

*Bio*  
BIOGRAPHERS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

*Complete Biographer*  
CONFERENCE  
2011



**May 21, 2011**

National Press Club, 529 14th Street, NW, Washington, DC

biography, n. life story, life, life history, Inf. b  
memoir, memoirs, recollections, adventures, forum  
account, history, record; autobiograp  
psychobiography

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James McGrath Morris  
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*D*ear Colleagues,

Welcome to our second annual “Compleat Biographer” Conference. We have a terrific program for you!

BIO is a grass-roots organization of practicing and apprentice biographers, the first and only one of its kind. This is our opportunity to get together, meet our elected board, set our goals and spend a full day learning from each other and from the reviewers, agents, and others who help to bring our work to readers.

Thanks to the hard work of our Planning and Site committees, we have a great selection of panels held in an apt setting; an opportunity to pitch proposals to agents; and, while breaking bread together during our annual lunch-time award ceremony, a chance to honor perhaps the most distinguished living biographer in the United States: Robert Caro.

Biography faces many challenges today, from a reduced attention span and ever-growing celebrity worship among readers to an obsession with self rather than others. As a result of new technologies, a veritable publishing revolution is unfolding before our eyes – one that will affect us all, for better or for worse. By confronting these challenges together, rather than singly, we can ensure the survival of biography as seriously researched, articulately composed, and well-produced work chronicling the lives of real individuals: a craft that has been in existence since Greek and Roman times. This is our commitment, then, each and every one of us: to make a unique contribution to human knowledge and understanding through our work.

Bravo biography – and, with your input, long live BIO!

Best,

Nigel Hamilton  
*President*



## Schedule

7:30–7:45AM	Registration
7:45–8:45AM BALLROOM	Breakfast Opening: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Welcome by Barbara Burkhardt, chair of the Washington Site Committee</li> <li>• Introduction of current and newly-elected members of the board</li> <li>• Remarks by Nigel Hamilton</li> <li>• Reports by vice-president, treasurer, membership and blue-ribbon committees</li> <li>• Solicitation for 2011–12 committees and new business from the floor</li> </ul>
9:00–10:30AM	First round of workshops and panels
10:45AM–12:15PM	Second round of workshops and panels
12:30–1:45PM BALLROOM	Lunch and Keynote Address by Robert Caro, winner of the 2011 BIO Award
2:00–3:30PM	Third round of workshops and panels
3:45–5:15PM	Fourth round of workshops and panels
5:15–7:00PM	Reception, interview with Stacy Schiff, and book signings by Stacy Schiff and other authors

### Agent Speed Dating

- 2:00 to 5:30PM (Locations booked individually)
- A private pitch meeting with at least three agents. The meetings will occur while workshops are underway so you may need to miss part or all of a session. But your agent schedule will be sent to you in advance of the conference



## Panels and Panelists

### Dealing with Black Holes in Your Subject's Life

9:00–10:30AM LOCATION: HOLEMAN

Practicing biographers suggest research and narrative techniques to compensate for gaps in evidence, with an emphasis on integrity.

#### Moderator

**STEPHEN GRANT's** fourth book, *Peter Strickland: New London Shipmaster, Boston Merchant, First Consul to Senegal*, was published in 2007 as part of a "Diplomats and Diplomacy" series. He is completing a dual biography of Henry and Emily Folger, founders of the Folger Shakespeare Library on Capitol Hill. He is a member of the Washington Biography Group.

#### Panelists

**MATTHEW ALGEO** is a journalist and author. His latest book, *The President Is a Sick Man*, recounts the story of a secret cancer operation that was performed on President Grover Cleveland in 1893 and of Elisha Jay Edwards, the intrepid reporter who broke the story. In *Harry Truman's Excellent Adventure*, Algeo chronicled Harry and Bess Truman's post-presidential road trip. His *Last Team Standing* tells of the 1943 merger of the Pittsburgh Steelers and the Philadelphia Eagles.

**TOM POWERS** writes about how people respond to the challenge of a particular moment in history and about those who drive or are trapped in those moments: Richard Helms, who helped to create the CIA; Werner Heisenberg, who purposely failed to build an atomic bomb for Hitler; and Crazy Horse, who let the U.S. Army kill him rather than break his promise for peace.



