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Dear Sandy,

We are writing to invite you to join us for the 2020 Fall Virtual Series presented by the New Orleans Book Festival at Tulane University.

As you may know, the 2020 New Orleans Book Festival live event scheduled for March on Tulane's uptown campus was cancelled due to the unexpected pandemic across the country this year. Since then, in an effort to continue to engage with the national and local literary community, we have begun to present virtual conversations featuring authors we missed this spring: John Barry on *The Great Influenza*; Sarah Broom on *The Yellow House*; Eddie Glaude, Jr., Kiese Leymon and Cleo Wade in a powerful discussion with Michelle Miller on *Race in America* and finally a Home and Away conversation between Michael Lewis and Walter Isaacson. These sessions were very popular and well-attended.

Moving into fall, we are now planning the Fall Virtual Series to present discussions on a variety of relevant topics. Your new book, *Words Whispered in Water: Why the Levees Broke in Hurricane Katrina*, has particular relevancy to the current state of national affairs we are facing. We would be thrilled to have you participate in this series to speak on this topic, especially noting the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. We can make every effort to accommodate your format preference, schedule and recommendation of moderator for the conversation.

In advance of your session, we will advertise and sell your book online through the university bookstore, Barnes & Noble College, as well as through independent booksellers. There will be extensive promotion of the series in local, regional and national media, as well as on our website and directly through Tulane alumnae engagement. New Orleans Book Festival's active social medial platforms will engage followers throughout the series.

We would be honored to count you as a highlighted participant in this Fall Virtual Series. If you need additional information, please let us know.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Landrieu  
Co-Chair, New Orleans Book Festival

Walter Isaacson  
Co-Chair, New Orleans Book Festival