



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Tuesday, January 9, 2025

## **Shaping the Future of Education: Dr. Carey Wright in Conversation with Emily Hanford at Planet Word**

**Washington, D.C.** — On Saturday, January 25, **Planet Word** will present Eyes on Reading, featuring Dr. Carey Wright, former Mississippi State Superintendent of Education and current Maryland State Superintendent of Schools, in conversation with award-winning journalist Emily Hanford.

The event will delve into Dr. Wright’s proven strategies for improving literacy outcomes, which gained national attention during her tenure in Mississippi. Under her leadership, the state achieved unprecedented gains in reading achievement, particularly for fourth graders, on the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), often called the Nation’s Report Card.

As states across the nation grapple with challenges in literacy education, Dr. Wright’s evidence-based approaches and insights offer valuable lessons with broad applications. Guiding this discussion is Emily Hanford, Planet Word’s Journalist-in-Residence, whose influential reporting on the science of reading has sparked a national conversation on the critical need for reform in reading instruction nationwide.

“Dr. Wright’s work has reshaped how educators and policymakers think about literacy,” said Hanford, Planet Word’s Journalist-in-Residence. “This event will spark conversations about how communities everywhere can embrace effective, evidence-based approaches to ensure every child is prepared for reading success.”

Space is limited, so reserve your seats now. Tickets are \$15 and available here: <https://planetwordmuseum.org/events/eyes-on-reading-maryland-state-superintendent-carey-wright-in-conversation-with-emily-hanford/>.

Event Details

9:00 – 9:45 a.m. — Pastry reception (Planet Word Lobby)

10:00 a.m. — Program begins (Friedman Family Auditorium)

This program is presented with support from the Ibis Group. To arrange for coverage, contact [press@planetwordmuseum.org](mailto:press@planetwordmuseum.org).

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**Planet Word** is the only museum in the country dedicated to renewing and inspiring a love of words and language. Located in the historic Franklin School on the corner of 13th and K Streets in downtown D.C., Planet Word opened in 2020 as a new kind of interactive and self-guided museum. Using the museum’s state-of-the-art technology, visitors determine their experience through their own words and choices. Planet Word is a bold and imaginative response to the life-long importance of literacy and to the challenge of growing a love of language. As a private, non-governmental museum, Planet Word is free for visitors and supported primarily by the generosity of donors.