

The Wolfe Institute

*The Ethyle R. Wolfe Institute for the Humanities,
in cooperation with the Daniel M. Lyons Chair of American History,
the Dean of Humanities and Social Sciences, the Dean of the School of Education,
the Departments of Africana Studies, English, and History, the American Studies Program,
the Children and Youth Studies Program, the Conservatory of Music,
and the History Program at the Graduate Center, CUNY,
presents*

Narratives of the Revolution

A Series about Scholarly and Storytelling Approaches to History



photo credit Sonya Sones



National Book Award-winning author **M. T. Anderson** has written several fiction and nonfiction books for adult and young adult readers. Among his most celebrated works is the two-volume *Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing*, a tale about an enslaved boy raised in a scientific community who goes on to become a soldier during the American Revolution. Anderson will be interviewed by professor **David Waldstreicher** of the CUNY Graduate Center, who has written several scholarly books about the history of early America, slavery, and the Revolution. The goal of the program is to see what comes of a dialogue between historians of the American Revolution and historical fiction authors who have done extensive research and tackled the “narrative” of the Revolution in imaginative ways. The interview between Anderson and Waldstreicher will emphasize the ways we tell stories about the past to future generations.

M.T. Anderson is an accomplished author of a wide range of titles, including works of fantasy and satire. *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing*, *Traitor to the Nation, Volume I: The Pox Party*, winner of the National Book Award, and its sequel, *Kingdom on the Waves*, were named Michael L. Printz Honor Books. Anderson’s most recent book is a YA nonfiction entitled *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad*. His previous books include *Thirsty*, a vampire novel; *Burger Wuss*, a revenge story set in a fast-food emporium; and *Feed*. From 2003–2012, he served on the board of the National Children’s Book and Literacy Alliance, a national nonprofit organization that advocates for literacy, literature, and libraries. He lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

David Waldstreicher currently serves as professor of history at the City University of New York Graduate Center. Waldstreicher is the author of *Slavery’s Constitution: From Revolution to Ratification* (Hill and Wang, 2009); *Runaway America: Benjamin Franklin, Slavery, and the American Revolution* (Hill and Wang, 2004); and *In the Midst of Perpetual Fetes: The Making of American Nationalism, 1776-1820* (University of North Carolina Press, 1997). He is currently working on a book about Phyllis Wheatley.

Thursday, November 19, 2015
5 to 6:15 p.m. Reception to Follow
Jefferson-Williams Lounge, 4th Floor
Brooklyn College Student Center
Campus Road and East 27th Street

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