

# Frederick Douglass Day

## Saturday, September 24, 2022

*The Frederick Douglass Honor Society cordially invites you to join the celebration of Talbot County's most famous native son, Frederick Douglass...slave, author, statesman, a lifelong champion of equal rights and justice, and a man who influenced peer and presidents alike during a tumultuous time in our nation's history.*

**10am to 4pm - Washington St. & West St. in Easton (between Dover & Glenwood)**

**10 am - Parade steps off at Glenwood, turns left onto Washington Street and rests in front of the Talbot County Court House.**

**10:30 am - Welcome Ceremony, the front lawn of the Talbot Court House by the Frederick Douglass Statue**

**11 am to 3:30 pm - The Children's Village, Talbot County Free Library**

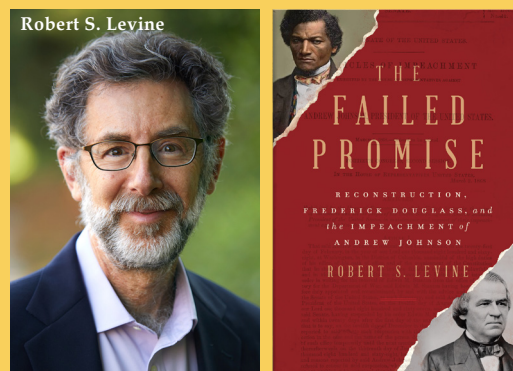
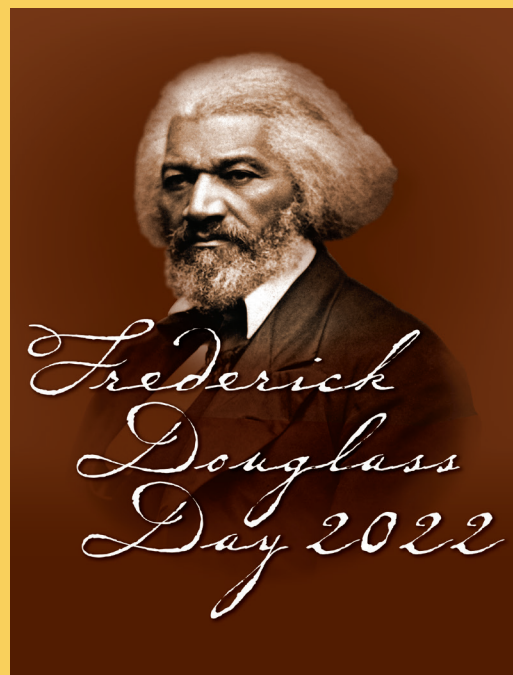
**11 am to 4 pm - The Marketplace's food and retail vendors, local organizations, located by the Live Music Block Party**

**11:45 am - Author Jeff McGuiness shares his newly released book, *Bear Me Into Freedom*, followed by book signing, Talbot County Free Library**

**Noon to 4 pm - Live Music Block Party, Corner of Dover & West Streets. Seating provided.**

**1 pm - *The Failed Promise, Reconstruction, Frederick Douglass, and the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson* Lecture and book signing by Distinguished Professor Dr. Robert Levine, Talbot County Free Library.**

**The Talbot County Free Library's Frederick Douglass Room will display artifacts on loan from the National Park Service, Frederick Douglass Painting by local artist Laura Era, owner of Troika Gallery, and a new Frederick Douglass Video.**



**All Frederick Douglass Day Events Are Free and Open to the Public**

**Frederick Douglass Day is presented by the Frederick Douglass Honor Society, the Town of Easton, and the Talbot County Free Library.**

**[www.FrederickDouglassDay.com](http://www.FrederickDouglassDay.com)**



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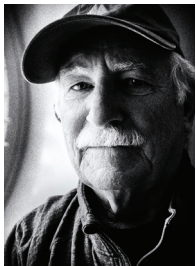
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### Speaker: Joy Priest

Joy Priest is the author of *HORSEPOWER* (Pitt Poetry Series, 2020), selected by U.S. Poet Laureate Natasha Trethewey as the winner of the Donald Hall Prize for Poetry. She is the recipient of a 2021 National Endowment for the Arts fellowship, a 2019-2020 Fine Arts Work Center fellowship, and the Stanley Kunitz Memorial Prize from the *American Poetry Review*. Her poems have appeared in the *Academy of American*

*Poets' Poem-a-Day* series and *The Atlantic*, among others, as well as in commissions for the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston (MFAH) and the Los Angeles County Museum of Art (LACMA). Her essays have appeared in *The Bitter Southerner*, *Poets & Writers*, *ESPN*, and *The Undeclared*. Priest received her MFA in poetry with a certificate in Women & Gender Studies from the University of South Carolina. She has facilitated poetry workshops with incarcerated juvenile and adult women, and has taught creative writing, comedy, gender & sexuality, and African American Arts & Culture at the university level. Joy is an Inprint MD Anderson Foundation Fellow and a doctoral student in Literature & Creative Writing at the University of Houston. She is the editor of *Once a City Said: A Louisville Poets' Anthology*, forthcoming from Sarabande Books in 2023.



