

2008

ARKANSAS  
LITERARY  
FESTIVAL



April 4-6, 2008  
Little Rock River Market District  
[ArkansasLiteraryFestival.org](http://ArkansasLiteraryFestival.org)

Presented By  
 *Arkansas  
Literacy  
Councils, Inc.*



Kaye Gibbons - 2004, William F. Buckley - 2005,  
John Hope Franklin - 2006, Nikki Giovanni - 2007

## WELCOME TO THE FIFTH ANNUAL ARKANSAS LITERARY FESTIVAL

We invite you to join in a celebration of literacy, language, and the written word. Author sessions offer something for readers of all ages and interests: from mysteries to thrillers to politics to religion and other genres. The kids' area features authors, hands-on literacy activities, puppet shows, black stallion horses, and more. The photos and quotes throughout this program reflect on our first four years. We deeply appreciate the authors, all of whom donated their time; and the scores of volunteers, without whose tireless efforts this event would not happen. And, of course, we thank YOU—your attendance, book purchases, and donations have generated proceeds to benefit adult literacy programs through Arkansas Literacy Councils, Inc. Each year, thousands of adult Arkansans receive one-on-one tutoring from volunteers throughout the state. Together, we are making a difference.

**ENJOY!**

**Jean Block, Festival Chair**  
**Katie McManners, Festival Director**

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## FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008

### FESTIVAL AUTHOR PARTY

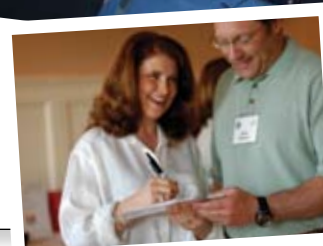
7:00 p.m. Lafayette Building, 6th & Louisiana Streets, Little Rock

Advance Tickets: \$50 per person, \$90 per couple

After April 2: \$55 per person, \$100 per couple

Reserve tickets with your credit card at (501) 907-2490

Celebrate our fifth anniversary and help support adult literacy programs in Arkansas by attending the Author Party, which is the place to mingle with Festival authors and to have your books signed. Enjoy heavy hors d'oeuvres, beer, wine, and the Festival's signature pomegranate martinis.



## SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

### LET US EAT CAKE

Featuring Former White House Pastry Chef Roland Mesnier

12:30 p.m. River Market Clark Room, above Boulevard Bread Company

Advance Tickets: \$12 per person

After April 2: \$15 per person

Reserve tickets with your credit card at (501) 907-2490

Back by popular demand! Roland Mesnier returns to the Arkansas Literary Festival, this time to present his new cookbook *Basic to Beautiful Cakes*. Listen to Mesnier talk about his experiences at the White House, where he served five U.S. presidents, and then sample his Upside Down Cake (courtesy of The Capital Hotel and Blue Cake Company). All three of Mesnier's titles will be available for purchase and autographing: his cookbooks *Basic to Beautiful Cakes* and *Dessert University*, and his memoir, *All the Presidents' Pastries*.



## SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

### "FOOD-SHELTER-STORY"

Featuring Crescent Dragonwagon

3:00 p.m. River Market Clark Room, above Boulevard Bread Company

Advance Tickets: \$12 per person

After April 2: \$15 per person

Reserve tickets with your credit card at (501) 907-2490

We all want a safe place, a full belly, and quenched thirst. But we are driven by another need—to tell, hear, write, and read our stories. Listen as Crescent Dragonwagon talks about why and how these needs are intertwined and how her cookbooks provide more than just recipes. Sample cornbread from recipes in her latest cookbook *Cornbread Gospels*.



# FREE SPECIAL EVENTS

**THURSDAY, APRIL 3, 2008**

## NATIONAL PUBLIC RADIO'S "THE BOOK GUYS"

Two Shows: 6:00 p.m. and 7:15 p.m. Main Library, Darragh Center  
FREE, but reservations are required.

Contact Maribeth at [mmurray@cals.org](mailto:mmurray@cals.org) or (501) 918-3032.

Back for their fifth visit: NPR's wildly popular book historians and book appraisers. Allan Styneck and Mike Cuthbert combine intelligence and fun—and a knack for knowing the history behind books. The Book Guys will record two shows and you can participate. Audience members are encouraged to bring odd or possibly rare books for appraisal—but sign up now. Seats are limited and "The Guys" pack them in.

Presented by



**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

## CROSSWORD PUZZLES FOR ALL WITH JAN BUCKNER WALKER

2:00 p.m. Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Katie at [katie@arkansasliteracy.org](mailto:katie@arkansasliteracy.org) or (501) 907-2490.

Since their launch in 2004, Walker's weekly crosswords have become a family tradition for millions of families nationwide. *Kids Across Parents Down* is Walker's series of books that offer puzzles with thought-provoking clues and bright stickers. Word-lovers of all ages are welcome.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

## RECEPTION FOR TEEN LITERARY CHAMPIONS

2:00 - 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Board Room (3rd Floor)

FREE, no reservations required.

Join us to honor teens participating in these 2008 Festival competitions: Reader's Theatre, Poetry Out Loud (presented by Arkansas Arts Council), and Essay Contest (presented by University of Arkansas at Little Rock). Refreshments provided by the Arkansas Arts Council.

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

## PUB OR PERISH

7:00 p.m. The Peabody Little Rock

FREE, no reservations required.

Grab a drink while authors grab the podium. Free-form readings by Festival and local authors.

Presented by



**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

## LITERATURE LIVE!

Attention kids (and kids at heart): Look for your favorite storybook and historic characters strolling through the Festival grounds. They will be happy to meet you for photos and autographs.

Johnny Appleseed

Cat In the Hat

Dorothy from *The Wizard of Oz*

Sarah, Plain and Tall

Daniel Boone

Clifford the Big Red Dog

Sherlock Holmes

Winnie the Pooh

Listen to *Literature Live!* Street Performers read from Festival authors' works at:

- River Market, East Pavilion
- Rock Street, in front of the Main Library

**TUESDAY, APRIL 22, 2008**

## CELEBRATE LITERACY MONTH 2008 AWARDS CEREMONY

10:30 a.m. State Capitol Rotunda

April is "Celebrate Literacy Month" in Arkansas. This awards ceremony honors Arkansans who give and receive services in the quest for literacy and lifelong learning. Awards will be presented by Arkansas Literacy Councils, Inc., the Arkansas Reading Association, the GED Testing Section of the Arkansas Department of Workforce Education, and the Arkansas Bar Association. The ceremony will end with a reading by the 2008 Student of the Year.

## 2008 POETRY OUT LOUD STATE RECITATION FINALS

On Saturday, March 1, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation partnered with the Arkansas Arts Council, an agency of the Department of Arkansas Heritage, to hold the third annual 2008 Poetry Out Loud State Recitation Finals. This contest encourages high school students to learn about great poetry through memorization and performance. The state champion was selected at a competition held at the Laman Public Library in North Little Rock.

All contestants will be acknowledged at the 2008 Arkansas Literary Festival Teen Literary Champions Reception. For information, contact Cynthia at [Cynthia@arkansasheritage.org](mailto:Cynthia@arkansasheritage.org) or (501) 324-9769.



# ADULT SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008

12:00 - 1:00 P.M.

## WRITING ABOUT RELIGION FOR A POPULAR AUDIENCE

Cecil Murphey, *90 Minutes in Heaven* (presented by University of Arkansas at Little Rock) and Robert L. Short, *The Parables of Dr. Seuss* (Religion/Philosophy)

Writing about theological matters for a wide audience can be daunting; Murphey and Short approach the challenge differently, but with abundant creativity. Short's conversational book will delight the Seuss fan in all of us and Murphey's work will hold us spellbound as we follow one life-changing experience.

Moderator: Mike Cuthbert

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008

5:30 - 6:30 P.M.

## RETHINKING RELIGION AND POLITICS

Presented by the Clinton Library and School of Public Service  
E.J. Dionne, Jr., *Souled Out: Reclaiming Faith and Politics After the Religious Right* (Politics/Religion)

FREE, but reservations are required.

