

**THE HOTCHKISS LIBRARY OF SHARON SELECTS AUTHORS
for its 13th ANNUAL SHARON SUMMER BOOK SIGNING**

**Best-selling and Award-Winning Authors Michael Korda,
William Cohan and Brenda Wineapple are among the Selected**

The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon announced the selection of 26 authors and illustrators for its much-anticipated annual book signing event taking place this year on July 31. The event, a gala annual fundraiser in support of The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon, brings leading authors of national renown to book-lovers of the tri-state area and across Connecticut.

Each year the selection committee honors authors of fiction, nonfiction, memoir, and children's literature. The selected books are chosen to meet the interests a broad array of readership. An enormous amount of volunteer effort goes into making this a premiere literary event for this community and its environs.

Among this year's authors, Simon & Schuster Editor-in-Chief Michael **Korda** returns with his recently published *With Wings Like Eagles: A History of the Battle of Britain*. And **William Cohan** joins the event. His best-selling work *House of Cards: A tale of Hubris and Wretched Excess on Wall Street* debuted in March at #2 on the New York Times best seller list and has remained on the list since then.

Also returning again is former editor of the National Review, **Priscilla Buckley**, with her memoir about her extensive travels, *History Writ Small: Searching Its Nooks and Crannies by Barge, Boat, and Balloon*.

Author **Brenda Wineapple** attends for the first time with her highly acclaimed book, *White Heat: The Friendship of Emily Dickinson and Thomas Wentworth Higginson*. Wineapple's biography was a Finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award, a Winner of the Arts Club of Washington's National Award for Arts Writing, and a New York Times Notable Book. This title was named Best book of 2008 by The Economist, The Christian Science Monitor, The Washington Post, The Kansas City Star, and National Public Radio.

Pulitzer Prize-nominee **Francine du Plessix Gray** brings her noted biography *Madame de Stael: The First Modern Woman*. And Tony-award winning playwright and author **David Rabe** joins the Sharon Book Signing this year with his acclaimed *Dinosaurs on the Roof*.

Other works of fiction include *Shannon* by best-selling author **Frank Delaney** and *Outtakes From a Marriage* by **Ann Leary**.

History and social history are well-represented with *Scrapbooks* by senior critic at the Yale School of Arts **Jessica Helfand** and *Seldom Told Tales of Sharon I and II* and *Echoes of Iron* by **Ed Kirby**.

Making Freedom: The Extraordinary Life of Venture Smith by **Chandler Saint** and **George Krimsky** tells the story of a New England slave sold into slavery as a boy in Africa who worked

for a quarter century, then purchased his own freedom to become a noted American citizen. **Lawrence Smith** presents the cultural and literary relationship between Italy and America with his biography, *Cesare Pavese: Life, Love, and Literature*. And **Margaret De Wys** will be signing her memoir *Black Smoke: A Woman's Journey of Healing, Wild Love and Transformation in the Amazon*.

For mystery buffs, authors **Mary-Ann Tirone Smith** and her son **Jere Smith** join the event with their book *Dirty Water: a Red Sox Mystery*. And for sports enthusiasts, **Peter Richmond** presents his collaboration with Frank Gifford, *The Glory Game: How the NFL Championship Changed Football Forever*.

Gardening and cooking titles include *The New Lasagna Cookbook* by **Maria Brunscino Sanchez**; *Great Gardens of the Berkshires* by **Virginia Small** and photographer **Rich Pomerantz**; *Deer Resistant Landscaping* by **Neil Soderstrom**; and *The New Terrarium: Creating Beautiful Displays for Plants and Nature* by **Tovah Martin**.

For inspiration and reflection, readers will seek out **Christopher Webber** for his work *An American Prayer Book*; **Richard O'Connor** (*Happy at Last: The Thinking Person's Guide to Finding Joy*) and **Charles Van Doren** (*The Joy of Reading: A Passionate Guide to 189 of the World's Best Authors and Their Works*).

Children's authors and illustrators include **Florence Minor** (*If You Were a Pengu, Abraham Lincoln Comes Home, Look to the Stars*), well-known artist **Robert Andrew Parker** (*Piano Starts Here: The Young Art Tatum*); **Lane Smith** (*Madam President, Big Plan, big Elephant in the Room, Princess Hyacinth*); and **Nancy Tafuri** (*The Big Storm: A Very Soggy Counting Book; Blue Goose*).

Admission to the 13th Annual Sharon Summer Book Signing is \$25, payable at the door (Visa and MasterCard accepted), and includes an open bar and appetizers. The Hotchkiss Library of Sharon is at 10 Upper Main Street, on the green near the clock tower. For more information on the event, please visit hotchkisslibrary.org.

###