

FOCUS online

NCSU LIBRARIES
VOLUME 24 NO. 2

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PART II LIBRARY SEMINARS AND EVENTS

ALICE WALKER AND DENNIS LEHANE
TO LAUNCH 2004 NORTH
CAROLINA LITERARY FESTIVAL

LITERARY FESTIVAL VOLUNTEER
OPPORTUNITIES

WRITERS SPARKLE AT 2004 NORTH
CAROLINA LITERARY FESTIVAL

HUNDREDS OF NORTH CAROLINA
STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN
LITERARY FESTIVAL ART CONTEST

A GALA EVENING CELEBRATES THE
PULITZER PHOTOGRAPHS
EXHIBITION

VOLUME 24 NO. 2, PART I
LIBRARY NEWS

VOLUME 24 NO. 2, PART III
FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY



HERMAN BERGHOF, NCSU LIBRARIES

More than 900 schoolchildren across North Carolina recently participated in an art contest for the North Carolina Literary Festival, which will be held on the NC State campus from April 15 through 28, 2004. Winners will have their artwork developed into bookmarks and posters for the festival. Read more in Focus, volume 24 no. 2, Part II, Library Seminars and Events.

OTHER LINKS OF INTEREST

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

LIBRARY DEVELOPMENT

SCHOLARLY

COMMUNICATION CENTER

Photographs by Sheri D. Thomas, NCSU, unless otherwise noted.

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Alice Walker and Dennis Lehane To Launch 2004 North Carolina Literary Festival

BY LAURA HUDSON, NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY FESTIVAL



PHOTO COURTESY OF ALICE WALKER.

Alice Walker will speak on April 15, 2004.

Award-winning poet, essayist, and novelist Alice Walker will kick off the 2004 North Carolina Literary Festival at NC State University on Thursday evening, April 15, 2004, with the opening address. Georgia-born Walker's literary career spans several decades, and her awards include honors from the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Institute for Arts and Letters. Walker won the 1983 Pulitzer Prize and the American Book Award for *The Color Purple*.

Walker is recognized for addressing challenging social issues and illuminating black American culture and the lives of African American women. Her last novel, *By the Light of My Father's Smile*, was published in 1998.



PHOTO COURTESY OF DENNIS LEHANE.

Dennis Lehane will speak on April 16, 2004.

Dennis Lehane, the best-selling author of *Mystic River* who was born and raised in Massachusetts, will provide the keynote address at the festival on Friday evening, April 16, in Stewart Theater in the Talley Student Center. A reception and book signing will follow. *Mystic River* was a finalist for the PEN/Winship Award and won both the Anthony Award and the Barry Award for Best Novel.

Lehane's mysteries and thrillers take place in New England, where he currently resides. His first five novels featured the Kenzie and Gennaro duo that readers have come to adore. Lehane has written seven novels, the latest of which is *Shutter Island*.

Free tickets for both speeches can be obtained on the festival Web site. Receptions will be held in conjunction with both events but may require separate fee-based tickets. For more information about the speakers and scheduled events, visit the regularly updated Web site at www.lib.ncsu.edu/nclitfest2004. ❖

Literary Festival Volunteer Opportunities

The North Carolina Literary Festival needs you! This volunteer opportunity is perfect for anyone who wants to meet favorite authors or hone leadership skills while volunteering in a statewide event that will attract thousands of visitors to NC State University. Volunteer opportunities will maximize the time, interest, and abilities of each volunteer. Prefestival volunteer opportunities require the following expertise:

Writing Skills: Prepare press releases, grant proposals, or letters to volunteer groups.

Leadership Skills: Recruit, train, and supervise volunteers during the festival weekend.

Visual Display Skills: Assist in creating dramatic backdrops for speaking venues, design the "Children's Castle," or assist with the layout of outdoor exhibit space.

Fund-raising Skills: Identify potential funding sources; work with the program director to cultivate donors; prepare and send out fund-raising packets, thank you letters, etc.

Administrative Skills: Prepare mailings, answer inquiries, file, copy, and write correspondence.

Public Relations Skills: Assist with making phone calls to the media after press releases are sent; assist with distributing posters; assist in creating a successful experience for speakers, sponsors, and attendees.

