



Keynote Speaker

2023 Louisiana Writer Award



MAURICE CARLOS RUFFIN

Maurice Carlos Ruffin's most recent book is *The American Daughters* (One World, 2024), which Publishers Weekly, in a starred review, called "a vibrant picture of antebellum New Orleans." He is also the author of the story collection *The Ones Who Don't Say They Love You* (One World, 2021), which was a New York Times Editors' Choice, a finalist for the Ernest J. Gaines Award for Literary Excellence, and longlisted for the Story Prize. His first book, *We Cast a Shadow* (One World, 2019), was a finalist for the PEN/Faulkner Award, the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, and the PEN America Open Book Prize. It was a New York Times Editors' Choice. His work has appeared in the New York Times, the LA Times, the Oxford American, Garden & Gun, Kenyon Review, and Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America.

Conference Overview

- 12 pm Registration/Sign In
- 12:45 Welcome
- 1 pm 3 Sessions
- 2 pm 3 Sessions
- 3 pm First Page American Idol
- 4 pm Keynote
- 5 pm Sunset Social

Other presenters include:

- Folwell Dunbar
- Ernest Foundas
- Abram Shalom Himelstein
- Brandon Stouff
- Adrian Van Young
- Emma C. Wells
- Southern Writers' Workshop

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