

The Dallas Museum of Art Announces the lineup for its Second Annual BooksmART Festival on Saturday, June 9

A Free Day of Events, Activities, and Entertainment Celebrating Literature and the Arts for Families and Children of All Ages Featuring Authors, Illustrators, Actors, and Musicians

Today the Dallas Museum of Art announced the lineup for the second annual BooksmART Festival celebrating literature and the arts for families and children of all ages. This daylong free festival at the DMA, which welcomed more than 5,000 visitors during its inaugural event last year, will feature authors and illustrators, artists, workshops, gallery tours, music, and more. Admission to the Museum and the festival will be free from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and community partners, including the Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas County Community College District, and Dallas Theater Center, will collaborate on programs throughout the festival.

The BooksmART Festival provides youth and families with high-quality arts and cultural experiences and opportunities to experience and participate in a wide range of arts forms and activities that stimulate creativity and learning. Visitors are able to meet authors and illustrators throughout the day, have opportunities to participate in interactive illustration workshops and book signings, hear the authors speak about their work, and join them for story time in the galleries in front of works of art thematically related to their books.

The multicultural lineup includes *New York Times* bestselling authors, Newbery Medal winners, American Library Association's Notable Books Award recipients, a Caldecott Medal winner, a Coretta Scott King Award winner, a Michael L. Printz Award winner, and a National Book Award nominee. Highlights of the day include appearances by the following:

- **Taye Diggs**, the award-winning actor, has teamed up with close friend and 2012 Coretta Scott King Award winner **Shane Evans** to create *Chocolate Me!* While at the BooksmART Festival, Diggs will discuss his first book *Chocolate Me!*, which is based on experiences of feeling different and trying to fit in as kids. Evans will also lead an interactive illustration workshop.
- **Jack Gantos** is a 2012 Newbery Medal winner for his young adult novel *Dead End in Norvelt* and author of the *Rotten Ralph* series.
- **Chris Raschka** is the 2012 Caldecott Medal winner for *A Ball for Daisy*, a wordless story about a dog losing her favorite toy.
- **Meg Wolitzer** is a *New York Times* bestselling author and recipient of an American Library Association's Notable Book Award for her first young adult novel, *The Fangtong of Duncan Dorfman*.
- **Jennifer and Matthew Holm** are the sibling team behind the *Babymouse!* and *Squish* series. In addition to discussing their collaborative series as siblings, Matthew will lead an interactive workshop during the BooksmART Festival, and Jennifer will read from *Boston Jones* in the galleries.
- **Rebecca Stead** received the Newbery Medal Award in 2010 for her book *When You Reach Me*.

Other authors appearing during the BooksmART Festival include **Deborah Hopkinson**, author of more than forty books for young readers, including *Sweet Clara and the Freedom Quilt*. She will discuss her historical novels, including *Titanic: Voices of the Disaster*. Fort Worth native

Jonah Winter is author of picture book biographies on everyone from Frida Kahlo to Dizzy Gillespie. He will discuss his books on artists including *Just Behave, Pablo Picasso!*

Alejandrina Drew, author of *Abra Cadabra, Patas de Cabra*, was born and raised in Mexico City but now calls Dallas home. She will give presentations in both English and Spanish during the festival. **Raúl Colón** has received both gold and silver medals from the Society of Illustrators and has illustrated books for fellow BooksmART authors Deborah Hopkinson and Jonah Winter. He will discuss his illustrations for the newly released book written by Jill Biden, Vice President Joe Biden's wife, *Don't Forget: God Bless Our Troops*. **Eileen Christelow** will share insights into her beloved children's series *Five Little Monkeys*. **Clete Barrett Smith** will discuss his forthcoming book *Alien on a Rampage* (June 2012), a sequel to his *Aliens on Vacation*. Texas Bluebonnet Award nominee **Bruce Foster**, the paper engineer behind *Wow! The Pop-Up Book of Sports* and *Harry Potter: A Pop-Up*, and paper-cut story artist **Béatrice Coron** will lead interactive workshops throughout the day. Illustrator and author **Daniel Kirk** will discuss his numerous children's books including the newest addition to his *Library Mouse* series, *Library Mouse: An Art Adventure*. Performances will include appearances by **Hugworks**, a local company that produces original music with an empowerment message for children.

The BooksmART Festival is presented by Chase. Additional support provided by The Eugene McDermott Foundation, The Hoglund Foundation, and Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Community Partners include the Crow Collection of Asian Art, Dallas Theater Center, Essilor Vision Foundation, and Dallas County Community College District. Promotional support provided by *The Downtown Business News*. Arts & Letters Live is presented by J.P. Morgan. Additional support provided by the Kay Cattarulla Endowment for the Literary and Performing Arts at the Dallas Museum of Art, The Hoglund Foundation, The Eugene McDermott Foundation, Annual Series Supporters, and Friends of the Dallas Public Library. Air transportation provided in part by American Airlines. Hotel accommodations provided in part by The Adolphus. In-kind partners include ArtsDistrictDining.com and Einstein Printing. Promotional support provided by KERA and Texas Monthly.

For updated programming information, including a schedule of the BooksmART Festival, visit DallasMuseumofArt.org/ALL.

Community partners include Half Price Books, Crow Collection of Asian Art, Essilor Vision Foundation, Dallas County Community College District, and Dallas Theater Center.

About the Essilor Vision Foundation

Essilor Vision Foundation is a public nonprofit charity established by Dallas-based Essilor of America, the leading manufacturer of optical lenses in the United States. The foundation's mission is to eliminate poor vision and its lifelong consequences.

We strive to give children a brighter future by helping them see the world more clearly. Our programs focus on improving the quality of school vision screenings so fewer children slip through the cracks, providing eye exams and eyeglasses to children who would not get them otherwise, and educating parents and communities about the importance of children's vision care and the role it plays in literacy, society, and the economy.

About the Dallas Museum of Art

Established in 1903, the Dallas Museum of Art (DMA) ranks among the leading art institutions in the country and is distinguished by its innovative exhibitions and groundbreaking educational programs. At the heart of the Museum and its programs is its global collection, which encompasses more than 25,000 works and spans 5,000 years of history, representing a full range of world cultures. Located in the vibrant Arts District of downtown Dallas, the Museum welcomes more than half a million visitors annually and acts as a catalyst for community creativity, engaging people of all ages and backgrounds with a diverse spectrum of programming, from exhibitions and lectures to concerts, literary events, and dramatic and dance presentations.

The Dallas Museum of Art is supported in part by the generosity of Museum members and donors and by the citizens of Dallas through the City of Dallas/Office of Cultural Affairs and the Texas Commission on the Arts.

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