Contact Nikolai at [publicprograms@clintonschool.uasys.edu](mailto:publicprograms@clintonschool.uasys.edu) or (501) 683-5239

The religious and political winds are changing, at least according to *Washington Post* columnist Dionne. He explores Christianity's contributions to American politics and calls for a new bond between religious conservatives and liberals based on shared values. Whether you think that's possible or impossible, Dionne's writing "bristles with moral insight," says the *Boston Globe* and "informs as well as enrages."

Moderator: Warwick Sabin

Venue: Clinton School of Public Service,  
Choctaw Building Lobby



Makuchi - 2004

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

9:30 - 10:30 A.M.

## DOGS AND THEIR PEOPLE

Sonny Brewer, *Cormac: The Tale of a Dog Gone Missing* and Beth Finke, *Hanni and Beth: Safe & Sound* (Animal/Fiction)

Dogs can be heroes or troublemakers—or a combination of both. Brewer's novel, based on real events, tells the story of a beloved Golden Retriever who runs away and ends up in the suburbs of Connecticut. Finke's beautifully illustrated book teaches us about the unique bond between a blind person and her Seeing Eye dog.

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

## GET IT WRITE...OR ELSE

Elise Blackwell, *Grub* and Tito Perdue, *The Fields of Asphodel* (Fiction)

Blackwell's book features a cast that discovers success involves marketing, not talent. The *San Francisco Chronicle* says, "Blackwell moves into the front rank of American satirists." Perdue, born in Chile, raised in Alabama, is becoming a cult favorite. The *New York Press* wrote that Perdue is, "one of the most important contemporary Southern writers we have—and should certainly be considered among the most important American writers of the early 21st century."

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Cox Creative Center

## DELTA ROOTS

Margaret Jones Bolsterli, *During Wind and Rain:*

*The Jones Family Farm in the Arkansas Delta, 1848-2006* (Arkansas History)

In telling the story of five generations of her family on a farm in the Arkansas Delta, Bolsterli combines research, historical perspective, and family lore. The result is a saga that is at once universal and personal.

Moderator: Bill Worthen

Venue: Main Library, East Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

10:00 - 11:00 A.M.

## FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE CRESCENT CITY

Sara Roahen, *Gumbo Tales: Finding My Place at the New Orleans Table* (Cooking)

Eating and cooking her way through New Orleans, Roahen finds a home—and then Katrina. With humor and hope, she conjures up a city that reveled in its food traditions before the storm and has been saved by them since. Roahen offers recipes for New Orleans' signature dishes (gumbo, po-boys, red beans and rice) and its lesser-known gems (Pho anyone?).

Moderator: Linda Caillouet

Venue: River Market, Clark Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.

**GIRL EMPOWER**

M. Gigi Durham, *The Lolita Effect: The Spectacle of Girls' Sexuality in an Era of Globalized Media* (Media Studies/Sociology)

How do we raise young women in an environment with alarming media images? Durham offers eye-opening insights into media myths and spectacles of sexuality. She also provides strategies for adults to navigate this media world without censorship or moralizing so that they can help girls do the same.

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

**RISING STAR**

Tony Earley, *The Blue Star* (Fiction)

Seven years ago, readers and critics fell in love with Jim Glass, the precocious ten-year-old at the heart of Earley's best-seller *Jim the Boy*. *Newsweek* called the book "a dazzling first novel about boyhood." Jim, now a teenager, returns in another tender and wise story of young love on the eve of World War II.

Moderator: Kevin Brockmeier

Venue: Cox Creative Center

**THE TRUE STORY OF RECONSTRUCTION**

Presented by Hendrix College Pericles Project

Douglas A. Blackmon, *Slavery by Another Name: The Re-Enslavement of Black Americans from the Civil War to World War II* (History)

Blackmon brings to light the "Age of Neoslavery" that thrived from the aftermath of the Civil War through the dawn of World War II. This stunning exposé of a shameful and little-known chapter in American history covers six decades of injustice against African-Americans. Early readers of the book are praising its exhaustive reportage and revelations. Bill Cosby calls it "urgent, definitive, powerful. The most important work of history published in a very long time."

Moderator: Jay Barth

Venue: Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

“There are worse crimes than burning books. One of them is not reading them.”

- Mahatma Gandhi or Ray Bradbury

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

12:30 - 1:30 P.M.

**MOM-OIR**

Kelly Corrigan, *The Middle Place* (Memoir)

Corrigan's memoir intertwines her own story with that of her father, a larger-than-life, Irish-American born-salesman. The book illustrates both an unbelievably powerful and healing father/daughter relationship and the unbreakable bonds of family as they each—successfully, for now—battle cancer.

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

**WHY PEOPLE BEHAVE BADLY**

Barbara Oakley, *Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend* (Psychology/Sociology)

Borne out of a quest to understand her sister's lifelong aberrant behavior, Oakley sets out on an exploration of evil individuals—and "evil genes"—from Slobodan Milosevic to Mao Zedong. Professor Steven Pinker of Harvard University calls *Evil Genes* "A fascinating scientific and personal exploration of the roots of evil, filled with human insight and telling detail." *Evil Genes* is a tour-de-force of writing that brilliantly melds scientific research with intriguing family history and puts both a human and scientific face to evil.

Moderator: Dan Greenberg

Venue: Cox Creative Center

**THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN FICTION**

Tina McElroy Ansa, *Taking After Mudear* and Solon Timothy Woodward, *Cadillac Orpheus* (Fiction)

Two novelists from the South with both style and substance: Ansa, from Georgia, whose fiction "crackles and sings with life" (Jill McCorkle) and debut novelist Woodward, from Florida, whose highly original prose inspired one critic to call him "the love-child of Toni Morrison and Miles Davis for the depth, color, power, and grandness of vision he brings to American Letters." When they're not writing, they're busy with other jobs: Ansa recently started her own publishing company and Woodward is a practicing physician.

Moderator: Constance Sarto

Venue: Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

2:00 - 3:00 P.M.

**BEING THE QUEEN MOTHER**

Presented by Central Arkansas Library System

Darragh Lecture Series

Jill Conner Browne, *The Sweet Potato Queens' Guide to Raising Children for Fun and Profit* (Humor/Parenting)

You might want to have a nap, or a stiff drink, because the Queen is coming to town. Browne brings her Sweet Potato brand of parenting advice for the hair-raising, child-raising journey. You won't find these tips anywhere else.

Moderator: Natalie Canerday

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

**MEN AND THEIR NOVELS: DOES GENDER MATTER?**Brad Land, *Pilgrims Upon the Earth*; David Prete, *Say That to My Face*; and Trenton Lee Stewart, *Flood Summer* (Fiction)

Three emerging literary superstars have fast-paced debut novels that will tell you all you need to know about young men and the travails they face these days. These characters suffer the usual afflictions of manhood—violence, love affairs, bad choices, and cross-country road trips gone awry. It's the eloquent writing that crosses the gender divide and makes you *care*. Land focuses on a teenager in South Carolina; Prete, a young man in Yonkers, N.Y.; and Stewart, a blue-collar fellow in Arkansas.

Moderator: Carol Ann Fitzgerald

Venue: Cox Creative Center

**IT'S A MYSTERY**Ace Atkins, *Wicked City* and Carolyn Hart, *Death Walked In* (Fiction/Mystery)

*Wicked City* is Atkins' most personal book to date, set in a vice-ridden Alabama town 20 miles from where he attended high school and college. Critics hail him as "clearly an emerging star" (*Minneapolis Star-Tribune*) and a "fresh voice that dazzles and delights with its energy and ability" (*Boston Globe*). Hart's newest title is *Death Walked In*, 18th in the *Death on Demand* series. She is the "reigning monarch of the amateur sleuth mystery" (*Cleveland Plain Dealer*) who "truly understands the human heart" (*Mystery Scene*).

Moderator: Sharon Lee

Venue: Main Library, East Room

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

3:30 - 4:30 P.M.

**THE NEW MASTER OF NOIR**Patrick McGrath, *Trauma* (Thriller)

McGrath, "our most celebrated writer of the psychological thriller," has had three of his books turned into major motion pictures (*Asylum*, *Spider*, and *The Grotesque*). One critic says each new McGrath thriller is a "source of untrammelled delight." Think of the British-born McGrath as "Hitchcock on paper." His newest noir, *Trauma*, is being called his most "addictive and enthralling novel yet."