**MARC LEEPSON**, journalist and historian, is the author of seven books, including *Saving Monticello*, *Flag: An American Biography*, and, most recently, *Lafayette: Lessons in Leadership from the Idealist General*, published by Palgrave Macmillan in March. A former staff writer for *Congressional Quarterly*, he is the arts editor, columnist, and senior writer for *The VVA Veteran*, published by Vietnam Veterans of America.

### The Role for Fiction in Biography

9:00–10:30AM LOCATION: MURROW

How to employ storytelling techniques to add suspense and drama to biography.

#### Moderator

**BARBARA BURKHARDT** is the author of *William Maxwell: A Literary Life*, about *The New Yorker* editor and novelist (University of Illinois Press), and is also the editor of the forthcoming *Conversations with William Maxwell*, a collection of his interviews and public remarks, to be published by the University Press of Mississippi in 2012. She is an associate professor of American Literature for the University of Illinois Springfield, where she was named the 2007 University Scholar. She is at work on a new biography and lives in Washington, D.C.

#### Panelists

**SUSAN TYLER HITCHCOCK** is the author of thirteen nonfiction books including *Mad Mary Lamb: Lunacy and Murder in Literary London*, and *Frankenstein: A Cultural History*, both published by W. W. Norton. She works as a senior book editor at the National Geographic Society, specializing in large-format illustrated books in science and history, many of which contain biographical material. She lives near Charlottesville, Virginia, and works in Washington, D.C.

**BRIAN JAY JONES**, writer and biographer, spent nearly two decades working for elected officials at all levels of government, including in the U.S. Senate. His first book, *Washington Irving: An American Original*, was hailed as the authoritative biography of American literature's first Man of Letters and was awarded a Medal for Literary Excellence by the St. Nicholas Society of New York. He is at work on the authorized biography of Muppet creator Jim Henson for Random House.

**J. MICHAEL LENNON**, Norman Mailer's archivist and authorized biographer, is currently editing Mailer's letters and writing the biography, to be published by Simon and Schuster. Lennon's other books include *Norman Mailer: Works and Days* (2000), a *Choice Magazine* "outstanding scholarly title" in 2001; *Critical Essays on Norman Mailer* (1986); *Conversations with Norman Mailer* (1988); *The James Jones Reader* (1991), and *Norman Mailer's Letters on an American Dream, 1963–69* (2004). He is the past president of the Norman Mailer Society and the James Jones Literary Society, and the Emeritus Professor of English at Wilkes University, where he continues to teach in the M.F.A. Program.

## Book Reviewers Address Biography

9:00–10:30AM LOCATION: LISAGOR

Reviewers discuss how they choose and evaluate biographies and what makes for an outstanding biography from the reviewer's point of view.

### Moderator

**NANCY GREENSPAN**, author of *The End of the Certain World: The Life and Science of Max Born*, is also co-author, with her husband, the late child psychiatrist Stanley Greenspan, of four books on child development.

### Panelists

**DENNIS DRABELLE** has been a contributing editor of the *Washington Post Book World* since 1984 and, in 1996, won the National Book Critics Circle award for Excellence in Reviewing. His books include *Mile-High Fever*, a history of the Comstock Lode silver rush, and *Taming the Octopus: How Two Great American Writers Took on a Notorious Monopoly*, forthcoming next year. His next project will be a biography.

**MARJORIE KEHE** is the book editor of *The Christian Science Monitor*, directing both print and online book coverage. Previously, she was a business reporter at the McGraw Hill Companies and at VNU Business Media. She holds a masters degree in Italian literature from Middlebury College and a Ph.D. in Comparative Literature from New York University.

**DAVID O. STEWART** is the author of *The Summer of 1787: The Men Who Invented the Constitution* (2007), a *Washington Post* bestseller and winner of the Washington Writing Award for Best Book of 2007, and *Impeached: The Trial of President Andrew Johnson and the Fight for Lincoln's Legacy* (2009), a Davis-Kidd bestseller. His forthcoming *American Emperor: Aaron Burr's Challenge to Jefferson's America*, will be published in October. Stewart is a veteran trial lawyer and is president of the *Washington Independent Review of Books*, an online book review that was launched in February, 2011 and is sponsored by the nonprofit AIW Freedom to Write Fund.



