

A Year-Round Book Festival



NATIONAL WRITERS SERIES
Writers Series of Traverse City™
and DOUG STANTON present the

2013 Winter-Spring Season

CHIP JOHANNESSEN

HOMELAND

Neal Rubin

The Detroit News

BUZZ BISSINGER

father's day



LUCAS WITTMANN

THE DAILY BEAST

GILLIAN FLYNN

GONE GIRL



DOUG STANTON

HORSE SOLDIERS



RICH FAHLE

BIBLIOSTAR.TV

BLAINE HARDEN

ESCAPE FROM CAMP 14



JASON MATTHEWS

RED SPARROW



NATHANIEL PHILBRICK

BUNKER HILL



Laura Hohnhold

executive editor

Byliner.com

Colum McCann

TransAtlantic



TEMPLE GRANDIN

The Autistic Brain



Great Stories
GREAT
Conversations

Leigh Haber

books editor O, the Oprah Magazine



In Support of the National Writers Series Scholarship Program
& the Front Street Writers Program

Welcome to the 2013 Season!

As the National Writers Series starts its fourth year, the verdict is in: Traverse City and NWS have become a must-stop on authors' national tours. This year-round book festival meets at the historic City Opera House, which, for 120 years, has been our town's public square. Last year, this grand ballroom hosted some 50,000 people, making it one of the best attended venues along this city's beautiful lakeshore. If these gold-leaf and frescoed walls could talk, they would echo back to us spirited debates, performances, and readings from three American centuries—a post-Civil War America; an America struggling to make those freedoms real in the 1960s; and a post-9/11 America, a portrait still in the making. Operettas, basketball games, Olympic sporting events, classical music concerts, weddings—the thrum of daily life in the town in which I'm proud to have grown up. Authors from across the country are bowled over when they walk into the Opera House. They tell us that being at NWS was one of the best and most successful experiences of their book tours, and that Traverse City's book-loving, sold-out audiences are amazing.

In three short years, in the words of *Poets and Writers* and *Publishing Perspectives*, two of publishing's must-read publications, the NWS has become one of the country's premier literary events.

All of us here at NWS, along with a large volunteer staff, are putting on book events that normally only happen in cities like New York, LA, and Seattle, which is to say that Traverse City has created something special here in the Midwest and in the U.S. This is thanks to you: readers, audience members, families, students, teachers, businesses, and donors.

In the early going, most of the writers who came here were friends, and today that remains true, with the addition of new authors who've heard of us through the grapevine and from their publishers. Those authors are enchanted by Traverse City and leave as new friends. Since 2009, we've brought thousands of people downtown and made a significant impact on our local economy; hosted 60 plus authors; listened to

hundreds of hours of amazing conversation; and we've promoted these events—and the message that Traverse City is a readers' and writers' haven—to millions of people. And in partnership with Traverse Area Public Schools, our new Front Street Writers, a rigorous creative writing program, is going gangbusters.

We founded the National Writers Series because we thought that as a community we would respond to passionate conversation about books, writing, places, people—about art. Earlier this year on NPR's *Studio 360*, I heard a fascinating show called *Culture Shock, 1913*, which reports on this in interesting detail.

You may be surprised, as I was, by how audiences reacted to the performance of Stravinsky's *Rite Of Spring*. What I would say is this: Listen to Stravinsky, and try to imagine the feelings that this piece of art stirred in people almost 100 years ago. "Poetry is news that stays news," poet William Carlos Williams said. I once heard someone explain that if they wrote something and broadcast it, it had to be true—because so many people would read it and believe it, all because it had been published. This, unfortunately, is the world we are in. Art is an antidote to this kind of self-loving heart. Artists really are our society's agents of change. How can you say that *The Grapes of Wrath* is true or not true? That an Alice Munro story is not real? These portraits mystify, confuse, and, ultimately, clarify our condition. "The thing about a story," Tim O'Brien writes in *The Things They Carried*, "is that you dream it as you tell it, hoping that others might then dream along with you..." Stories really do make us human. And they make us a community.

