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**AUTHORS ANNOUNCED FOR  
FIFTH ANNUAL NEWBURYPORT LITERARY FESTIVAL**

*Festival to feature diverse roster of authors from every genre*

**NEWBURYPORT, Mass.** – The Fifth Annual Newburyport Literary Festival (NLF), scheduled for April 23-24, 2010 in venues throughout downtown Newburyport, has announced the following authors presenting at this year's festival.

Authors presenting in each genre (listed alphabetical by genre, then author) include:

- Children / Teens

- Fred Bowen - Bowen is a sportswriter for kids ages 8 and up. His new book *No Easy Way* (Dutton Children's Books) is a gorgeous picture-book biography of Ted Williams, the amazing Red Sox Slugger, and was named a Junior Library Guild Selection for Fall 2009.
- Gregory Maguire - Maguire is the bestselling author of *Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister*, *Lost*, *Mirror Mirror*, and the *Wicked Years*, a series that includes *Wicked*, *Son of a Witch*, and *A Lion Among Men*. *Wicked*, now a beloved classic, is the basis for the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical of the same name.

- Fiction

- Steve Almond - Almond is the author the story collections *My Life in Heavy Metal* and *The Evil B.B. Chow*, the novel *Which Brings Me to You* (with Julianna Baggott), and the non-fiction books *Candyfreak* and *(Not That You Asked)*. His new book, *Rock and Roll Will Save Your Life*, will be available in Spring 2010.
- Marie Arana - Arana is the author of a memoir about her bicultural childhood "*American Chica: Two Worlds, One Childhood*," which was a finalist for the 2001 National Book Award as well as the PEN/Memoir Award, and won the Books for a Better Life Award. Her most recent novel, published in January 2009, is "*Lima Nights*."
- Jenny Sawyer - Sawyer, book critic for *The Christian Science Monitor*, has achieved national recognition for her reviews of books written for kids, tweens, and young adults. Sawyer has become the next generation's champion of the great works of literature, making these books newly relevant to teens everywhere.



- Anita Shreve - Shreve has written 12 other novels, among them *The Weight of Water*, *The Pilot's Wife*, *The Last Time They Met*, *A Wedding in December*, and *Body Surfing*. As part of the NLF in 2010, Shreve will be the recipient of the first Marquand Prize in American Literature.
- J. Courtney Sullivan - Sullivan is the author of the bestselling novel *Commencement*, which the *New York Times* called "one of this year's most inviting summer novels".
- Nonfiction
  - Dr. Regina Barreca - Barreca is most recently the author of *It's Not That I'm Bitter: How I Learned to Stop Worrying About Visible Panty Lines and Conquered the World* (St. Martin's, 2009), and has appeared on 20/20, The Today Show, CNN, Dr. Phil and Oprah to discuss gender, power, politics, and humor.
  - G. Jeffrey MacDonald - MacDonald is an award-winning journalist and an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. His new book, *Thieves in the Temple: The Christian Church and the Selling of the American Soul*, goes on sale from Basic Books on April 1, 2010.
  - Jonathan Yardley - Yardley is the author of six books including *Our Kind of People: The Story of an American Family* and *Monday Morning Quarterback*. Yardley is currently the book critic for the *Washington Post*.
- Poetry
  - J.D. Scrimgeour –Scrimgeour has published a collection of poetry, *The Last Miles* (2005) and two books of creative nonfiction, *Spin Moves* (2000) and *Themes For English B: A Professor's Education In and Out of Class* (2006), which won the AWP Award for Creative Nonfiction.
  - Philip Swanson - Swanson has had a distinguished career as a trombonist, pianist, organist, composer, conductor, and teacher. Swanson is an Assistant Professor of Music at Salem State College, where he teaches music theory, composition, piano, and trombone.
  - Elizabeth Thomas - Thomas is a published poet, performer, advocate of the arts and educator. The author of three books of poetry, she has read her work throughout the US and this past February presented 'Poetry as Theater' in the United Arab Emirates.
  - Afaa Michael Weaver - Weaver's tenth collection of poetry is *The Plum Flower Dance* (U Pittsburgh 2007). Also a playwright, he has won the PDI Award from ETA Theater in Chicago as well as an NEA fellowship in poetry and a PEW fellowship in poetry.



The NLF is made possible through the generosity of our founding sponsors who are the Institution for Savings and the Newburyport Five Cents Savings Bank.

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The Newburyport Literary Festival (NLF), organized by the Newburyport Literary Association, annually celebrates reading, and the love of books. The NLF in 2010 features more than 40 writers of distinguished fiction and non-fiction – including short story writers, children's authors, biographers, nature writers, critics, screenwriters, poets, novelists, and journalists – who will read and discuss their work in venues throughout Newburyport's historic downtown

For more information on the NLF, including authors and their work, please visit [www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org](http://www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org)