## The Author/Agent Fit

9:00–10:30AM LOCATION: ZENGER

What qualities, attitudes, and behavior lead to a successful collaboration between agent and author, from book proposal to publication and promotion. An author, and editor, and an agent discuss.

### Moderator

**PAMELA KILLIAN FOX** is the author of *Barbara Bush: Matriarch of a Dynasty*. She was a reporter and editor for United Press International and Scripps Howard News Service before retiring in 2007.

### Panelists

**JONATHAN EIG** is the best-selling author of three books: *Luckiest Man: The Life and Death of Lou Gehrig*, *Opening Day: The Story of Jackie Robinson's First Season*, and *Get Capone: The Secret Plot that Captured America's Most Wanted Gangster*. He is a former staff writer at the *Wall Street Journal* and former executive editor of *Chicago* magazine.

**ROBERT PIGEON** is a former managing editor and executive editor for Hippocrene Books. In 1985, he founded his own publishing company and served as its president until he sold the firm to the Perseus Books Group in 2001. He is currently

executive editor for Da Capo Press, acquiring books in the areas of biography, history, and military history. He also teaches history and interdisciplinary humanities at Villanova University.

**JOHN TAYLOR "IKE" WILLIAMS**, a founder of the Kneerim & Williams literary and dramatic rights agency, specializes in biography, history, politics, natural science, and anthropology. He represents Howard Gardner, Joseph J. Ellis, E.O. Wilson, Tim Berners-Lee, Charles Ogletree, Elizabeth Marshall Thomas, James MacGregor Burns, the late Rev. Peter J. Gomes, Richard Wilbur, Drew Gilpin Faust, and Sara Lawrence-Lightfoot, among others. He has been a member of the NEA Literary Panel, chair of the Boston Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights, and he serves as a director of the Boston Book Festival. He is co-author of the widely used Perle & Williams handbook on publishing law.

## How to Organize Your Research

10:45AM–12:15PM LOCATION: HOLEMAN

Software programs – for outlining, cross-indexing, inserting photographs and documents, footnoting – and beyond: how to get the most out of what you know.

### Moderator

**ROBIN RAUSCH** is the author of *A Partnership in Art: the MacDowell and Their Legacy*, a MacDowell Colony history, written on commission for the commemorative book *A Place for the Arts: The MacDowell Colony 1907–2007*. A senior music specialist at the Library of Congress, she is currently at work on a biography of the colony's founder, Marian MacDowell.

### Panelists

**NATALIE DYKSTRA** is the author of *Clover Adams: A Gilded and Heartbreaking Life*, forthcoming from Houghton Mifflin Harcourt in February 2012. She has received fellowships and grants for her writing, including a National Endowment for the Humanities Long-Term Fellowship, a White House Historical Association Fellowship, and research grants from the Schlesinger Library and the Massachusetts Historical Society. She is an Associate Professor of English at Hope College in Holland, MI. When not teaching, she lives with her husband in Waltham, MA.

**MEGAN MARSHALL** is the author of *The Peabody Sisters: Three Women Who Ignited American Romanticism*, which was awarded the Francis Parkman Prize, the Mark Lynton History Prize, the Massachusetts Book Award in Nonfiction, and was a finalist for the 2006 Pulitzer Prize in biography and memoir. Her essays and reviews have appeared in *The New Yorker*, the *Atlantic*, *The New York Times Book Review*, and *The London Review of Books*. She teaches the art of archival research in the MFA program at Emerson College, and she is completing a new book, *The Passion of Margaret Fuller: A Biographical Romance*, to be published by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

**DONA MUNKER**, who is the New York correspondent for *The Biographer's Craft*, is a former trade book editor living in New York. She is the author of the first-person narrative biography *Daughter of Persia: A Woman's Journey from Her Father's Harem through the Islamic Revolution* (Crown/Random House), based on one hundred hours of interviews with her subject, who brought social work and the birth control movement to Iran. She is currently at work on *Sara and Erskine, An American Romance*, a biographical study of Sara Bard Field, American poet and suffragist, including her love affair with the Oregon attorney and writer C.E.S. Wood.

## Writing for Young Adults

10:45AM–12:15PM LOCATION: MURROW

Panelists discuss subject matter, style, voice, and readability in one of the hottest categories in publishing today.