The festival will be held on the NC State campus from April 15 through 18, 2004. Volunteer opportunities include assisting with set-up or break down of the event, serving as a session host to escort speakers to various venues, assisting with volunteer check-in, directing pedestrian traffic on campus, or assisting on-site exhibitors.

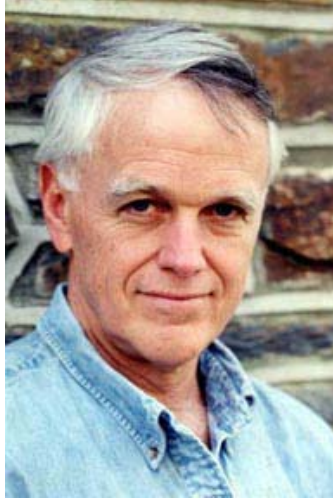
All volunteer activities will cultivate participants' skills and enhance their resumes. Indeed, there is something for everyone. Time commitments and schedules are flexible and will remain at the discretion of the volunteer as much as possible. Just two hours a month make a big difference in the success of the event. For more information, visit the festival Web site at www.lib.ncsu.edu/nclitfest2004 or call Laura Hudson, program director, at (919) 513-7315.



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Jay Wright.

Clyde Edgerton.



DAVID MCGIRT.



DEBI MULLIGAN.

Jill McCorkle.

Lee Smith.



PHOTO COURTESY OF LEE SMITH.

Robert Morgan.



RANDI ANGLIN.

Writers Sparkle at 2004 North Carolina Literary Festival

BY LAURA HUDSON, NORTH CAROLINA LITERARY FESTIVAL

North Carolina, which boasts native-born writers such as O. Henry and Thomas Wolfe, has long been regarded as fertile soil for outstanding literary talent. It is no surprise, then, that three of the state's premiere academic institutions have joined forces to showcase contemporary southern writers through cosponsorship of the North

Carolina Literary Festival. The 2004 event is scheduled from April 15 through 18 at NC State University. It was last held at UNC-Chapel Hill in April 2002, and the literary festival will be held at Duke University in 2006.

The writers who participate collectively represent the entire state as well as the southern region. The schedule is designed to appeal to a

broad range of readers and age groups. To date, featured authors include Orson Scott Card (*Robota*), Karen Joy Fowler (*Sister Noon*), Silas House (*A Parchment of Leaves*), Jill McCorkle (*The Cheerleader*), Sharyn McCrumb (*Ghost Riders*), Robert Morgan (*Gap Creek*), Lee Smith (*The Last Girls*), Daniel Wallace (*Big Fish: A Novel of Mythic Proportions*), and Jay Wright (*Transfigurations, Collected Poems*).

Festivities begin Thursday, April 15, with an event featuring one of the foremost contemporary American writers, Alice Walker, who will kick off the festival with a special address. Walker, educated at Spelman College and Sarah Lawrence College and active in the civil rights movement in the 1960s, uses these and many other experiences to write her mesmerizing stories, poems, and essays, the most famous of which is *The Color Purple*.

On Friday evening, Dennis Lehane, author of *Mystic River*, will give the keynote address in Stewart Theater. His book, recently developed into a film by Clint Eastwood, won both the Anthony Award and the Barry Award for Best Novel as well as the Massachusetts Book Award in Fiction given by the Massachusetts Center for the Book.

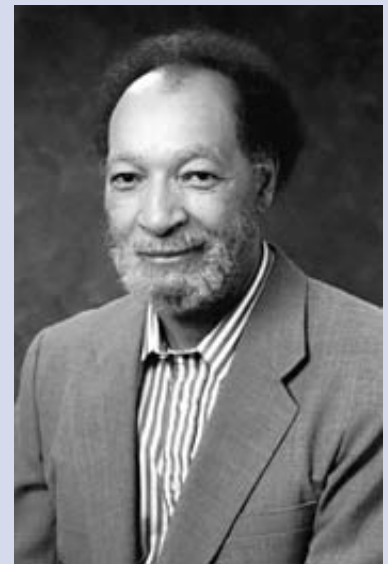
Saturday and Sunday will offer opportunities to see and listen to favorite science fiction, poetry, mystery, short story, and children's books writers. Panels, discussions, interviews, readings, and book signings will satisfy the appetites of the most voracious readers. Several speakers are recipients of such literary honors as the Sir Walter Raleigh Award, the PEN Syndicated Fiction Award, the Academy of American Poets Lamont Prize, the Hugo and Nebula awards, Thomas Wolfe Literary Award, the World Storytelling Award, Guggenheim and Lyndhurst fellowships, and Notable Book awards from the *New York Times*.