Moderator: Philip Martin

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

**WILLIE NELSON, AMERICAN LEGEND**Joe Nick Patoski, *Willie Nelson: An Epic Life* (Biography)

Patoski draws on over 100 interviews with Willie and his family, band, and friends to tell Willie's All-American story, from his humble Depression-era roots to his ascension to national icon.

Moderator: Rod Bryan

Venue: Cox Creative Center

**SCI-FI ALIVE**Suzette Haden Elgin, Ph.D., *Ozark Trilogy* (Science Fiction)

Elgin will discuss the controversial question of whether science fiction is recognized as "real" literature.

Moderator: Sally Hawkes

Venue: Main Library, East Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008

1:30 - 2:30 P.M.

**ARKANSAS FICTION I**Norris Church Mailer, *Cheap Diamonds* (Fiction)

Arkansas native Mailer's second novel, *Cheap Diamonds*, is a "dazzler," says the writer Adriana Trigiani. "[Mailer] has created a funny, beautiful, and unforgettable character in Cherry, a girl from Arkansas who moves to New York City to become a fashion model. Talk about pluck! Vivid, real, and written with heart and scope, *Cheap Diamonds* is anything but—it's the real deal."

Moderator: Mary Gay Shipley

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

## IS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST POSSIBLE?

Zachary Karabell, *Peace Be Upon You: Fourteen Centuries of Muslim, Christian, and Jewish Coexistence in the Middle East* (Religion/History)

"*Peace Be Upon You* reminds us of the possibility of a better future," says the editor of *Newsweek International*. The story of conflict and confrontation between Islam and the West has become daily news, but throughout the ages Muslims, Christians, and Jews have shared more than enmity and war: their rich cooperative history has all but disappeared from our collective memory.

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Cox Creative Center

## GROWING UP PRETTY

Robert Leleux, *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy* (Memoir)

In *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy*, his rollicking, bitter-sweet debut about growing up in East Texas under the tutelage of an eccentric mother, Leleux proves he's already a master of the snappy one-liner and the improbably hilarious. The *New Orleans Times-Picayune* called Leleux's book "hilarious, heartbreaking...a pure joyride for the reader." The *New York Times* called it a "frantically giddy coming-of-age story."

Moderator: Amos Lassen

Venue: Main Library, East Room

## A POETIC TRIO: HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS

Greg Brownderville, *Deep Down in the Delta: Folktales and Poems*; Ed Madden, *Signals*; Alex Richardson, *Porch Night on Walnut Street* (Poetry)

These young poets are deeply rooted in the landscapes and legacies of the American South, and they explore the idea of home and what defines it. Richardson deals primarily with the domestic realm and the revelations that dwell there. Madden delves into topics of race and sexuality with tender reflections on personal and cultural histories. Brownderville draws from his upbringing in the Arkansas Delta: blues and gospel music, folktales and country preaching.

Moderator: [TBD]

Venue: Main Library, Fribourgh Room (2nd Floor)

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**SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008**

**3:00 - 4:00 P.M.**

## ARKANSAS FICTION II

Kevin Brockmeier, *The View from the Seventh Layer* (Fiction)

Brockmeier brings his remarkable voice and vision to his latest collection of stories. In the haunting title story, a strange young woman remembers the oddly honest things she wrote in her high school classmates' yearbooks and contemplates her life. From the fantastical to the concrete, the range of this collection is startling.

Moderator: Nathania Sawyer

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

## ARKANSAS HISTORY

Carolyn LeMaster, *A Corner of the Tapestry: A History of the Jewish Experience in Arkansas (1820s-1990s)* (Arkansas Jewish History)

A comprehensive study of our state's Jewish community, *A Corner of the Tapestry* is the story of the Jews who helped to settle Arkansas and stayed to become a significant part of the state's history and culture.

Moderator: Amos Lassen

Venue: Cox Creative Center

## FREELANCING AS A CAREER OPTION

Jay Jennings, Joe Nick Patoski, and Rebecca Skloot

Whether writing about sports, science, or music, the challenges of being a freelancer are the same. Three writers share their experience of building successful careers, without having to declare bankruptcy or survive solely on a diet of Ramen noodles.

Moderator: Marc Smirnoff

Venue: Main Library, East Room

## MUSLIM IN THE MIDWEST

Mohja Kahf, *The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf* (Fiction)

What does it mean to be an Arab-American? In her fiction debut, Kahf tells the story of Khadra Shamy, a Syrian immigrant, who grows up in a devout Muslim family in 1970s Indianapolis. Culture clashes ensue as Khadra makes her way in the world and searches for her own identity.

Moderator: Garry Craig Powell

Venue: Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

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**SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2008**

**4:30 - 5:30 P.M.**

## ARKANSAS FICTION III

Donald Harington, *Farther Along* (Fiction)

It is our great pleasure to welcome back to the Festival the Chief of Arkansas Literature himself, Donald Harington. Harington's newest novel, sure to be a masterpiece, is *Farther Along*, which focuses on the curator at a history museum who decides he wants to vanish. So he does—into the wilderness of the Ozark Mountains. Who is this man and what, exactly, is he doing there? As always with Harington, expect wit, style, and plenty of surprising adventure.

Moderator: Bob Razer

Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

Presented by



**PULASKI**  
Technical College

# WRITING WORKSHOPS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

Main Library, Fribourgh Room (2nd Floor)

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Katie at [katie@arkansasliteracy.org](mailto:katie@arkansasliteracy.org) or (501) 907-2490.

**10:00 - 10:50 A.M.**

## HAMMER AND NAIL: BUILDING BETTER WRITING

With Joey Cole, M.F.A.

Beginning writers (and some experienced writers) often think they know what they need to produce successful writing. This may not always be the case. This session will cram the basics of creative writing into a 45-minute extravaganza. Appropriate for beginning and experienced writers.

**11:00 - 11:50 A.M.**

## GETTING IT OUT THERE

With Caroline C. Lewis, M.F.A. and Sandy Longhorn, M.F.A.

Sometimes the hardest part is getting started. Using writing prompts and exercises to generate the beginning of new poems and stories, we will emphasize putting pen to paper and breaking writer's block. Appropriate for beginning and experienced writers.

**12:00 - 12:50 P.M.**

## NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN: LYRICS TOGETHER

With Wade Derden, M.A. and Angie Macri, M.F.A.

Lyrics, in the form of song and in poetry, have both influenced and reflected cultures for centuries. This session will introduce ways to create the lyric, both in written and sung form, and will include time for demonstrations and practice. Come express yourself with song.

**1:00 - 2:30 P.M.**

## AS IS PAINTING, SO IS POETRY: A CONVERSATION BETWEEN A POET AND A PAINTER

With Antoinette Brim, M.F.A. and David Warren, M.F.A.

Dialogue among the arts occurred long before 20 B.C. when Horace wrote "Ut pictura poesis," or "As is painting so is poetry." This session will explore the solitary experience of creating paintings and poetry, and the collaboration of the artists as they respond artistically to each other's work.

# ACTIVITIES FOR TEENS

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

**10:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

## ANTI-BULLYING WORKSHOP FOR TEENS INTRODUCTION TO VERBAL SELF-DEFENSE: NO BULLYING ALLOWED (ALOUD)

Suzette Haden Elgin, Ph.D. *The Gentle Art of Verbal Self-Defense* series

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Katie at [katie@arkansasliteracy.org](mailto:katie@arkansasliteracy.org) or (501) 907-2490.

From texting to e-mail to altercations in the hallway, young people are bombarded with hostile language. Linguist Elgin will teach young adults aged 14 and up a set of basic terms and concepts of verbal self-defense, plus some simple and effective verbal self-defense strategies and techniques.

Venue: Historic Arkansas Museum, Cromwell Hall (2nd Floor)

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008

**10:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.**

## READER'S THEATRE COMPETITION

Hear high school students showcase their talents in oral interpretation of the written word. Categories include storytelling, solo acting, humorous/dramatic interpretation, reader's theatre, and duet acting. For more information, contact Alexandra at (479) 263-3919 or [sarah\\_alexandra\\_marshall@yahoo.com](mailto:sarah_alexandra_marshall@yahoo.com) or Jessie at (479) 466-6239.