### Moderator



**MICHAEL BURGAN** has written more than 250 books for children and teens, including adaptations of classic novels. Among his biographies of sports figures, presidents, scientists, and world leaders are recent books on Ronald Reagan for DK Publications and on George W. Bush for Marshall Cavendish.

has received the Jefferson Cup Honor (for distinguished biography) and two American Library Association Notable Book awards. National Geographic Children's Books will publish her most recent book, about George Washington and slavery, in 2012.

**MARY BOWMAN-KRUHM** has authored or co-authored over thirty nonfiction books for children, young adults, and adults. Formerly a special education administrator and reading specialist, she is now an associate on the faculty of the Center for Technology in Education, Johns Hopkins University.

**CATHERINE REEF**'s most recent of forty nonfiction books for young people and adults is *Jane Austen: A Life Revealed* (Clarion, 2011). She has received the Joan G. Sugarman Children's Book Award for *Walt Whitman* in 1996, the 2001 Sydney Taylor Award for *Sigmund Freud: Pioneer of the Mind*, and a 2010 Golden Kite Honor Award for *Ernest Hemingway: A Writer's Life*.

### Panelists

**MARFÉ FERGUSON DELANO** is the author of biographies for children on Thomas Edison (*Inventing the Future*), Albert Einstein (*Genius*), and Annie Sullivan (*Helen's Eyes*). She

## Hiring an Independent Publicist

10:45AM–12:15PM LOCATION: LISAGOR

Forced to take more responsibility for promoting their books, authors are turning to Book Buzz, Book Tour, Inc., etc. Independent publicists, many affordable, can help. Experts discuss expectations, results, and costs.

### Moderator

**KEN ACKERMAN**, a writer and attorney in Washington, D.C., is a 25-year veteran of senior positions in Congress, the executive branch, and financial regulation. He is the author of four books, including *Boss Tweed: The Corrupt Pol Who Conceived the Soul of Modern New York*, *The Gold Ring: Jim Fisk, Jay Gould, and Black Friday 1869*, *Dark Horse: The Surprise Election and Political Murder of James A. Garfield*, and, most recently, *Young J. Edgar: Hoover, the Red Scare, and the Assault on Civil Liberties*.



### Panelists

**ERIN L. COX** began her career in publicity at Scribner and is currently an agent and publicist for Rob Weisbach Creative Management, where she represents writers, offers publicity and promotion services and works with corporations including *Newsweek* and *The Daily Beast*.

**JENNIFER RICHARDS** is co-president of Over the River Public Relations, a publicity firm that specializes in marketing, media, and word-of-mouth campaigns for books and authors. Earlier, Richards worked at Random House, where she helped to launch and promote *Just Jackie* by Edward Klein, *Paul Robeson* by Martin Duberman, and *A Slave in the Family* by Edward Ball.

## Can I Quote That?

### Dealing with Copyright, Fair Use, Permissions

10:45AM–12:15PM LOCATION: ZENGER

Find out how to avoid frustrating entanglements and legal pitfalls.

### Moderator

**PAT MCNEES** worked at Harper & Row and Fawcett Books before becoming a freelance journalist, a nonfiction author, and an editor of anthologies. In the 1990s, she helped to represent writers at the three-year-long, monthly Conference on Fair Use in the Digital Age. She is the president of the Association of Personal Historians and teaches life writing and also specializes in writing the histories of organizations.

### Panelists

**BRUCE L. BORTZ**, publisher and attorney, practiced government and attorney disciplinary law before running a daily newspaper (Baltimore's *The Daily Record*), writing a political column (*Baltimore Evening Sun* and *Baltimore Sun*), operating his own political newsletter (*The Maryland Report*), and managing Bancroft Press, his own trade book publishing house. In each endeavor, he's used his legal skills to avoid being sued and successfully sue others. He practices entertainment law (freelance) on behalf of writers and publishers.

**KITTY KELLEY**, author of *Oprah: A Biography* and the doyenne of the unauthorized biography, says "A rudimentary knowledge of copyright is crucial for writers who must deal with publishers and avoid lawsuits." She has written bestselling unauthorized biographies of Frank Sinatra, Elizabeth Taylor, Jackie Onassis, Nancy Reagan, the Bush Dynasty, and Britain's royal family; she is no stranger to lawsuits, none of which she has lost.

