

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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WRONGFULLY CONVICTED MARYLANDER FIGHTS FOR RIGHTS OF THOSE INCARCERATED

"Is Justice Just?" Series Continues in Baltimore with Walter Lomax

(Baltimore, MD) – Maryland Humanities welcomes Walter Lomax, in conversation with The Honorable Gale E. Rasin, to **the Motor House on February 9 at 2:00 p.m.** In 1967, Lomax was arrested in Baltimore at the age of 20 and sentenced to life in prison for the murder of Robert Brewer, the proprietor of Giles Food Market. Lomax maintained his innocence from the time of his arrest. After nearly 40 years and repeated petitions for a new trial, a review of his case by Judge Rasin and additional investigations led to Lomax's release in 2006.

Lomax will speak about his experiences navigating the justice system following his incarceration for a crime he did not commit. He will also discuss his work as the Founder and Executive Director of the Maryland Restorative Justice Initiative, which fights for the rights of incarcerated individuals with parole-eligible life sentences. Andrew Green of *The Baltimore Sun* will moderate the event, part of Maryland Humanities' "Is Justice Just?" series.

The event is **free**, but reservations are required. We recommend that all guests arrive together. Note that a reservation is not the equivalent of a ticket. Attendees are urged to arrive early as any seats remaining when the program begins will be open to walk-up attendees. Seats can be reserved <u>here</u>. The Motor House is located at **120 West North Avenue** in **Baltimore City**.

Maryland Humanities began the "Is Justice Just?" series in October with a screening of *Inside the Executioner's Shadow,* a documentary about the death penalty, followed by a discussion. In December, Maryland Humanities hosted author and community leader Tony Lewis, Jr., who spoke about the impact of mass incarceration on children and families. The series will conclude with a future event this April.

Maryland Humanities' local partners for "Is Justice Just?" are <u>The Baltimore Sun</u>, <u>Curatorial Practice MFA at</u> <u>MICA</u>, and <u>Choose Civility</u> Howard County, led by <u>Howard County Library System</u>. This series is part of the "Democracy and the Informed Citizen" Initiative, administered by the Federation of State Humanities Councils. The series is made possible through the generosity of The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and the partnership of the Pulitzer Prizes. Additional support for programming in Maryland has been provided by Venable Foundation and Baltimore Bar Foundation.

About Maryland Humanities



Maryland Humanities is a statewide nonprofit organization that creates and supports educational experiences in the humanities that inspire all Marylanders to embrace lifelong learning, exchange ideas openly, and enrich their communities. For more information, visit www.mdhumanities.org. Maryland Humanities is generously supported by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the State of Maryland, private foundations, corporations, small businesses, and individual donors.

About Walter Lomax

Walter Lomax is the Founder and Executive Director of the Maryland Restorative Justice Initiative, which seeks to make changes within the Maryland parole system so that certain Lifers can be granted parole and experience meaningful lives.

About Gale Rasin

Gale Rasin is a Senior Judge of the Circuit Court for Baltimore City, where she presides over the Mental Health Court in the Criminal Division. She has served on the bench since 1992. Before that she practiced law, for the most part as a prosecutor at the local, state, and federal levels. Rasin currently serves on the Maryland Humanities Board of Directors. She has also been involved with organizations dedicated to reducing animal cruelty and neglect, including the Mayor's Anti-Animal Abuse Advisory Commission. She earned her B.A. from Duke University in French and political science and her J.D. from Georgetown University Law Center.

About Andrew Green

Andrew A. Green is the opinion editor for The Baltimore Sun. He was the city/state editor before joining the editorial board, and prior to that he covered the State House and Baltimore County government.