

FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Bonanza for Book Lovers

The Academy holds its annual celebration of books and reading



If you love books, thirteen is your lucky number. That's because the Spencertown Academy's 13th annual Festival of Books is just around the corner.

An always popular Labor Day weekend event, the Festival offers book lovers of all ages a chance to hunt for treasures among more than 10,000 new and gently-used books, as well as CDs, DVDs, vinyl LPs and audio cassettes, all at bargain basement prices. A first-floor gallery features a handpicked selection of specialty books, limited editions, out-of-print books, and new books donated by leading publishers. The always popular Children's Book Room will be open throughout the Festival.

Healthy, delicious snacks and beverages will be for sale throughout the weekend, including the Academy's signature To-Die-For, No-Alarm Vegetarian Chili.

Festival-goers will find all books carefully categorized for easy browsing. As always, prices will start out low and be stepped down each day throughout the weekend. It's a terrific way to stock up on a lot of great reading for not a lot of money!

A wide array of books and authors

"This year we've lined up a wonderfully diverse range of presentations—from poignant and powerful memoirs to literary thrillers to artful poetry and a charming how-to book," says Jill Kalotay, who, with fellow Academy Board member David Highfill, heads the Festival of Books committee.

The program begins on Friday, August 31 with a special Members Preview [see box below] and continues through the holiday weekend with a varied schedule of author readings, signings, discussions and surprises.

Featured authors include Sandra/Sandy Allen (*A Kind of Mirraculas Paradise: A True Story about Schizophrenia*), Jamie Cat Callan (*Parisian Charm School: French Secrets for Cultivating Love, Joy, and That Certain je ne sais quoi*), Linda Dahl (*Tooth and Nail: The Making of a Female Fight Doctor*), Carol Durant (*Whole Phat and Gluten Free Poetry*), Donna Kaz (*UN/MASKED: Memoirs of a Guerrilla Girl on Tour*), Jessica Keener (*Strangers in Budapest*), Jon Michael Varese (*The Spirit Photographer*) and poet Karen Schoemer.

At the Children's Program on Saturday morning, kids can visit Biscuit the Puppy and pose for a free souvenir photo with the cute star of the popular children's book series by Alyssa Satin Capucilli. Children will hear funny stories about the silly puppy, create a related craft, and browse in the Children's Book Room, which will be open throughout the Festival. continued on page 4



what's coming up

FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Labor Day Weekend
August 31-September 3
Members Preview: Friday, August 31,
1-8pm

AUSTERLITZ BICENTENNIAL

"The History of Austerlitz"
Talk by Austerlitz Town Historian
Tom Moreland
Sunday, September 23, 3pm

THE GALLERY

Light & Shadow:
The Artist's Eye, Perceptions and Choices

Annual Regional Juried Art Show
October 6-28
Opening reception: Saturday, October 6,
4-6pm

MUSIC AT THE ACADEMY

Everything's Coming Up Roses:
The Music of Jule Styne

Cabaret performance featuring Maureen
Kelley Stewart
Saturday, October 20, 7:30pm
Tickets: \$20/\$10 students

MUSIC AT THE ACADEMY

iLa Guitarra Fiesta!

Kids Need Music benefit concert
Guitar concert by Maria Zemantauski
Sunday, November 11, 1pm
Tickets at spencertownacademy.org

HANDMADE HOLIDAY

Craft as Gift Fair
Just in time for the holiday gift-giving
season!
November 23-25 & December 1-2
Watch for details

spencertownacademy.org/events

Membership Has Its Advantages

This year, for the first time, the Festival will open its doors from 1 to 8 p.m. on Friday, August 31, during a special Members Preview—free for Academy members and kids 12 and under, \$10 for members' guests.

Preview shoppers will enjoy wine and cheese from 6 to 8 p.m. and memberships can be purchased at the door. Current, new and renewing members will receive one free book with their purchases throughout the weekend.