**KIRK SCHRODER**, an entertainment lawyer with the firm of Schroder Fidlow, PLC, is currently chair of the Entertainment & Sports Law Section of the American Bar Association. He is listed in *The Best Lawyers in America* in the field of entertainment, and Martindale-Hubbell gives him an AV, its highest rating for lawyers. Authors, writers, and publishers represent a major part of his practice.

## The Art of Interviewing

2:00–3:30PM LOCATION: ZENGER

Panelists discuss setting up, preparing for, and conducting a meaningful interview.

### Moderator

**MARC PACHTER** is the former director of the Smithsonian National Portrait Gallery, the nation's museum of American biography, where he was cited in the Secretary's Gold Medal award as the Institution's "master interviewer." He also convened one of the earliest conferences on biography, which resulted in the book he edited, *Telling Lives: the Biographer's Art*. December 2011 will mark the 25th anniversary of his stewardship of the Washington Biography Group.

### Panelists

**LAURA BROWDER's** fourth and most recent book is *When Janey Comes Marching Home: Portraits of Women Combat Veterans*, with photographs by Sascha Pflaeging. Her previous books include *Her Best Shot: Women and Guns in America* (2006), and *Rousing the Nation: Radical Culture in Depression America* (1998). She is the Tyler and Alice Haynes Professor of American Studies

at the University of Richmond, the executive producer of a forthcoming PBS documentary titled *The Reconstruction of Asa Carter*, based on her book *Slippery Characters: Ethnic Impersonators and American Identities*. She is currently working on a documentary film called *Mothers at War*.

**LIZ HUMES** is the president of WRIR, a public radio station in Richmond, Virginia. For the past six years, she has hosted "Wordy Birds," a weekly radio show about books and ideas, for which she has conducted hundreds of interviews.

**PAT MCNEES** worked at Harper & Row and Fawcett Books before becoming a freelance journalist, a nonfiction author, and an editor of anthologies. She is the president of the Association of Personal Historians, writers who help ordinary people write their life stories, and teaches life writing; she also specializes in writing histories of organizations.

## Writing Biography Pieces for Magazines and Online

2:00–3:30PM LOCATION: HOLEMAN

Writing a feature article about your subject can help you test popular interest, secure a contract, and promote a forthcoming book. But where, and how? The experts discuss.

### Moderator

**AMY SCHAPIRO** is the author of *Millicent Fenwick: Her Way*, a biography of the New Jersey congresswoman whom Walter Cronkite called the "Conscience of Congress." Schapiro is currently at work on the first biography of former Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach, a key figure in the passage and enforcement of civil rights legislation during the Kennedy and Johnson administrations. She lives in Washington, D.C.

### Panelists

**RAY E. BOOMHOWER** is a senior editor of the *Indiana Historical Society Press*, where he has edited and written for the IHS's quarterly history magazine *Traces of Indiana and Midwestern History* since 1999. He is the author of more than ten books, including biographies of astronaut Gus Grissom, World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle, Civil War general and author Lew Wallace, and women's rights pioneer May Wright Sewall.

**GREG DAUGHERTY** is the executive editor of *Consumer Reports* and previously held senior editing positions at *Time Inc.*, *Reader's Digest*, and other publications. As a free-lancer, he has written for *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, *National Geographic Traveler*, and *Smithsonian*. His books include *You Can Write for Magazines* (Writer's Digest Books). He conducts a blog on magazine history, called "When Editors Were Gods."

**WIL HAYGOOD**, a national reporter for the *Washington Post*, is the author of five nonfiction books, including three award-winning biographies: *King of the Cats: The Life and Times of Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.*; *In Black and White: The Life of Sammy Davis, Jr.*; and *Sweet Thunder: The Life and Times of Sugar Ray Robinson*. He is a Guggenheim Fellow for 2011.



JULIA EWAN

## How to Create an Effective Website for a Biography

2:00–3:30PM LOCATION: LISAGOR

Tips for making your website a workhorse in service of your book's critical and popular success.

### Moderator

**STEPHANIE DEUTSCH**, a writer and critic living in Washington, D.C., is the author of *You Need a Schoolhouse: The Story of Booker T. Washington, Julius Rosenwald and 5,000 Rosenwald Schools*, due out early next year from Northwestern University Press, and is a longtime member of the Washington Biography Group.

