

For Immediate Release

The Newburyport Literary Festival

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LITERARY PRIZE WINNERS AND NOMINEES ADD PRESTIGE TO THE NEWBURYPORT LITERARY FESTIVAL

From April 27 through April 29, 2007, the Newburyport Literary Festival will showcase work by nominees for and winners of the literary world's most prestigious prizes. Among the notable writers attending the 2007 festival are 1968 Caldecott Medal winner Ed Emberly; 2002 National Book Award winner Julia Glass; 2006 Academy Award nominees Todd Field and Tom Perrotta; 2000 Pulitzer Prize finalist and 1998 Poets Prize winner Sydney Lea; and 1985 Grammy and 1994 Southern Book Award winner and festival honoree Peter Guralnick.

Other festival participants include American Poetry Society Annual Award winner Rhina Espaillat; Pen/Hemingway Award winners Jennifer Haigh and Junot Diaz; Man-Booker Prize nominee Claire Messud; three-time Bram Stoker Award winner Chris Golden; National Book Award finalist and Pushcart Prize winner Andre Dubus III; Richard Wilbur Award winners Michael Juster, Len Krizak, and Alfred Nichol; American Mystery Award winner Linda Barnes, and *Los Angeles Times* Prize Winner in Science and Technology, Diana Preston. (A complete list of festival award winners and nominees follows.)

Festival Program Committee co-chairs David Miller and Dick Ravin note that “the festival's goal is to attract the best writers working today, and it's gratifying to see that so many notable authors want to come to Newburyport this spring. Last year's festival proved that our community hosts a lively audience that loves books. The 2007 festival is building on that success with a wonderful array of panels, readings, and other events. There'll be something for everyone—kids, teens, poetry lovers,

fiction readers, biography fans, nature lovers, and more. Just visit our website www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org to check out what's in store.”

About the festival

The 2007 Newburyport Literary Festival (NLF) runs from Friday, April 27, through Sunday, April 29. A three-day celebration of reading, writing, and the love of books, this year’s festival features more than 70 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.

The vision of the Newburyport Literary Festival is shared by many individuals and organizations. The NLF is especially grateful for the generous support of our founding sponsors, the Newburyport Five Cent Savings Bank Charitable Foundation and the Institution for Savings, who have made it possible for the festival to take root and flourish.

All festival events are wheelchair accessible and open to the public. All events are free, except for the opening night gala. For complete information about the festival, including event times and venues, please visit: www.newburyportliteraryfestival.org.

NEWBURYPORT LITERARY FESTIVAL PRIZE WINNERS AND NOMINEES

POETRY

DAVID BERMAN: World Order of Narrative & Formalist Poets Yearly Awards; Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest.

PAT CALLAN: Loren Taylor Memorial Playwriting Contest; Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest HM; Readers’ Digest Poetry Contest HMs.

MICHAEL CANTO: Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest; Robert Penn Warren Contest Finalist; Pushcart Prize Nomination; Morton Marr Prize HM; New England Poetry Club Contest HMs and Erica Mumford Award; Ibbetson Street Press Poetry Competition First Prize.

ROBERT CRAWFORD: Nemerov Award; Roberts Memorial Prize from *The Lyric*; Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest; *The Lawrence Eagle-Tribune* Spring Poetry Contest;

Chester Public Library Annual Poetry Contest; Finalist in Dogwood Poetry Prize, Muriel Craft Bailey Poetry Prize, and Robert Penn Warren Poetry Prize; Poetry Society of NH National Poetry Contest Second Prize; New England Poetry Club HMs; World Order of Narrative & Formalist Poets HMs.

RHINA ESPAILLAT: Robert Frost Foundation “Tree at My Window” Award; T. S. Eliot Prize for Poetry; Richard Wilbur Award; Nemerov Prize; May Sarton Award, Barbara Bradley Award and Der-Hovanessian Translation Prize from the New England Poetry Club; Poetry Society of America Yearly Awards; Salome Ureña de Henríquez Award from the Dominican Republic’s Ministry of Culture.