Venue: Willy D's Restaurant

“ Today a reader,  
tomorrow a leader.  
- Margaret Fuller ”

# Sessions for Kids

Historic Arkansas Museum • Saturday, April 5, 2008

10:00 A.M.

## NO BRATS ALLOWED

**Kimberly Willis Holt, *Piper Reed, Navy Brat* (Fiction, ages 4-12)**

Meet Piper Reed, a spunky nine-year-old military kid who has moved more times than she can count on one hand. Based on the author's own childhood experience in a Navy family.

Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)

## ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A STORY WHICH WANTED TO BE TOLD

**Crescent Dragonwagon**

This session is designed for fourth- and fifth-graders who, with Dragonwagon's help, will write a group story. The ending will be left incomplete and each child will receive a copy of the story (with plenty of space to illustrate) to finish later. Teachers, librarians, and parents are welcome to observe.

Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)

11:00 A.M.

## ADVENTURES ABOUND

**Trenton Lee Stewart, *The Mysterious Benedict Society* (Fiction, ages 9+)**

Go on an undercover mission with students from the Learning Institute for the Very Enlightened (L.I.V.E.). Stewart will also give a sneak peek into the upcoming sequel.

Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)

11:30 A.M.

## DOG TALES

**Beth Finke and Hanni, *Hanni and Beth: Safe & Sound* (Fiction, ages 4-10)**

Have you ever wondered what it is like to be blind and to have a Seeing Eye dog? Then visit with the author and her dog, Hanni. This book is also available in Braille.

Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)

1:00 P.M.

## PREY

**Lurlene McDaniel, *Prey* (Fiction, ages 13+)**

A teenage boy's relationship with his much older history teacher starts to get deeper than the boy can handle. Who is the predator and who is the prey?

Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)

## SCIENCE, MACHINES, AND MORE!

**Linda D. Williams, various non-fiction titles**

Something for everyone! The *Mighty Machines* series (pre-K to 2nd grades) offers colorful, real-life photos of heavy equipment (bulldozers, cranes, dump trucks, etc.) performing powerful activities. The *Demystified* series (6th-12th grades) covers topics such as forensics, chemistry, and earth science.

Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)

2:00 P.M.

## A NEW "PECKING ORDER"

**Jacques Couvillon, *The Chicken Dance* (Fiction, ages 9+)**

"Maybe living on a chicken farm isn't so bad after all," thinks Don Schmidt, when he becomes the youngest kid ever to win the Horse Island Dairy Festival chicken-judging contest and then becomes the town celebrity.

Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)

3:00 P.M.

## MAKING DREAMS COME TRUE

**Richard Mason, *The Red Scarf* (Fiction, ages 9+)**

Young Richard dreams of buying a red scarf for Rosalie, the prettiest girl in school. He never guesses that he'll have to wrangle skunks, bobcats, robbers, and folks like Bubba, a big man who wields a big frying pan.

Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)

## WHOOOOOA, DOMINO!

**Steve Whisnant, *Domino* (Fiction, ages 4+)**

See how Jefferson Elementary School's Fifth Grade Art Club illustrated this exciting story about Kevin Baker and his imaginary friends escaping into a world of adventure to avoid the boredom of everyday chores.

Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)



## ARKANSAS READING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS: HANDS ON LITERACY ACTIVITIES

**Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**Hands on History Room (1st Floor)**

Create a book and bookmark, participate in a reader's theater, write a history timeline, and enjoy more activities.

## THE BLACK STALLION LITERACY PROJECT PRESENTS:

### READ TO A STALLION

**Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

**1850's Farmstead (Corner of 2nd and Cumberland Streets)**

Drop by to meet and read to a real black stallion from The Black Stallion Literacy Project. The project, conceived in 1999 by author Walter Farley's son, is designed to instill the joy of reading through the magic of live horses and *Black Stallion* books.

### BLACK STALLION RIDES AGAIN

**Saturday, April 5, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m.**

**1850's Farmstead (Corner of 2nd and Cumberland Streets)**

Tim Farley, son of Walter Farley, who wrote the *Black Stallion* book series, will talk about his father's classic children's books. Musician Jeff Glover will share original songs. Come meet a real live black stallion.

## STORYTIME WITH THE CHARACTERS

**Saturday, April 5, 2008**

**Hands on History Room (1st Floor)**

Mother Goose 11:00 - 11:15 a.m. and 2:00 - 2:15 p.m.

Sarah, Plain and Tall 10:30 - 10:45 a.m. and 1:30 - 1:45 p.m.

## PUPPETRY

**Saturday, April 5 • Sturgis Gallery (2nd Floor)**

### SNOW WHITE IN THE DOG HOUSE

**10:00 - 10:20 a.m. and 1:00 - 1:20 p.m.**

Get a sneak peek of the upcoming show at the Heights Toy Store Theater.

### FAIRYTALE THEATER

**11:00 - 11:20 a.m. and 2:00 - 2:20 p.m.**

Puppeteers April Ross and Jan Wolfe transport us to the world of fairytales.

## CROSSWORD PUZZLES FOR THE FAMILY

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)**

Since their launch in 2004, Walker's weekly crosswords have become a family tradition for millions of families nationwide. *Kids Across Parents Down* is Walker's series of books that offer puzzles with thought-provoking clues and bright stickers. Word-lovers of all ages are welcome.

### MAP OF ACTIVITIES

#### HISTORIC ARKANSAS MUSEUM

- |                                    |                          |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Black Stallion Literacy Project | 6. Restrooms             |
| 2. North Entrance                  | 7. Ottenheimer Theater   |
| 3. South Entrance                  | 8. Hands On History Room |
| 4. Gallery                         | T Trolley Stop           |
| 5. Gift Shop                       |                          |



# SATURDAY

	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30	12:00	12:30	1:00	1:30	2:00
MAIN LIBRARY, DARRAGH CENTER	DOGS AND THEIR PEOPLE Sonny Brewer, Beth Finke (Animal/Fiction) 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.			GIRL EMPOWER M. Gigi Durham (Media Studies/ Sociology) 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.			MOM-OIR Kelly Corrigan (Memoir) 12:30 - 1:30 P.M.			BEING THE QUEEN MOTHER Jill Conner (Humor/Poetry) 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.
COX CREATIVE CENTER, MEETING ROOM	GET IT WRITE... OR ELSE Elise Blackwell, Tito Perdue (Fiction) 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.			RISING STAR Tony Earley (Fiction) 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.			WHY PEOPLE BEHAVE BADLY Barbara Oakley (Biology/Sociology) 12:30 - 1:30 P.M.			MEN AND WOMEN AND THE NOVELS: DO THEY MATTER? Brad Land, Prete, Trent Stewart (Fiction) 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.
PYRAMID ART, BOOKS & CUSTOM FRAMING				THE TRUE STORY OF RECONSTRUCTION Douglas A. Blackmon (History) 11:00 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.			THE AFRICAN- AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN FICTION Tina McElroy Ansa, Solon Timothy Woodward (Fiction) 12:30 - 1:30 P.M.			
MAIN LIBRARY, EAST ROOM	DELTA ROOTS Margaret Jones Bolsterli (Arkansas History) 9:30 - 10:30 A.M.									IT'S A MYSTERY Ace Atkins, Carolyn Harris (Fiction/Mystery) 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.
MAIN LIBRARY, FRIBOURGH ROOM	PULASKI TECHNICAL COLLEGE WRITING WORKSHOPS									
		HAMMER AND NAIL: BUILDING BETTER WRITING Joey Cole 10:00 - 10:50 A.M.	GETTING IT OUT THERE Caroline C. Lewis, Sandy Longhorn 11:00 - 11:50 A.M.		NOTHING NEW UNDER THE SUN: LYRICS TOGETHER Wade Derden, Angie Macri 12:00 - 12:50 P.M.		AS IS PAINTING, SO IS POETRY: A CONVERSATION BETWEEN A POET AND A PAINTER Antoinette Brim, David Warren 1:00 - 2:30 P.M.			
RIVER MARKET, CLARK ROOM		FALLING IN LOVE WITH THE CRESCENT CITY Sara Roahen (Cooking) 10:00 - 11:00 A.M.					LET US EAT CAKE Roland Mesnier (Cooking) 12:30 - 1:30 P.M. Special Ticketed Event			



