

NEWS RELEASE

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Third Annual Fox Cities Book Festival Slated

APPLETON, Wis.— The third Fox Cities Book Festival will be held April 11-18, 2010, organizers announced Tuesday. Honorary co-chairs for the third festival are Lee and Amy Allinger of Appleton.

In an announcement at The Gardens of the Fox Cities, that also served as a thank you to last year's volunteers and donors, Fox Cities Book Festival organizers said this year's book fest will again showcase over 30 authors who will participate in readings, panel discussions and book chats this coming April at venues throughout the Fox Cities.

Though more authors will be announced as they are finalized, organizers confirmed that several prominent names from the literary world will take part in the 2010 Festival. Headliners include novelists Jane Hamilton, Kim Edwards and David Wroblewski; Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Ted Kooser; and Robert San Souci, an author of adult and children's books known for his adaptations of folktales from around the world.

Other authors announced to appear include Chris Crutcher, Mary Karr, Laurie Notaro and Bishop Robert Morneau. Morneau is an Auxiliary Bishop from Green Bay who has written several books such as *A New Heart: Eleven Qualities of Holiness* and the children's book *The Gift*.

Judy Owen, chairperson for the Festival's Authors Committee, said the 2010 event will again feature a variety of local and statewide authors to complement the national headliners. As with the first two years, a number of ancillary programs are being developed to round out the Festival. The roster of authors and supporting events will be updated regularly on the Festival's Web site at www.foxcitiesbookfestival.org.

The Allingers succeeded Will and Ruth Bloedow as honorary co-chairs. Lee Allinger is Superintendent for the Appleton Area School District. Lee and Amy have been strong supporters of reading and literacy over the years.

Allinger is thrilled that he and his wife were asked to be honorary co-chairs. He shared, “Clearly, as an educator, I view reading as the window to all new learning. We see children develop over the years, from learning to read to reading to learn. The Fox Cities Book Festival is so valuable because it affords adults the opportunity to model the power and enjoyment of reading to young children in the community. The Festival underscores to students that reading extends beyond the school setting, and that is a very powerful message.”

Barbara Wentzel, retired director of the Kimberly-Little Chute Public Libraries, will serve as president of the Festival board for the next year as it oversees the 2010 event.

For more information about the Fox Cities Book Festival, please visit www.foxcitiesbookfestival.org.

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Editor’s Note: A selection of author photos and bios available at:

www.docpark.com/BF2010/Selected_Author_Info2010.pdf

www.docpark.com/BF2010/david_wroblewski.png

www.docpark.com/BF2010/Edwards_Kim.JPG

www.docpark.com/BF2010/Jane_Hamilton.png

www.docpark.com/BF2010/Robert_San_Souci.png

www.docpark.com/BF2010/Ted_Kooser.png