On behalf of everyone at NWS-- thank you! We hope you enjoy the 2013 NWS Winter/Spring season.

Doug Stanton –
Co-founder, National Writers Series

Jill Tewsley –
Executive director, National Writers Series

“Traverse is French for ‘cross.’ Not as in, ‘I think I can cross the National Writers Series off my list,’ but rather, ‘I’d cross the U.S. on my knees for another fine day at the National Writers Series.’”

~ David Sedaris, *New York Times* Bestselling Author



For more information, visit www.nationalwritersseries.org

A Special Gift to the COMMUNITY

It is with great pleasure that the city welcomes all of the guests, sponsors, and supporters to another season of the National Writers Series. We're encouraged that the City Opera House will again be filled with an impressive mix of writers, bringing Traverse City yet another dose of sophisticated entertainment. Occasional wit, humor, and laughter come with at no additional cost!

Those who have gathered at the Opera House have been treated to an endless list of writing talent. We've enjoyed *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* as presented by Mitch Albom, met *The Greatest Generation* with Tom Brokaw, and been inspired by Gretchen Witt raising funds and awareness for pediatric research.

The National Writers Series has assisted in

placing Traverse City on the national radar and provided an on-going event engaging those who gather for these greatly entertaining experiences. Make it an evening or an afternoon in Traverse City, visiting with a nationally acclaimed author at the historic Opera House, then delight in one of our outstanding city restaurants.

Have a wonderful and entertaining 2013 and enjoy yourself as you hear the personal stories behind great books!

Michael Estes
Mayor, Traverse City



Front Street Writers Program

Unique among high school writing programs, Front Street Writers engages students with all aspects of the writing process, from early brainstorming and drafting, through the peer review workshop, and finally by encouraging comprehensive revision and the creation of a portfolio of finished writing samples.

At the core of FSW's philosophy is the importance of the peer-review workshop, which not only helps students hone their skills as close readers and editors, but establishes a sense of community among students as they share and discuss each other's work. Special guest classes are led by visiting National Writers Series authors and this strengthens the students' writing community by creating an important link between their own work and the larger world of contemporary literature.

This invaluable opportunity—to interact with distinguished working writers, not only offers students a feel for the writer's life and profession, but also encourages them to dream big—to recognize that they, too, have the potential to one day speak about their works on the City Opera House stage.

There is no better opportunity in the Grand Traverse region for students to hone their writing skills. The FSW program has set the bar for other high school studio writing courses nationwide.

For more information about FSW or to apply, visit: www.tcaps.net/fsw.

Leigh Gallagher
writer-in-residence, FSW

Kerrey Woughter
co-director, FSW and teacher,
Traverse City Central

Stephanie Long
assistant principal, Traverse City West

NWS MISSION:

To spark students' writing excellence
and to connect communities with
nationally renowned writers to encourage
appreciation of the written word.

For more information, visit www.nationalwritersseries.org

An evening with
**CHIP
JOHANNESSEN**

February 7, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

Critics have hailed *Homeland* as the best thing on television, period. Think of this drama as a “filmed” story you might read in *The New Yorker*, influenced by deep character study and gripping suspense. *Homeland* was television’s big winner of the evening at the 70th Annual Golden Globe Awards. Stars Claire Danes and Damian Lewis won Best Actress and Best Actor in a television drama, and *Homeland* was named Best Television Drama.

Chip Johannessen will take the NWS audience backstage as he and special guest host Doug Stanton, NWS co-founder explore how *Homeland* is brought to life from script to screen. Johannessen is bringing pages from his favorite scripts to accompany a select reel of *Homeland* moments.

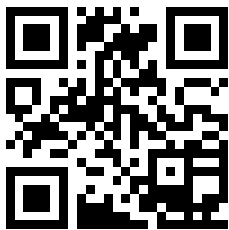
A Detroit native and Harvard graduate, Johannessen began his career as a television editor and writer for, among other shows, *Beverly Hills,*



Guest Host
Doug
Stanton

90210 before producing and writing for the hits *Dexter* and *24*.

