

2017 May Hill Arbuthnot Honor Lecture

# WHAT GETS LEFT BEHIND

## *Stories From The Great Migration*



The South Carolina State Library will host the annual 2017 May Hill Arbuthnot Lecture featuring award-winning author Jacqueline Woodson on April 1, 2017 at the University of South Carolina Darla Moore School of Business.

Each year, the Arbuthnot Lecture features an individual of distinction in the field of children's literature who is chosen to write and deliver a lecture that will make a significant scholarly contribution to the field of children's literature. Tickets for the lecture are available on [Arbuthnot2017.org](http://Arbuthnot2017.org).

Woodson will present "What Gets Left Behind: Stories from the Great Migration." From the early 1900s until the mid-1970s, more than 6 million African Americans moved from the rural South to northern cities. The movement became known as the Great Migration. Woodson's mother and grandmother were among them. Her book *This is the Rope* uses a rope to frame a compelling story of one such journey of a family adapting to change as they hold on to the past and embrace the future. In the notes, she writes, "The rope we brought to this 'new country' was hope."

Woodson's works, which have won many awards, examine a variety of often challenging topics, such as race or sexual orientation in a direct manner. Arbuthnot Committee Chair Ellen Hunter Ruffin said Woodson was selected to speak because of her willingness to confront the challenging issues effort the youth of today.

To find out more information on the event, please contact State Library Public Information Specialist [Sean Gruber](#).

## If You Go

### *When*

Saturday, April 1. Doors open at 6:15 p.m. Lecture begins at 7 p.m.

### *Where*

W.W. Hootie Johnson Auditorium, USC Darla Moore School of Business  
1014 Greene Street Columbia, SC

### *Cost*

[Free, but tickets are required for each event](#). Following the lecture will be a book signing and a reception.