



Vermont Municipal Clerks & Treasurers Association

## Athenian Leadership Dialogue

---

**September 14 & 15, 2023**

**9 am – 12:30 pm**

(both days with breaks)

**EST**

**This dialogue will be  
virtual only!**

### **Viola Davis: *Finding Me*** by Viola Davis

You must read the book before the dialogue.

Worth 3 points towards CMC or MMC after completion of the assessment.

**About our book: “In my book, you will meet a little girl named Viola who ran from her past until she made a life-changing decision to stop running forever.**



This is my story, from a crumbling apartment in Central Falls, Rhode Island, to the stage in New York City, and beyond. This is the path I took to finding my purpose but also my voice in a world that didn't always see me.

As I wrote *Finding Me*, my eyes were open to the truth of how our stories are often not given close examination. We are forced to reinvent them to fit into a crazy, competitive, judgmental world. So I wrote this for anyone running through life untethered, desperate and clawing their way through murky memories, trying to get to some form of self-love. For anyone who needs reminding that a life worth living can only be born from radical honesty and the courage to shed facades and be . . . you.

*Finding Me* is a deep reflection, a promise, and a love letter of sorts to self.

My hope is that my story will inspire you to light up your own life with creative expression and rediscover who you were before the world put a label on you.” excerpt from Amazon.

**What is an Athenian Dialogue?** Dialogues are conversations in which Municipal Clerks share their experiences as they relate to the author or characters of the book. Athenian Dialogues explore leadership qualities and how you might influence your community. Take notes as you read the book. Bring your favorite quote to the dialogue.

#### **Facilitator, Dawn Michanowicz, MMC, CMMC**

Dawn Michanowicz [Mc-kan-o-wits] is a Master Municipal Clerk, retired after 20 years of government service in Massachusetts. Dawn was raised in Europe as a daughter of WWII Navy veteran. She has a B.S. degree in political science and at one point considered a career in the US Foreign Service. She worked in the North World Trade Tower in NY for a multinational import/export company before starting her own company. Today, Dawn teaches mindfulness seminars to her municipal colleagues across New England, New York and Florida. She is a popular leader who brings creativity, joy and humor. Bring your favorite quote from this book to share.



*Vermont Municipal Clerks & Treasurers Association*

## **Athenian Leadership Dialogue**

---

REGISTRATION for the Athenian Dialogue only

**Viola Davis: Finding Me:** by Viola Davis

**September 14 and 15, 2023**

**Deadline to Register is September 8, 2023.**

Here is the link to sign up:

**<https://vmcta.org/meetinginfo.php>**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Municipality: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Virtual Only:**

VMCTA Members: Enclose \$65.00 payment

Non-Members: Enclose \$80.00 payment

Make checks payable to: VMCTA – We offer a credit card payment option when you register through the link:

**<https://vmcta.org/meetinginfo.php>**

**Please mail check and registration to:**

Patti Lewis, CVC/CVT/MMC

866 North Fayston Rd. Fayston, VT 05660

Questions? Contact Diana Vachon at 802-343-3145 or by email at [dvachon@shelburnevt.org](mailto:dvachon@shelburnevt.org)