

# Events

WINTER 2013

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All areas except the  
circulation area close  
15 minutes prior to  
building closing time.

Mon. | Wed. | Fri.  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Tues. | Thurs  
9:00 AM - 7:00 PM

Sat.  
9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

Sun.  
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM



## ABOUT THE LIBRARY

### LIBRARY WEBSITE

[www.nysoclib.org](http://www.nysoclib.org)

### NYSL WRITERS BLOG

[www.tinyurl.com/nyslblog](http://www.tinyurl.com/nyslblog)

### FACEBOOK

[www.facebook.com/  
nysoclib](http://www.facebook.com/nysoclib)

### TWITTER

[www.twitter.com/nysoclib](http://www.twitter.com/nysoclib)

## Welcome to the Library

Founded in 1754, we are the city's oldest library and one of only sixteen membership libraries in the country. We are open to all for reading, reference, and selected events, with circulation and other services by subscription.

Our general collection of approximately 300,000 volumes has particular strengths in biography, literature, and New York City history and culture. The membership has included many notable authors past and present, such as Washington Irving, John James Audubon, Herman Melville, Willa Cather, Lillian Hellman, and W.H. Auden.

Further information on the Library's history, building, services, and policies is available at the reference desk on the first floor or on our website.

### Membership

If you would like to become a member of the Library, please pick up a membership application at the reference desk or see [www.nysoclib.org/application.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/application.html).

### Support the Library

The New York Society Library has benefited through the years from those who care deeply about our organization. Contributions are essential to support our daily operations and to make events possible. All gifts are tax-deductible and can be made by check, credit card, or in appreciated securities. For more information about supporting the Library, please visit [www.nysoclib.org/donations.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/donations.html) or contact the Development Office at 212-288-6900 x214. Thank you for your support!

**On the cover:** *The chandelier in the Peluso Family Exhibition Gallery was installed around 1917, when the Library building was a family home.*

**NEW  
EXHIBITION**

## ***Extraordinary Gifts:***

***Rare Books Presented to The New York Society Library  
1754-2012***



This new exhibition honors a legacy of inspired giving that has shaped the Library from its founding in 1754 down to the present day.

The exhibition affords a glimpse into the intellectual and cultural lives of early New Yorkers and sheds light on the Library's past as it relates to the political growth of the young American nation. Members' gifts across the centuries reflected their changing attitudes toward reading and book collecting, and these trends are traced through the objects on display. The exhibition is the result of a collaboration between Head of Exhibitions Harriet Shapiro and Special Collections Librarian Erin Schreiner. In Schreiner's words, books donated to the Library during the 258 years of its existence are "living traces of the history of our members, New Yorkers, and the times in which they lived."

*Extraordinary Gifts* showcases a wide range of donations from the earliest to the most recent. Highlights include the first English translation of Homer's *Iliad*, published in 1611 (*shown at left*), Nathaniel Hawthorne's copy of *The Poetical Works of Lord Byron*, and a first edition in serial form of Charles Dickens's *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Recent gifts include Arthur Miller's *A View from the Bridge*, inscribed by the author to Jean Detre, and the first British edition of *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*, presented to the Library by Romano I. Peluso.

Members and their guests are cordially invited to an opening reception on January 23, with light refreshments and remarks celebrating donors past and present.

We are grateful to all the members who have helped build our rare book collection into the jewel it is today.

**EXHIBITION  
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**January 24-  
September 30, 2013**

**Peluso Family  
Exhibition Gallery**

**OPENING RECEPTION  
FOR MEMBERS  
AND THEIR GUESTS**

**Wednesday, January 23**

**6:00 PM**

**Members' Room**

**Free of charge**

**Advance registration  
required**

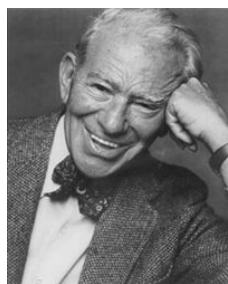
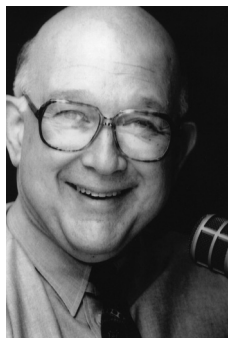
## PERFORMANCE

# Michael Lasser

## Writing the Rainbow/Riding the Rainbow:

### The Songs of Yip Harburg

with Sara Holliday, soprano, Gayden Wren, baritone  
and Brenna Sage, pianist



Lyricist E.Y. “Yip” Harburg hated to come out and say “I love you.” He preferred indirection, irreverence, and wordplay, even when he was writing about love. He had a reformer’s passion, a lover’s heart, and a permanently arched eyebrow. So he could sincerely write “Brother, Can You Spare a Dime,” “Paper Moon,” and most famously “Over the Rainbow,” but he also wrote that

To let a fool kiss you is stupid;

To let a kiss fool you is worse.

