



WELCOME CHANNEL BECOMES MEDIA PARTNER OF MIAMI BOOK FAIR INTERNATIONAL 2010

October 12, 2010 MIAMI -- The Welcome Channel announced today that it will be a proud partner of the 27th edition of the nation's finest and largest literary gathering, **Miami Book Fair International**, presented by the Florida Center for the Literary Arts (FCLA) at Miami Dade College (MDC). This event will take place **November 14-21, 2010** at the college's Wolfson Campus, 300 NE Second Ave., in downtown Miami. The always-popular **Street Fair runs Friday, November 19 through Sunday, November 21**, with more than 200 exhibitors from around the country selling books in a festive atmosphere. This year, the Fair will celebrate the literature and culture of Mexico.

"The Miami International Book Fair is always an exciting event for our visitors, with an opportunity to meet many famed authors, right here in Miami & the Beaches. We are so happy to be involved once again with this magnificent literary event" said April Donelson, Director of Sales and Marketing for The Welcome Channel.

TOP CONFIRMED AUTHORS

Each year, the Fair raises the bar of excellence by offering a fine roster of prize-winning authors, and this year will be no exception. Confirmed authors include tennis superstar Venus Williams, Harvard biologist and naturalist Edward O. Wilson, MacArthur Fellow and Haitian-American author Edwidge Danticat, screenwriter and author Nora Ephron, musician Patti Smith, novelist and memoirist Pat Conroy, local South Florida favorite Dave Barry, novelist Michael Cunningham, filmmaker John Waters, biographer and novelist Susan Cheever, humorist Ian Frazier, fight doctor Ferdie Pacheco, comics creator Charles Burns, NPR's All Things Considered host Michele Norris, as well as Ann Beattie, Kate DiCamillo, Emilio Estefan, Jonathan Franzen and many others.

HIGHLIGHTS

The Fair will again treat book lovers to more than a week of cultural and educational activities, including the beloved *Evenings With...* series, the IberoAmerican Authors program, Student Literary Encounters, the Weekend Festival of Authors, the popular **Street Fair Nov. 19 – 21** on the closed streets surrounding the campus, Comix Galaxy with Kids Comic Con and School of Comics, Children's Alley, and much more.

Special Topic Panels will discuss current issues of the day, including the environment, immigration, and the financial crisis.

In addition, the Fair maintains a strong commitment to literary voices of the international community, and always welcomes writers from Africa, Latin America, Europe, and the Caribbean.

This year's program includes Salman Rushdie (India), Darren Shan (Ireland), Susan Abulhawa (Palestine), Zakes Mda (South Africa), Binyavanga Wainana (Kenya), Okey Ndibe (Nigeria),

Chenjerai Hove (Zimbabwe), EC Osandu (Nigeria), Aappiah Anthony Kwame (Ghana/UK), and others.

The IberoAmerican program will present Paquito D´Rivera (Cuba-USA), Eduardo Sacheri (Argentina), Alberto Fuguet (Chile), Luis Leante (España), Claudia Piñeiro (Argentina), Pablo Simonetti (Chile), and more.

Caribbean writers featured include Earl Lovelace, Raoul Pantin, Gideon Hanoomansingh, Merle Hodge, Winston Maynard-Moderator, Lasana Kwesi, Diana McCaulay, and Geoffrey Philp. Confirmed Haitian writers are Miriam Chancy, Michele Voltaire Marcelin and Edwidge Danticat.

An exciting dimension to this year's Book Fair includes a celebration of Mexico, commemorating the bicentennial of Mexico's independence and the centennial of the Mexican revolution. The FCLA has partnered with the Mexican government, the Consulate General of Mexico in Miami and the Mexican Cultural Institute in Miami to honor these momentous occasions. Fairgoers will enjoy a grand pavilion dedicated to Mexican culture, and gallery exhibits by Mexican artists. The diversity of Mexican literature will be represented by authors such as Laura Esquivel, Mario Bellatín, Gonzalo Celorio, Jorge Volpi, Estela Leñero, Natalia Toledo and others.

The celebration of Mexico will also include a local project with a focus on community involvement. During the Fair, the Miami Book Fair and the Mexican Cultural Institute will collect new or gently used books and build a colossal spiral of books located on the fairgrounds in downtown Miami, and after the Fair, these books will be donated to local jails. The goal is to have more books than prisoners inside jails.

Miami Book Fair International 2010 promises to be another exceptional year! For regular updates on the Miami Book Fair, please visit www.miamibookfair.com, call 305-237-3528 or email wbookfair@mdc.edu.

THE WELCOME CHANNEL (www.welcomechannel.tv). The Welcome Channel is Miami and the Beaches premiere visitor entertainment style, in-room programming for our mostly exclusive hotel and resort locations across Miami & the Beaches. Airing 24 hours a day, 7 days per week, in Miami & the Beaches finest hotel resort locations, The Welcome Channel highlights the very best of Miami and the Beaches has to offer in terms of dining, shopping, entertainment, arts, cultural attractions, Miami and the Beaches real estate addresses, and Miami's numerous events...catering to both our international and domestic travelers alike. To stay up to date with the very latest taking place in our world-class city, programming and commercial segments update monthly, with our clients having the same option.

MIAMI BOOK FAIR INTERNATIONAL AND FLORIDA CENTER FOR THE LITERARY ARTS

Miami Book Fair International is the largest and is regarded as the finest literary gathering in America. It is the premier event of the Florida Center for the Literary Arts at Miami Dade College. The Center promotes reading and writing throughout the year by consistently presenting quality literary activities open to all in South Florida. Literacy projects target children of all ages—from kindergarten to high school—as well as college students and adults. Established and emerging writers from South Florida and all over the U.S. read, lecture, and teach workshops. They work with K-12, MDC students, and diverse members of the community, helping to deepen their understanding of literature, and encouraging their work of writers at all stages of development. The Center envisions South Florida as a nexus of literary activity in the Americas and beyond, and will continue to champion its mission of promoting the advancement and appreciation of the literary arts in all forms.

Miami Book Fair International is made possible through the generous support of the State of Florida and the National Endowment for the Arts; the City of Miami; Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners; Miami-Dade County Public Schools; the Greater Miami Convention and Visitors Bureau; the Miami Downtown Development; and the Friends of the Fair; as well as many corporate partners.

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