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Freedman, Sanders and Engel to Headline Biennial Conference

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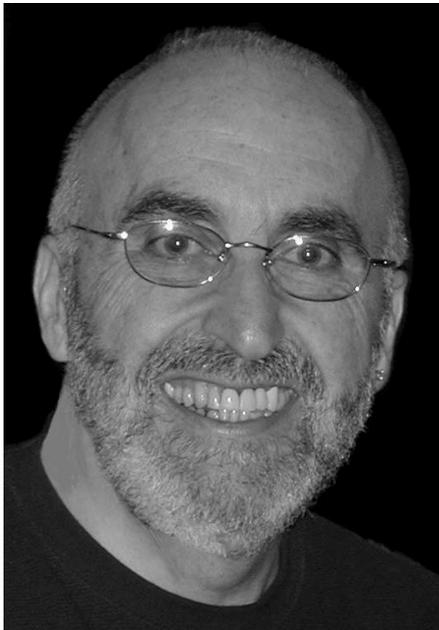
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Freedman, Sanders and Engel to Headline Biennial Conference

The SELA biennial conference is scheduled for October 24-26 in beautiful, historic Charleston, South Carolina and is being held in conjunction with the South Carolina Library Association annual conference. The theme is "Access the Past: Anticipate the Future: 2002". SELA and SCLA are pleased to announce an outstanding lineup of conference speakers. In the opening session, Dr. Elliot Engel will entertain and enlighten with a presentation on the life and works of Charles Dickens. Mitch Freedman, ALA President-Elect, will be our closing speaker at the Saturday brunch and will share the work of a taskforce studying librarian salaries. Dori Sanders, critically acclaimed author of "Clover," will speak at the conference luncheon on Friday. As an added treat, Robert Jordan, New York Times best-selling author of fantasy fiction, and native Charlestonian, will speak Friday afternoon. But that's not all. Program proposals on a variety of compelling library related topics are streaming in from our sections, round tables and committees.

Of course there is Charleston itself. From its beautiful town mansions and outlying plantation houses to its classy restaurants, carriage tours and intriguing boutiques, Charleston offers something for every visitor. In the true spirit of the South Carolina low country, the final highlight of the conference will be an oyster roast on Saturday evening in Marion Square Park across the street from the headquarters hotel. We look forward to seeing you. Additional information about Charleston may be found at <http://www.charlestonchamber.net/home.asp>
-Tom Gilson

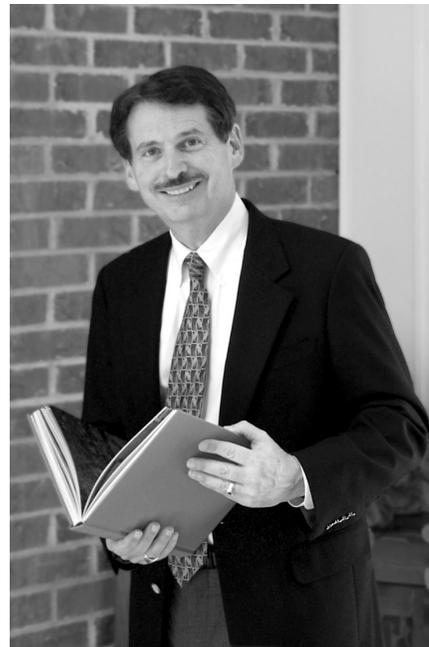


Maurice J. (Mitch) Freedman is Director, Westchester (NY) Library System and 2001-2002 President-Elect of the American Library Association. He manages a cooperative library service agency of approximately 50 staff, serving 38 public libraries and a population of 875,000. His position includes the management of technology, bibliographic control, ILL, age level consultation, and a variety of outreach services. Dr. Freedman served as Adjunct Associate Professor, Pratt Institute, SLIS, 1990-1999. For more information on Dr. Freedman see <http://www.mjfreedman.org/>.



Dori Sanders was born in Filbert, (York County) South Carolina. Her father's farm, where her family still raises Georgia Belle and Elberta peaches, is one of the oldest black-owned farms in York County. Her father was an elementary school principal and an author. She attended York County public schools and later studied at community colleges in Prince George's and Montgomery counties in Maryland. In the growing season she farms the family land, cultivating peaches, watermelons, and vegetables, and helps staff Sanders' Peach Shed, her family's open-air produce stand. Dori Sanders is a brilliantly entertaining public reader of her own work. See also: <http://www.algonquin.com/authors/pagemaker.cgi?Sanders^Dori>.

A Native of Indianapolis, **Dr. Elliot Engel** earned his B.A. at Indiana University and his M.A. and Ph.D. as a Woodrow Wilson Fellow at UCLA. While at UCLA he won the University's Outstanding Teacher Award. His six books have been published by both British and American presses, and his articles have appeared in numerous magazines, including *Newsweek*. PBS Television stations throughout the country ran his mini-lecture series on Charles Dickens. He has received North Carolina's Adult Education Award and the Victorian Society Award of Merit. Dr. Engel has lectured throughout the nation, in Europe, in Japan, and in Australia and New Zealand. Additional information may be found at <http://www.authorsink.com/engel.htm>.



Robert Jordan was born in 1948 in Charleston, South Carolina, where he now lives with his wife, Harriet, in a house built in 1797. He taught himself to read when he was four with the incidental aid of a twelve-years-older brother, and was tackling Mark Twain and Jules Verne by five. He is a graduate of The Citadel, the Military College of South Carolina, with a degree in physics. He served two tours in Vietnam with the U.S. Army; among his decorations are the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star with "V", and two Vietnamese Crosses of Gallantry. A history buff, he has also written dance and theater criticism. He enjoys the outdoor sports of hunting, fishing, and sailing, and the indoor sports of poker, chess, pool, and pipe collecting. He has been writing since 1977 and intends to continue until they nail shut his coffin.