Harburg belonged to a generation of unforgettable songwriters—including Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, the Gershwins, and Rodgers and Hart—who learned to combine wit and sentiment in song after song to create the Great American Songbook. In this event, music historian Michael Lasser will tell the stories of Harburg’s life, achievements, and lyrics, accompanied by performances of his most revealing and beloved songs.

**Michael Lasser** is the co-author (with Philip Furia) of *America’s Songs: The Stories Behind the Songs of Broadway, Hollywood, and Tin Pan Alley*. He is well known as the host of the nationally syndicated public radio program *Fascinatin’ Rhythm*, winner of the 1994 George Foster Peabody Award. The Peabody citation praised the show for letting “our treasury of popular tunes speak (and sing) for itself with sparkling commentary tracing the contributions of the composers and performers to American society.” He is currently at work on *American Songs II*, a companion volume, due out for Christmas 2013.

For information on the performers, visit [www.nysoclib.org/notes/2013/writing\\_rainbow.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/notes/2013/writing_rainbow.html).

For more about Michael Lasser, see [www.american-song.com](http://www.american-song.com).

## OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Sunday, March 3

3:00 PM

Members’ Room

With advance  
registration: \$20

At the door: \$25

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THIS EVENT IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE ESTATE OF  
MARIAN O. NAUMBURG.

## Joseph Smith

### Musical Portraits from Life



#### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday, March 20

6:30 PM

The Kosciuszko  
Foundation  
15 East 65th Street  
(Madison/Fifth)

With advance  
registration: \$20

At the door: \$25

Above: Robert Schumann

In painting, the portrait is a standard genre, in music, an unusual, intriguing choice. The pieces in this lecture-recital all depict individuals personally known to the composers.

Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach composed portraits of members of his circle in Berlin, and those who knew the subjects vouched for their accuracy. No one enjoyed blurring the distinction between life and art as did Robert Schumann, and in his *Carnaval*, real people (including himself) rub shoulders with figures from commedia dell'arte. Anton Rubinstein's once-famous "Kamenniy-Ostrov" idealizes its subject as angelic—nevertheless, she went on to marry another famous pianist! Friends of Chopin testified that one of his famous pieces originated as an improvised sketch. A portrait need not be flattering, and this program includes a milestone in musical malice.

*The New York Times* called pianist **Joseph Smith's** playing "eloquent," and the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* found him a "richly sensitive interpreter." He is known for presenting neglected works through performances, recordings, articles, broadcasts, and editions. His CDs include several on the Briosio label, most recently *Piano Barcarolles: from Venice to the Mississippi*, and Arkiv just reissued his highly praised Griffes disc. Smith has edited eleven anthologies of piano music (for Dover and G. Schirmer, among others), and has written extensively for various piano magazines. For two years, he had a monthly feature on NPR's *Performance Today*. Performances include Stern Auditorium in New York, the National Gallery of Art in D.C., and the American Cathedral in Paris, as well as the Library.

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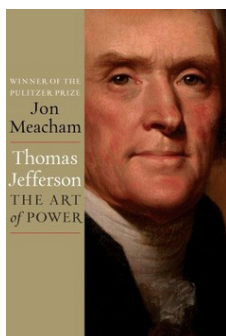
THIS EVENT IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED BY THE ESTATE OF  
MARIAN O. NAUMBURG.

## AUTHOR SERIES

# Jon Meacham

## *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power*

Random House, November 2012



In this magnificent biography, the Pulitzer Prize–winning author of *American Lion* and *Franklin and Winston* brings vividly to life an extraordinary man and his remarkable times. *Thomas Jefferson: The Art of Power* gives us Jefferson the politician and president, a great and complex human being forever engaged in the wars of his era. Philosophers think; politicians maneuver. Jefferson's genius was that he was both and could do both, often simultaneously.

