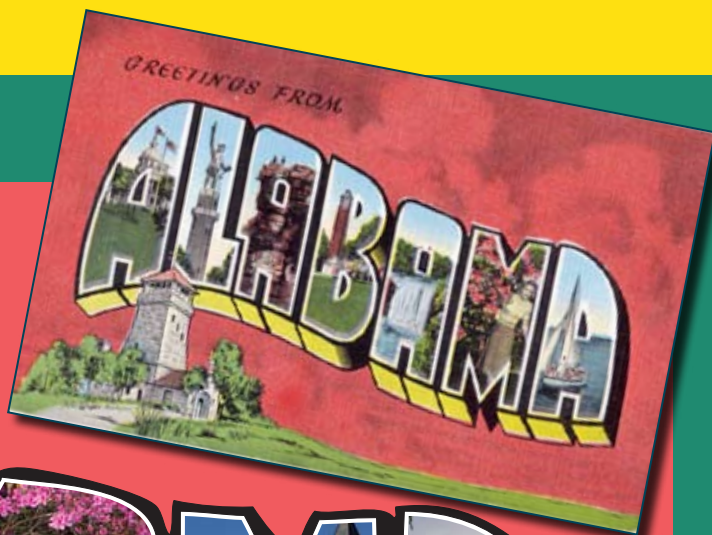


15th annual

ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

Write out of Place

GREETINGS FROM



WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

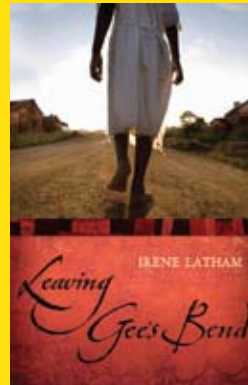
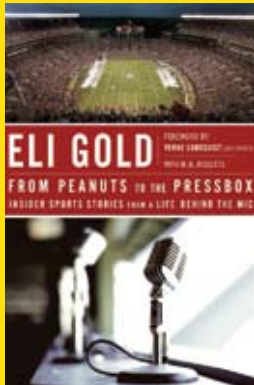
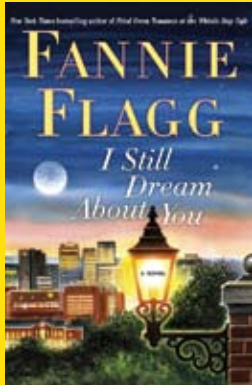
MONROEVILLE • APRIL 26-28, 2012

*Fannie Flagg • Brad Watson • Allen Tullos • Eli Gold • Wayne Flynt • Irene Latham
• Trudier Harris • Rachel Hawkins • Kerry Madden • Jeanie Thompson • Abraham Smith •
Mary Murphy • Kathryn Scheldt • and more!*

WWW.WRITERSSYMPOSIUM.ORG

15th annual

ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM



Explore "Write Out of Place" and feel right at home in Monroeville!
Celebrate our 15th anniversary with us April 26-28, 2012

"How hard it is to escape from places. However carefully one goes they hold you - you leave little bits of yourself fluttering on the fences - like rags and shreds of your very life." – Katherine Mansfield

When Mansfield wrote those lines, she could have been describing the way that Alabama authors often find themselves in relation to their home. Whether they set stories lovingly in Alabama, loathingly in Alabama, or deliberately not in Alabama, place becomes a part of who they are. Alabama author Michelle Richmond, now living in California, noted that she has often tried to write a story without including Alabama, but her home state nudges the story in some small way even without her realizing.

The 2012 Alabama Writers Symposium explores the ways in which Alabama writers are affected by their "placehood," the ways in which Alabama as a place informs their literary efforts. Join Fannie Flagg and a cast of fabulous writers and scholars to explore the theme "Write Out of Place" in beautiful Monroeville, Alabama April 26-28, 2012. You'll feel right at home during a lively weekend of literary offerings featuring readings, signings, an award-winning production of *To Kill a Mockingbird* and, of course, delicious food galore.

We're thrilled to host the winners of the 2012 Harper Lee Award for Alabama's Distinguished Writer and the 2012 Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar. Make your reservation today to celebrate our literary heritage with some of the state's most talented writers!

TEE UP FOR GOLF WITH DR. SYKES
THURSDAY, APRIL 26 • 1 PM
VANITY FAIR GOLF & TENNIS CLUB

Play nine or 18 holes on Monroeville's beautiful course with Alabama Southern's President, Dr. Reginald Sykes. Price per person includes golf cart: \$40 for 18 holes or \$22.50 for nine holes. Sign up on the registration form enclosed.



