



**2021 Ruth Ratner Miller
Memorial Award for Excellence
in American History**
presented to **Heather Cox Richardson**
Saturday, October 16, 7:00 PM



PROGRAM OF EVENTS

WELCOME

Anne Irza-Leggat

Friends of the Concord Free Public Library

INTRODUCTION

Matt Boger

Vice President of the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library

MILLER MEMORIAL ADDRESS

Heather Cox Richardson

AWARD PRESENTATION

Anne Irza-Leggat

Friends of the Concord Free Public Library

**The Ruth Ratner Miller
Memorial Award for
Excellence in American
History is presented by**



Heather Cox Richardson, professor of American History at Boston College and esteemed author, who was recognized by *The New York Times* as “the breakout star of the newsletter platform *Substack*, doing the opposite of most media as she calmly situates the news of the day in the long sweep of American history.”

Her early work focused on the transformation of political ideology from the Civil War to the presidency of Theodore Roosevelt through the lens of race, economics, westward expansion, and the construction of the concept of an American middle class. Her latest book, *How the South Won the Civil War*, was named one of *The Washington Post*'s 50 Notable Works of Nonfiction in 2020.

Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for Excellence in American History

2021 Heather Cox Richardson

2020 Jill Lepore

2019 John Stauffer

2018 Annette Gordon-Reed

2017 Gordon S. Wood

2016 Laurel Thatcher Ulrich

2015 Robert Dallek

2014 Nathaniel Philbrick

2013 Drew Gilpin Faust

2012 Eric Foner

2011 Pauline Maier

2010 Bernard Bailyn

2009 David Herbert Donald

2008 David Hackett Fischer

2007 John Hope Franklin

2006 Doris Kearns Goodwin

2005 David Halberstam

2004 Edmund S. Morgan

2003 Sandra Day O'Connor

2002 Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr.

2001 Daniel J. Boorstin

2000 Thomas H. O'Connor

1999 James M. McPherson

1998 Stephen Ambrose

Dr. Ruth Ratner Miller

Ruth Ratner Miller (1925-1996) believed passionately that understanding history was not merely desirable but a civic and religious duty. To that end, she was an original member of the Holocaust Commission and a founding trustee of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, D.C. After raising four children, she returned to the Case Western Reserve University and earned a Ph.D. in Education. She went on to serve as Health Director of Community Development for the city of Cleveland in the late 1970s and then became President of Tower City Center, the developer that renovated Cleveland's Terminal Tower, marking the beginning of that city's renaissance. She also served as trustee of Cleveland State University. Her many acts of public and private charity prompted some to refer to her as "Tikkun Olam," Hebrew for "Repairer of the World." How the world could use such people today.

The Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for Excellence in American History was established in 1998 and is sponsored by her four children to honor the life of their mother, Ruth Ratner Miller.

Now 50 years old, the **Friends of the Concord Free Public Library** is a nonprofit, charitable 501(c)(3) organization that supports our library and our community. Your membership and book donations enable us to fund museum passes, media, children's programs and adult lectures, music, poetry, and film series. Members help the library by organizing programs and volunteering at events, book signings, and book sales. Join the Friends today!

Friends of the Concord Free Public Library
P.O. Box 644
Concord, MA 01742
www.cfplfriends.org

**The Friends of the
Concord Free Public Library
thank the Ruth Ratner Miller
Memorial Award Committee:**

Stephan Bader

Victor Curran

Marcy Bouley Eckel

Anne Irza-Leggat

Sherry F. Litwack

Anke Voss