Jon Meacham lets us see Jefferson's world as Jefferson himself saw it, and to appreciate how Jefferson found the means to endure and win in the face of rife partisan division, economic uncertainty, and external threat. Drawing on archives in the United States, England, and France, as well as unpublished Jefferson presidential papers, Meacham presents Jefferson as the most successful political leader of the early republic, and perhaps in all of American history.

The Jefferson story resonates today not least because he led his nation through ferocious partisanship and cultural warfare amid economic change and external threats, and also because he embodies an eternal drama, the struggle of the leadership of a nation to achieve greatness in a difficult and confounding world.

**Jon Meacham** received the Pulitzer Prize for *American Lion*, his bestselling 2008 biography of Andrew Jackson. He is also the author of the *New York Times* bestsellers *Franklin and Winston* and *American Gospel*. Executive editor and executive vice president of Random House, Meacham is a contributing editor to *Time* magazine, a former editor of *Newsweek*, and has written for the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post*, among other publications. He is a regular contributor on *Meet the Press*, *Morning Joe*, and *Charlie Rose*, and previously hosted WNET's *Need to Know*.

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, February 5

6:30 PM

The Kaye Playhouse at  
Hunter College,  
695 Park Avenue  
at 68th Street

With advance  
registration: \$10

At the door: \$15

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THE AUTHOR SERIES IS CO-SPONSORED BY WNET/THIRTEEN NEW YORK.

## CONVERSATION

### Beth Gutcheon and Lauren Belfer

#### Friendship, Family, and Betrayal in Fiction



Beth Gutcheon is the author most recently of *Gossip* (William Morrow, March 2012), and Lauren Belfer's most recent title is *A Fierce Radiance* (Harper, June 2010). Both aim a magnifying glass at the rewards and struggles of friendship and family ties, examining how people who owe each other kindness cause wounds with words shared or withheld. In this conversation created especially for the Library, the authors will consider how writers describe characters' close relationships and the high emotions that follow when those relationships go wrong.



**Beth Gutcheon** is the critically acclaimed author of eight previous novels: *The New Girls*, *Still Missing*, *Domestic Pleasures*, *Saying Grace*, *Five Fortunes*, *More Than You Know*, *Leeway Cottage*, and *Good-bye and Amen*. She is the writer of several film scripts, including the Academy Award nominee *The Children of Theatre Street*. *Gossip* is a sharply perceptive and emotionally resonant novel about all the ways we talk about one another, the sometimes fine line between showing concern and doing damage, and the difficulty of knowing the true obligations of friendship. The *Boston Globe* calls it "[E]nthralling...triumphant and true."

#### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, February 26

6:30 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: \$10

At the door: \$15

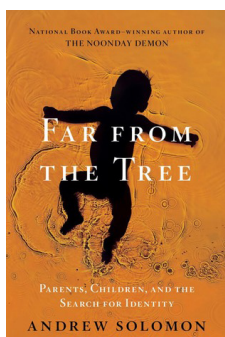
**Lauren Belfer** is the author of the *New York Times* bestseller *City of Light*. *A Fierce Radiance* is a compelling, richly detailed tale of passion and intrigue set in New York City during the tumultuous early days of World War II. *Booklist* said of it, "Belfer combines life-and-death scenarios, romance, murder, and wartime reality at home and abroad, while taking a stab at industrialists who profit by dubious means and salve their consciences through philanthropy....An engrossing and ambitious novel that vividly portrays a critical time in American history."

## LECTURE

# Andrew Solomon

## *Far from the Tree: Parents, Children, and the Search for Identity*

Scribner, November 2012



### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, January 15

6:30 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: \$10

At the door: \$15

From the National Book Award-winning author of *The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression* comes a monumental new work, a decade in the writing, about family. In *Far from the Tree*, Andrew Solomon tells the stories of parents who not only learn to deal with their exceptional children but also find profound meaning in doing so. He writes about families coping with deafness, dwarfism, Down syndrome, autism, schizophrenia, multiple severe disabilities, with children who are prodigies, who are conceived in rape, who become criminals, who are transgender. While each of these characteristics is potentially isolating, the experience of difference within families is universal, as are the triumphs of love Solomon documents in every chapter.

All parenting turns on a crucial question: to what extent parents should accept their children for who they are, and to what extent they should help them become their best selves. Drawing on forty thousand pages of interview transcripts with more than three hundred families, Solomon mines the eloquence of ordinary people facing extreme challenges, narrating a universal struggle toward compassion. Woven into their courageous and affirming stories is Solomon's journey to accepting his own identity, which culminated in his midlife decision, influenced by this research, to become a parent.