Now as a multiple Emmy and Golden Globe Award-winner, Johannessen is enjoying critical acclaim and commercial success with *Homeland*. In September 2012, *Homeland* made television history when it did something no other show has done in 25 years: it won four out of five of the major drama awards at the Emmys – Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Writing, and Best Series. This evening is a combination front row seat and backstage pass to what has been called the most addictive and engrossing show on TV.



Great Stories
Great Conversations
A GREAT CAUSE
LEARN MORE

KUDOS!

“Author Tour Revolution” Poets&Writers

By Jeremy Chamberlain -- May/June 2012

“The National Writers Series has become one of the preminent authors’ series in the country...”

“There’s something that Stanton and his cofounders have struck upon that’s making these must-attend evenings: the promise of an analog experience in a digital cultural landscape. Stanton realized that audiences no longer want to hear authors simply read... They’re looking for a conversation.

“[Stanton’s] vision for the Series is that of a great dinner party – stimulating, provocative, entertaining, and communal – in an evocative space, Traverse City’s historic opera house... The series is a place where art – and being passionate about art – matters.”

An evening with **BUZZ BISSINGER**

March 5, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

Rarely does an author transcend his chosen genre. Buzz Bissinger, one of the nation's most-honored and distinguished writers, managed to do it first with his breakout bestseller turned popular television series, *Friday Night Lights*. Bissinger is a master storyteller known for his artful ability to capture the everyday dramas faced by coaches and players off the court and away from the cheers of adoring fans. His ability to weave a compelling narrative and reveal the human side of every story is why some of Bissinger's most ardent fans are, in fact, readers who have little interest in watching sports.

Now with his latest book, *Father's Day: A Journey into the Mind and Heart of My Extraordinary Son*, Bissinger ventures into entirely new and intensely emotional terrain. *Father's Day* chronicles the lives of Bissinger's twin sons, born 13 weeks premature and weighing less than two pounds. Gerry and Zach are twins who grew to live diametrically opposed lives. After obtaining his Master's in education from the University of Pennsylvania, Gerry is now a public school teacher while Zach, because of oxygen deprivation at birth, suffered trace brain damage and struggles every day with enormous learning disabilities.

Zach, whom Bissinger describes as a savant, is also blessed with rare talents: an astonishing



Exploring the bond between father and son with *Friday Night Lights* author and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist.

memory, a dazzling knack for navigation, and a reflexive honesty that make him both socially awkward and surprisingly wise. In *Father's Day*, Bissinger chronicles a summer road trip he takes with Zach in an effort to connect with the inner workings of his mind and heart.

Buzz Bissinger will appear on the stage of the City Opera House to discuss his latest book, his life, and some of the interesting back stories behind his award-winning career. The author of five highly acclaimed nonfiction books — *Friday Night Lights*, *A Prayer for the City*, *Three Nights in August*, *Shooting Stars* and *Father's Day* — Bissinger first won praise as a journalist working for *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, where he received the Pulitzer Prize for Investigative Reporting for his story on corruption in the Philadelphia court system in 1987.

Don't miss your chance to spend an evening with one of the most talked about and best-known writing personalities working today.



**Guest
Host
Spotlight**

NEAL RUBIN
Detroit News columnist

Neal Rubin began writing his typically light-hearted look at life for the *Detroit News* in June of 2000. He came to the *News* after 16 years as a feature writer and columnist with the *Detroit Free Press*, where, he jokes, his greatest achievement was getting banned by the World Wrestling Federation. In addition to his column, he writes the nationally syndicated comic strip "Gil Thorp," about a high school coach and the ever-changing cast of kids at Milford High School.

His last stop before Detroit was Las Vegas, where he was a three-time state sportswriter of the year. A Michigander since 1984, Rubin grew up in Southern California and Colorado, and attended the University of Northern Colorado on a 7-card student scholarship. He prefers dogs to cats, game shows to reality shows, and writing to actual work.

