

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## Author of ‘Firekeeper’s Daughter’ Headlining ‘LitUp’ 2025

### Annual Teen Literature & Arts Festival Brings Acclaimed Authors & Artists to Library Sept. 20

Kansas City, MO – On **Saturday, September 20**, Mid-Continent Public Library will host its eighth-annual LitUp Festival, a free literature and arts event for teens, at its Woodneath Library Center (8900 NE Flintlock Road, Kansas City, Mo.). The day-long program offers kids the opportunity to meet some of their favorite authors and creators and learn how to harness their own creative talents. Headlining this year’s festival will be ***New York Times* bestselling author Angeline Boulley**, whose award-winning debut novel, ***Firekeeper’s Daughter***, earned rave reviews and was named one of “100 Best YA Books of All Time” by *Time* Magazine. Boulley’s newest book, *Sisters in the Wind*, was just released this month.

“LitUp is such a special event because it’s created by and for our young community members,” said MCPL Programming and Events Manager Colleen Norman. “Our teen ambassadors help drive the process, including giving their feedback on the types of creators they’d like to see. This year’s keynote, Angeline Boulley, was certainly at the top of everyone’s list, so it’s an absolute honor to bring her to Kansas City and hear her story!”

Along with Boulley, LitUp 2025 will include presentations by award-winning author Byron Graves, fantasy storyteller Swati Teerdhala, graphic novelist Ngozi Ukazu, and debut author Jenni Howell. The event starts at 9:00 a.m. and is entirely free to attend, but online registration is required. The event is currently listed as full, but those interested are encouraged to go ahead and [join the wait list](#).

### LitUp 2025 Event Schedule

- 8:30 – Doors Open
- 9:00 a.m. – A Conversation with *New York Times* bestselling author Angeline Boulley
- 10:15 a.m. – Breakout Sessions
  - How I Found my Voice as an Indigenous Author with Byron Graves
  - Building Fantasy Worlds That Feel Real with Swati Teerdhala

- Getting Started with Making Cosplays with Jennifer Forristal
- Writing with Aesthetics: From Moodboards to Manuscript with Shannon A. Thompson
- 11:30 a.m. – Breakout Sessions
  - Making a Graphic Novel—Panel by Panel with Ngozi Ukazu
  - Dark Academia 101: School of Nightmares with Jenni Howell
  - The Reluctant DM: How to go from Player to Storyteller with Mandy Truman
  - Podcasting 101 with KCUR’s Mackenzie Martin
- 12:30 p.m.–1:30 p.m. – Lunch Break
- 1:45 p.m. – Featured Author Panel
- 2:45–4:00 p.m. – Book Signing

**More information and registration for LitUp 2025 can be found at [mymcpl.org/LitUp](https://mymcpl.org/LitUp).**

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**About Mid-Continent Public Library**

Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](https://mymcpl.org) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 34 branches and two Library-To-Go locations and serving approximately 850,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. MCPL is an award-winning library system that strives to enrich citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. Connect with the Library on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).