Elegantly reported by a spectacularly original thinker, *Far from the Tree* explores themes of generosity, acceptance, and tolerance—all rooted in the insight that love can transcend every prejudice. This crucial and revelatory book expands our definition of what it is to be human.

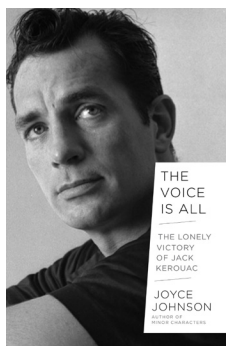
**Andrew Solomon** is the author of *The Irony Tower: Soviet Artists in a Time of Glasnost*, *A Stone Boat*, and *The Noonday Demon: An Atlas of Depression*, winner of fourteen national awards including the 2001 National Book Award, a Pulitzer Prize finalist, and a *New York Times* bestseller, now published in twenty-two languages.

## LECTURE

### Joyce Johnson

#### *The Voice is All: The Lonely Victory of Jack Kerouac*

Viking Adult, September 2012



The award-winning author of *Minor Characters* presents a groundbreaking portrait of Kerouac as a young artist.

In *The Voice is All*, Joyce Johnson, author of the classic memoir *Door Wide Open*, about her relationship with Jack Kerouac, brilliantly peels away layers of the Kerouac legend to show how, caught between two cultures and two languages, he forged a voice to contain his dualities. Looking more deeply than previous biographers into how Kerouac's French Canadian background enriched his prose and gave him a unique outsider's vision of America, she tracks his development from boyhood through the phenomenal breakthroughs of 1951 that resulted in the composition of *On the Road*, followed by *Visions of Cody*. By illuminating Kerouac's early choice to sacrifice everything to his work, *The Voice Is All* deals with him on his own terms and puts the tragic contradictions of his nature and his complex relationships into perspective. The *San Francisco Chronicle* calls it "Spectacular...definitely the Kerouac book for our time."

Joyce Johnson's books include the National Book Critics Circle Award winner *Minor Characters*, *Missing Men*, *Door Wide Open: A Beat Love Affair in Letters, 1957–1958* (with Jack Kerouac), and *In the Night Café*. She has also written for *Vanity Fair* and the *New Yorker*.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Thursday, January 31**

**6:30 PM**

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: **\$10**

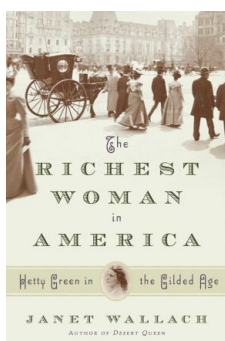
At the door: **\$15**

## LECTURE

# Janet Wallach

## *The Richest Woman in America: Hetty Green in the Gilded Age*

Nan A. Talese, September 2012



### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, February 12

6:30 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: **\$10**

At the door: **\$15**

No woman in the Gilded Age made as much money as Hetty Green. At the time of her death in 1916, she was worth at least 100 million dollars, equal to more than two billion dollars today. A strong believer in women being financially independent, she offered valuable lessons for the present times.

Abandoned at birth by her neurotic mother, scorned by her misogynist father, Hetty set out as a child to prove her value. Never losing faith in America's potential, she ignored the herd mentality and took advantage of financial panics and crises. When everyone else was selling, she bought railroads, real estate, and government bonds. And when everyone was buying and borrowing, she put her money into cash and earned safe returns on her dollars. Men mocked her and women scoffed at her frugal ways, but she turned her back and piled up her earnings, amassing a fortune that supported businesses, churches, municipalities, and even the city of New York itself.

Green's independence, outspokenness, and disdain for the upper crust earned her a reputation for harshness that endured for decades. Newspapers kept her in the headlines, linking her name with witches and miscreants. Yet those who knew her admired her warmth, wisdom, and wit.

Set during a period of financial crisis strikingly similar to our current one, this engrossing exploration of a fascinating life revives a rarely-mentioned queen of American finance.

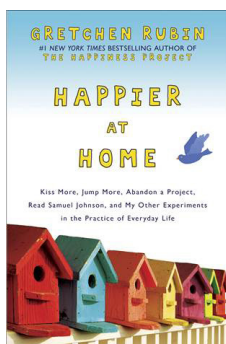
**Janet Wallach** is the author of nine books including *Desert Queen: The Extraordinary Life of Gertrude Bell*, which has been translated into twelve languages and was a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year.