				SUNDAY							
2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	1:30	2:00	2:30	3:00	3:30	4:00	4:30	5:00
THEIR Browne (renting) P.M.		THE NEW MASTER OF NOIR Patrick McGrath (Thriller) 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.		ARKANSAS FICTION I Norris Church Mailer (Fiction) 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.			ARKANSAS FICTION II Kevin Brockmeier (Fiction) 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.			ARKANSAS FICTION III Donald Harington (Fiction) 4:30 - 5:30 P.M.	
THEIR DES GENDER  David ton Lee (ction) P.M.		WILLIE NELSON, AMERICAN LEGEND Joe Nick Patoski (Biography) 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.		IS PEACE IN THE MIDDLE EAST POSSIBLE? Zachary Karabell (Religion/History) 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.			ARKANSAS HISTORY Carolyn LeMaster (Arkansas Jewish History) 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.				
							MUSLIM IN THE MIDWEST Mohja Kahf (Fiction) 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.				
ERY  rt (stery) P.M.		SCI-FI ALIVE Suzette Haden Elgin (Science Fiction) 3:30 - 4:30 P.M.		GROWING UP PRETTY Robert Leleux (Memoir) 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.			FREELANCING AS A CAREER OPTION Jay Jennings, Joe Nick Patoski, Rebecca Skloot 3:00 - 4:00 P.M.				
				A POETIC TRIO: HOME IS WHERE THE ART IS Greg Brownderville, Ed Madden, Alex Richardson (Poetry) 1:30 - 2:30 P.M.							
	"FOOD-SHELTER-STORY" Crescent Dragonwagon (Cooking) 3:00 - 4:00 P.M. Special Ticketed Event										

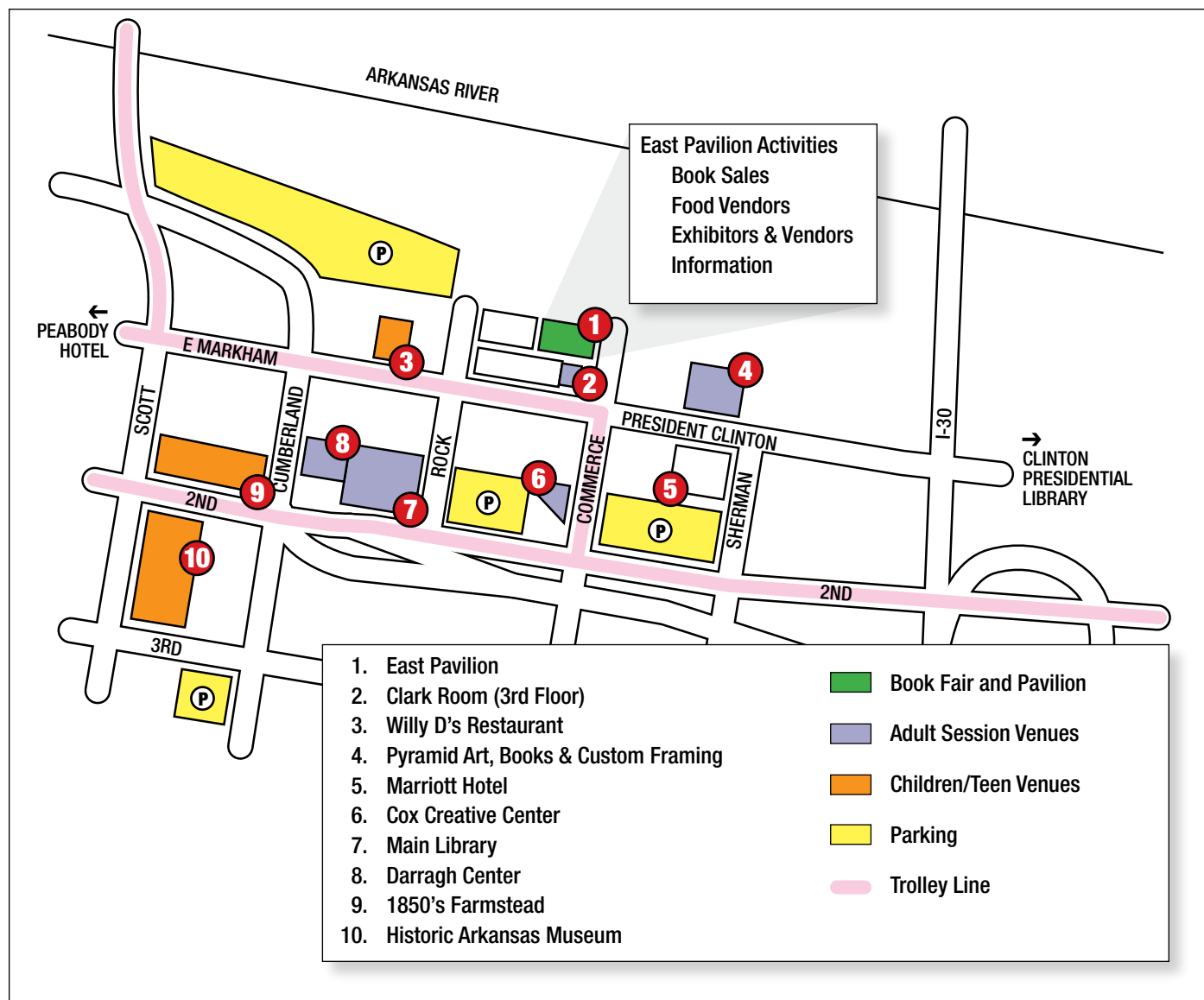
## FRIDAY, APRIL 4, 2008

WRITING ABOUT RELIGION  
FOR A POPULAR AUDIENCE

Cecil Murphey, Robert L. Short  
(Religion/Philosophy)  
Friday, April 4, 2008, 12:00 - 1:00 P.M.  
Venue: Main Library, Darragh Center

## RETHINKING RELIGION AND POLITICS

Presented by the Clinton Library  
and School of Public Service  
E.J. Dionne, Jr. (Politics/Religion)  
Friday, April 4, 2008, 5:30 - 6:30 P.M.  
Venue: Clinton School of Public Service,  
Choctaw Building Lobby



## EXHIBITORS & VENDORS\*

Support these exhibitors and vendors who offer the best in books and merchandise—and who also support adult literacy.

*AY Magazine*  
 Bearhead's Publishing  
 Blue Cubicle Press  
 The Book Adventure  
 Cone Creations, Brenda Iannacone  
 Friesens Printing Corporation  
 Kid's Book World  
 Liberty Press Publishing, John Patrick Contini  
 Link & Rosie, LLC  
*The Oxford American*  
 Red Barn Press  
 Rockon Publishing  
 St. Louis Publishers Association  
 University of Arkansas Press

\* Confirmed as of February 11, 2008

## LITERACY INFORMATION STATION

Learn more about these education/literacy services and programs:

Arkansas Educational Telecommunications Network (AETN):  
 Read to Succeed Program  
 Arkansas Library Association  
 Arkansas State Library  
 Heifer International: Read to Feed Program  
 Pulaski Technical College

## CONCESSIONS

**Boulevard**  
 BREAD COMPANY  
 Open Saturday  
 & Sunday in the  
 River Market!

**Yarnell's**  
 PREMIUM ICE CREAM  
 100% of Yarnell's  
 sales benefit Arkansas  
 Literacy Councils, Inc.

**Flossies**  
 Funnel Cakes  
 & more!

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOPS

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

**9:30 A.M. - 12:30 P.M.**

## **CULTURAL COMPETENCE: CRITICAL TIMES, CRITICAL ISSUES**

With Donna Elam, Ph.D.

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Kathleen at [kathleen.pate@nara.gov](mailto:kathleen.pate@nara.gov) or (501) 244-2704.