An evening with BLAINE HARDEN

April 9, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

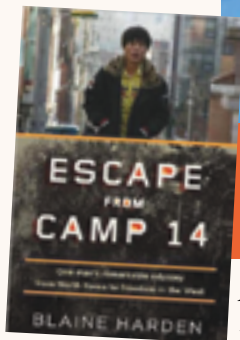
Blaine Harden has made a career reporting from some of the world's most dangerous places. But few compare to the political prisons in North Korea and the inhumane conditions Harden exposed in his latest bestseller, *Escape from Camp 14: One Man's remarkable Odyssey from North Korea to Freedom in the West*. Recently featured on *60 Minutes*, it tells the true story of Shin Dong-hyuk. Born into a life of hard labor behind the electrified fences of the Kaecheon internment camp, Shin is the only person to have escaped from what can only be described as a modern-day concentration camp. Yet, his story is one of an unbreakable determination to be free.

A foreign correspondent for *The Washington Post* and *The New York Times*, Harden is a contributor to PBS *Frontline* and *The Economist*. He is also the author of *A River Lost* and *Africa: Dispatches from a Fragile Continent*, and has won several awards for his reporting including the Ernie Pyle Award for his coverage of siege of Sarajevo during the Bosnian War.

Escape from Camp 14, an international bestseller, has been compared to *The Diary of*



Suffering, survival, and a celebration of the human spirit—Go inside one of the most secretive places on the planet with bestselling author Blaine Harden



Anne Frank and Dith Pran's account, as related in the film *The Killing Fields*, of his flight from Pol Pot's genocide in Cambodia.

It has been translated into 22 languages and was named a "Best Book of 2012" by *Christian Science Monitor*, *Financial Times*, *South China Morning Post*, *Slate*, *School Library Journal* and *Huffington Post Canada*.

Blaine Harden will appear on stage at the City Opera House in what's sure to be an evening of unforgettable conversation about one man's journey to freedom, and a celebration of the human spirit.



LUCAS WITTMANN
literary editor *Newsweek/The Daily Beast*

LUCAS WITTMANN is the literary editor and senior articles editor at *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast*. He oversees the National Magazine Award-winning "Book Beast," a leading online book section. Prior to his arrival at the *Daily Beast*, he worked in publishing at W.W. Norton & Co.

Guest
Host
Spotlight

“ **The National Writers**

Series has become an important stop for writers on book tour because it's

a literate, intelligent audience that loves books. Writing and reading are what enlarge our lives. That ability to live inside someone else's skin enlarges the world for each of us.”

~ Anna Quindlen,
Lots of Candles, Plenty of Cake



An evening with
GILLIAN FLYNN
 April 25, 2013 • 7 PM
 CITY OPERA HOUSE

A twisted marriage of deception, infidelity, and murder — Gillian Flynn has what it takes to write a novel people can't put down. This evening at NWS is your chance to ask a question of the author everyone's been talking about.

Nick and Amy Dunne are getting ready to celebrate their fifth wedding anniversary when Amy disappears. Nick doesn't do himself any favors with his evasive attitude and endless lies, but passages from Amy's diary reveal an alpha-girl perfectionist who could have put anyone dangerously on edge. With her razor-sharp writing and trademark psychological insight, Gillian Flynn delivers a fast-paced, devilishly dark, and ingeniously-plotted thriller, *Gone Girl*.

In 2006, Flynn's first book, *Sharp Objects*, was a finalist for the Edgar Award and was the first book ever to win multiple Dagger Awards in the same year. Her critically acclaimed second novel, *Dark Places*, was published in 2009. With the publication of her lyrical masterpiece *Gone Girl* in 2012, Flynn catapulted to the top of the bestseller list, garnering enormous critical acclaim. *Gone Girl* has spent more than 35 weeks and counting on the *New York Times* bestseller



Master of the literary mystery/thriller Gillian Flynn dishes about writing, the success of her book, and what she's planning next.

list, and critics have described this novel as a masterpiece

"[With *Gone Girl*] Flynn cements her place among that elite group of mystery/thriller writers who unflinchingly deliver the goods," *The Library Journal* recently proclaimed. "Once again Flynn has written an intelligent, gripping tour de force, mixing a riveting plot and psychological intrigue with a compelling prose style that unobtrusively yet forcefully carries the reader from page to page."