As a land-grant institution, NC State is recognized for its extension service, community outreach, and partnerships. In fact, the festival underscores the breadth of partnerships necessary for a major festival to prosper. From intra-campus ventures to partnerships with literary-based agencies, writers, publishers, sponsors, bookstores, and volunteer groups, this unique event extends beyond academia into the literary community with the goal of inspiring and edu-



Sharyn McCrumb.

NANCIE LAING.



Gerald Barrax.

PHOTO COURTESY OF GERALD BARRAX.



Silas House.

JUDY HENSLEY.

cating readers and writers alike. The festival's emphasis on literature is particularly timely given plans to unveil a Master of Fine Arts program by the Department of English in NC State's College of Humanities and Social Sciences in fall 2004. The festival offers a great opportunity for NC State to highlight the numerous accomplished writers who have graduated from the English department, many of whom will be reading at the festival.

Schedule highlights include many writers who are current faculty members at NC State. To date, the following faculty are participating in readings, panels, and discussions: Betty Adcock, John Balaban, Wilton Barnhardt, Gerald Barrax, Joseph Gomez, John Kessel, Lucinda Mac-kethan, Sheila Smith McKoy, Elaine Orr, and Thomas Regan.

Indeed, this is a delightful opportunity for writers to share their ideas and inspiration with readers. Rarely do so many prestigious writers convene in one place for the pure pleasure of discussing their latest works, character development, plot analysis, use of imagery, and the hurdles of publishing.

Most sessions will be held in auditoriums or classrooms around campus. However, many of the fun, outdoor activities will be centered on the Brickyard. These include performances, book signings and sales, children's activities, exhibitor stands, and food vendors.

The festival will introduce literature through a variety of formats. Best-selling authors Daniel

Wallace (*Big Fish*) and Sarah Dessen (*Someone Like You*) will discuss their novels being adapted into screenplays. A special viewing of each of the movies will be shown in concert with Campus Cinemas.

Lee Smith (*Fair and Tender Ladies*) and Sharyn McCrumb (*The Songcatcher*) will showcase the successful marriage of music and literature, sharing excerpts from their writings with musical accompaniments. Clyde Edgerton will take center stage to read from his recently released novel *Lunch at the Piccadilly*. Audiences will be treated to his outrageous character readings, musical talents, and anecdotes from his writings.

The North Carolina Literary Festival is open to the public. There is no admission charge. Information is updated regularly on the official Web site at <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/nclitfest2004>. ❖



BOB HENDERSON, HENDERSON PHOTOGRAPHY, INC.

Orson Scott Card.

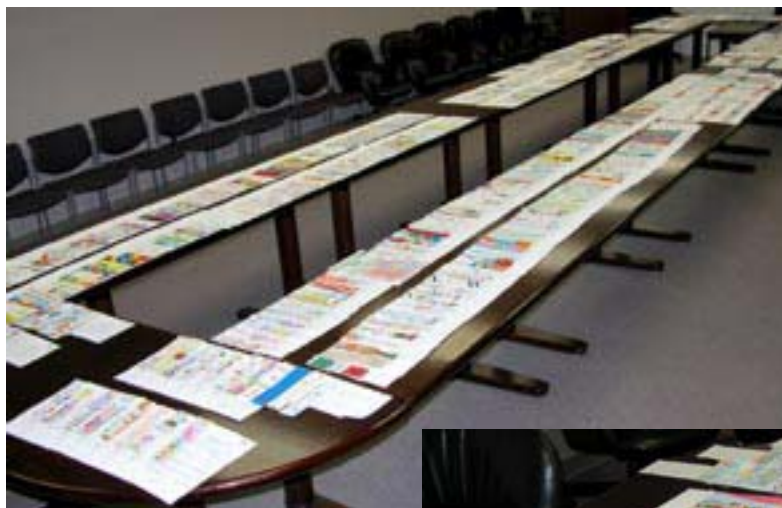


View the winning artwork at
<http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/nclitfest2004/students.html>

