & Lectures (SAL) and The Seattle Public Library unveiled their third Summer Book Bingo Board tonight at a sold-out event with The Moth at Benaroya Hall. All attendees of The Moth received a color Summer Book Bingo board as the two organizations kicked off a summer of free fabulous reading fun. Copies of the Bingo board will also be available at all locations of The Seattle Public Library and for download at lectures.org. Seattle Arts & Lectures also debuted a Kids Book Bingo Board this year for readers 0-12! Bingo began Wednesday, May 17 and runs through Labor Day. All submissions for prizes must be received by 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 5.

Whether your favorite reading spot is on the beach or in a hammock under the shade of a backyard tree, nothing says summer like wending your way through a stack of books. "My favorite part of summer as a kid was the Happy Reader Club (I believe my brother still has the T-shirt to prove it was a family favorite)," said Ruth Dickey, Executive Director of SAL. "And for the past two summers, my favorite part of summer has been Summer Book Bingo, which we at SAL have been thrilled to present in partnership with The Seattle Public Library. I am delighted we are launching another year of fabulous, fun, free summer reading with a new bingo card, and I hope the entire community will join us in having fun with reading this summer. We're particularly excited to debut a new *kids'* bingo card this summer, and to partner with the *Seattle Times*, which is including bingo cards for kids and adults in its Sunday, May 21 Summer Reading Issue. I can't wait to hear what everyone reads (and discovers!) this summer."

If players need a little summer reading inspiration, they can turn to one or more of the incredible writers featured in SAL's next season: Ron Chernow, Isabel Allende, Jesmyn Ward, Colson Whitehead, Tyehimba Jess, A.E. Stallings, Janet Mock, Nikki Giovanni, Matt de la Peña, Jenny Hann, and many more. For custom-crafted recommendations, visit your local branch of The Seattle Public Library or fill out a brief form at [spl.org/yournext5](http://spl.org/yournext5) and one of Seattle's expert librarians will recommend five books just for you.

**How does it work?**

**Adults:** Fill in a Bingo Card with the titles and authors of the books you've read between May 17, 2017 and Sept. 5, 2017 and drop it (or a photocopy of it if you wish to keep the original) at the Seattle Arts & Lectures office or any location of The Seattle Public Library, mail it in, or post a photo on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Book titles may only be used once per card, and only one entry per person, please. The Adult Bingo Board is for readers 15 and older.

**Kids:** Fill in a Bingo Card with the titles and authors of the books you've read between May 17, 2017 and Sept. 5, 2017 and drop it (or a photocopy of it if you wish to keep the original) at the Seattle Arts & Lectures office, mail it in, or post a photo on Facebook, Twitter, or Instagram. Book titles may only be used once per card, and only one entry per person, please. The Kids Bingo Board is for readers 0-12.

**What can readers win and how?**

Complete all 25 squares for a **blackout card** and adult readers will be entered in a drawing for the grand prize: a library of books by 2017/18 SAL authors, and two tickets to the entire SAL 2017/18 season. Kid readers who complete a blackout will be entered into a drawing for the grand prize: a \$100 gift card to an independent book store.

**Adults and kids:** complete a horizontal, vertical or diagonal line to get a **bingo** and you will be entered into a drawing for a \$30 gift card to an independent book store. Prizes to be collected at The Seattle Public Library location of your choice.

\* \* \* \* \*

**About Seattle Arts & Lectures:** Founded in 1987, Seattle Arts & Lectures champions the literary arts by engaging and inspiring readers and writers of all generations in the Puget Sound region. SAL's programs include the Literary Arts Series, Poetry Series, Women You Need to Know (WYNK), Sherman Alexie Loves, SAL Presents, Hinge, Local Voices, Summer Book Bingo, the Youth Poet Laureate (YPL) program, and Writers in the Schools (WITS), an award-winning reading and writing program that places professional writers in public elementary, middle, and high schools, as well as at Seattle Children's Hospital. Last year SAL served more than 29,000 children, youth and adults. For more information about SAL, visit [lectures.org](http://lectures.org).

**About The Seattle Public Library:** Founded in 1890, The Seattle Public Library brings people, information and ideas together to enrich lives and build community in the Seattle metropolitan region. The Library provides free educational resources that support lifelong learning, including a wealth of reading material for children, teens and adults, online classes, access to computers, author readings, concerts, film festivals, cultural lectures, story times for children, and more. Librarians at all 27 of our locations and online (through Your Next 5 Books) are ready to help readers find the right books to complete their bingo squares. For more information, visit [spl.org](http://spl.org) or call the Library at 206-386-4636.

Bingo Boards attached.

\* \* \* \* \*