**Text for Library Newsletters**

On September 22nd, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, Massachusetts Center for the Book, and public libraries across the commonwealth are partnering on a "National Book Festival Near You" event.  The event opens at 7 p.m. with a group watch party of a video created for National Book Festival that features Isabel Wilkerson, author most recently of Caste:  The Origins of Our Discontents.  At the conclusion of the video, there will be a commonwealth conversation, led by former State Representative and noted historian and library advocate, Byron Rushing, and Salem State professor Roopika Risam, recent recipient of a Mass Library Association Intellectual Freedom award.  The event is open to all and promises to be a lively and informed discussion of the diversity, equity, and inclusion issues sparked by Wilkerson's analysis.  Please note that participants need not have read *Caste*in advance. An overview of Wilkerson's argument will be available in the materials sent to all registrants.

A Massachusetts Library Event via Zoom in partnership with the Library of Congress and National Book Festival.  Registration is now open:  [https://bit.ly/NBF2021MassWatchParty](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/bit.ly/NBF2021MassWatchParty__;!!CUhgQOZqV7M!1iRSSWJ585I29MlDPowdbgxQuE65Qh3_e6mT5wswoRn_bgaamI2yxAJllqamPP5jCq5FLWf-$)