

.....FOR THE LOVE OF BOOKS

Ann Arbor Book Festival
500 S. Main Street
Ann Arbor, MI 48104
www.aabookfestival.org

Be sure to mark your calendar for the dates of this year's Festival:
May 15-17. Street Festival: Sat. May 16
Located in the Michigan League and on Ingalls Mall

Authors appearing include:



Colson Whitehead,
author of *The Intuitionist* and the upcoming *Sag Harbor*



Dr. Perri Klass,
pediatrician and author of *The Mercy Rule* and *Quirky Kids*



Peter Yarrow,
singer/songwriter/author of *Sing Along with the Peter Yarrow Songbooks*

Please check our website often for updates and details: www.aabookfestival.org
Please support your local booksellers



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The Ann Arbor Book Festival is a community-based event, organized by a large group of volunteers to showcase the written word in Ann Arbor. The Book Festival is a festive occasion with a serious purpose: to promote a culture of literacy in the greater Ann Arbor and southeast Michigan community. Each spring since 2004, the festival has featured a broad range of activities and events that appeal to people of all ages and interests. These include: children and youth reading from their original works and performing book-related plays, poetry readings, author presentations, conversations and workshops, panel discussions on vital issues such as the future of the book, and programs focused on different genres of writing.

The Book Festival is unique to the community because it brings people together for a sharing of ideas. Issues of the day are discussed and brought to the fore with interesting and compelling authors framing topics with their current work. The importance of reading and writing is underscored throughout the activities. They are always the focus of the Festival. We want to continue this focus as we move forward.

In its brief five year history, the Book Festival has hosted numerous notable authors, including Dr. Sanjay Gupta, Francine Prose, Joan Blos, Charles Baxter, Christopher Paul Curtis, Jacquelyn Mitchard, Robert Sabuda, Thomas Lynch, Pulitzer Prize winner Edward P. Jones, New York Times Bestseller Elizabeth Kostova, and prize-winning author Richard Russo, along with a host of writers from Michigan and the surrounding area. Ann Arbor is a great "book town" and authors and publishers find it an easy and welcoming place, one to which publishers like to send their writers.

Annual features include:

- *Authors in Schools Program* sends authors to Ann Arbor elementary, middle, and high schools during the week leading up to the Festival which helps to foster interest in reading, writing, and illustrating, and inspires young readers and writers.
- *A Literacy Symposium* for teachers and parents that features a topic and speaker addressing methods for improving student literacy skills.
- *Student works* are featured at the Festival of students from school districts in the surrounding areas, giving children and families a place to showcase their writing efforts from the school year.
- *The Writer's Conference*, a full-day experience for attendees to hone their skills in workshop sessions led by visiting Festival authors.
- *Panel discussions* on current topical issues feature noted experts and authors.

After just four years, the Book Festival was voted 3rd most favorite Festival by the Ann Arbor News' Readers Choice Awards in 2007, placing just behind the long-established Art Fairs and the Summer Festival.

Highlights for 2009 include:

- Theater event focused on playwriting and showcasing local professional theaters
- Expanded Writer's Conference
- Area chefs/authors showcasing their culinary skills
- Return of the Ann Arbor Civic Ballet featuring original choreography to a children's book
- Author Breakfast




Join us for a community-wide celebration of reading, writing and literacy



Kathy Robenalt

It has been my honor and privilege to be part of the AABF over the last five years. As we look forward to our next five years, we are excited about bringing an annual event to reality that is worthy of our community - a community that so highly values all facets of literacy.

HOW YOU CAN HELP:



Ann Arbor Book Festival, Inc.
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Phone 734-369-3366
Fax 734-369-4882
aabl@annbookfestival.org
AABOOKFESTIVAL.ORG

YES, PLEASE ACCEPT MY DONATION TO THE ANN ARBOR BOOK FESTIVAL.

MAIL TO: Ann Arbor Book Festival, Inc. • 500 South Main Street • Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Enclosed is my gift of: \$1,000 \$500 \$100 \$50 Other _____

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Please contact me about having my company sponsor an event at the Ann Arbor Book Festival.

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities with the Ann Arbor Book Festival.

I would like to be put on the Ann Arbor Book Festival mailing list!

The Book Festival is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. Tax ID #: 43-2109462.

Ann Arbor Book Festival Donation

Graphic Design courtesy of Carol Karr/Crazy Wisdom • Printing courtesy of Inland Press

MAKING IT POSSIBLE

The Ann Arbor Book Festival is a 501(c) (3) organization. These challenging times are difficult for small nonprofit groups and we look to our community resources, including individuals, corporations, and organizations, for their continuing support. Support at any level CAN make a difference and will allow us to sustain this vital community event.

Past sponsors have included a number of strong community groups such as Borders, Inc., the Michigan Humanities Council, ProQuest CSA, The Gale Group, WEMU Radio 89.1, Michigan Radio, the Ann Arbor News, the State Street Area Association, Edwards Brothers, the Ann Arbor District Library, and the University of Michigan.

COLLABORATIONS

As the Festival has grown, new collaborations and partnerships have flourished. Here is a sampling:

The Ann Arbor Civic Ballet presented original choreography in conjunction with a local storyteller at the 2008 Festival which provided a forum for their young dancers to showcase their talents. A new piece will be presented at the '09 Festival, based on Anna Dewdney's new book *Llama Llama Misses Mama*.

In 2008, the University of Michigan's Center for the Development of Language and Literacy brought author and noted entomologist Stephen Buchmann to town and hosted a variety of events. Dr. Buchmann presented at the Festival on an environmental panel that featured his work with bees and the impact of climate change.

The Authors in Schools program, in conjunction with media specialists in the Ann Arbor Schools and the Society for Children's Book Writers and Illustrators, has grown since 2005 to involve up to 21 area schools. This is an integral part of the Festival that brings authors and children together and exposes thousands of area children to the processes of writing and illustrating, instilling in them a love of books and reading.

Area booksellers participate each year, bringing to the Festival the guest authors' books.

826michigan, a local nonprofit that exists to encourage and foster youth writing, has partnered in a variety of ways over the years at the Festival to bring events and young people together. For 2009, the release party for their annual student publication is being held in conjunction with the Festival.

Each year, students from area schools present writing from their work during the school year – poems, free verse, and short stories. The Festival provides a venue for these students and their families to celebrate their accomplishments.

The Ann Arbor District Library's Teen Writing Contest, held during the school year, culminates at the Book Festival with an awards ceremony presented by a guest author. Past authors have included Deb Caletti, Cecil Castellucci, and Alexandra Flinn.

MEET OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

- Kathy Robenalt, Exec. Director, Ann Arbor Book Festival
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