Hundreds of North Carolina Students Participate in Statewide Art Contest

Teachers and students from across the state in grades K–8 enthusiastically responded to a call for submissions for the North Carolina Literary Festival Bookmark Art Contest. Members of the NCSU Libraries staff judged more than 900 entries and selected the final winners on December 4, 2003. There was one winning entry chosen per grade. The winners' artwork will be developed into bookmarks and festival posters that will be distributed across the state. The purpose of the contest is to engage students in advance promotions for the North Carolina Literary Festival, which will be held from April 15 through 18, 2004. The festival is open to the public and is expected to attract thousands of visitors over the course of the weekend.

“Every school in North Carolina was invited to participate in the bookmark contest. Children in grades K–8 were invited to create bookmarks that highlighted the theme “Read Your Way to the North Carolina Literary Festival,” said North Carolina Literary Festival Program Director Laura Hudson. “The response was absolutely phenomenal. I’m so pleased that we had more



North Carolina elementary and middle school students submitted more than 900 entries for the bookmark art contest sponsored by the North Carolina Literary Festival.



than fifty schools respond and over 900 students participate. This is a wonderful opportunity for North Carolina schoolchildren to partner with us in promoting this great event.”

Updated information about the North Carolina Literary Festival is available on the Web at www.lib.ncsu.edu/nclitfest2004. ❖

A Gala Evening Celebrates the Pulitzer Exhibition

By TERRELL CROW, SCHOLARLY COMMUNICATION AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS



*Pulitzer Prize-winning photographers and their wives are pictured with curator Cyma Rubin at the gala opening of the exhibition *The Pulitzer Prize Photographs: Capture the Moment*. Left to right are Steve Ludlum, Martha Rial, Robert and Debbie Jackson, Slava and Nel Veder, Cyma Rubin, and Thomas J. Kelly III.*

The NCSU Libraries' gala opening for the exhibition *The Pulitzer Prize Photographs: Capture the Moment* was held in the Reading Room of the D. H. Hill Library on October 8, 2003. It had originally been scheduled for the evening of September 19 but was postponed because of Hurricane Isabel.

More than 150 guests had the rare opportunity of meeting five Pulitzer Prize-winning photographers and the exhibition curator, Cyma Rubin. The photographers who attended the reception

were Robert Jackson (1964 Pulitzer Prize for "Jack Ruby Shoots Lee Harvey Oswald," *Dallas Time Herald*), Slava Veder (1974 Pulitzer Prize for "Burst of Joy," Associated Press), Thomas J. Kelly III (1979 Pulitzer Prize for "Tragedy on Sanatoga Road," *Mercury* [Pottstown, Pennsylvania]), Martha Rial (1998 Pulitzer Prize for "Trek of Tears, An African Journey," *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette*), and Steve Ludlum (2002 Pulitzer Prize for "World Trade Center Attack," *New York Times*).

Susan K. Nutter, vice provost and director of Libraries, greeted guests and introduced Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor James L. Oblinger, who extended a welcome from the university. Nutter then introduced Rubin, an alumna of NC State and the individual responsible for researching and organizing the exhibition and for writing the exhibition catalog. Rubin noted in her remarks that,

If it wasn't for Susan Nutter, who rediscovered me at an NCSU reunion in 1997, and who nurtured an interest in my work and friendship, this exhibition would not be here. She is the innovative leader of the pack, along with her incomparable staff, the Friends of the Library Board, Chancellor Fox, and all of you who made it possible to bring the Pulitzer exhibition to NCSU. For this, I am deeply grateful.