## LECTURE

# Gretchen Rubin

*Happier at Home: Kiss More, Jump More, Abandon a Project, Read Samuel Johnson, and My Other Experiments in the Practice of Everyday Life*

Crown Archetype, September 2012



One Sunday afternoon, as she unloaded the dishwasher, Gretchen Rubin felt hit by a wave of homesickness, although she was standing in her own kitchen. She felt homesick, she realized, with love for home itself. “Of all the elements of a happy life,” she thought, “my home is the most important.” In a flash, she decided to undertake a new happiness project, and this time, to focus on home. She dedicated a school year—September through May—to making her home a place of greater simplicity, comfort, and love.

In her previous book *The Happiness Project*, Rubin worked out general theories of happiness. Here she goes deeper on factors that matter for home, such as possessions, marriage, time, and parenthood. How can she overcome the tyranny of her smartphone? How might she spotlight her family’s treasured possessions? And it really was time to replace that dud toaster.

Each month, Rubin tackles a different theme as she experiments with concrete, manageable resolutions and coaxes her family into new resolutions as well.

With her signature blend of memoir, science, philosophy, and experimentation, Rubin’s passion for her subject jumps off the page, inspiring readers to find more happiness in their own lives.

**Gretchen Rubin** is the author of several books, including the #1 *New York Times* bestseller *The Happiness Project*. Rubin started her career in law and was clerking for Supreme Court Justice Sandra Day O’Connor when she realized that she really wanted to be a writer.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

**Wednesday, February 20**

**6:30 PM**

Members’ Room

With advance  
registration: **\$10**

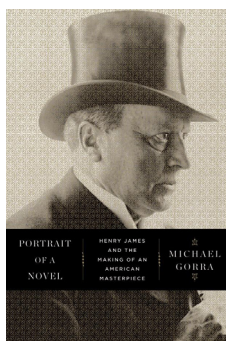
At the door: **\$15**

## LECTURE

# Michael Gorra

## *Portrait of a Novel: Henry James and the Making of an American Masterpiece*

Liveright, August 2012



Henry James has had many biographers, but Michael Gorra has taken an original approach to this great American progenitor of the modern novel, combining elements of biography, criticism, and travelogue in recreating the dramatic backstory of James's masterpiece, *Portrait of a Lady* (1881). Gorra, an eminent literary critic, shows how this novel—the scandalous story of the expatriate American heiress Isabel Archer—came to be written in the first place. Traveling to Florence, Rome, Paris, and England, Gorra sheds new light on James's family, the European literary circles—George Eliot, Flaubert, Turgenev—in which James made his name, and the psychological forces that enabled him to create this most memorable of female protagonists.

Appealing to readers of Louis Menand's *The Metaphysical Club* and David McCullough's *The Greater Journey*, *Portrait of a Novel* provides a brilliant account of the greatest American novel of expatriate life ever written. It becomes a piercing detective story on its own.

Biographer Hermione Lee, writing in the *Guardian*, says, "It is a tribute to his book that he makes us feel the life, of the book and its characters and its author, so deeply. He earns the right to end with James's wonderful words, 'There is really too much to say.'"

**Michael Gorra** teaches English at Smith College. His books include *After Empire*, *The Bells in Their Silence*, and, as editor, the Norton Critical Edition of Faulkner's *As I Lay Dying*.

**OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Thursday, March 7

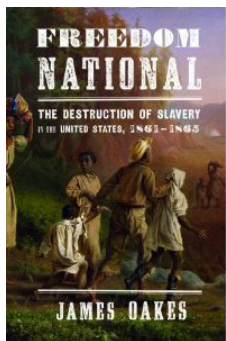
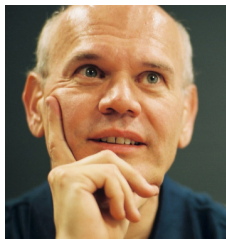
6:30 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: **\$10**

At the door: **\$15**

## LECTURE



## James Oakes

### *Freedom National: The Destruction of Slavery in the United States, 1861-1865*

W.W. Norton and Co., December 2012

In celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Emancipation Proclamation, acclaimed historian James Oakes presents a powerful history that will reshape our understanding of Lincoln and the Civil War.

