



News Release

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Library of Michigan Announces 2020 Michigan Notable Book Awards

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LANSING- This year's list of 20 titles reflect the rich stories and culture of our state.

The celebrated books encompass the entire Great Lakes basin from the far reaches of the Upper Peninsula to stories about Detroit, and even cookery from the west side of the Michigan.

Each year, the Michigan Notable Book (MNB) list features 20 books, published during the previous calendar year, which are about, or set in Michigan, or written by a Michigan author. Selections include a variety of genres, both fiction and nonfiction, that appeal to many audiences and explore topics and issues close to the hearts of Michigan residents. The 2020 list includes titles exploring: the Red Scare of the 1950's, the bankruptcy of Detroit, the life of Aretha Franklin, and the Anishinaabe Sharpshooter's of the Civil War.

MNB is a statewide program that began as part of the 1991 Michigan Week celebration, designed to pay tribute and draw attention to the many people, places and things that make Michigan life unique and vibrant.

"The MNB selections clearly demonstrate the rich subject matter Michigan offers to writers," said State Librarian Randy Riley. "Everyone will find something of interest that speaks to their lives or experiences in our great state."

This year's MNB selection committee includes representatives from the Library of Michigan; the Library of Michigan Foundation; Detroit Public Library; Howard Miller Public Library; Clinton-Macomb District Library; Capital Area District Libraries; Salem-South Lyon District Library; Cooley Law School; Lansing City Pulse newspaper; Michigan's State Historic

Preservation Office; Wayne State University; Michigan Department of Education; Michigan Center for the Book; Michigan Humanities.

For more information or questions about the Michigan Notable Book program, contact the Library of Michigan at 517-335-1477, visit www.michigan.gov/notablebooks , or email librarian@michigan.gov.

2020 Michigan Notable Books

***The Queen Next Door: Aretha Franklin, An Intimate Portrait* by Linda Solomon - Painted Turtle Books: Wayne State University Press**

The Queen Next Door: Aretha Franklin, An Intimate Portrait is a book full of firsts as Solomon was invited not only to capture historical events in Aretha's music career showcasing Detroit but to join in with the Franklin family's most intimate and cherished moments in her beloved hometown. From performance rehearsals with James Brown to off-camera shenanigans while filming a music video with the Rolling Stones, from her first television special to her first time performing with the Detroit Symphony Orchestra, to her last performance with her sisters at her father's church and her son's college graduation celebration.

The Library of Michigan – Michigan's official state library agency for more than 190 years – is part of the Michigan Department of Education. To learn more, visit www.michigan.gov/libraryofmichigan.