

FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

One for the Books

The Academy holds its annual celebration of books and reading

Fact, fiction, science, food, war, peace...and more: Whatever your interests, you'll find a lot to your liking at the 14th Festival of Books, scheduled, as always, for Labor Day weekend.

This yearly rite of late summer will feature an exciting roster of author readings and signings, panel discussions and children's programs. And, of course, book lovers of all ages will have the chance to hunt for treasures among more than 10,000 new and gently-used books, as well as CDs, DVDs and vinyl LPs, all at bargain prices. In the first-floor gallery you'll find a hand-picked selection of specialty items, including limited editions, out-of-print books, and new books donated by leading publishers. And kids will have their own room where they can browse and curl up with their favorite books.

The book sale is open to the public on Saturday, August 31, 10am to 5pm; Sunday, September 1, 10am to 4pm; and Monday, September 2 (bargain day), 10am to 2pm. Admission is free. Teachers with ID receive a 20% discount on their purchases (except in Special Books Room).

A wide array of books and authors

"We are really excited about this year's line-up of superb authors and a wonderfully diverse range of presentations," says Jill Kalotay, who, with fellow Academy Board member David Highfill, heads the Festival of Books committee.

The program begins on Friday, August 30 with a special Members Preview [see box] and continues through the holiday weekend. Featured authors include Ruth Reichl, Boris Fishman, Jenna Blum, Daphne Kalotay, David Yaffe, Steve Katz, Grace Talusan, and Crystal Hana Kim.

At the Children's Program on Saturday morning, kids can visit and pose for photos with Froggy, the enduringly popular character in the children's book series by Jonathan London. Children will hear funny stories about the silly amphibian, create a related craft, and browse in the Children's Book Room, which will be open throughout the Festival.

Formula for a Festival: Hard work + generous support

Volunteers have been hard at work all summer, receiving and sorting books, ordering supplies, recruiting speakers, and attending to the myriad planning details that go into such a complex undertaking. The support of sponsors, donors, Festival attendees and Academy members also figures crucially in the effort.

"None of this would be possible without the generosity of our individual underwriters, book donors, and the nearly one hundred people who volunteer their time and talents to help make the Festival of Books a success," says David Highfill. "We are so grateful for their support."



what's coming up

FESTIVAL OF BOOKS

Labor Day Weekend
August 31-September 2
Members Only Preview:
Friday, August 30, 2-8pm

THE GALLERY

In the Moment

Annual Regional Juried Art Show
October 5-27
Opening reception: Saturday, October 5,
4-6pm

MUSIC AT THE ACADEMY

Amy Ryan Band

An evening of blues & rock
Saturday, November 9, 8:00pm
Tickets: \$25/\$20 members/\$10 students

MUSIC AT THE ACADEMY

Kids Need Music

Benefit concert
Details to come
Sunday, November 11, 1pm
Tickets at spencertownacademy.org

MUSIC AT THE ACADEMY

Geoff Muldaur

Folk/blues/folk-rock
Saturday, December 14, 8pm
Tickets: \$25/\$20 members/\$10 students

spencertownacademy.org/events

Membership Has Its Advantages!

Spencertown Academy members will have shopping privileges, an early look at the books during the Member's Preview on Friday, August 30 from 2:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Admission is free for members and \$10 for members' guests. Memberships will be available at the door. Refreshments will be served during the evening hours.