The consensus view of the Civil War—that it was first and foremost a war to restore the Union, and an antislavery war only later when it became necessary for Union victory—dies here. Oakes's groundbreaking history shows how deftly Lincoln and congressional Republicans pursued antislavery throughout the war, pragmatic in policy but steadfast on principle.

In the disloyal South, the federal government quickly began freeing slaves, immediately and without slaveholder compensation, as they fled to Union lines. In the loyal Border States the Republicans tried coaxing officials into abolishing slavery gradually with promises of compensation. As the devastating war continued with slavery still entrenched, Republicans embraced a more aggressive military emancipation, triggered by the Emancipation Proclamation. Finally it took a constitutional amendment on abolition to achieve the Union's primary goal in the war. Here, in a magisterial history, are the intertwined stories of emancipation and the Civil War. Preeminent Lincoln historian Eric Foner says, "This remarkable book offers the best account ever written of the complex historical process known as emancipation. The story is dramatic and compelling, and no one interested in the American Civil War or the fate of slavery can afford to ignore it."

**James Oakes** is the Graduate School Humanities Professor and Professor of History at the Graduate Center of the City University of New York. He is also the author of *The Radical and the Republican*, which won the Lincoln Prize.

### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Tuesday, March 12

6:30 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: \$10

At the door: \$15

## SEMINARS

### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Tuesdays,  
January 29, February 26,  
March 26, and April 23

11:00 AM

Whitridge Room

All four sessions: **\$50**  
(recommended)

Per session: **\$15**

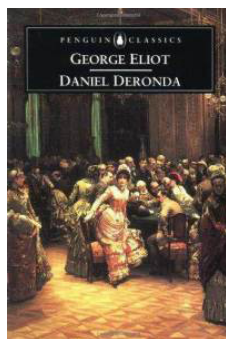
## Gloria Plesent

### Rediscovering *Madame Bovary*

Flaubert said, “I want to write a novel about nothing.” Instead he created a masterpiece, combining a finely tuned realism with an ironic portrait of romanticism. This seminar will look at these themes as well as those of the rise to power of the French bourgeoisie and the authenticity of both male and female characters.

Ms. Plesent recommends Francis Steegmuller’s translation, which will be available for registrants to purchase; participants are welcome to compare with other translations.

**Gloria Plesent** has a master’s degree in Comparative Literature from Columbia University. For the last eight years, she has led courses in modern fiction at The New School. She believes literature expands our imagination, instructs us in compassion, and reminds us of what’s really at stake in life.



### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Wednesdays,  
March 13, April 10,  
May 8, and June 12

Section 1: 11:00 AM

Section 2: 2:00 PM

Whitridge Room

All four sessions: **\$50**  
(recommended)

Per session: **\$15**

## James Kraft

### George Eliot's *Daniel Deronda*

George Eliot is one of the great novelists in English, and her final book is both surprising and perplexing. *Daniel Deronda* focuses on two people: a young Englishwoman, Gwendolen Harleth, who struggles to find her place in a complicated social structure, and Daniel Deronda, an English gentleman whose background has been hidden from him. Each meets with challenging circumstances: she in a disturbing marriage and he, slowly and by chance, with the life of the English Jewish community. The novel examines the complexities of late nineteenth-century English life that Eliot understood so brilliantly, and in closing it seriously considers the founding of the Jewish national state.

This seminar will be offered in two sections. Please register for only one section: either the 11:00 AM or 2:00 PM time for all four dates. Copies of the book will be available for registrants to purchase.

## THE WRITING LIFE

### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Tuesday, January 8

10:00 AM

Whitridge Room

Free of charge

Registration required

## Daytime Talk Series

### First Things First: An Editor Looks at Beginnings with Walter Bode

Rightly or wrongly, readers fix a gimlet eye on beginnings, as do writers, aware of the myriad rules, warnings, and dictates about what to do or not to do. This discussion will look at some classic and not-so-classic examples, explore how they affect the reader, and examine the purpose and dynamics of a book's first words.

**Walter Bode** has been in book publishing for three decades and was editor-in-chief of Grove Press and a senior editor at Harcourt. Books he has edited have been awarded the Pulitzer Prize, the National Book Critics Circle Award for Fiction, and the Whitbread Award, among others.