On April 25, find out how this former journalism major, crime reporter, and film and TV critic at *Entertainment Weekly* film became one of the most popular authors writing today.

DOUG STANTON author and co-founder of NWS

Doug Stanton is the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *In Harm's Way* and *Horse Soldiers*. His writing has appeared in *Esquire*, *The New York Times*, *TIME*, the *Washington Post*, and other national publications where he has been a contributing editor. *In Harm's Way* spent more than six months on the *New York Times* bestseller list. *Horse Soldiers* was featured on the front page of the Sunday *New York Times Book Review*.

Horse Soldiers is in development as a movie by Jerry Bruckheimer Films; Stanton is an executive producer on the project. Stanton has appeared multiple times on the *Today Show*, *Morning Joe*, and other major TV and radio outlets to talk about his work. He grew up in Traverse City, Michigan, and received an MFA from the Writer's Workshop at the University of Iowa.



NWS is a one-of-a-kind literary event, and an innovative, fun way for writers to meet their readers.



I'd come back anytime."
 ~ Mary Karr,
Liar's Club

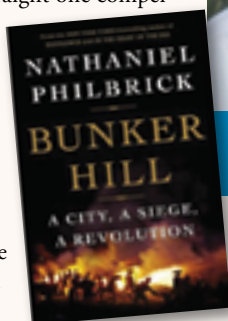
An evening with
**NATHANIEL
PHILBRICK**
May 14, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

Get inside the creative mind and methods of bestselling author Nathaniel Philbrick, who is setting history straight one compelling narrative at a time.

A champion sailor and a renowned scholar, Nathaniel Philbrick's passion for history, sailing, and the open water are on dazzling display in his critically acclaimed books *Mayflower* and *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex*, the latter detailing the true story of a tragic 1819 voyage that served as inspiration for the climatic scene in Herman Melville's *Moby-Dick*.

Eloquently "righting" history is something Philbrick does expertly. And audiences and critics love him for it. *In the Heart of the Sea* won the prestigious National Book Award in 2001. *Mayflower*, a book that debunks the long-accepted mythology of the Pilgrims voyage to the New World, was a finalist for the 2007 Pulitzer Prize in history.

Philbrick also received critical acclaim for *The Last Stand*, a tightly structured narrative about two larger-than-life antagonists: Sitting Bull and George Armstrong Custer. A *New York Times* "Notable Book," *The Last Stand* was the basis for the 2-hour PBS American Experience film *Custer's Last Stand*.



No one writes better about the American experience than Nathaniel Philbrick.

Now, in his upcoming book, *Bunker Hill: A City, A Siege, A Revolution*, Philbrick brilliantly tackles the Boston battle that ignited the American Revolution. A captivating and meticulously researched narrative, *Bunker Hill* brings a fresh perspective to the brutal and complicated story behind the forming of the United States.

How did Nathaniel Philbrick, who grew up in the most "un-naval" of cities (Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania), become an All-American sailor and acclaimed author of seagoing epics? What are the biggest hurdles facing writers today? This evening promises to offer insights into creativity, the art of storytelling, and the stories behind some of Philbrick's greatest works.

Don't miss this conversation about Philbrick's hot-off-the-press *Bunker Hill*, a book sure to spark new insights into the founding of America and make us see history anew.



Guest
Host
Spotlight

RICH FAHLE

founder and CEO of Bibliostar.TV

Rich Fahle is the Founder and CEO of Astral Road Author Media and Bibliostar.TV—entertainment for readers, including interviews, discussions, live events, and other special features about books and authors. Fahle draws on his extensive background as a marketing agent for authors, publishers, and book retailers in the emerging digital marketplace.

