



Monday March 18, 2024 at 7:00
"In Other Words, Leadership"

Presented by: Shannon Mullen

Shannon will discuss her new nonfiction book, *In Other Words, Leadership: How a Young Mother's Weekly Letters to Her Governor Helped Both Women Brave the First Pandemic Year*, published in 2023 by Steerforth Press and distributed by Penguin Random House. The book tells the unprecedented true story of two women from opposite poles of power — Maine homesteader Ashirah Knapp and the state's current governor, Janet Mills — who forged an uplifting bond, through old-fashioned letter writing, that helped them navigate the COVID crisis. Both women brought civility, grace, wit, and wisdom to the challenge of protecting those who depend on them. Shannon will detail her process of weaving the book's surprising and inspiring narrative from Ashirah's letters and unedited excerpts from the governor's journals, as well as the dramatic events of the first COVID year that changed the course of human history.

Shannon A. Mullen is a journalist, author, screenwriter and film producer, playwright and podcast host. She is a Campton native who grew up in New Hampshire's White Mountains and Lakes Region. Shannon studied at UNH before earning a graduate degree in broadcast journalism at Boston University. She went on to report for national programs on public radio for two decades, including *Marketplace*, *Morning Edition* and *All Things Considered*. Her print journalism has been published by *The New Yorker*, *Boston Magazine*, *The Boston Globe* and *New Hampshire Magazine* among other outlets. She is also a screenwriter, film producer and podcast host, and develops stories for the screen, stage and spoken word through her production company Broad Reach. Photo credit Thomas Petzwinkler



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