### Truths About Late Life Creativity from the Life of Mary Delaney with Molly Peacock



When Mary Granville Pendarves Delany invented the art of collage in 1772, she was 72 years old. How did it happen that a woman in her eighth decade invented a brand new art form? We will track instances of creativity in Delany's life, since she first cut silhouettes as a child through the succeeding decades of her life, and we'll discover some truths about the imaginative life as a person grows—and grows old. It's been said that Delany would have come to her artwork earlier if certain obstacles had not been in her way. Not so! Some things take living long enough to do.

**Molly Peacock** is a widely anthologized poet, essayist and creative nonfiction writer. In addition to *The Paper Garden: Mrs. Delany Begins Her Life's Work at 72*, she has published six books of poetry, a memoir called *Paradise, Piece By Piece* and *How To Read A Poem and Start A Poetry Circle*. She is the editor of a collection of creative non-fiction, *The Private I: Privacy in a Public World*, the co-editor of *Poetry in Motion: One Hundred Poems from the Subways and Buses*, and one of the creators of New York's Poetry in Motion program.

### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Tuesday, March 12

10:00 AM

Whitridge Room

Free of charge

Registration required

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THE WRITING LIFE EVENTS IN 2013 ARE GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN  
BY JENNY LAWRENCE.

## THE WRITING LIFE

### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

Wednesday,

January 9, 2:00 PM

Thursday,

February 14, 11:00 AM

Thursday,

March 21, 2:00 PM

Whitridge Room

Free of charge

Registration required

Limited to 12 members



### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Wednesday, March 13

6:00 PM

Members' Room

With advance  
registration: \$10

At the door: \$15

## Workshop: Prompt!

with Katharine Davis

Get the creative juices flowing in these fun and instructive sessions. Participants will receive a prompt and will have 20 minutes to write freely, after which they are encouraged to share their writing with the group. Use the prompts to jumpstart your writing, generate new ideas, and break out of writing blocks. Attend one or all sessions.

**Katharine Davis** is the author of the award-winning novels *East Hope*, *Capturing Paris*, and *A Slender Thread*. She is currently at work on her fourth book, set in Florence.

## Live from the Library!

Formerly known as Open Mic Night, this is one of the Library's most popular events, showcasing Library members reading from their own short stories, novels, poetry, criticism, memoirs, and plays. Refreshments and wine will be served.

Reading slots are limited, and readers must be current Library members. **To register to read**, you must contact Carolyn Waters at [cwaters@nysoclib.org](mailto:cwaters@nysoclib.org). Selections are limited to five minutes or less and may be material in progress or newly published work.

## Ongoing Writing Groups

The Library hosts monthly writing groups for fiction, non-fiction, memoir, poetry, and children's/young adult writers. Interested Library members must contact Carolyn Waters at [cwaters@nysoclib.org](mailto:cwaters@nysoclib.org) to inquire about space availability and other requirements.



### FOR MEMBERS ONLY

## CHILDREN'S EVENTS

### FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS

Friday, February 8

4:00 PM

Members' Room

\$5 per person  
payable at the door

For second grade  
and older

## Elizabeth Winthrop

### Becoming a Writer

Author Elizabeth Winthrop tells aspiring writers, "By the time you are twelve years old, you'll have all the memories you need to write a hundred books." She herself is the author of the classic *The Castle in the Attic* and more than sixty other books for children and adults. In this presentation, Ms. Winthrop will talk about the creative process, answering the age-old question of where she gets her ideas.

This event was rescheduled from November 2012.

## Young Writers Workshop

### Michelle Frey: The Editor's Desk

### FOR MEMBERS AND THEIR GUESTS

Friday, January 25

3:30 PM

Whitridge Room

Free of charge

Registration required

For grades 3-6

In this ongoing series, young writers in grades three through six are invited to join notable writers in exploring different genres.

In this workshop, Michelle Frey, Executive Editor at Knopf Books for Young Readers, will discuss the role of the editor and lead participants in writing and revising their own stories.

**Michelle Frey** is the editor of the bestselling *Eragon* series, the National Book Award winner *The Penderwicks*, and many other notable titles.

## The 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Young Writers Awards

### FOR CHILDREN AND GRANDCHILDREN OF MEMBERS AND STUDENTS OF MEMBER AND INVITED SCHOOLS

Competition open  
January 2-April 4

For grades 3-12

The New York Society Library Young Writers Awards honor excellent writing by young Library members.

