William G. Wilson

William G. (Bill) Wilson earned his MLS from the University of Michigan in 1960. He joined the University of Maryland College of Library and Information Services in February of 1972 as librarian and lecturer. In recent years, Wilson came out of retirement to work as a Coordinator in the CLIS Student Services Office.

When Bill was President of the Maryland Library Association in 1995/96, he was instrumental in the establishment of the Maryland Author Award in 1996, and remained very involved in raising funds to support the award's endowment during his years as an MLA member (including a challenge gift of $5,000 in 1998). In late 2006, Bill was elected President of Citizens for Maryland Libraries (an advocacy group).

We are pleased to name the Book Club in Bill's honor for his years of dedicated service to Maryland libraries.

Maryland Author Award

Each year, at the annual conference, the Maryland Library Association grants an author award to an outstanding Maryland author. The recipient receives a cash award and is invited to speak at the conference. The award is given each year on a rotating basis to adult fiction, youth literature, poetry and non-fiction.

Committee members will judge a living author's work using the following criteria:

- Merit
- Readability
- Strength of the author's or the work's relationship to Maryland
- Amount, volume, or quantity of the body of work
- Nominations and reviews from members of the committee

Bill's Book Club

Maryland Library Association
1401 Hollins St.
Baltimore, MD 21223

Honoring William G. Wilson
Supporting Maryland Authors
Join Bill’s Book Club and Help MLA Honor Maryland Authors

The MLA Author Award Endowment Committee has worked to create a fund to support the Maryland Author Award, raising $19,000 to date. The group’s goal is to increase the endowment to $60,000 in order to permanently support the annual monetary award (currently $2,000). You can help us continue this important effort to honor and promote Maryland authors by becoming a member of Bill’s Book Club and making your pledge for a five-year donation.

MLA Maryland Author Award Winners

1996: Madison Smartt Bell
Ten Indians, All Souls’ Rising, Dr. Sleep, Soldier’s Joy, Year of Silence, Save Me, Joe Louis, Straight Cut, and other adult fiction

1997: Mary Downing Hahn
Daphne’s Book, Sara Summer, December Stillness, Stepping on Cracks, Look for Me By Moonlight, A Ghost Story, and other works for children and young adults

1998: Elizabeth Spires
Globe, Swan’s Island, Announcers, Worldling, contributor to poetry magazines and anthologies

1999: Tom Horton
Bay Country, Swanfire: Journey of the Tundra Swans, An Island Out of Time: A Memoir of Smith Island in the Chesapeake, and other adult non-fiction

2000: Alice McDermott
A Bigman’s Daughter, That Night, At Weddings and Wakes, Charming Billy, and other adult fiction

2001: Jane Leslie Conly
Crazy Lady, Trout Summer, What Happened on Planet Kid, and other works for children and young adults

2002: Daniel Mark Epstein
The Traveler’s Calendar, Star of Wonder, Sports, The Boy in the Well, The Follies, No Vacancies in Hell, The Book of Fortunes, and other works of poetry

2003 William K. Klingaman

2004 Laura Lippman
Baltimore Blues, Charm City, The Sugar House, In a Strange City, Every Secret Thing, By a Spider’s Thread, and other adult fiction

2005 Elizabeth Fitzgerald Howard
Aunt Flossie’s Hats (and Crab Cakes Later), Flower Girl Butterflies, Papa Tells Chita a Story, The Train to Lain’s, Virgil Goes to School, and other works for children

2006 Edward Reed Whittemore, II
Heroes and Heroines, The Past, the Future, the Present: Poems Selected and New, and biographies, essays, stories and criticisms

2007 Taylor Branch
America in the King Years trilogy composed of Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63, Pillar of Fire: America in the King Years, 1963-65, and At Canaan’s Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-68, The EmpireWars, and several co-authored works

For more information about the award, please see the MLA website: http://www.mldlib.org/divisions/mdauthor/

Bill’s Book Club Membership Form

Choose a membership level for your 5-year pledge:

☐ Best Seller—$25/year
☐ First Edition—$50/year
☐ Illuminated Manuscript—$100/year
☐ Other Amount: ___________________________

Name: ____________________________________

Address: __________________________________

Phone: _________________________
☐ I would like to pay the first year of my pledge.
☐ I would like to pay my pledge in full.

Form of payment:
☐ Check ☐ Visa ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover

Credit Card #: __________________________ Exp. date: __________

Signature: __________________________

Please mail this form with payment to:
Maryland Library Association
1401 Hollins St.
Baltimore, MD 21223

The Maryland Library Association is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization—
donations to which are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law.
A copy of our current financial statement is available at MLA, 1401 Hollins Street, Baltimore, MD 21223 or 410-947-5000. Documents and information submitted to the State of Maryland under the Maryland Charitable Solicitations Act are available from the Office of the Secretary of State for the cost of copying and postage.