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DELAWARE BOOK FESTIVAL ATTRACTS BEST-SELLING AUTHORS FOR ALL AGES, SATURDAY, NOV. 1

(Dover, Del.) SEPTEMBER 8, 2008 — In its 3rd year, the Delaware Book Festival again promises to deliver exciting, best-selling and up-and-coming authors to inspire a love of reading in children and give adults the chance to meet favorite authors and discover new ones.

The festival takes place on Saturday, November 1, between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. at the First State Heritage Park in Dover. More than 30 authors and illustrators will talk, answer questions and sign books under tents located on Legislative Mall, while a variety of workshops will take place in the newly refurbished Old State House. A Children’s Activity tent will also offer crafts, storybook characters and more.

Highlights of the day include:

- Popular children’s authors Marc Brown, creator of Arthur and author/illustrator of more than 30 books featuring the aardvark and his family; and Jon Scieszka author of The Stinky Cheese Man, Squids Will be Squids, and the Time-Warp Trio series, and the first National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature bestowed by the Library of Congress.
- Husband and wife Michael Gear and Kathleen O’Neal Gear, authors of the controversial new book, The Betrayal: The Lost Life of Jesus, based on actual documents recovered from archeological sites in the Middle East.
- A “Women in History” writer’s panel, featuring Laurie Halse Anderson, author of Chains, an historical novel of the American Revolution told through the eyes of a slave girl; Penny Colman (Adventurous Women and Thanksgiving: The True Story); and Catherine Gourley (Flappers and the New American Woman: Perceptions of Women from 1918 through the 1920s).
- Hugely successful fiction writers who have pulled expertise from former careers to craft their stories, including physician/medical thriller author Tess Gerritsen, prosecutor/mystery writer Alafair Burke, and TV news producer/media thriller author Mary Jane Clark.
- Biographical writers Ariel Sabar (My Father’s Paradise: A Son’s Search for His Jewish Past in Kurdish Iraq) and Lily Koppel (The Red Leather Diary).
- Funny female authors Beth Harbison (Secrets of a Shoe Addict) and Alison Larkin (The English American).
• A mystery panel featuring Linda Barnes, author of two criminal thriller series, and Chuck Logan, author of seven novels including Hunter’s Moon, Absolute Zero and After the Rain.

• “Book buzz” from the publishing world, including a sneak peak at future best sellers coming out in the next few months according to executives from HarperCollins and MacMillan Publishers.


• A Delaware writer’s panel, featuring Carol Hoffecker and Barbara Benson, co-authors of The Delaware Adventure, and Kathleen Marie Doyle (Allies for Justice: How Louis Redding and Collins Seitz Changed the Complexion of America's Schools).

“We’re very excited about this year’s diverse line-up of award-winning authors and illustrators,” said festival organizer Patty Langley of the Delaware Division of Libraries. “There is truly something for everyone, of every age and every interest. It’s a wonderful opportunity to connect with an author or help your child make a connection that will lead to a lifelong love of reading.”

Workshops for writers and collectors will include “Write Smart: 25 Things You Really Need to Know to Sell Your Book!” presented by national best-selling author Mary Kennedy; “Poetry Writing” with Delaware Poet Laureate JoAnn Balingit; “There’s No Shush about it. Reading is Not Just for Loners,” a workshop for book discussion groups; and “From Paper to Pages,” the art of sewing books led by book artist and UD Professor Martha Carothers.

For more information about the Delaware Book Festival, visit www.debookfestival.lib.de.us

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