

# Jefferson-Madison Regional Library

201 East Market St. | Charlottesville, Virginia 22902 | 434.979.7151 ext. 211 | FAX 434.979.9728

## THE BIG READ GREAT GUMBO CONTEST!

Central Library Saturday, March 13, 1:30

In *A LESSON BEFORE DYING* by Ernest J. Gaines, a young black man, Jefferson, is condemned to die for murder. As he awaits the electric chair, he is visited by his godmother, Miss Emma, and Grant, the local teacher at the plantation school.

Grant's mission is to spend time with Jefferson so that he might confront death with his head held high. In the process, Jefferson is cajoled to eat some of Miss Emma's food which is made with love. And one of the first foods he finally does eat is her gumbo.

In connection with this book, the Jefferson-Madison Regional Library is having a "Great Gumbo Contest"

Show off your gumbo making skills at THE BIG READ contest!

Rules:

1. Gumbo is a Cajun soup or stew containing roux and thickened with gumbo file (dried sassafras leaves). It usually contains a variety of meats and or seafood, okra and other ingredients and seasonings and is generally served over rice.
2. Entries must be prepared in advance. Please bring at least one gallon to the McIntire Room of the Central Library by 1:00 on Saturday March 13. The gumbo should be heated and kept warm in transport.
3. Judging will begin at 1:30. The library will provide cups, spoons, and napkins. There will be some chafing dishes provided to keep food warm. Public tasting will begin immediately following.
4. The judge's decision shall be final and binding. The first place winner will be awarded a \$100 gift certificate to purchase kitchen supplies. Second place will receive a \$50 gift certificate. Third place will receive a \$25 gift certificate.
5. Due to space limitations only the first 20 contestants will be allowed to compete.
6. To enter, please email [bigread@jmrl.org](mailto:bigread@jmrl.org)