Before launching Astral Road in 2010, Fahle served as vice president, digital content, e-commerce and entertainment at Borders. Prior to Borders, Fahle was chief spokesperson and communications director for C-SPAN, the national public affairs cable television network based in Washington, D.C. He is a graduate of Miami University in Oxford, Ohio. He currently blogs for www.video-commerce.org and www.digitalbookworld.com.

An evening with JASON MATTHEWS

May 22, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

Recruiting Russian spies and managing covert actions against weapons of mass destruction in the world's rogue states... Come listen to CIA veteran and debut novelist Jason Matthews talk about his life undercover and turning that experience into publishing gold. *Red Sparrow* is the espionage novel everyone's going to be talking about.

Every once in a while, a novel comes along that totally lives up to its pre-publication raves. Jason Matthew's debut thriller, *Red Sparrow*, is one of those — a fast paced, up-to-the-minute spy novel written by a man who lived the life of an intelligence officer for 33 years. "Write what you know" is common advice for new writers, and Jason Matthews has taken this advice to new heights.

In *Red Sparrow*, the United States and Putin's Russia are still very much at deadly odds. State intelligence officer Dominika Egorova struggles to survive in the cast-iron bureaucracy of post-Soviet intelligence. Drafted against her will to become a "Sparrow," a trained seductress in the service, Dominika is assigned to operate against Nathaniel Nash, a first-tour CIA officer. The two young intelligence officers, both trained in their respective spy schools, collide in a charged atmosphere of tra-



Guest Host
Doug
Stanton

Intrigue straight from the headlines

decraft, deception, and an inevitable forbidden spiral of carnal attraction that threatens their careers and the security of America's most valuable mole in Moscow. Dominika and Nathaniel's impossible love affair comes to a deadly and shocking conclusion in this electrifying spy thriller.

Joining author Jason Matthews on stage will be NWS founder and *New York Times* bestseller Doug Stanton. The evening promises to be filled with intrigue, both serious and humorous, and revelations about the process of writing, the real-life nature of modern spy craft, and the alchemy of turning life into art.

KUDOS!

By Anna Clark
May 1, 2012

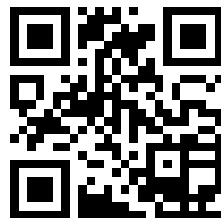
PUBLISHING PERSPECTIVES

"... One of the nation's leading literary series..."

"As an NWS author,' said Pulitzer Prize winner Richard Ford, 'you get to feel useful in a way writers rarely get to feel useful. It humanizes writers to the reading public. And there's a very rich reading public in Traverse City.'



"Marlena Bittner, publicity director at Little, Brown, sent David Sedaris to NWS ('he adored it'). Bittner said NWS is revealing a market that publishers haven't been connecting to... 'It feels like a joyous movement (in Traverse City), it's exciting.' Bittner says **not only is NWS offering a new possibility for readers, writers, and publishers to intersect, it's doing so in a big way. 'They're thinking in a bigger way.'**"



Learn more
about the
**NATIONAL WRITERS
SERIES**

An evening with COLUM McCANN

June 6, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

One of the most acclaimed literary authors working today, Colum McCann comes to Traverse City to talk about his life, his art, finding magic in the mundane, and why it took an Irishman to capture the heart of New York after 9/11.

When Colum McCann came to the United States from Ireland in the early 1980s, he set out on a cross-country bicycle trip to get to know his new country and its stories. He's spent the years since telling those tales through fearless, award-winning prose.

The author of five acclaimed novels and two collections of short stories, McCann's book *Let the Great World Spin* centers around the glorious Twin Towers tightrope walk of Philippe Petit in 1974. The novel became a bestseller on four continents, won the 2009 National Book Award, and firmly established McCann as one of our most talented fiction writers.

The territory of McCann's work is international in scope and geography. His topics have ranged from homeless people in the subway tunnels of New York, to the troubles in Northern Ireland, to the effects of 9/11, to a poetic examination of the life and culture of the Roma in Europe. McCann's electrifying fiction has been



Photo by Brenden Bourke



National Book Award-winner Colum McCann finds magic in the mundane.

published in over 30 languages and has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Esquire*, *Paris Review*, *Granta*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *GQ*, and many others. McCann himself has appeared on NPR and *Oprah*.