### Panelists

**CAROL FITZGERALD** is co-founder and president of The Book Report Network, a group of eight popular internet sites about books and authors founded in 1996; its Authors on the Web division provides web development and internet marketing

for authors and publishers. Prior to founding TBRN, she spent seventeen years at Condé Nast Publications, where she developed marketing, promotion and publicity programs.

**KRISTEN E. GWINN** is a visiting scholar with the history department at Northwestern University. She believes that using technology for education, particularly in history, is of vital importance, and builds technological components, such as web sites and databases, to further this mission through her consulting agency HistoryIT. She is the author of *Emily Greene Balch: The Long Road to Internationalism* and has served as a graduate editorial fellow for *The Eleanor Roosevelt Papers: The Human Rights Years, 1945–1948*.

## What You Need to Know About E-Books

2:00–3:30PM LOCATION: MURROW

Should you become your own publisher? Experts discuss the risks and opportunities involved in digital publishing.

### Moderator

**KEN ACKERMAN**, a writer and attorney in Washington, D.C., is a 25-year veteran of senior positions in Congress, the executive branch, and financial regulation. He is the author of four books, including *Boss Tweed: The Corrupt Pol Who Conceived the Soul of Modern New York*, *The Gold Ring: Jim Fisk, Jay Gould, and Black Friday 1869*, *Dark Horse: The Surprise Election and Political Murder of James A. Garfield*, and, most recently, *Young J. Edgar: Hoover, the Red Scare, and the Assault on Civil Liberties*.

**RICHARD ZACKS**, a former journalist, specializes in writing books of subversive history, including *An Underground Education* (Doubleday) and the bestselling book *Pirate Hunter* (Hyperion). He is finishing a book about Teddy Roosevelt, police commissioner of New York City, 1895–1897, for Doubleday.

### Panelists

**ED MCCOYD** is an attorney and executive director for Digital, Environmental, and Accessibility Affairs at the Association of American Publishers. He works on issues including the use of digital technologies to market, sell, and distribute publishers' products and the prevention of electronic piracy of books and other works. Formerly, he served as director of legal services at the Authors Guild, providing licensing and copyright advice to published writers and advocating for authors' rights. He is the author of the young readers book *To Live and Dream: The Incredible Story of George Foreman* (New Street Publishing).



## Using Technology in Research

3:45–5:15PM LOCATION: ZENGER

Librarians have become cybrarians and archivists are interfacers. How can you take advantage of their new methodologies and expertise?

### Moderator

**DAVID O. STEWART** is author of *The Summer of 1787: The Men Who Invented the Constitution* (2007), a *Washington Post* bestseller and winner of the Washington Writing Award for Best Book of 2007, and *Impeached: The Trial of President Andrew Johnson and the Fight for Lincoln's Legacy* (2009), a Davis-Kidd bestseller. He is a veteran trial lawyer and is president of the *Washington Independent Review of Books*, an online book review.

### Panelists

**ALISON BOOTH** is the author of *Greatness Engendered: George Eliot and Virginia Woolf* (1992) and *How to Make It as a Woman: Collective Biographical History from Victoria to the Present* (2004) and is the editor of *Wuthering Heights* (Longman) and *Introduction to Literature* (Norton). She is currently engaged in a digital project, *Collective Biographies of Women, and Authors Revisited*, a book on literary tourism, biography, and house museums. She is a professor of English at the University of Virginia.

**SUSAN GARFINKEL** is a research specialist at the Library of Congress, where she works with the Library's digitized

historical materials; her subject areas include architecture, early American cultural history, and digital humanities. She is a co-founder of the Digital Humanities Caucus of the American Studies Association and serves on the Board of Directors of the Vernacular Architecture Forum. Her published work covers topics from breast cancer in the early 19th century to vernacular architecture and performance theory. Supported by an LC Kluge Staff Fellowship for fiscal year 2011, she is engaged in full-time research for a cultural history of Philadelphia's Society of Free Quakers.

