



WELCOME CHANNEL IS ONCE AGAIN A MEDIA PARTNER IN THE 28TH EDITION OF MIAMI BOOK FAIR INTERNATIONAL

September 21, 2011 MIAMI -- The Welcome Channel announced today that it is a proud partner once again of the **28th edition of the nation's finest and largest literary gathering, Miami Book Fair International**, presented by The Center @ MDC. This event will take place **November 13-20, 2011** at **Miami Dade College's (MDC) Wolfson Campus**, 300 NE Second Ave., in downtown Miami. The always-popular **Street Fair runs Friday through Sunday, November 18-20**, with more than 200 exhibitors from around the country selling books in a festive atmosphere.

"The Miami International Book Fair continues to be an exciting event for our visitors. Our international and domestic travelers have the 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.

The Fair, MDC's flagship cultural event, will once 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, Children's Alley and the Weekend Festival of Authors, including comics and graphic novel panels, author presentations for tweens and teens, and much more. The Miami Writers Institute, a spring program of The Center, will debut a fall edition this year during Book Fair week with creative writing workshops taught by authors Pablo Medina and Robert Pinsky, among others.

This year, the Fair will showcase the rich literature and traditions of China. Fairgoers will enjoy a pavilion featuring Chinese art and music, in addition to a day-long conference on Chinese culture scheduled for Friday of the Fair, and readings by Chinese and Chinese American writers during the Festival of Authors.

TOP CONFIRMED AUTHORS

Each year, the Fair raises the bar of excellence by offering a fine roster of, writers from the U.S. and abroad, and this year will be no exception. Confirmed authors include singer, actor and social activist **Harry Belafonte**, singer/songwriter **Rosanne Cash**, Chinese novelist **Yu Hua**, **Senator Bob Graham**, former U.S. Poet Laureate **Robert Pinsky**, graphic novelist **Dan Clowes**, NPR Radio host **Bob Edwards**, anthropologist and physician **Dr. Paul Farmer**, journalist **Jim Lehrer**, critically acclaimed debut novelist **Tea' Obrecht**, novelist and essayist **Colson Whitehead**, novelist **Michael Ondaatje**, children's author **Megan McDonald**, Native American writer **Leslie Marmon Silko**, and filmmaker **John Sayles**, to name a few.

The IberoAmerican program will present an array of Spanish-speaking literary voices from around the world, including author and Spanish TV personality **Jaime Bayly** (Peru), poet and author **Gioconda Belli** (Nicaragua), novelist **Esmeralda Santiago** (U.S./Puerto Rico), novelist **Javier Sierra** (Spain),

among others. In addition, the Fair always welcomes writers from Africa, Asia, Canada, Europe, the Caribbean, and more.

Miami Book Fair International 2011 promises to be another exceptional literary event! **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 The Center @ MDC

Miami Book Fair International is the largest and is regarded as the finest literary gathering in America. It is the premier event of The Center for literature and theatre 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.

ABOUT MIAMI DADE COLLEGE

Miami Dade College has a long and rich history of involvement in the cultural arts, providing South Florida with a vast array of artistic and literary offerings including The Miami Book Fair International, The Florida Center for the Literary Arts, The Miami International Film Festival, the Cultura del Lobo performance arts series, The MDC Tower Theater Cinema Series, the Miami Leadership Roundtable speakers' series, the National Historic Landmark Freedom Tower, numerous renowned campus art galleries and theaters, and the nationally recognized School of Entertainment and Design Technology. With an enrollment of more than 174,000 students, MDC is the largest institution of higher education in the country and is a national model for many of its programs. The college's eight campuses and outreach centers offer more than 300 distinct degree programs including baccalaureate, Associate in Arts and Science degrees and numerous career training certificates leading to in-demand jobs. MDC has served nearly 2,000,000 students since it opened its doors in 1960.

Welcome Channel Press Contacts: Matt Hege, Vice President, 305-441-1231; April Donelson, Sales and Marketing Dir., aprild@welcomechannel.tv

Miami Int'l Book Fair Press Contacts: Juan Mendieta, MDC director of communications, 305-237-7611, jmendiet@mdc.edu; Tere Estorino, MDC director of media relations, 305-237-3949, testorin@mdc.edu; Sue Arrowsmith, 305-237-3710, sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu; Tarnell Carroll, 305-237-3359, tcarroll@mdc.edu; Alejandro Rios, 305-237-7482, arios1@mdc.edu; Lisa Palley, 305-642-3132, lpalley@bellsouth.net.

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