FOR UPDATES VISIT WWW.WRITERSSYMPOSIUM.ORG

LOOK FOR ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM AND ALABAMA SOUTHERN ON FACEBOOK



WRITERS & SCHOLARS



NANCY GRISHAM ANDERSON, an Associate Professor of English at Auburn University at Montgomery, has published articles in scholarly journals and edited a number of books. She has extensive experience in public programs and with the Alabama Humanities Foundation Speakers' Bureau and its summer workshops, AHF SUPER institutes. She has participated in *Read Alabama!* and *Writing Our Lives*. The 2004 recipient of the Eugene Current-Garcia Award, she has received AUM's Distinguished Teaching Award and was a finalist for the 2009 Brock International Prize in Education.

KIRK CURNUTT is the author of thirteen books of fiction and criticism, including two novels, *Breathing Out the Ghost* (2008) and *Dixie Noir* (2009), along with several studies of Ernest Hemingway, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Gertrude Stein. As professor and chair of English at Troy University's Montgomery Campus, he currently serves as president of the Alabama Writers' Forum. His most recent book is *Brian Wilson*, a critical introduction to the Beach Boys' mastermind in Equinox Publishing's Icons of Pop Music series.



A *New York Times* bestseller and Birmingham native, **FANNIE FLAGG** is the author of seven novels, including *I Still Dream About You*, *Can't Wait To Get to Heaven*, and *Fried Green Tomatoes at the Whistle-Stop Cafe*. Her writing awards include the Alabama State Council on the Arts Distinguished Artist Award, First Place in Fiction Award from the Santa Barbara Writers Conference, and others. Also known for her work as an

actress, producer, and writer for stage, film, and television, Flagg received Academy Award and Writers Guild of America Award nominations for her screenplay, *Fried Green Tomatoes*, an adaptation of her novel. The screenplay won the University of Southern California Scripter Award from Friends of USC Libraries. In her letter of nomination, Anita Miller Garner, author and University of North Alabama associate professor of English, wrote, "Much like Capote's *A Christmas Memory* and Steinbeck's *Travels with Charley*, Fannie Flagg's novels tap into the human capacity for making art from reminiscences about an actual or imagined time." Flagg presently divides her time between Santa Monica and Fairhope.

WAYNE FLYNT is a fifth generation Alabamian who taught for 12 years at Samford University and for 28 years at Auburn. Eight of his 12 books focus on Alabama. He was founding general editor of the *Encyclopedia of Alabama*. He has been awarded the Lillian Smith, Clarence Cason, McMillan, Alabama Library Association, and James Sulzby prizes for his nonfiction. In 1991 he was selected as Alabama's Professor of the Year by the Council for Advancement and Support of Education. He received the University of Alabama's Hugo Black Award for Service to Alabama and Nation and the Mobile Register's first Alabamian of the Year award. He has



been inducted into the University of Alabama's Communication Hall of Fame and the Alabama Academy of Honor.

ANITA MILLER GARNER, Associate Professor of English, has taught Southern literature and fiction writing at Virginia Commonwealth University and the University of North Alabama and has lectured on Alabama Women Writers with the Speakers' Bureau of the Alabama Humanities Foundation. A founding board member and former president of Alabama Writers' Forum, she has served as poetry editor of *New Virginia Review* and a fiction editor of *storySouth*. Her collection of short fiction *Undeniable Truths* was published in 2009. Another collection, *Southland*, is forthcoming Spring 2012.

The "voice" of Alabama football and NASCAR, **ELI GOLD**, is also an author. His first two books are entitled *Crimson Nation* and *Bear's Boys*. *Crimson Nation* is an easy reading history of The University of Alabama football. *Bear's Boys* is the story of 36 Alabama football players who share how the lessons that they learned from legendary coach Paul "Bear" Bryant impacted them in their post university days. His third book, *From Peanuts To The Press Box*, is his autobiography. It takes the reader from the days when he sold peanuts as a vendor at Madison Square Garden in New York, right up to the present. The book is chock full of behind the scenes broadcast stories but also serves as an inspiration proving that dreams really can come true.