**DAVID SMITH** is a reference librarian, recently retired, whose career spanned three decades at New York Public Library's 42nd Street Research Library. He administered the library's Wertheim Study and Frederick Lewis Allen rooms, which are provided for writers using NYPL collections over extended periods of time. He made it a priority to provide personal assistance to professional writers, and, for his efforts, received an NYPL Library Lions Award in November of 2009. He is proud to have been profiled in Marilyn Johnson's excellent book *This Book Is Overdue! How Librarians and Cybrarians Can Save Us All*.

## Reception and Book Signings

5:15–7:00PM LOCATION: FIRST AMENDMENT ROOM

- Network with agents, editors, and panelists. Meet members of BIO's Board. Chat with other biographers.
- Interview with Stacy Schiff, the author of *Saint-Exupéry: A Biography*, a Pulitzer Prize finalist; *Vera (Mrs. Vladimir Nabokov)*, winner of the Pulitzer Prize; *A Great Improvisation: Franklin, France, and the Birth of America*, winner of the George Washington Book Prize; and *Cleopatra: A Life*, a phenomenal critical and popular success.
- Book signings with Stacy Schiff and other authors.

## Turning Research Into Narrative

3:45–5:00PM LOCATION: HOLEMAN

What to include and what to leave out? How to achieve style and pace? This session makes a good pairing with “The Role for Fiction in Biography.”

### Moderator

**AMY SCHAPIRO** is the author of *Millicent Fenwick: Her Way*, a biography of the New Jersey congresswoman whom Walter Cronkite called the “Conscience of Congress.” Schapiro is currently at work on the first biography of former Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach, a key figure in the passage and enforcement of civil rights legislation during the Kennedy and Johnson Administrations.

### Panelists

**JOHN ALOYSIUS FARRELL** is the author of *Tip O’Neill and the Democratic Century* (Little, Brown) and *Clarence Darrow: Attorney for the Damned*, which will be published by Doubleday in June. He is a former prize-winning White House correspondent and Washington editor for the *Boston Globe* and a former columnist for the *Denver Post*.



**ANNE C. HELLER** is the author of *Ayn Rand and the World She Made* (Nan Talese/Doubleday), a *New York Times* Notable Book and *San Francisco Chronicle* Best Book of the Year for 2009. She has been managing editor of *The Antioch Review*, a fiction editor at *Esquire* and *Redbook*,

an articles editor at *Lear’s*, and the executive editor of the magazine development group at Condé Nast Publications. She has written for *Esquire*, *Lear’s*, *Vanity Fair*, and *The Wall Street Journal* online among other publications.

**JANE LEAVY** is the author of two *New York Times* bestsellers, *The Last Boy: Mickey Mantle and the End of America’s Childhood* (HarperCollins) and *Sandy Koufax: A Lefty’s Legacy* (HarperCollins). She was a staff writer at the *Washington Post* from 1979 to 1988, first in the sports section and later as feature writer for the style section. She has also written for *The New York Times*, *Newsweek*, *Self*, *Sports Illustrated*, the *Village Voice*, *WomenSport*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. She is the first female editor of the 2011 edition of Best American Sports Writing.

BIOGRAPHERS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION

extends its thanks to

OVER THE RIVER  
PUBLIC RELATIONS, LLC

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2011 Compleat Biographer  
Conference

**Phyllis McKee**  
graphic and web design

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## Using Social Networking

3:45–5:15PM LOCATION: LISAGOR

Beyond “Buy my book”: How to build social networks and use networking sites in uniquely productive ways.

### Moderator

**ABBY SANTAMARIA** holds an MFA in nonfiction writing from Columbia University. Houghton Mifflin Harcourt will publish her first book, a biography of Joy Davidman, the communist film critic, poet and wife of C.S. Lewis, in 2012.

### Panelists

**ELLEN F. BROWN** is an award-winning free-lance writer from Richmond, Virginia. She co-authored *Margaret Mitchell’s Gone With the Wind: A Bestseller’s Odyssey from Atlanta to Hollywood*, a top pick by *Publishers Weekly* for spring 2011.

**NELL MINOW** writes the “Risky Business” column for Bnet.com (part of CBS Interactive) and the Movie Mom blog for Beliefnet.com. She has co-authored three books about business and is working on her second book about the movies. She has been online since 1986, has had a website since 1995, and is active on Twitter, Facebook, tumblr, linkedin, flickr, and many others.

