

# Frank Islam Athenaeum Symposia Spring 2023 Speaker Series

Social Justice: Community Wellness

## The Big Bang of Numbers Creating a Culture for Universal Mathematical Engagement

Tuesday, March 28, 5:00-6:30 PM  
Germantown Campus, Globe Hall



Dr. Manil Suri

Light refreshments will be served.

*This event fulfills the Multicultural Diversity Training requirement for MC employees. Register for event using MC Learns to receive professional development credit. If you have questions, please email [athenaeum@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:athenaeum@montgomerycollege.edu).*

Mathematical achievement has been shown to be affected by racial and economic differences, with inadequate performance cutting off untold numbers of students from STEM careers of their choice. Fostering math engagement amongst adults can help improve opinions about the subject and prevent negative views being passed down to children. The author will discuss his book, *The Big Bang of Numbers*, which provides an entertaining introduction to mathematics for both mathematicians and non-mathematicians, by showing how it could arguably be used to build the entire universe.

Dr. Manil Suri was born in Mumbai in 1959 and is a distinguished university professor of mathematics at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. He is the author of numerous books. His fiction has been translated into 27 languages, longlisted for the Booker Prize, shortlisted for the PEN/Faulkner Award, LA Times Book Award, PEN/Hemingway Award and the W. H. Smith Literary Award, and has won the McKittrick Prize and the Barnes & Noble Discover Award, among others. He is a former contributing opinion writer at the New York Times, for which he has written several widely read pieces on mathematics, India, and LGBTQ+ issues. He lives with his husband in Silver Spring, Maryland.