Writers in grades 3 through 12 are invited to submit a short story, essay, or poem on a theme of their choice. Prizes will be presented by notable authors for prose and poetry in four age categories.

Competition rules are available at the circulation desk or at [www.nysoclib.org/kids/ywa/rules.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/kids/ywa/rules.html). Watch this space for the announcement of the winners.

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THE 2013 YOUNG WRITERS AWARDS ARE GENEROUSLY UNDERWRITTEN BY  
JEANETTE SARKISIAN WAGNER AND PAUL A. WAGNER.

## CALENDAR

Registration is required for all events.  
Please see individual listings for details on  
times, format, and location.

# of Spaces	X Cost FREE	=
_____	\$10	_____
_____	\$10	_____
_____	\$20	_____
_____	\$20	_____

### SPECIAL EVENTS

Exhibition Opening: *Extraordinary Gifts*, Wednesday, January 23  
 Author Series: Jon Meacham on *Thomas Jefferson*, Tuesday, February 5  
 Conversation: Beth Gutcheon and Lauren Belfer, Tuesday, February 26  
 Performance: Michael Lasser on Yip Harburg, Sunday, March 3  
 Performance: Joseph Smith, Musical Portraits, Wednesday, March 20

_____	\$10	_____
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### LECTURES

Andrew Solomon on *Far from the Tree*, Tuesday, January 15  
 Joyce Johnson on *The Voice is All*, Thursday, January 31  
 Janet Wallach on *The Richest Woman in America*, Tuesday, February 12  
 Gretchen Rubin on *Happier at Home*, Wednesday, February 20  
 Michael Gorra on *Portrait of a Novel*, Thursday, March 7  
 James Oakes on *Freedom National*, Tuesday, March 12

_____	\$50	_____
_____	\$50	_____

### SEMINARS

Gloria Plesent, Rediscovering *Madame Bovary*, starting January 29  
 James Kraft, George Eliot's *Daniel Deronda*, starting March 13

_____	FREE	_____
_____	FREE	_____
_____	\$10	_____
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### THE WRITING LIFE

Daytime Talk Series: First Things First, Tuesday, January 8  
 Daytime Talk Series: Late Life Creativity, Tuesday, March 12  
 Live from the Library!, Wednesday, March 13  
 Workshop: Prompt! Wednesday, January 9  
 Workshop: Prompt! Thursday, February 14  
 Workshop: Prompt! Thursday, March 21

### CHILDREN'S EVENTS

Young Writers Workshop: The Editor's Desk, Friday, January 25  
 Elizabeth Winthrop on Becoming a Writer, Friday, February 8

**Total**

My Check is Enclosed ☐ Membership Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Expiration Date \_\_\_\_\_

## REGISTRATION INSTRUCTIONS



Registration is required for all events. Please see individual listings for details on times, format, and location.

No refunds are given for canceled registrations.

The house opens for each event thirty minutes before the stated start time.

Registrants are asked not to arrive for check-in prior to that time.

A seat cannot be guaranteed after an event has begun.

Space is limited. Early registration by phone or email is recommended.

### By Phone

#### ADULT EVENTS

Call the Events Office at 212-288-6900 x230.

### By Email

#### ADULT EVENTS

Send a detailed message including your membership name or full name, the events of your interest, and the number in your party to [kfricas@nysoclib.org](mailto:kfricas@nysoclib.org).

### Online for Members or Nonmembers

#### ADULT EVENTS OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Go to [www.brownpapertickets.com](http://www.brownpapertickets.com), search for the event of your interest, and follow the onscreen instructions.

### Online for Members With a Barcode\*

#### ADULT EVENTS

Go to [www.nysoclib.org/events\\_registration.html](http://www.nysoclib.org/events_registration.html) and follow the onscreen instructions.

\*To obtain your barcode, email [systems@nysoclib.org](mailto:systems@nysoclib.org).

### By Mail

#### ADULT EVENTS

Complete the order form with your membership name or full name and charge information, or enclose a check payable to The New York Society Library. Mail the order form and payment to:

Events, The New York Society Library,  
53 East 79th Street  
New York, NY 10075  
or fax to 212-744-5832.

### For All Children's Events

Call the Children's Library at 212-288-6900 x234 or e-mail [children@nysoclib.org](mailto:children@nysoclib.org).



53 East 79th Street  
New York, NY 10075  
[www.nysoclib.org](http://www.nysoclib.org)

T. 212.288.6900  
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