A "poetic realist" known for his style and boundless creativity, *Esquire's* 2003 "Writer of the Year" is currently working with producer J.J. Abrams on a screen adaptation of *Let the Great World Spin*. His newest novel, *Transatlantic*, spans a period of 150 years using the real life narratives of Frederick Douglass, aviators Alcock and Brown, and Senator George Mitchell. Goodreads.com has called *Transatlantic* a "profound meditation on identity and history in a wide world that grows somehow smaller and more wondrous with each passing year."

With his charming wit and humor, this evening promises to be a captivating discussion, filled with the insights of a modern literary master.



Guest
Host
Spotlight

LEIGH HABER

books editor *O, the Oprah Magazine*

Leigh Haber loves great writing. She is books editor for *O, the Oprah Magazine*, where she oversees the magazine's *Reading Room* section of the magazine and other book coverage, and coordinates the Oprah Book Club.

A longtime book editor and book publishing executive, Haber left corporate publishing four years ago to work with the San Francisco self-publishing startup *Blurb*. During that time, she also worked as an independent book editor, consultant and writer. While in college Haber was a news aide for the *Washington Post*. She lives in Maplewood, NJ, and has two sons 23 and 25.

An evening with TEMPLE GRANDIN

June 24, 2013 • 7 PM
CITY OPERA HOUSE

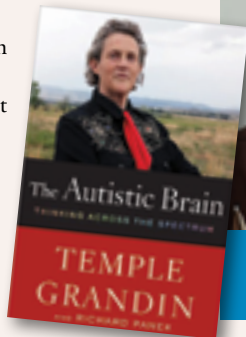
Bestselling author and activist Temple Grandin has been hailed as one of *Time* magazine's "100 Most Heroic People in the World."

You've heard her speak on NPR and seen her life depicted in HBO's 2010 movie *Temple Grandin*, starring Claire Danes in the role that won her an Emmy and a Golden Globe.

With her ground-breaking book *Emergence: Labeled Autistic*, published in 1986, Temple Grandin gained national prominence as a leading autism advocate.

Oliver Sacks called *Emergence* "a quite extraordinary, unprecedented and, in a way, unthinkable book." In the book, Grandin is the equivalent of a champion explorer returned from an otherwise unknown land called autism.

Grandin is as well known for her work in "well-being" as she is for her autism advocacy. She has earned critical acclaim for her books *Animals in Translation* and *Animals Make Us Human*. She is regarded as one of the nation's most respected advocates of animal welfare.



One of *Time* magazine's "100 Most Heroic and Influential People in the World"

In her remarkable new book, *The Autistic Brain: Thinking Across the Spectrum*, Grandin shares remarkable new discoveries and introduces readers to innovative theories of how we diagnose and treat autism.

Temple Grandin will appear on the City Opera House stage to speak about her amazing, passionate life. As the most sought-after speaker in the autism community, Grandin is known for appearances that mix laughter with revelation. Audience members cannot help but be changed after an evening in her presence. Unafraid and, at times, intensely personal, Grandin delivers insights into the deepest, uncharted regions of the human and animal experience.

Guest
Host
Spotlight



LAURA HOHNHOLD
executive editor at Byliner

Laura Hohnhold is Executive editor at *Byliner*. The leading publisher of short digital books, *Byliner* specializes in fiction and nonfiction stories that can be read in a single sitting. Bestselling *Byliner* authors include Margaret Atwood, Amy Tan, Jon Krakauer, Ann Patchett, Buzz Bissinger, Jess Walter, and Richard Russo. Prior to *Byliner*, Laura worked at *Outside* magazine, *Time Inc.*, and *The New York Times*.

“Writing for TV is rarely seen as a literary endeavor. That’s what I so appreciate about **the inclusivity of the National Writers Series** – to rub shoulders with great writers of all stripes. Also, Northern Michigan is beautiful and the people couldn’t have been more warm and welcoming. It was a wonderful weekend I’ll always remember!”



