



For Immediate Release

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**The Alexandria Library Foundation Hosts
“A Conversation with David Baldacci,” #1 *New York Times* Bestselling Author
at Annual Author Event and Reception to Support the Alexandria Library**

Alexandria, Va. (May 16, 2024) – The Alexandria Library Foundation is excited to host #1 New York Times bestselling author **David Baldacci** at this year’s Author Event and Reception. The event is scheduled for Thursday, June 6, 6:30-8:30 p.m., at the Virginia Theological Seminary, 3630 Bishop Walker Circle in Alexandria.

Mr. Baldacci’s latest book, *A Calamity of Souls*, was released April 16 and subsequently landed at #1 on the New York Times Best Sellers List. The book is set in the tumultuous year of 1968 in southern Virginia, during a racially charged murder case that sets a duo of white and Black lawyers against a deeply unfair system as they work to defend their wrongfully accused Black defendants.

This year marks the 85th Anniversary of America’s earliest known civil rights sit-in at a library, which happened at the Alexandria Library. The Author Event will serve to commemorate the Sit-In and raise much-needed funds for the library.

“Celebrating our past and understanding our history are keys to a society moving forward in a positive direction,” Mr. Baldacci stated. “I am thrilled to be part of The Alexandria Library’s 85th anniversary event to honor America’s first known civil rights sit-in at a library. Embracing the sacrifices made by Americans in the past can inspire the citizens of the present to carry that same spirit of determination and resilience forward to face the challenges of today, and tomorrow.”

Mr. Baldacci will discuss his experience as an author; share tales from the road; and talk about the historical significance and research that went into the writing of this book, more than a decade in the making. After his presentation, there will be a reception and book-signing, with books for purchase from Old Town Books.

“We are delighted to have local author David Baldacci and look forward to welcoming everyone for a wonderful evening commemorating the Sit-In and celebrating our public libraries,” said Trudi Bellardo Hahn, Board President of the Alexandria Library Foundation.

Allison Seymour, Morning News Anchor at WUSA9 TV, will serve as the Emcee.

This event is made possible by Presenting Sponsors Amazon and The Brown Sanchez Family as well as other sponsors, including Alexandria Restaurant Partners (ARP), Comcast, Virginia Theological Seminary, American Virginia Water and more.

Learn more about the book and purchase your ticket:

<https://www.alexandrialibraryfoundation.org/2024authorevent>

About the Alexandria Library Foundation:

The Alexandria Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that strengthens our community through advocacy and the supplemental funding of the Alexandria Library System. The Foundation's work results in accessible programming, resources, services, and spaces. The Alexandria Library, through its six branches, serves 1.4 million visitors and web-users annually.

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