### Author: Jeff McGuinness

Jeff McGuinness is a photographer and writer living in St. Michaels, Maryland. An avid boater, he enjoys exploring his beloved Chesapeake, divining the mysteries it holds.

McGuinness was born in California and grew up in suburban Washington, D.C. After graduating from college with an art degree in 1969, he spent the next four years in the U.S. Air Force as a

photographer during the Vietnam conflict. He then worked as a commercial photographer in St. Louis for a time before deciding to pursue a law degree.

McGuinness practiced law in Washington, D.C. for more than four decades, working on public policy and non-profit organizations.

The St. Michaels Museum at St. Mary's Square will publish his latest work, *Bear Me Into Freedom: The Talbot County of Frederick Douglass*. The 284-page photographic essay couples words Frederick Douglass used to describe his eleven years in Talbot County with imagery created by McGuinness depicting what the fields, buildings, paths, and waterways may have looked like when Douglass lived there. Those eleven years are an integral part of Douglass's three autobiographies, the most important slave narrative in American literature which *Bear Me Into Freedom* now illustrates.

### Keynote Speaker: Robert S. Levine

Robert S. Levine is Distinguished University Professor of English and Distinguished Scholar-Teacher at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is the author of *Conspiracy and Romance: Studies in Brockden Brown, Cooper, Hawthorne, and Melville*; *Martin Delany, Frederick Douglass, and the Politics of Representative Identity*; *Dislocating Race and Nation: Episodes in Nineteenth-Century American Literary Nationalism*; *The Lives of Frederick Douglass*; *Race, Transnationalism, and Nineteenth-Century American Literary Studies*; and *The Failed Promise: Reconstruction, Frederick Douglass, and the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson*. He has edited a number of books, including *The New Cambridge Companion to Herman Melville* and Norton Critical Editions of Hawthorne's *The House of the Seven Gables* and Melville's *Pierre*. Levine has received fellowships from the NEH and the Guggenheim Foundation. In 2014 the American Literature Section of the MLA awarded him the Hubbell Medal for Lifetime Achievement in American Literary Studies.

## EVENT SCHEDULE DETAILS

**10am ~ Parade** participants include local dignitaries, government leaders, the East High School Band, Easton Middle School Band, Cambridge South Dorchester Band, BEST Brothers, GEMS, BAAM, Easton High NJROTC, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Hispanic Dancers, Polaris Village Academy Dancers, Dr. Robert Levine, Joy Priest, and members of the Frederick Douglass Honor Society. (Glenwood St. to Washington St. to the Talbot County Courthouse.)

**10:30 am ~ The Welcome Ceremony** features local dignitaries, North Meets South (Tenor Dr. John Wesley Wright and guitarist Dr. Danielle Cummings), Sara Chappel, music by the Easton High and Middle School Bands and Cambridge South Dorchester Band, Poet and author Joy Priest, Frederick Douglass recitation from Lance Morris, NJROTC, BAAM, Reverend Nancy M. Dennis, Brenda Wooden (Frederick Douglass Honor Society), and Mistress of Ceremonies Autumn Redman. (at the Talbot County Courthouse)

**11 am to 4 pm ~ the Frederick Douglass Room** features Frederick Douglass artifacts, Frederick Douglass paintings by artist and teacher Laura Era, owner of Troika Gallery, readings by Shauna Beulah, Frederick Douglass video, and Douglass panels by Celeste-Marie Bernier. (Talbot County Free Library)

**11:00 am to 3:30 pm ~ Children's Village** features hands-on-activities, face painting, history, prizes, photo opportunities, mapping game, free coloring books, reading of Frederick Douglass books. (Talbot County Free Library)

**11:00 am to 4 pm ~ The Marketplace** offers regional foods, Bay favorites, and desserts bustling with flavor, presented by a variety of vendors along with arts, crafts, and jewelry. Meet local

organizational leaders and learn about our community and volunteer opportunities. (Located next to the Live Entertainment. Tenting and chairs provided for diners.)

**11:45 am ~ Meet Jeff McGuinness** and learn about his newly released book, *Bear Me into Freedom – The Talbot County of Frederick Douglass*. A limited number of books are available for purchase and signing. (Talbot County Free Library)

**Noon to 4 pm ~ Live Entertainment** Event goes will find our live Music Block Party featuring Sara Chappel, Dr. John Wesley Wright and Dr. Danielle Cumming, the Young Violinists, Lane Morgan, Javion Jones, Hispanic Dancers, Polaris Village Academy Dancers, and DJ Alan Butler to be entertaining and great fun. (Corner of Dover and West Streets)

**12 Noon ~ Pickup your passport** with map and instructions and explore the new *Frederick Douglass Geocaching Trail* created by Autumn Redman and Girl Scouts #1308. Learn about his life in Talbot County and collect a commemorative coin and photograph at the end of the trail. (Talbot County Free Library)

**1 pm ~ Lecture** Distinguished Professor Dr. Robert Levine, an influential force in American and African literature for over thirty years, is the author of *The Failed Promise: Reconstruction, Frederick Douglass, and the Impeachment of Andrew Johnson*. Levine will share the story of Frederick Douglass's heated struggle with President Andrew Johnson over the rights of Black Americans in the years immediately following the Civil War. A book signing will follow the lecture. (Talbot County Free Library).

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