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## **Montgomery College to Host *One Maryland One Book* Program, Oct. 26** *James McBride, Author of Book "Song Yet Sung," to Speak at Rockville Campus*

**Attention Editors:** For high-resolution photos to accompany this release, click [here](#).

Montgomery College, in partnership with The Maryland Humanities Council and Montgomery County Public Libraries, will host a talk by celebrated author James McBride on Monday, October 26 at the Theatre Arts Arena located at the College's Rockville Campus, 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville, Md. McBride's novel, "Song Yet Sung," has been chosen as the 2009 title for One Maryland One Book, the statewide community reading program of the Maryland Humanities Council. Free and open to the public, the event will begin at 7 p.m. and will feature a performance by the MC Jazztet, under the direction of Professor Alvin Trask.

McBride, an award-winning author, composer, and screenwriter, is also the author of the New York Times best-selling memoir, "The Color of Water," and the novel, "Miracle at St. Anna," which was recently made into a film directed by Spike Lee.

Set on Maryland's Eastern Shore in the 1850s, "Song Yet Sung" weaves an intricate and gripping tale of escaped slaves, free blacks, and slave-catchers. The protagonist is an enslaved woman called The Dreamer, whose gift for visions of the future quickly reaches mythic proportions following her escape from a local plantation.

"I am delighted... It has to be one of the proudest moments of my career," said McBride on hearing of the selection of "Song Yet Sung" as Maryland's book for 2009. "The fact that the book was chosen by native Marylanders means all that much more. Like many Americans, I had no idea that the Eastern Shore of Maryland was the gateway to freedom for so many; nor did I realize the depth and complexity of relationships that existed between blacks and whites at that time, all of which were played out in Maryland."

Now in its second year, One Maryland One Book is designed to bring together diverse people in communities across the state through the shared experience of reading the same book and participating in book-centered discussions and other related programming. It is organized by the Maryland Humanities Council which brings the talks to communities around the state of Maryland.

This talk by James McBride is sponsored by Montgomery County Public Libraries, the Paul Peck Humanities Institute at Montgomery College and the Maryland Humanities Council in partnership with the Montgomery College Libraries, The Gazette newspaper, the Montgomery Honors Program, the African American Employees Association, Friends of the (Montgomery County) Library, and the Montgomery County Office of Human Rights.

For more information on Montgomery College, visit [www.montgomerycolleg.edu](http://www.montgomerycolleg.edu) or call 240-567-5000.

For more information or for organizations interested in partnering with the Maryland Humanities Council on this program, visit the Web site at [www.onemarylandonebook.org](http://www.onemarylandonebook.org) or call 410-685-6161.

To request accommodations for a disability, please call 240-567-7417 or email [esther.schwartz-mckinzie@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:esther.schwartz-mckinzie@montgomerycollege.edu) by October 12, 2009.

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*Montgomery College is a public, open admissions community college with campuses in Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, plus workforce development/continuing education centers and off-site programs throughout Montgomery County, Md. The College serves nearly 60,000 students a year, through both credit and noncredit programs, in more than 100 areas of study.*

*The Maryland Humanities Council is a statewide, educational, nonprofit organization that is affiliated with the National Endowment for the Humanities. The purpose of the Council is to stimulate and promote informed dialogue and civic engagement on issues critical to Marylanders.*

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