

## Media Advisory

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For immediate release

# Celebrate your Clarington Public Library this October!

September 28, 2011—Clarington Public Library is excited to be participating in Canadian Library Month this October and Ontario Public Library Week (October 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>) by offering a range of programs and events to help Clarington celebrate the value of libraries and their place as cornerstones in their communities. There are six special events scheduled, including author and illustrator visits, a Customer Appreciation Day, and the official launch of Ontario Public Library Week.

“We are extremely pleased to be hosting these visits by some great award-winning Canadian authors,” says Laura Martin, Coordinator of Programs and Partnerships at the Clarington Public Library. “The author events are always popular, especially with the local schools. Mr. Slavin’s event booked up fairly quickly.”

Authors Lesley Livingston, Katherine Govier, and Kelley Armstrong are also visiting the Clarington Public Library. “With this range of authors, the library has events for elementary school children right up to older adults. It is always great to see the interactivity between an author and the audience, that reaching out from the printed page. You get all sorts of insight into their work, like just how an incident with your teenaged child can inspire a plot line in a book, or how many pencils and pieces of paper an illustrator can go through in just one year.”

All three author events will be hosted at the Newcastle Branch. Ms. Livingston will be visiting on **Thursday, October 6<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; Ms. Govier on **Thursday, October 13<sup>th</sup>**, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.; and Ms. Armstrong on **Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>**, from 3:00 to 4:00 p.m. Mr. Slavin will be visiting the Bowmanville Branch on **Tuesday, October 18<sup>th</sup>**, from 1:30 to 2:30 p.m. All of the author visits are no charge and open to both library and non-library members. Customers can visit any branch or call 905-623-7322 extension 2712 to register.

In addition to the author visits, Clarington Public Library is also hosting a Customer Appreciation Day on **Saturday, October 22<sup>nd</sup>** at the Bowmanville Branch from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. to thank its customers and community. Light refreshments will be offered and Library Board members will be present.

This year, Clarington Public Library is joining forces with the other libraries of Durham to celebrate Ontario Public Library Week. The public libraries of Ajax, Brock, Clarington, Oshawa, Pickering, Scugog, Uxbridge, and Whitby will be launching the festivities at Whitby Public Library on **Monday, October 17<sup>th</sup>** at 2:30 p.m. Steven Davidson, Deputy Minister (Acting) of Tourism and Culture is scheduled to attend and launch the event.

For more information regarding the author visits and Customer Appreciation Day, visit one of your library branches in Bowmanville, Courtice, Newcastle, or Orono, or on the web at [www.clarington-library.on.ca](http://www.clarington-library.on.ca).

**About the authors:**

**Lesley Livingston**, a writer and actor living in Toronto, was captivated at a young age by stories of past civilizations, legendary heroes, mythology and folk lore. A self-professed “unrepentant egghead” with a “love of shoes and shiny things,” her urban fantasy for teens circles around fairies and Celtic heroes. *Wondrous Strange*, the first book in her faerie trilogy, won the Canadian Library Association’s Young Adult Canadian Book Award in 2010. Ms. Livingston’s newest title, *Once Every Never*, was released in June 2011.

Also residing in Toronto, **Katherine Govier**, is the author of nine novels and three short story collections. Her most recent novel, *The Ghost Brush*, follows the daughter of Japanese printmaker Hokusai, the famous creator of *The Great Wave*. Her contemporary and historical adult fiction titles look at the intricacies of family relationships against the backdrops of Vancouver, Toronto, Japan, London, and Greece. Winner of the Toronto Book Award and Canada’s Marian Engle Award, Ms. Govier’s novel *Creation* was a *New York Times* Notable Book of the Year in 2003.

**Kelley Armstrong**, a #1 *New York Times* and *Globe & Mail* best-selling author, writes award-winning novels for both adults and teens. Living in south-western Ontario, she has been telling stories since before she could write. According to her website, her earliest written efforts were disasters. If asked for a story about girls and dolls, her story would invariably feature undead girls and evil dolls, much to the dismay of her teachers. Her *Women of the Otherworld* urban fantasy series for adults has spawned teen series based in the same realm, the *Darkest Powers* and the *Darkness Rising* trilogies. Her latest book in her adult series, *Spell Bound* was released in July 2011.

**Bill Slavin** is perhaps best known for illustrating the iconic *Stanley* series by Linda Bailey. The series is about a loveable dog who has parties, rides skateboards, and goes to sea. The illustrator will be offering a behind-the-scenes look at his latest project, a graphic novel series beginning with *Big City Otto*, published on September 15, 2011. Living and working from an old farmhouse in Millbrook, Ontario, Mr. Slavin has illustrated over seventy books for children, and won the Ontario Library Association’s Blue Spruce Award in 2004 for *Stanley’s Party*.

*Clarington Public Library gratefully acknowledges the generous support of the Canada Council for the Arts for these author and illustrator visits.*

**About Canadian Library Month and Ontario Public Library Week:**

October has been designated Canadian Library Month, a celebration of all types of libraries and information service providers across the country. Ontario Public Library Week, October 16<sup>th</sup> to 22<sup>nd</sup>, recognizes the valuable contributions public libraries make as cornerstones of their communities. This year’s joint theme, “Your Library: A Place Unbound,” highlights the shift to innovations such as digital and downloadable books, music, movies, magazines, Internet access, electronic databases, eReaders, gaming and reaching out to a new generation of library users via social media such as Facebook and Twitter.

While Clarington Public Library and other libraries are evolving to meet the needs of Canadians, they continue to be at the centre of their communities. They are a place where people learn, engage and connect with each other. Over 21 million Canadians hold a public library card, making public libraries the most popular cultural institution in the country. Over 97 per cent of Canadians live in communities served by a public library.

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