MIDGE GOLDBERG: Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest; Robert Frost HM; Dick Shea Memorial Award from University of NH; Roberts Memorial Prize from *The Lyric*; New England Poetry Club Contest HMs.

MICHAEL JUSTER: Richard Wilbur Award; Nemerov Prize; World Order of Narrative & Formalist Poets Yearly Awards; Erika Mumford Prize and Gretchen Warren Award from the New England Poetry Club.

LEN KRISAK: Richard Wilbur Award; Robert Penn Warren Prize; Sheila Motton Book Prize, Der-Hovanessian Translation Prize, Firman-Houghton Award and Norma Farber/Rosalie Boyle Prize from the New England Poetry Club; Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest; World Order of Narrative & Formalist Poets Yearly Awards; Green River Writers Grand Prize; Robert Frost Foundation First Prize.

MILDRED NASH: World Order of Narrative & Formalist Poets Yearly Awards; Poetry Society of America Yearly Awards; New England Poetry Club Yearly Awards.

ALFRED NICOL: Richard Wilbur Award; Newburyport Art Association Poetry Contest; Firman-Houghton Award from the New England Poetry Club; Sonnet Bake-off Award from *Eratosphere*.

STEPHEN SCAER: *Iambs & Trochees* Contest First Prize; Nemerov Contest Finalist; New England Shakespeare Festival Sonnet Contest First and Second Prizes.

SYNEY LEA: *Pursuit of a Wound* - finalist, 2000 Pulitzer Prize for poetry. *To the Bone: New and*

Selected Poems, co-winner 1998 Poets' Prize.

CHILDRENS

ED EMBERLEY: 1966 Caldecott Honor: *One Wide River to Cross*; 1967 Caldecott Medal: *Drummer Hoff*

CHRIS GOLDEN: Three-time winner of the Bram Stoker Award (three different works) – Horror Writers Association.

GRACE LIN: American Library Assoc. Notable children's book 2006: *The Year of the Dog*; American Booksellers Association's "Pick of the List" and Bank's Street College Best Books of the Year: *Ugly Vegetables*

PETER NICHOLS: Nominated (along with novels by Philip Roth, Salman Rushdie, Isabelle Allende) for the 2000 Dublin IMPAC literary award.

ANNA VOJTECH: Silver Medal 1979 Columbus Film Festival: *Your food + my food = our food*; First Prize 1983 Marblehead Art Festival, Printmaking; 1993 New York Times Outstanding Children's Book of the Year: *First Strawberries*; 1995 Gold Medal, National Parenting Publication Award; Smithsonian Magazine Notable Book for Children American Bestseller, Pick of the List: *Ten Flashing Fireflies* Philemon Sturges; 1996 CSCBC Book of the year: *Blow Away Soon*; 2001 Best Book for Science for Children, Soc. of School Librarians International; 2002 Outstanding Trade Book for Students, NSTA/CBC; 2001 Los Angeles' 100 Best Books, 2001-2002 OCSD Picture Book Award: *Tough Beginnings*.

FICTION

LINDA BARNES: Among her many honors, in 1985 Barnes won the Anthony Award and nominations for both the Shamus Award and the American Mystery Award for Best Short Story for "Lucky Penny." 1987 American Mystery Award for Best Private Eye Novel and nominations for the Edgar, Anthony, and Shamus awards for *A Trouble of Fools*.

JUNOT DIAZ: *Drown*: ALA Notable Book; PEN/Hemingway Award for Best First Novel: Shortlist;

QPB New Visions Award: Nominee; National Magazine Award for Fiction: Finalist; Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers Award

ANITA DIAMANT: *The Red Tent*—BookSense Book of the Year 2001

ANDRE DUBUS III: Guggenheim Fellowship, The National Magazine Award for fiction, The Pushcart Prize, and was a Finalist for the Prix de Rome Fellowship from the Academy of Arts and Letters. *House of Sand and Fog* was a fiction finalist for the National Book Award, the Los Angeles Times Book Prize, the L.L. Winship/PEN New England Award, Booksense Book of the Year, and was an Oprah Book Club Selection and #1 New York Times bestseller.