How can educators work effectively across the cultures represented in their classrooms? This workshop will explore the concept of cultural competence and how it relates to student achievement. Elam will also present her book *Why They Marched: The Struggle for the Right to Vote* and its accompanying curriculum materials.

Venue: Clinton Presidential Library, Classroom (1st Floor)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

**10:30 A.M. - 12:00 P.M.**

## **BLACK STALLION-INSPIRED LITERACY IN THE CLASSROOM**

With Larry Bramblett

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Katie at [katie@arkansasliteracy.org](mailto:katie@arkansasliteracy.org) or (501) 907-2490.

This lively session is designed for educators, literacy specialists, librarians, and anyone who works with children. You will explore how the Black Stallion Literacy Project can visit your first grade classroom to inspire children to read through the magic of horses. Bramblett will review *The Black Stallion* series of books as well as other book titles that will encourage literacy and motivate even the most apathetic reader. Workshop participants will receive an excerpt from the intensive curriculum guide.

Venue: Historic Arkansas Museum,  
Peg Smith Room (2nd Floor)

**SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2008**

**1:00 - 3:00 P.M.**

## **HOW TO TRAVEL TO TEXAS WITHOUT LEAVING YOUR SCHOOL**

With Kimberly Willis Holt

FREE, but reservations are encouraged.

Contact Katie at [katie@arkansasliteracy.org](mailto:katie@arkansasliteracy.org) or (501) 907-2490.

Holt will share how teachers, literacy specialists, librarians, and anyone who works with children can motivate kids to read with her engaging book *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*, for ages 10 and up. When "the fattest boy in the world" rolls into Antler, Texas, in a trailer, 13-year-old Toby's perspective changes. *Publishers Weekly* praised the "well-developed characters, all fantastic and flawed in their own ways, [who] add plenty of spice." Holt will provide examples of literacy activities and curriculum guides for her other books.

Venue: Historic Arkansas Museum,  
Peg Smith Room (2nd Floor)

**“ Literacy is not a luxury; it is a right and a responsibility. If our world is to meet the challenges of the twenty-first century, we must harness the energy and creativity of all our citizens. ”**

**- President Bill Clinton**

# AUTHOR BIOGRAPHIES

## TINA MCELROY ANSA



Ansa is a novelist, publisher, filmmaker, teacher, and journalist. In March 2007, she launched DownSouth Press, an independent publishing company that focuses on African-American literature. DownSouth Press published Ansa's fifth novel, *Taking After Mudear*, a sequel to her best-selling *Ugly Ways*. She is also the author of *Baby of the Family* (chosen by the *New York Times* as a Notable Book of 2003), *The Hand I Fan With*, and *You Know Better*.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:30 p.m.**

**Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing**

## ACE ATKINS



Atkins is the author of six mystery novels, including his latest, *Wicked City*. A former journalist who cut his teeth as a crime reporter in the newsroom of the *Tampa Tribune*, he earned a Pulitzer Prize nomination for a feature series based on his investigation into a forgotten murder of the 1950s. Atkins lives with his family on a historic farm outside Oxford, Mississippi.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, East Room**

## DOUGLAS A. BLACKMON



Blackmon is the Atlanta Bureau Chief of the *Wall Street Journal*. He has written extensively on race, the economy, and American society. Raised in the Mississippi Delta, he lives in downtown Atlanta with his wife and children.

**Saturday, April 5, 11:00 a.m.**

**Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing**

## ELISE BLACKWELL



Blackwell, who currently teaches at the University of South Carolina, is the author of three novels: *Hunger* (selected by the *L.A. Times* as one of the best books of 2003), *The Unnatural History of Cypress Parish* (called "sensitive and beautiful" by *Washington Post Book World*), and her latest, *Grub*. Her stories and essays have appeared in publications such as *Witness*, *Quick Fiction*, *Topic*, and *Global City Review*.

**Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

## MARGARET JONES BOLSTERLI



Bolsterli is professor emerita of English at the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, and the editor of *Vinegar Pie* and *Chicken Bread* and *A Remembrance of Eden*. *During Wind and Rain: The Jones Family Farm in the Arkansas Delta, 1848-2006*, is a story spanning five generations of her family's farm.

**Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.**

**Main Library, East Room**

## LARRY BRAMBLETT

Bramblett joined the Black Stallion Literacy Project in 2003. He served as Superintendent of Schools in New Hampshire and Arizona. Leupp Elementary School had the highest gain in test scores of any school on the Navajo Reservation after it began collaborating with the Black Stallion Literacy Project.



**Saturday, April 5, 10:30 a.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Peg Smith Room (2nd Floor)**

## SONNY BREWER



Brewer is the author of the novels *The Poet of Tolstoy Park*, *A Sound Like Thunder*, and *Cormac: The Tale of a Dog Gone Missing*. He is the editor of the *Blue Moon Café* and the founder of *Over the Transom Bookstore* in Fairhope, Alabama, where he lives with his family. He is currently at work on both a novel and a children's book.

**Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## KEVIN BROCKMEIER



Brockmeier is the author of the novels *The Brief History of the Dead* and *The Truth About Celia*, the children's novels *City of Names* and *Grooves: A Kind of Mystery*, and the story collections *Things That Fall from the Sky* and *The View from the Seventh Layer*. Winner of countless awards, Brockmeier was named one of *Granta's* Best Young American Novelists in 2007. He lives in Little Rock.

**Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**



Ace Atkins - 2004



Buzz Bissinger - 2004

## GREG BROWNDERVILLE



Brownderville, of Pumpkin Bend, Arkansas, is the author of *Deep Down in the Delta: Folktales and Poems*. Recently chosen for the 2007 Porter Prize, Brownderville was the youngest person ever to receive the award. He is currently pursuing an M.F.A. in Creative Writing at Ole Miss.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**

**Main Library, Fribourgh Room (2nd Floor)**

## JILL CONNER BROWNE



Browne is a multiple #1 *New York Times* best-selling author of *The Sweet Potato Queen* books and is a monthly contributor to Arkansas' *AY Magazine*. She is collaborating with Melissa Manchester, Sharon Vaughn, and Rupert Holmes on a Broadway musical. When she's not writing or speaking, Browne contributes to Hurricane Katrina relief efforts.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## KELLY CORRIGAN



Corrigan is the author of the *New York Times* best-selling memoir *The Middle Place*, of which the *San Francisco Chronicle* says, "Rarely has someone described the infinite small moments of parenting so imaginatively yet so precisely." Corrigan has appeared three times on "Oprah" to discuss her work. She is also a newspaper columnist and the wife of Edward Lichty, a proud Central High School grad.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:30 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## JACQUES COUVILLON



Couvillon was born and raised on a farm in Cow Island, Louisiana. Although he has lived in different cities, he will always consider Cow Island as his home. Couvillon will not say which, but some of the events in his book *The Chicken Dance* may actually have happened to him.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum,  
Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)**

## E.J. DIONNE, JR.



Dionne is a syndicated columnist for the *Washington Post*, a regular political analyst on National Public Radio, a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution, and a professor at Georgetown University. His books include the best-selling *Why Americans Hate Politics*, which won the *Los Angeles Times* book prize, and was nominated for the National Book Award. His controversial new book is called *Souled Out: Reclaiming Faith & Politics After the Religious Right*.

**Friday, April 4, 5:30 p.m.**

**Clinton School of Public Service, Choctaw Building Lobby**

## CRESCENT DRAGONWAGON



Dragonwagon's 41 published books include children's books (*Half a Moon and One Whole Star*, a Coretta Scott King Award-winner), cookbooks (*The Cornbread Gospels*, named among ten best cookbooks of 2007 by "Good Morning America"), and novels (*The Year It Rained*, a *New York Times* Notable Book). A former Arkansas lawyer, she now lives in Vermont.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. (Children's Session)  
Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery  
(2nd Floor)**

**Session 2: Saturday, April 5, 3:00 p.m. (Special Ticketed Event)  
River Market, Clark Room**

## M. GIGI DURHAM



Durham is an associate professor of journalism and mass communication at the University of Iowa and a former journalist. Her research on adolescent girls and the media has appeared in various journals. A passionate advocate for children's rights and social justice, she lives in Iowa City, Iowa, with her husband and two young daughters.

