

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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TWO PULITZER PRIZE WINNERS AMONG WRITERS ON SLATE FOR ALABAMA BOOK FESTIVAL

Pulitzer Prize-winning poet Natasha Trethewey and Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist Rick Bragg are among the more than 50 authors and presenters on the slate for the upcoming April 19th Alabama Book Festival to be held in Montgomery.

Trethewey, whose works include the prize-winning collection *Native Guard*, and Bragg, whose new book will debut this spring, will join acclaimed fiction writers Cassandra King (*Queen of Broken Hearts*), Susan Vreeland (*Luncheon of the Boating Party*) and Ace Atkins (*Wicked South*), as well as syndicated columnist Rheta Grimsley Johnson (*Poor Man's Provence*), historian Stephen Fox (*Wolf of the Deep: Raphael Semmes and the Notorious Confederate Raider CSS Alabama*) and award-winning children's writer Deborah Wiles (*The Aurora County All-Stars*) on the stages of the festival.

A signature literary event for the state, the free festival will be held on the grounds of Montgomery's historic Old Alabama Town. It will feature five general stages and one dedicated children's venue. Singer-songwriter Davis Raines, whose new CD, *Going to Montgomery*, was just released, will be a special guest.

Exhibitors and presenters will include Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Public Television and printer/artist Amos Kennedy, who will be on hand with his letter press to make commemorative posters of the festival. The University of Alabama Book Arts program will showcase works by bookmakers and illustrators, and literary figures from past and present will be in costume to entertain festival-goers.

Check the festival's website at www.alabamabookcenter.org for a list of the festival's featured writers and presenters. Information about volunteering, as well as details on exhibitors and offerings, can also be found at the site. Those interested may also call 334-844-4946.

The Alabama Book Festival is supported by more than 20 sponsors and partners, including the Alabama State Council on the Arts, the Alabama Bureau of Tourism and Travel, the Alabama Public Library Service and the Alabama Center for the Book in the College of Liberal Arts at Auburn University. It was the top literary event for the 2007 Year of Alabama Arts.

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