Vince Gilligan, creator of AMC TV's *Breaking Bad*

NWS Scholarship Program

The Traverse City National Writers Series supports regional high school students interested in writing by bringing on stage America's best authors. Net proceeds from the Series are donated to a dedicated scholarship fund, which awards scholarships to high school students in the five-county region. The Series also provides mentorship workshops and master classes for students with visiting Series authors.

This past May, 2012, scholarship awards were presented by best-selling authors Anna Quindlen

and Susan Casey. Recipients were students Kelly Clare, Emily Hittner-Cunningham, and Whitney Hubbell. Each student was awarded a \$2,500 scholarship to the college of her choice.

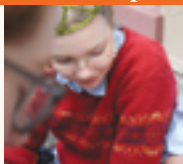
The next scholarships will be awarded in spring 2013, and submissions will be accepted early in the year.

For more information on the National Writers Series Scholarship Program, including application dates and instructions and how to donate, visit www.nationalwritersseries.org.

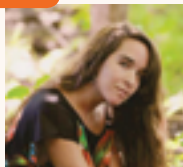
2012 Scholarship Winners



Kelly Clare



Emily Hittner-Cunningham



Whitney Hubbell



The National Writers Series Scholarship Program is provided in partnership with the Community Foundation.

"Between the incredible charm of Traverse City, the great hospitality of Doug Stanton, and the enthusiasm of the community, **the experience as a guest of the National Writers Series was the highlight of my book tour.** I would go back there in a heartbeat if they came calling."

~ Sebastian Junger, *War*



"It's hard to describe the National Writers Series without overusing superlatives. It is **the most delightful event, in a spectacular environment, with fantastic people** who are crazy about the written word. My experience there was both enlightening and ridiculously fun."

~ Susan Casey, New York Times best-selling author of *The Wave* and editor-in-chief, *O, the Oprah Magazine*

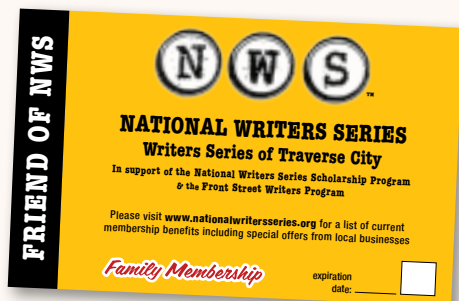


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2011 AUTHORS

Mitch Albom, David Sedaris, Elmore Leonard, Jeremy Chamberlin, Jeffrey Eugenides, Paula McLain, Janet Leahy and Lisa Albert (producers and TV writers for *Mad Men*), Roy Blount, Richard Ford, Sebastian Junger, Gretchen Witt, Sarah Brokaw, Daniel Silva, Tom Perrotta, Chuck Klosterman, and Wayne State University's award-winning 'Made in Michigan' writers, including Bonnie Jo Campbell, Jack Driscoll, Michael Delp and Michael Zadoorian.

2012 AUTHORS

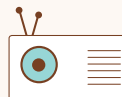
Vince Gilligan, Jodi Picoult, Paula McLain, Alan Cheuse, Geraldine Brooks, Michael Sandel, Anna Quindlen, Susan Casey, Natalie Bakopoulos, Elizabeth Kostova, Janet Evanovich, Lee Child, Maggie Stiefvater, Lynn Rutan, Ayaan Hirsi Ali, Jack Segal, Benjamin Busch, Michael Connelly, and Bryan Gruley.

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Writing for TV is rarely seen as a literary endeavor. That's what I so appreciate about **the inclusivity of**



the National Writers Series—to rub shoulders with great writers of all stripes. Also, Northern Michigan is beautiful and the people couldn't have been more warm and welcoming. It was a wonderful weekend I'll always remember!"

~ **Vince Gilligan**, creator of AMC TV's *Breaking Bad*



I want to say how much I admire Doug Stanton and the entire community who have created this institution which is not only a gift to this place, but already, **increasingly, becoming a national treasure.**"

~ **Michael Sandel**, *What Money Can't Buy*