

2026 Fall Author Series



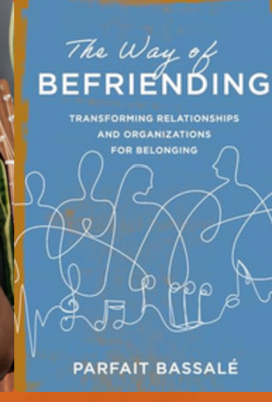
PAUL SUSI

TUES SEPTEMBER 22

6:00PM

Paul Susi is a writer, educator, theater artist, and social services professional.

His book *Character Work* is at once a memoir, a manifesto, and a startlingly honest account of what compassion can look like. Paul has spent many years managing shelters for unhoused people, and out of that work grew his mutual aid project, [PDX ID Assistance](#), a radical effort that literally gives people back their identities.



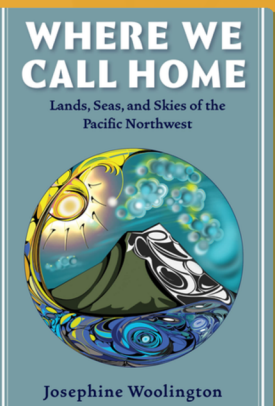
PARFAIT BASSALÉ

WED SEPTEMBER 30

6:00PM

In a world fractured by division and isolation, Parfait Bassalé's book *The Way of Befriending* offers a transformative vision of connection.

With a Master's in Conflict Resolution from Portland State University, Parfait has for 25+ years championed conflict resolution, equity and workplace belonging. He has worked with federal and state agencies, non-profits, and private organizations across the world.



**JOSEPHINE
WOOLINGTON**

WED OCT 21

6:00PM

Josephine Woolington is a writer, journalist and musician who lives in her hometown of Portland, Oregon.

In her debut work, *Where We Call Home: Lands, Seas, and Skies of the Pacific Northwest*, she turns back the clock to review the events that have challenged Pacific Northwest wildlife in an effort to provide a deeper sense of place. It won a 2024 Oregon Book Award.



**RACHEL
HOCHHAUSER**

WED OCTOBER 28

6:00PM

Rachel Hochhauser is a writer and co-founder of [Piecework](#), a cult-favorite puzzle brand.

Her debut novel, *Lady Tremain*, was an instant *New York Times* bestseller. It is a reimagining of Cinderella, as told through the eyes of its iconic "evil" stepmother, revealing a propulsive love story about the lengths a mother will go to for her children.



**JEFF
VANDERMEER**

TUES NOVEMBER 3

6:00PM

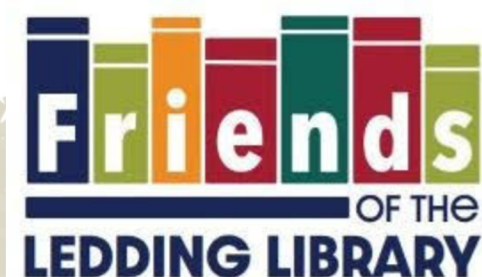
Jeff VanderMeer's internationally bestselling, critically acclaimed Southern Reach series has been translated into over 37 languages. The first novel, *Annihilation*, won the Nebula and Shirley Jackson awards, and was made into a movie by Alex Garland in 2018.

Called "the weird Thoreau" by *The New Yorker*, VanderMeer's nonfiction has appeared in *Time*, *The Nation*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and *Esquire*, among other publications.



Jeff will appear in conversation with local author A.L. Goldfuss.

This program was made possible by the generous support of the Friends of the Ledding Library.



Co-sponsored by:



Spoke & Word Books, Milwaukie Environmental Stewards Group, LoveOne, and the City of Milwaukie Equity Steering Committee.

LEDDING LIBRARY - Community Room
10660 SE 21st Ave, Milwaukie, OR 97222



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