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News - Gwinnett County Public Library

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People, Libraries
and Agencies

IN THE NEWS

Gwinnett Public Libraries

Fall into the Arts Series – Carmen Deedy

Award Winning Children's Author Carmen Deedy will appear at the Lawrenceville branch of the Gwinnett County Public Library Saturday, September 29th, at 6 p.m. to greet fans and promote her newest book *Return of the Library Dragon*. This meet and greet is part of the Library's Fall Into the Arts program series, and is a kids' component of the Gwinnett Reads tradition.

Carmen Agra Deedy has been writing for children for over two decades. Born in Havana, Cuba, she came to the U.S. as a refugee in 1964, and grew up in Decatur, Georgia, where she lives today. The first book in this series, *The Library Dragon*, received children's state book awards. In 2003 the book was her home state's choice to represent Georgia at the Library of Congress's National Book Festival.

Doors open at 5:30 p.m., and books are available for purchase and signing. All Fall Into the Arts events are free and open to the public; seats are available on a first come, first serve basis.

Fall Into the Arts Series – Keynote Speaker and 2012 Gwinnett Reads Author

Pulitzer Prize winner and the Poet Laureate of the United States, Natasha Trethewey is this year's Gwinnett Reads author and keynote speaker for Fall Into the Arts 2012. Her work combines free verse with more traditional forms like the sonnet and the villanelle to explore memory and the racial legacy of

America. Her newest book, *Thrall*, will be release this fall.

Poet Natasha Trethewey was born in Gulfport, Mississippi. She has written three collections of poetry: *Domestic Work* (Graywolf Press, 2000), *Bellocq's Ophelia* (Graywolf, 2002), and *Native Guard* (Houghton Mifflin, 2006), for which she was awarded the 2007 Pulitzer Prize. She is also the author of a book of creative non-fiction, *Beyond Katrina: A Meditation on the Mississippi Gulf Coast* (Georgia, 2010).

Trethewey has been the recipient of other awards including the inaugural 1999 Cave Canem poetry prize, and the 2003 Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters Book Prize. She was a finalist for both the Academy of American Poets' James Laughlin and Lenore Marshall prizes, and was named a 2003 Notable Book by the American Library Association. Her work has appeared in several volumes of *Best American Poetry*, and in journals such as *American Poetry Review*, *Kenyon Review*, *New England Review*, and *The Southern Review*, among others.

Gwinnett County Public Library's popular countywide Gwinnett Reads tradition continues as part of the annual Fall Into The Arts program. The full list of 2012 events includes:

"The Caine Mutiny Court Martial" –

Thursday, Oct. 11th, 8 p.m.

New Dawn Theater generously donated free seats to library guests for an evening performance of this two-act play adapted by author Herman Wouk from his novel, *The Caine Mutiny*.

Chair-ish the Arts @ Your Library—through October.

Participate in the Chair-ish the Arts@ Your Library contest at your Gwinnett County

Public Library branch! Art groups and individual artists are invited to re-imagine a chair or bench and submit their creative works for this fun contest. The deadline for contest entries is September 30th.

Altered Book Contest

More than 40 stunning creations submitted to the Gwinnett County Public Library's Altered Book contest, as well as the highly imaginative Pulp Fashion pieces featured at Duluth's Barefoot in the Park festival, were on display at the Hudgens Center for the Arts beginning in June. The public was invited to celebrate the opening of these and other exhibits at the June 9th reception, hosted by the Hudgens.

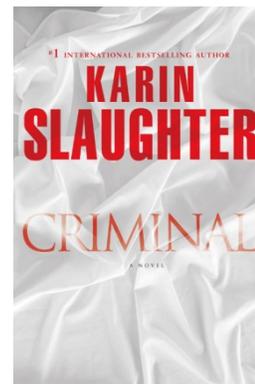
During the reception, winners of the Library's Altered Book Contest were announced, and prizes were awarded to first place entries of both the Adult and Student categories. The First Place prize for the Adult category was a \$100 gift card donated by the Georgia United Credit Union, and the First Place prize for the Student Category was a Nook eReader courtesy of Garden Plaza.

"The exhibit at the Hudgens promises to be an extraordinary display of innovative designs and delightful surprises," explains Gwinnett County Public Library Executive Director Nancy Stanbery-Kellam. "We have had over 40 submissions for the Altered Books Contest, and 14 Pulp Fashions created for 'Barefoot'-- each piece a unique expression that uses print material in a new way. That they can be enjoyed by the public in one exhibit and supported by generous donors like the Georgia United Credit Union and Garden Plaza is such a special opportunity for our community."

Karin Slaughter Supports Book Fair

Karin Slaughter, bestselling author and library advocate, appeared after a Curious George themed story time for Barnes and Noble's two-

day Bookfair at the Forum on Peachtree Parkway to benefit the Gwinnett County Public Library on Saturday, July 7th. Customers at the Norcross store browsed, enjoyed stories, and signed-up for the library's Summer Reading Program, as well as benefiting the library with their purchases during the fair.



"We are very grateful that Karin is such a vocal and caring advocate for libraries," says Gwinnett County Public Library Executive Director Nancy Stanbery-Kellam. "Barnes and Noble has presented us with a fantastic opportunity to reach customers who want to support us while enjoying a day of fun for the whole family."



Karin Slaughter is the New York Times and number-one-internationally-bestselling author of twelve thrillers, including *Fallen*, *Broken*,

Undone, *Fractured*, *Beyond Reach*, *Triptych*, and *Faithless*. She is a native of Georgia and a dedicated supporter of public libraries. Karin discussed and signed her new book, *Criminal*, at this event cosponsored by Barnes & Noble and Gwinnett County Public Library.

Seats at events are available on a first come, first serve basis. All events are free and open to the public.

For more information about ways to support the library and other library events, please visit www.gwinnettpl.org, call (770) 978-5154, or find GwinnettLibrary on Facebook, Twitter, or

Google+. To find out more about Fall Into The Arts, please visit www.gwinnettpl.org/fallintothearts, call (770) 978-5154, text (770) 450-5305, or find GwinnettLibrary on Facebook, Google+, and Twitter. Library's Altered Book and Pulp Fashion

Exhibits at Hudgens Center for the Arts. The Hudgens Center for the Arts is located at 6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Bldg 300, Duluth, GA, 30097. To learn more about the Hudgens, please visit <http://thehudgens.org/>.