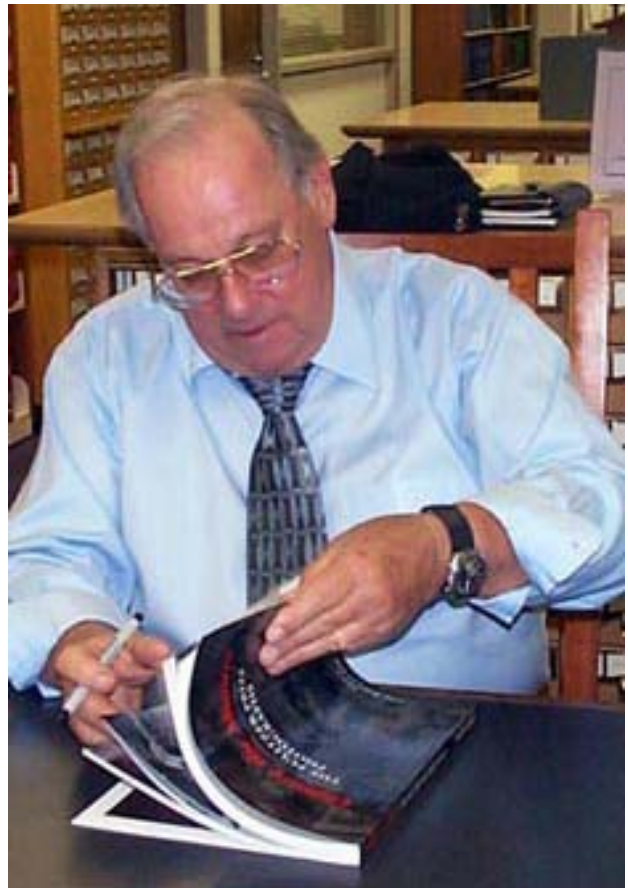
Following the brief ceremony, guests toured the exhibition and had catalogs signed by the attending photographers and Rubin.

The exhibition opened officially on September 19, and its reception by faculty and students has been gratifying. Students have expressed thanks for the exhibition coming to the library, and many faculty have included the exhibit in course work. Students from UNC–Chapel Hill, UNC–Greensboro, and the community colleges have also toured the exhibition. Photographers Rial and Ludlum said at a press preview for the exhibition that a perfect photograph must provide two things—information about the story and the emotion behind the story. Responses from visitors clearly reflect the success of these photographers in telling their stories. ❖

Exhibition curator and sponsor Cyma Rubin.



Slava Veder signs an exhibition catalog during the gala.

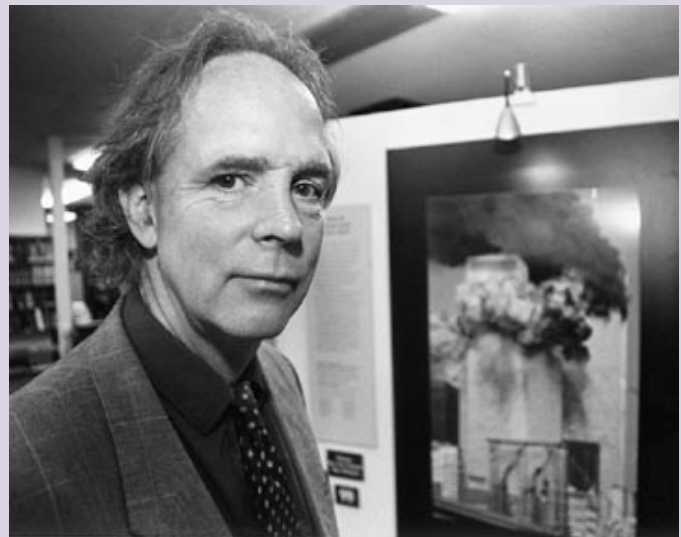




Gala attendees took advantage of the opportunity to tour the exhibition.

[Below] Steve Ludlum stands in front of his Pulitzer Prize-winning photograph, which appeared in the New York Times.

Photographer Martha Rial chatted with gala attendees.



[Right] Photographers Robert Jackson and Thomas J. Kelly III shared thoughts about their work during the gala.





Focus, a newsletter published three times a year, seeks to promote the services, activities, needs, and interests of the NCSU Libraries to the university, the Friends of the Library, and beyond.

Editor: Terrell Armistead Crow.

NCSU Libraries Homepage: <http://www.lib.ncsu.edu/>