Library’s Annual Romance Convention Goes Virtual Aug. 7 & 8

‘Romance GenreCon’ Takes Tantalizing Talks with Today’s Hottest Authors Online

Kansas City, MO – The weather isn’t the only thing heating up in Kansas City this August! Mid-Continent Public Library’s third-annual ‘Romance GenreCon’ will be held virtually on August 7 and 8 via the Romance GenreCon Facebook page (@romancegenrecon). The free, online festival will feature a variety of presentations led by some of the biggest names in romance, all dedicated to the creation and enjoyment of the top-selling genre.

“Romance GenreCon is all about celebrating and connecting with fellow fans over a shared passion,” said MCPL’s Amy Fisher, whose team organizes the event. “Although this year’s festival looks a little different, the mission is the same, and we hope all of our regular attendees will join us online for some of these fabulous programs.”

The 2020 Virtual Romance GenreCon will feature some of today’s most popular romance authors, including:

- **Beverly Jenkins**, award-winning and *USA Today* bestselling author of historical and contemporary multicultural romance
- **Cathy Maxwell**, *New York Times* bestselling author of historical romance
- **Deb Marlowe**, *USA Today* bestselling author of historical romance
- **Elizabeth Essex**, award-winning author of historical romance
- **Eloisa James**, *New York Times* bestselling author of historical romance
- **Janna MacGregor**, Kansas City resident, attorney, and acclaimed author of historical romance
- **Julia Quinn**, *New York Times* bestselling author of historical romance; Quinn’s *Bridgerton* series is currently being adapted as a *Netflix* series by Shonda Rhimes
- **Olivia Waite**, acclaimed author of LGBTQ+ historical and paranormal romance
- **Vanessa Riley**, *New York Times* bestselling author of multicultural Regency and historical romance
- **Virginia Heath**, acclaimed author of historical romance
GenreCon will kick off at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, August 7, with a special online session featuring interviews with Eloisa James, Beverly Jenkins, and Julia Quinn. Saturday’s online festivities will kick off at 2:00 p.m. with an introduction by MCPL’s Amy Fisher and author Janna MacGregor, followed by:

- **2:05 p.m.** – Historical Cooking with Deb Marlowe
- **3:00 p.m.** – Librarians Talking Romance (Panel of Kansas City librarians, including Kaite Stover of Kansas City Public Library, Beth Atwater of Johnson County Library, Polli Kenn of Lawrence Public Library, and Amy Fisher of Mid-Continent Public Library)
- **3:15 p.m.** – Author Game Show featuring Janna MacGregor, Virginia Heath, Elizabeth Essex, and Vanessa Riley
- **4:15 p.m.** – How to Fix a Proper Cup of Tea with Virginia Heath
- **4:30 p.m.** – Lady KC Reading Salon with Cathy Maxwell featuring Virginia Heath, Elizabeth Essex, Vanessa Riley, and Olivia Waite

Visit [mymcpl.org/Romance](http://mymcpl.org/Romance) for more information about this year’s Romance GenreCon, and tune into the Romance GenreCon Facebook page on August 7 and 8!

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Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](http://midcontinentpubliclibrary.org) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 32 branches and two Library-To-Go locations and serving more than 816,000 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](http://facebook.com/mcpl), [Twitter](http://twitter.com/mcpl), and [Instagram](http://instagram.com/mcpl).