**Saturday, April 5, 11:00 a.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**



John T. Edge - 2004

## TONY EARLEY

Earley is the author of *Jim the Boy*, *Here We Are in Paradise*, and *Somehow Form a Family*. He lives with his family in Nashville, Tennessee, where he is the Samuel Milton Fleming Associate Professor of English at Vanderbilt University.

**Saturday, April 5, 11:00 a.m.**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

## SUZETTE HADEN ELGIN



Elgin taught linguistics at San Diego State University and then retired in 1980 to the Arkansas Ozarks, where she still resides. She founded the Science Fiction Poetry Association and is the author of multiple titles, most

notably the science-fiction work *Ozark Trilogy* and the non-fiction *The Gentle Art of Verbal Self-Defense* series.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 10:30 a.m. (Teen Session)**  
**Historic Arkansas Museum, Cromwell Hall**  
**(2nd Floor)**

**Session 2: Saturday, April 5, 3:30 p.m. (Adult Session)**  
**Main Library, East Room**

## TIM FARLEY

Farley is the son of Walter Farley, who wrote *The Black Stallion* series, which has sold over 100 million copies. He and Mark Miller of the Arabian Nights organization in Orlando, Florida, co-founded the Black Stallion Literacy Project, which won the prestigious Point of Light Award. Farley has contributed to the films *The Black Stallion*, *The Black Stallion Returns*, and the IMAX film, *The Young Black Stallion*.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, 1850's Farmstead (Corner of 2nd and Cumberland Streets)**

## BETH FINKE



National Public Radio commentator Finke presents her first children's book *Hanni & Beth: Safe & Sound*, which the *Chicago Sun-Times* calls "a wonderful story, from the heart but without the mush." The book is written from the perspective of her Seeing Eye dog, Hanni, who guides Beth to presentations and handles stardom in stride. Finke is also the author of the memoir *Long Time, No See*.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m. (Adult Session)**  
**Main Library, Darragh Center**

**Session 2: Saturday, April 5, 11:30 a.m. (Children's Session)**  
**Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery**  
**(2nd Floor)**

## DONALD HARINGTON



Harington was inducted into the Arkansas Writers' Hall of Fame and has been called "America's Greatest Unknown Novelist" by *Entertainment Weekly*. He has published 14 novels and has won the *The Oxford American* Lifetime Achievement in Literature Award, the Robert Penn Warren Award, the Heasley Prize, and the Porter Prize.

**Sunday, April 6, 4:30 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## CAROLYN HART



Mystery-writer Hart is the author of 39 novels. She has sold almost three million books. Hart has been nominated nine times for the Agatha Award and has won three times. Her newest title is *Death Walked In*.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, East Room**

## KIMBERLY WILLIS HOLT



Children's author Holt's latest book is *Piper Reed, Navy Brat*. Her other titles include the novels *When Zachary Beaver Came to Town*, winner of the National Book Award, *Keeper of the Night*, and the picture books *Waiting for Gregory* and *Skinny Brown Dog*.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m. (Children's Session)**  
**Historic Arkansas Museum,**  
**Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)**

**Session 2: Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m.**  
**(Professional Development Workshop)**  
**Historic Arkansas Museum, Peg Smith Room**  
**(2nd Floor)**

**JAY JENNINGS**

Jennings' journalism, humor, and essays have appeared in *The New York Times Book Review*, *Travel & Leisure*, *Sports Illustrated*, and *Vogue*. Jennings lives in Little Rock and is working on a book about Little Rock and Central High's 2007 football season.

**Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**  
Main Library, East Room

**MOHJA KAHF**

Kahf, born in Syria and raised in the U.S., is professor of comparative literature at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville. Her novel, *The Girl in the Tangerine Scarf*, is the story of Khadra Shamy, a Syrian girl transplanted to the American Midwest in the '70s. She writes an online column on sexuality and Islam and is the author of several poetry collections.

**Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**  
Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing

**ZACHARY KARABELL**

Karabell received a master's degree in modern Middle Eastern studies from Oxford and earned his Ph.D. from Harvard. He has taught at Harvard, the University of Massachusetts at Boston, and Dartmouth. He is the author of several books, including *The Last Campaign*, which won the *Chicago Tribune's* Heartland Prize for best non-fiction book of the year.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**  
Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)

**BRAD LAND**

Land is the author of the novel *Pilgrims Upon the Earth*. His previous book, the best-selling memoir, *Goat*, will be turned into a movie by Jeff Nichols, the Little Rock-born filmmaker. Land's writing has appeared in *GQ*, *Third Coast*, *Quarter After Eight*, and *Rivendell*.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**  
Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)

**ROBERT LELEUX**

For nearly thirty years, Leleux has remained internationally unknown as a celebrated bon vivant, fashion icon, and man about town. He is known not to have been portrayed by Julie Christie in John Schlesinger's Oscar-winning film *Darling*. He does not currently reside at Swinbrook House in the Cotswolds. His book is *The Memoirs of a Beautiful Boy*.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**  
Main Library, East Room

**CAROLYN LEMASTER**

LeMaster, a journalist and historian, has been writing and speaking on biblical and Jewish history for more than 35 years. She has received numerous grants and awards and is a native of Little Rock.

**Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**  
Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)

**ED MADDEN**

Madden, who currently teaches at the University of South Carolina, grew up on a farm in Northeast Arkansas and is a graduate of Harding University. His first book of poetry, *Signals*, won the South Carolina Poetry Book Prize.

Madden's work was selected for *Best New Poets 2007*.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**  
Main Library, Fribourgh Room (2nd Floor)

**NORRIS CHURCH MAILER**

Mailer, raised in Arkansas, is the author of *Windchill Summer* and, most recently, *Cheap Diamonds*. Her late husband of thirty-three years is Norman Mailer. In the '70s, she was a Wilhelmina model and an actress. Mailer is also a painter, a playwright, and a screenwriter.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**  
Main Library, Darragh Center



John Hope Franklin - 2006

## RICHARD MASON



Currently CEO of Gibraltar Energy, Mason is a geologist, an antique-map collector, and the former president of the Arkansas Wildlife Federation. As a young boy, he lived on a small farm in South Arkansas and now lives with his wife in El Dorado. In his debut novel, *The Red Scarf*, Mason takes us back to 1944 Arkansas through the eyes of twelve-year-old Richard, who is coming of age in the rural south.

**Saturday, April 5, 3:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)**

## LURLENE MCDANIEL



McDaniel began writing inspirational novels for teenagers facing life-altering situations when her son was diagnosed with juvenile diabetes. Her most recent novel is *Prey*. Her other titles, all best-sellers, are *Don't Die, My Love, I'll be Seeing You*, and *Till Death Do Us Part*.

**Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)**

## PATRICK MCGRATH



McGrath, called "a contemporary master" by *Kirkus Reviews*, was born in London and grew up near Broadmoor Hospital, where for many years his father was a medical superintendent. His latest book is *Trauma*. His other titles include *Port Mungo*, *Asylum*, *Blood and Water and Other Tales*, *The Grotesque*, *Spider*, and *Dr. Haggard's Disease*. He lives in New York City and London and is married to actress Maria Aitken.

**Saturday, April 5, 3:30 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## ROLAND MESNIER



Mesnier served five U.S. presidents as Executive Pastry Chef and is the author of two cookbooks, *Basic to Beautiful Cakes* and *Dessert University*, and his memoir, *All the Presidents' Pastries*. He began his first patisserie job in 1956 at the age of 12 in Burgundy, France. Mesnier has received numerous honors and awards, including 20 gold medals in pastry competitions around the world.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:30 p.m.**

**(Special Ticketed Event)**

**River Market, Clark Room**

## CECIL MURPHEY



Murphey is a *New York Times* best-selling author and international speaker who has written, co-written, or ghost-written more than 100 books and 700 articles. *90 Minutes in Heaven* (with Don Piper) has been on the best-seller list since October 2006 and has sold nearly three million copies. Murphey's latest book, *Everybody Loved Roger Harden*, was released in January 2008.

