

## Friends of the Central Library: Empowering Communities Through Support and Literacy

Guest Speaker: **Maria Hinojosa, March 19**



Since its inception in 1997, Friends of the Central Library (FOCL) has been at the forefront of bolstering the Onondaga County Public Library, serving as a cornerstone for library programs and initiatives. Through tireless fundraising efforts, FOCL has contributed over \$670,000, enriching the library's resources with essential books and materials.

One of FOCL's flagship endeavors is the renowned Friends of the Central Library Author Series, recognized as the largest lecture series dedicated to libraries nationwide. Spanning more than 28 seasons, this series has welcomed over 150 esteemed authors to Syracuse, captivating audiences across Central New York with insightful discussions and inspiring narratives.

At the heart of FOCL's mission is the belief that libraries play a vital role in fostering

community vibrancy. Beyond serving as repositories of knowledge, libraries serve as dynamic spaces where residents can search for jobs, delve into historical and genealogical research, pursue education, and find entertainment. FOCL is dedicated to supporting and enhancing literacy efforts and resources within the community.

In line with this commitment, we are thrilled to announce that our very own **Gladys McCormick**, Associate Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, and Co-lead of the Latinx/e Affinity group with Suzette Melendez, will be introducing Maria Hinojosa on March 19th. Adding to the rich tapestry of insightful voices contributing to the library's ongoing dialogue, this event promises to be a celebration of the power of libraries to uplift and empower communities.

Join FOCL in commemorating this special occasion.

For more information and to purchase tickets, visit [FOCLsyracuse.org](https://FOCLsyracuse.org)

Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs at Syracuse University [Diversity Equity and Inclusion Resources \(answers.syr.edu\)](https://answers.syr.edu)

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