TODD FIELD AND TOM PEROTTA

FIELD: Director of the Year and Best Original Screenplay, National Board of Review; Best Picture of the Year, Los Angeles Film Critics Association; Best First Film, New York Film Critics Circle awarded to Field. Six AFI, three Golden Globe, and five Academy Award nominations: *In the Bedroom*

FIELD AND PEROTTA: three 2006 Golden Globe nominations, including Best Picture; three 2006 Academy Awards nominations: *Little Children*

JULIA GLASS: National Book Award winner, 2003 Nelson Algren Awards, the Tobias Wolff Award and the Pirate's Alley Faulkner Society Medal for Best Novella: *Three Junes*

AINE GREANEY: 2000 Frank O'Connor Short Fiction Award (grand-prize winner), the *Irish News*, the Steinbeck Award, and the Hennessy Award for New Irish Writing.

JENNIFER HAIGH: 2004 PEN/Hemingway Award for outstanding first fiction: *Mrs. Kimble*; 2006 PEN/L.L. Winship Award for best book by a New England writer: *Baker Towers*.

ARCHER MAYER: 2004 winner of the New England Booksellers Association/NEBA award for best fiction—the first time a writer of crime literature has been so honored.

NONFICTION

MARK FEENEY: finalist for 1994 Pulitzer Prize in feature writing for “Wingtips on the Beach.”

PETER GURALNICK: American Book Award: Before Columbus Foundation, 1983 for *Lost Highway*. Grammy Award: National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences, 1985 for liner notes to “Sam Cooke: Live at the Harlem Square Club” (RCA). Blues Foundation Hall of Fame (W.C. Handy) awards, 1989 for *Feel Like Going Home*; 1995 for *Searching For Robert Johnson*; 1996 for *Sweet Soul Music*, each as a “Classic of Blues Literature.” Rolling Stone/BMI Ralph J. Gleason Book Award: 1994 for *Last Train to Memphis*; 1999 for *Careless Love*. Finalist in nonfiction: Southern Book Awards (given by the Southern Book Critics Circle), 1995 for *Last Train to Memphis*. Winner in nonfiction: Southern Book Awards (given by the Southern Book Critics Circle), 1999 for *Careless Love*.

WIL HAYGOOD: *Sammy Davis, Jr., in Black and White* won the Zora Neale Hurston–Richard Wright Legacy Award, the ASCAP–Deems Taylor Award for Outstanding Music Biography, and the Nonfiction Book of the Year Award from the Black Caucus of the American Library Association. Journalism Awards: Sunday Magazine Editors Award, the New England Associated Press Award, the National Headliners Award, and the National Association of Black Journalists Award for International Reporting.

DONALD KROODSMA: 2006 John Burroughs Medal Award; 2003 Elliot Coues Award from the American Ornithologists’ Union.

PETER NICHOLS: *Evolution's Captain* cited as one of the 25 best books of 2004 by the *Seattle Times*. His novel *Voyage to the North Star* nominated for 2000 Dublin IMPAC award. “Incident in a Nowhere Place,” published by *Outside* magazine: first place in category and first place overall in 2002 Boating Writers International Writing Contest; “To the Abacos with Pablo,” published by *Cruising World*, won first place in category in 2003.

DIANA PRESTON: *Before the Fallout: From Marie Curie to Hiroshima*: 2006 *Los Angeles Times* prize for science and technology.

HAZEL ROWLEY: *Tête-à-Tête: The Tumultuous Lives and Loves of Simone de Beauvoir and Jean-Paul Sartre*: *Washington Post's* Best Books of 2005. *Christina Stead: A Biography*: (Australian) National Book Award for Nonfiction; 1994 *New York Times* Notable Book.