



# We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy Ta-Nehisi Coates

National correspondent for *The Atlantic*; 2015 National Book Award winner and Pulitzer Prize finalist, *Between the World and Me*

**Tuesday, October 17, 2017, 7:00 PM**

**Interviewer: Natalie Moore, South Side Reporter, WBEZ**

**Francis W. Parker School, Heller Auditorium, 2233 N. Clark St., Chicago**

*RSVPs no longer being taken; all seating is first-come, first-served regardless of reservation. Overflow seating available.*

**Wednesday, October 18, 2017, 7:00 PM**

**Interviewer: Marcus Campbell, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent/Principal, ETHS**

**Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston**

*No RSVPs required at ETHS. Seating is first-come, first-served. Overflow seating available.*

*Post-event discussion led by Dr. Campbell, clinical psychologist Melissa Blount, Ph.D. and designer Ben Blount of Evanston.*

Presented by **Family Action Network (FAN)**,

in partnership with Baker Demonstration School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Erikson Institute, Evanston Township High School D202, Francis W. Parker School, Moran Center for Youth Advocacy, New Trier Multifaith Alliance, North Shore Country Day School, Youth and Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore.

Both events are free and open to the public and both will be videotaped. Suitable for youth 12+. **Info: [familyactionnetwork.net](http://familyactionnetwork.net)**

### Annual Sponsors:



### Strategic Partners:



### In-Kind Sponsors:





**EVENT #1:** Tuesday, October 17, 2017, *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*, 7:00 PM, Francis W. Parker School, Heller Auditorium, 2233 N. Clark St., Chicago, 60614. (RSVP required – the event is now full. Stand-by seating only). Interviewer: Natalie Moore, South Side Reporter, WBEZ, and author, *The South Side, A Portrait of Chicago and American Segregation*.

**EVENT #2:** Wednesday, October 18, 2017, *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*, 7:00 PM, Evanston Township High School Auditorium, 1600 Dodge Ave., Evanston, 60201. (No RSVPs required. Seating is first-come, first-served. Overflow seating available). Interviewer: Marcus Campbell, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent-Principal, Evanston Township High School. **Audience discussion at conclusion of event with Dr. Campbell and clinical psychologist Melissa Blount, Ph.D. and designer Ben Blount of Evanston.**

In 2008, National Book Award-winning author **Ta-Nehisi Coates** went from believing that a black president was impossible, to being challenged by the sudden prospect of one. In his new book, *We Were Eight Years in Power: An American Tragedy*, Mr. Coates asks, “I remember how Obama caused me to question myself and my basic relationship with my country. All my life I had seen myself, and my people, backed into a corner, Had I been wrong?” Part memoir, part polemic, Mr. Coates offers his intimate and revealing perspective – the point of view of a young writer who begins his journey in an unemployment office in harlem and ends it in the Oval Office, interviewing Barack Obama.

*We Were Eight Years in Power* is a personal narrative that examines the symbiosis of Obama;s influence on American culture, Mr. Coates’ intellectual and professional growth, and the inspiring new voices, ideas, and movements that emerged together over this period. “We were eight years in power” was the lament of Reconstruction-era politicians as the American experiment in multiracial democracy ended with the rise of the Jim Crow south. Mr. Coates is a **national correspondent** for *The Atlantic*, and author of the #1 bestseller *Between the World and Me*, winner of the **2015 National Book Award for Nonfiction**. He is the recipient of a **MacArthur Fellowship** and has received the **National Magazine Award** and the **Hillman Prize for Opinion and Analysis Journalism**.

Sponsored by *Family Action Network (FAN)*, in partnership with *Baker Demonstration School, Chiaravalle Montessori School, Erikson Institute, Evanston Township High School D202, Francis W. Parker School, Moran Center for Youth Advocacy, New Trier Multifaith Alliance, North Shore Country Day School, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and the YWCA Evanston/North Shore*. FAN is grateful for the support of its 2017-18 annual sponsors *Compass Health Center, Evanston Township High School D202, New Trier High School D203, the Martin & Mary L. Boyer Foundation, Magnetar Capital, and Tina & Byron Trott*; strategic partners *Acclaim Media, the Butler Family Foundation, Center for Talent Development at Northwestern University, Curt’s Café, Investnet, Erikson Institute, Evanston/Skokie D65, the Finnegan Family Foundation, Grosvenor Capital Management, Hackstudio, Loyola University Chicago School of Law, the Mammel Foundation, the Master of Science in Education Program at the School of Education and Social Policy at Northwestern University, the McGaw YMCA, New Trier Parents’ Association, North Shore Community Bank, Northern Suburban Special Education District (NSSD), Northwestern University, R4 Services, LLC, The Book Stall at Chestnut Court, The Family Institute at Northwestern University, Youth & Opportunity United (Y.O.U.), and YWCA Evanston/North Shore*; and in-kind sponsors *Kirkland & Ellis LLP and Turing Group*.

**Annual Sponsors:**



**Strategic Partners:**