TRUDIER HARRIS is the J. Carlyle Sitterson Professor of English Emerita, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and a Professor of English, The University of Alabama. Among her more than twenty authored and edited volumes are *Fiction and Folklore: The Novels of Toni Morrison* (1991) and a memoir, *Summer Snow: Reflections from a Black Daughter of the South* (2003). She received the Eugene Current-Garcia Award as Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar in 2002. Her latest book, *The Scary Mason-Dixon Line: African American Writers and the South*, was designated by Choice as one of the "Outstanding Academic Titles" for 2009 in its "best of the best" listings. It also won The College Language Association Creative Scholarship Award for 2010.

RACHEL HAWKINS grew up in Dothan, Alabama, and graduated from Auburn University with a B.A. in English in 2002. After working as a high school English teacher for several years, she decided writing for teens would be a lot more fun than grading any more of their essays. She is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling *Hex Hall* series for Disney-Hyperion, and the upcoming *Rebel Belle* from Putnam. Her books have been published in over a dozen countries. When she isn't writing about witches, werewolves, and Southern Belles with Superpowers, Rachel can be found at her home in Auburn, Alabama, where she lives with her geologist husband, John, and her Soon To Be Intergalactic Dictator son, Will.



PETER HUGGINS is the author of three books of poems, *Necessary Acts*, *Blue Angels*, and *Hard Facts* as well as the forthcoming *Mosquitoes*; he has published over 300

poems in more than 100 journals, magazines, and anthologies. Among other awards and honors he has received a literature fellowship in poetry from the Alabama State Council on the Arts. His picture book, *Trosclair and the Alligator*, has appeared on the PBS show *Between the Lions* and was honored as a best book by Bank Street and CCBC; his novel for younger readers is *In the Company of Owls*. He teaches in the English Department at Auburn University.



IRENE LATHAM is a Birmingham poet and novelist who writes heart-touching tales of unexpected adventure. Her debut historical novel *Leaving Gee's Bend* (Putnam/Penguin, 2010) is set in Alabama during the Great

Depression and was awarded Alabama Library Association's 2011 Children's Book Award and has been hailed as "authentic and memorable" by *Booklist*. Poetry editor for *Birmingham Arts Journal*, Irene has also authored two award-winning poetry collections *What Came Before* and *The Color of Lost Rooms*. Her next novel *Don't Feed the Boy*, about a boy who wants to escape the zoo, will be released by Roaring Brook/Macmillan in 2012.

DON NOBLE is Professor Emeritus of English at The University of Alabama, host of Alabama Public Television's author interview program *Bookmark* and book reviewer for Alabama Public Radio's *Alabama Bound*. He won an Emmy for Outstanding Collaboration Achievement in Writing from the Atlanta Chapter of the National Association of Television Arts and Sciences with Brent Davis for a document film on Alabama writer William Bradford Huie. He is the recipient of the 2000 Eugene Current-Garcia Award.

KERRY MADDEN is the Co-Director of Creative Writing at The University of Alabama Birmingham and mentors in the MFA low-residency program at Antioch University in Los Angeles. She is the author of the *Maggie Valley Trilogy* published by Viking Children's Books. The books include *Gentle's Holler* (2005), *Louisiana Song* (2007), and *Jessie's Mountain* (2008) set in the heart of Appalachia in the Smokies. Her first novel, *Offsides*, was a New York Public Library Pick for the Teen Age in 1997. Her newest book, *Up Close Harper Lee* (Viking) made *Booklist's* Top Ten Biographies of 2009 for Youth. Her latest book, *The Fifth Grade Life of Jack Gettlefinger*, is currently with editors and she is at work on a picture book, *Nothing Fancy About Kathryn & Charlie* about the friendship shared between storyteller Kathryn Tucker Windham and folk artist Charlie Lucas.

MARY MCDONAGH MURPHY is an independent documentary director and writer whose work has appeared on PBS. She was a producer at CBS News for 20 years where she won six Emmy awards. She has written for *Newsweek*, *The Chicago Tribune*, *The New York Post* and *Publishers Weekly*. A native of Rhode Island, Murphy is a graduate of Wesleyan University and was a John S. Knight fellow at Stanford University. She lives in Scarborough, N.Y. with her husband, Bob Minzesheimer, and their two children.



SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Events will be held on the campus of Alabama Southern Community College, at the Monroeville Community House and the Old Courthouse Museum in downtown Monroeville. Registration will take place Thursday afternoon and Friday morning at Alabama Southern. In addition to the events listed below, the schedule will include art exhibits, music and booksellers.

