

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Ron Kavanaugh

ron@literaryfreedom.org • 917-539-6965

FB/IG: @literaryfreedomproject

www.onebookonebronx.com/about/press

BRONX BOOK CLUB BUILDS A COMMUNITY OF READERS AND PRESENTS A SPACE TO DISCUSS SOCIAL ISSUES

February 15, 2019 - Recently, the Literary Freedom Project successfully relaunched **One Book One Bronx** —weekly discussions that invite readers to come together to discuss relevant books by Black and Latino writers and reestablish the rhythm of reading. This new style book club, which is open to the public, hosts **restorative conversations related to gentrification, social justice, women’s empowerment, and criminal justice**. Reading selections reflect the racial, economic, and gender demographics of the Bronx and build bridges to engagement while (re)sparking a love of literature.

These intergenerational sessions build on narratives created by writers who are dedicated to presenting an inclusive American experience through fiction, nonfiction, poetry, essays, and more. The first 25 book club attendees receive a free copy of the reading selection. One Book One Bronx averages 40 attendees per book club and has distributed over 200 free books.

Upcoming Schedule

- *Freshwater* by Akwaeke Emezi
March 5, 13, 20, 27, & April 2, 2019
Location: BronxArtSpace (305 E. 140th St)
- *Training School for Negro Girls* by Camille Acker
April 16, 23, 30, May 7, & 14, 2019
Location: BronxArtSpace (305 E. 140th St)

Past Schedule

October 2018: *Bodega Dreams* by Ernesto Quinonez, Bronx Native shop (137 Lincoln Ave.), in partnership with BX Writers; November 2018: *Sister Outsider* by Audre Lorde, BronxArtSpace; December 2018: *If Beale Street Could Talk* by James Baldwin, Bronx Library Center/NYPL; January 2019: *Bloodchild* by Octavia Butler



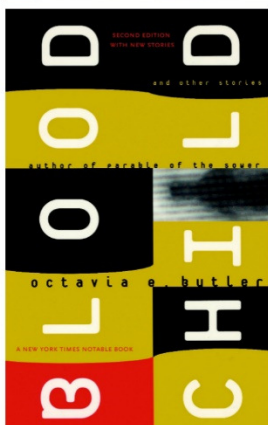
One Book One Bronx is fashioned after the traditional “One Book One City” model that was initiated in Seattle, but with a twist. Instead of monthly, OBOB meets weekly in a public space and books are free.

The Literary Freedom Project presents One Book One Bronx. LFP is a Bronx-based nonprofit arts organization that believes that cultural identity is a fundamental cornerstone in the development of smart, creative, and engaged communities. These qualities, on which cultures are sustained and strengthened, are honed, in part, through a mix immersive reading –academic, vocational, and pleasure. LFP also presents the Mosaic Literary Conference, develops lesson plans and workshops connecting literature to social issues, and publishes *Mosaic*.

LFP’s executive director is Ron Kavanaugh. A lifelong Bronx resident, he has worked for the Bronx Museum of the Arts, Bronx Council on the Arts, and Bronx River Arts Center. He launched the book club in 2017 with the hope is reconnecting his community to books and culture. ★



Sister Outsider by Audre Lorde at BronxArtSpace, 305 E. 140th St.
Photo by One Book One Bronx



Bodega Dreams by Ernesto Quinonez at Bronx Native, 137 Lincoln Ave.
Photo by Gregory Hernandez