**KATE BUFORD**’s most recent biography, *Native American Son: The Life And Sporting Legend Of Jim Thorpe* (Knopf 2010), was a *New York Times* Editors’ Choice and the SABR (Society of American Baseball Researchers) 2011 Larry Ritter Award winner for best book about baseball’s Deadball Era (pre-1920). Her *Burt Lancaster: An American Life* was named a best book of the year by *The New York Times*, the *Washington Post*, and the *Los Angeles Times*. She has been a commentator on NPR’s Morning Edition and American Public Media’s Marketplace.



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EDITORIAL SERVICES

## Funding Your Work

3:45–5:15PM LOCATION: MURROW

Get advice about grants, fellowships, and resources for finding them from writers who have received them and administrators who make decisions about funding literary works.

### Moderator

**BRIAN JAY JONES**, writer and biographer, spent nearly two decades working for elected officials in government, including the U.S. Senate. His first book, *Washington Irving: An American Original*, was awarded the St. Nicholas Society of New York's Medal for Literary Excellence. He is presently at work on the authorized biography of Muppet creator Jim Henson for Random House.

### Panelists

**ANDRÉ BERNARD** is vice president and secretary of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation. For nearly twenty-five years he worked in book publishing, most recently as publisher of Harcourt Brace. He is the author of four books on the literary trade and speaks frequently about publishing matters.

**LESLIE BRODY** is the author of *Irrepressible: The Life and Times of Jessica Mitford* (Counterpoint Press), *Red Star Sister*, a memoir that won the PEN USA award for creative nonfiction, and a collection of essays called *A Motel of the Mind*. She is the former book columnist for *Elle Magazine* and a Sundance Creative Nonfiction Fellow.

**LOUISE (LUCY) W. KNIGHT** is the author of two biographies of Jane Addams: *Jane Addams: Spirit in Action* (W.W. Norton), a complete life, and *Citizen: Jane Addams and the Struggle for Democracy* (University of Chicago Press), an account of her formative years. Her work has been published in *The New York Times* and the *Wall Street Journal*, and she regularly reviews for the *Women's Review of Books*. She is a visiting scholar with the Gender Studies Program at Northwestern University.



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## The 2011 BIO Award Recipient: Robert Caro

The BIO Award is given annually to a colleague who has made a major and lasting contribution to the art and craft of biography.

This year's winner is Robert Caro, the author of *The Power Broker: Robert Moses and the Fall of New York* and three of four planned volumes of *The Years of Lyndon Johnson: The Path to Power, Means of Ascent, and Master of the Senate*. For these masterful lives, Robert A. Caro has twice won the Pulitzer Prize for Biography, twice won the National Book Critics Circle Award for best nonfiction book of the year, and has won virtually every other major literary honor, including the National Book Award, the Gold Medal in Biography from the American Academy of Arts and Letters, and the Francis Parkman Prize, awarded by the Society of American Historians to the book that best "exemplifies the union of the historian and the artist." In 2010, he received the National Humanities Medal from President Obama. He graduated from Princeton University and later became a Nieman Fellow at Harvard University. He lives in New York City with his wife, Ina, an historian and writer.



JOYCE RAVID

## Schedule at a Glance

### Agent Speed Dating

- Dating from 2:30 to 5:00PM (locations booked individually)

Room	Murrow	Lisagor	Zenger	Holeman
9:00–10:30AM	The Role for Fiction in Biography	Book Reviewers Address Biography	The Author/Agent Fit	Dealing with Black Holes in Your Subject's Life
10:45AM–12:15PM	Writing the Young Adult Biography	Hiring an Independent Publicist	Dealing with Copyright, Fair Use, Permissions, and Estates: Tips and Trapdoors	How to Organize Your Research
12:30–1:45PM	Lunch (Ballroom)			
2:00–3:30PM	What You Need to Know About E-Books	How to Create an Effective Website for a Biography	The Art of Interviewing	Writing Biography Pieces for Magazines and Online
3:45–5:15PM	Funding Your Work	Using Social Networking	Using Technology in Research	Turning Research Into Narrative (ends at 5:00PM)
5:15–7:00PM	Reception, interview with Stacy Schiff, and book signings (First Amendment Room)			

See you next year in  
**LA**