**Friday, April 4, 12:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## BARBARA OAKLEY



Oakley, "a female Indiana Jones," is one of the few women to hold a doctorate in systems engineering. *Evil Genes: Why Rome Fell, Hitler Rose, Enron Failed and My Sister Stole My Mother's Boyfriend* is her most recent book. She chronicled her adventures on Soviet fishing boats in the Bering Sea in *Hair of the Dog: Tales from Aboard a Russian Trawler*. Her work has appeared in publications ranging from the *New York Times* to *Transactions on Nanobioscience*.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:30 p.m.**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

## JOE NICK PATOSKI



Patoski has been writing about Willie Nelson for 35 years for publications such as *No Depression*, *Texas Monthly*, *Rolling Stone*, *Country Music*, *TV Guide*, *Picking Up the Tempo*, and the *Austin American-Statesman*. He is the co-author and author of biographies of Stevie Ray Vaughan and Selena and a contributor to the *Rolling Stone Illustrated History of Rock and Roll* and *Conjunto*. Patoski lives in the Texas Hill Country.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 3:30 p.m. (Music Biography)**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

**Session 2: Sunday, April 5, 3:00 p.m. (Freelancing)**

**Main Library, East Room**

## TITO PERDUE



Perdue, who the *New York Press* called "America's Lost Literary Genius" was born in Chile and raised in Alabama. His latest titles are *The Fields of Asphodel* and *Lee*. He has worked as Social Sciences Bibliographer at Iowa State University, Assistant Director of the State University of New York at Binghamton Library, and Associate Director of Emory University Library. His other titles include *The New Austerities*, *Opportunities in Alabama Agriculture*, and *The Sweet-Scented Manuscript*.

**Saturday, April 5, 9:30 a.m.**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**



Janis Kearney - 2004

## DAVID PRETE



Prete is a writer, actor, and readings coach from New York City. His first book, a coming-of-age story set in New York, is *Say That to My Face*. He is currently at work on a novel called *Bones of His Bones*.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

## ALEX RICHARDSON



Richardson's first book of poetry is *Porch Night on Walnut Street*. His poetry has appeared in such places as *Free Lunch*, *Barrow Street*, *Birmingham Poetry Review*, *The Southeast Review*, *Snake Nation Review*, and *The Southern Poetry Anthology*. He is chair of the English department at Limestone College, where he teaches creative writing, film history, modern poetry, and Shakespeare.

**Sunday, April 6, 1:30 p.m.**

**Main Library, Fribourgh Room (2nd Floor)**

## SARA ROAHEN



In *Gumbo Tales: Finding My Place at the New Orleans Table*, Wisconsin native Roahen embraces the diverse cuisine of her adopted city, New Orleans, and combines it with her own unique cooking style. Roahen's work has appeared in *Tin House*, *The Oxford American*, and *Food & Wine*. She and her husband own a home in New Orleans.

**Saturday, April 5, 10:00 a.m.**

**River Market, Clark Room**

## ROBERT L. SHORT



Short speaks at churches across the United States and is the author of numerous books on religion and popular culture. His most recent title is *The Parables of Dr. Seuss*. His book *The Gospel According to Peanuts* has sold more than ten million copies worldwide.

**Friday, April 4, 12:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, Darragh Center**

## REBECCA SKLOOT



Skloot is a contributing editor at *Popular Science* magazine, correspondent for the National Public Radio show "RadioLab," and the author of a monthly Pets column for *Prevention* magazine. She writes feature stories, essays, and reviews for the *New York Times* and *New York Times Magazine*, and *O: The Oprah Magazine*. Skloot specializes in writing about science and medicine, but is known to cover a wide range of topics, from food politics to goldfish surgery.

**Sunday, April 6, 3:00 p.m.**

**Main Library, East Room**

## TRENTON LEE STEWART



Stewart is the author of the adult novel *Flood Summer*, set in fictional Lockers Creek, Arkansas, and the best-selling children's novel *The Mysterious Benedict Society*. The sequel, *The Mysterious Benedict Society and the Perilous Journey* will be published in May. He lives in Little Rock with his wife and two sons.

**Session 1: Saturday, April 5, 11:00 a.m. (for young adults)**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Ottenheimer Theater (1st Floor)**

**Session 2: Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m. (for adults)**

**Cox Creative Center, Meeting Room (3rd Floor)**

## JAN BUCKNER WALKER



Walker is the creator of *Kids Across Parents Down*, called "the original crossword puzzle for kids and their favorite adults" by Tribune Media Services. Walker is also an attorney working as a consultant in employment law.

She lives with her family in suburban Chicago.

**Saturday, April 5, 2:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)**

## STEVE WHISNANT



Whisnant's most recent book, *Domino*, was illustrated by Little Rock's Jefferson Elementary Fifth Grade Art Club. He is past President of Fiction Writers of Central Arkansas and state representative for *ByLine Magazine*.

**Saturday, April 5, 3:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)**

## LINDA D. WILLIAMS



Williams has written non-fiction books for children of all ages, including contributions to the series *Mighty Machines*, *Navigational Aids*, and *Demystified*. A NASA scientist for many years, she now lives in Little Rock with her husband, daughter, and two rescued cats.

**Saturday, April 5, 1:00 p.m.**

**Historic Arkansas Museum, Trinity Gallery (2nd Floor)**

## SOLON TIMOTHY WOODWARD

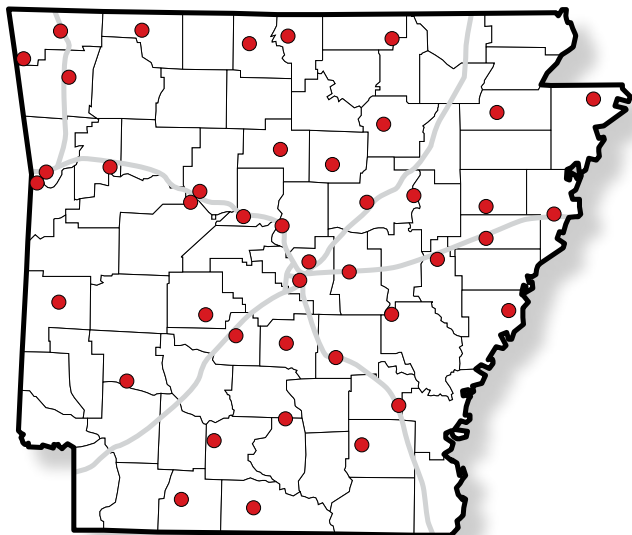


Woodward studied philosophy and biology at Harvard University and holds a degree in medicine from the Mayo Clinic College of Medicine. His short fiction has been nominated twice for the Pushcart Prize. The writer Padgett Powell says "to keep an eye" on Woodward. A practicing physician, Woodward lives with his family in Jacksonville, Florida. *Cadillac Orpheus* is his first novel.

**Saturday, April 5, 12:30 p.m.**

**Pyramid Art, Books & Custom Framing**

# LITERACY COUNCILS OF ARKANSAS



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**To learn more about becoming a  
 tutor at one of these locations,  
 contact Arkansas Literacy Councils,  
 Inc. at (501) 907-2490 or go to  
 ArkansasLiteracy.org.**

## ARKANSAS LITERACY COUNCILS, INC.

The Arkansas Literary Festival benefits the cause of adult literacy in Arkansas through Arkansas Literacy Councils, Inc. (ALC), the statewide literacy organization dedicated to *Empower Arkansas through Literacy*.

Since 1971, ALC has supported 50 literacy councils that recruit and train volunteer tutors to help adults improve their basic reading, writing and math skills. All services are free of charge to students. Literacy councils and ALC are saving Arkansas nearly \$6 million in services that it doesn't have to pay to hire teachers to tutor adults.

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Marie Clinton Bruno, Executive Director  
Katie Eisenhower McManners,  
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Grace Morrissey, Office/Finance Manager  
Katherine Wyrick, Festival Assistant

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### SPECIAL THANKS

We are deeply appreciative of the festival authors, all of whom generously waived speaking fees and honoraria.

We also thank:  
The Capital Hotel  
Department of English (UCA)  
Festival Guides  
Literacy Action of Central Arkansas  
Moderators and Introducers  
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