

Featuring Abraham Verghese

The Covenant of Water

April 29, 2025

Monona Terrace

Expected Attendance: 700 guests

About the event: Madison Public Library Foundation's annual *Lunch for Libraries* fundraiser is an opportunity for community members who are committed to our libraries to come together to celebrate, support, and invest in the Wisconsin Book Festival, which provides free, year-round author events to our community.

About the author: Abraham Verghese is a graduate of the Iowa Writers' Workshop and the author of *My Own Country, The Tennis Partner*, and *Cutting for Stone*, which spent 107 weeks on the *New York Times bestseller* list and sold more than two million copies worldwide. Verghese was awarded the National Humanities Medal by President Obama, has received six honorary degrees, and is an elected member of the National Academy of Medicine and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

About the book: An instant *New York Times* bestseller selling two million copies worldwide, *The Covenant of Water* follows three generations of a family in Kerala, on South India's Malabar Coast. The family suffers a peculiar affliction: in every generation, at least one person dies by drowning. A twelve-year-old girl from Kerala's long-standing Christian community is sent by boat to her wedding, where she will meet her forty-year-old husband for the first time. She will witness various changes over the span of her life, with only her faith and love staying constant.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES & BENEFITS

\$10,000 Presenting Sponsor - Exclusive

- Opportunity to introduce featured speaker and address attendees
- Name/logo signage displayed on digital banner
- Name/logo recognition on all printed/electronic promotional materials as "Lunch for Libraries Presented by Sponsor" & listing on Madison Public Library Foundation website
- Two tables for 16 total guests at event
- 16 copies of featured book: *The Covenant of Water*
- Invitation to an exclusive Wisconsin Book Festival launch event on September 11, 2025

\$6,000 Champion Sponsor

- Name/logo signage displayed on digital banner
- Name/logo recognition on all printed/electronic materials
- Listing on Madison Public Library Foundation website
- One table for 8 total quests at event
- 8 copies of featured book: The Covenant of Water
- Invitation to an exclusive Wisconsin Book Festival launch event on September 11, 2025

\$3,000 Leader Sponsor

- Name/logo signage displayed on digital banner
- Name/logo recognition on all printed/electronic materials & listing
- Listing on Madison Public Library Foundation website
- One table for 8 total guests at event
- 8 copies of featured book: *The Covenant of Water*

\$1,500 Partner Sponsor

- Name recognition on printed/electronic materials
- Listing on Madison Public Library Foundation website
- One table for 8 total guests at event
- 8 copies of featured book: *The Covenant of Water*

EXTRA COMMUNITY SUPPORT OPTION: Sponsors at any level can opt to have \$300 added to their sponsorship total so that the foundation can invite two community partners to experience the event at no charge. This initiative is intended to make the event more inclusive without compromising its capacity to raise funds.

NEXT STEPS: To confirm your sponsorship, please complete the online confirmation form at https://forms.gle/bUjbobLuSLmft3Nx7. (Contact Katy Kaufman at kkaufman@mplfoundation.org if you prefer a paper version of the confirmation form.)