THURSDAY, APRIL 26

1-5 p.m. Registration & Exhibit of Alabama Artists, Location: Nettles Auditorium on the ASCC campus
 1:00 p.m. Golf with Dr. Sykes at Vanity Fair Golf and Tennis Club
 1:00 p.m. Historical Downtown Walking Tours
 6:30-9:30 p.m. Hospitality Hour and Opening Reception with Eli Gold, Location: Monroeville Community House

FRIDAY, APRIL 27

8 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Registration & Literary Coffee House, Location: Nettles Auditorium & ASCC Library
 8:30-11:55 a.m. Morning Sessions, Location: Nettles Auditorium
 8:30 - 9:15 a.m. Brad Watson with moderator Don Noble
 9:20 - 10:00 a.m. Jeanie Thompson & Abraham Smith with moderator Jim Murphy

10:00- 10:20 a.m. Refreshment Break
 10:30-11:00 a.m. Allen Tullos with moderator Kirk Curnutt
 11:05- 11:40 a.m. Rachel Hawkins, Irene Latham, and Kerry Madden with moderator Peter Huggins
 12:15-2:00 p.m. *Awards Luncheon*: Presentation of the Harper Lee Award for Alabama's Distinguished Writer 2012 and of the Eugene Current-Garcia Award for Alabama's Distinguished Literary Scholar 2012, Location: Monroeville Community House
 2:30-4:30 p.m. Afternoon Sessions, Location: Nettles Auditorium/Our Place Teen Center
 2:30-4:00 p.m. Documentary, "Hey, Boo" with author Mary Murphy and moderator Nancy Anderson, Location: Our Place Teen Center

4:15-5:15 p.m. Book Signings, Location: ASCC Library
 5:35-6:50 p.m. Picnic on the Monroeville Courthouse lawn
 Concurrent Sessions:
 7:00-9:00 p.m. Live performance of *To Kill A Mockingbird*
 7:00-8:30 p.m. Reader's Theatre at the Hole in the Wall art studio
 8:30-11:00 p.m. "Light Jazz and Heavy Conversation" at Beehive Coffee and Books featuring singer/songwriter Kathryn Scheldt

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

8:30 -10:30 a.m. Light Refreshments and Morning Sessions at the Old Courthouse
 8:45-9:15 a.m. Trudier Harris with moderator Jacqueline Trimble
 9:30-10:30 a.m. Fannie Flagg with moderator Anita Miller Garner
 10:45-12:30 p.m. Wayne Flynt

2012 ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Deadline Thursday, April 5, 2012 • Mail completed registration form to:

Alabama Writers Symposium • Alabama Southern Community College • P.O. Box 2000 • Monroeville, AL 36461
 Contact Donna Reed (251) 575-8223/ Fax: (251) 575-5356 • email: dreed@ascc.edu • www.writerssymposium.org

Name _____

Business Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Daytime Phone _____

Email _____

Admission to discussion sessions is free to all registered participants; however there is a charge for other events. You will receive registration confirmation in the mail. The schedule of events is subject to change without notice. Registration fees are non-refundable.

PAYMENT METHOD

Check enclosed payable to Alabama Writers Symposium or

Please bill my VISA or Mastercard

Card # _____ exp. date _____

Signature of card holder _____

2012 REGISTRATION FEES

Fees are listed per person

- Comprehensive Ticket • April 26-28 \$155
Includes all meals and events except *To Kill a Mockingbird* play on April 27
- Thursday Ticket • April 26 \$50
Includes reception and "An Evening with Eli Gold"
- Historical Downtown Walking Tour free
- Golf with Dr. Sykes • April 26 \$40
18 holes and golf cart for one person
- Golf with Dr. Sykes • April 26 \$22.50
9 holes and golf cart for one person
- Friday Ticket • April 27 \$70
Includes awards luncheon, picnic and more
- Saturday Ticket • April 28 \$50
Includes brunch
- To Kill a Mockingbird* ticket \$35
Friday, April 27 only
- Discussions only FREE

PLEASE NOTE: *To Kill a Mockingbird* tickets are limited. First priority will be given to those who purchase comprehensive tickets. Please register early!

Total Registration \$ _____



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ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM

A project of the Alabama Center for Literary Arts

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15th
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ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM
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THE SYMPOSIUM IS PRODUCED IN COOPERATION WITH:

The Alabama Writers' Forum • The Association of College English Teachers of Alabama • The Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities • Monroe County Heritage Museums • Monroeville/Monroe County Area Chamber of Commerce

THE ALABAMA WRITERS SYMPOSIUM IS A PROJECT OF THE ALABAMA CENTER FOR LITERARY ARTS.