



“Oz: The Books” Speaker Bios

Michael Cart is the author and/or editor of 19 books including “What’s So Funny? Wit Humor in American Children’s Literature,” “Talking Animals and Others: The Life and Work of Walter R. Brooks,” and his recent “How Beautiful the Ordinary: Twelve Stories of Identity.” Cart is a Booklist magazine columnist and reviewer and a former director of the Beverly Hills Public Library. In 2000, he received the Grolier Award presented by the American Library Association for a lifetime of “unusual contributions to the stimulation and guidance of reading by children and young people.” As president of the Young Adult Library Services Association, Cart led the effort to create the association’s Michael L. Printz Award for literary excellence in young adult literature. Cart lives in Columbus, Ind.

John Fricke is the Emmy Award-winning coproducer/cowriter of the television programs “Judy Garland: By Myself” and “Judy Garland: 25th Anniversary Retrospective.” He was nominated for a Grammy Award for his album notes for “Judy Garland: 25th Anniversary Retrospective.” Fricke is widely respected as the preeminent Garland and Oz movie historian. With Jonathan Shirshekan, he co-authored “The Wizard of Oz: An Illustrated Companion to the Timeless Movie Classic,” published in 2009 in conjunction with the 70th anniversary of the MGM film. He is the author of four prior books about Oz and Garland and is a past president of the International Wizard of Oz Club. Fricke lives in New York.

Michael Patrick Hearn is the world’s leading authority on L. Frank Baum and “The Wizard of Oz.” Hearn, an internationally influential children’s literature scholar and critic, began his writing career at the age of 20 with “The Annotated Wizard of Oz.” His other books include “The Annotated Christmas Carol,” “The Annotated Huckleberry Finn,” “W.W. Denslow,” “The Victorian Fairy Tale Book” and “Myth, Magic and Mystery.” Hearn has lectured worldwide and appeared in numerous documentaries. He teaches The Picture Book course in the graduate program in children’s literature at Simmons College in Boston. Hearn currently lives in New York.

Kathleen Krull is well-known for her innovative approach to biographies for young readers. She has written “The Road to Oz: Twists,” “Turns, Bumps and Triumphs in the Life of L. Frank Baum,” “The Boy on Fairfield Street: How Ted Geisel Grew Up to Become Dr. Seuss,” and “Lives of the Writers (Comedies, Tragedies and What the Neighbors Thought).” Krull lives in San Diego, with her husband, children’s book illustrator Paul Brewer.

Gregory Maguire is the author of “Wicked: The Life and times of the Wicked Witch of the West,” which has inspired a stage musical, and of “Son of a Witch,” “A Lion Among Men,”

“Confessions of an Ugly Stepsister,” “Lost” and “Mirror.” Maguire received his PhD in English and American Literature from Tufts University in 1990. He is a national figure in children’s literature education and was a professor and associate director of the Center for the Study of Children’s Literature at Simmons College. Since 1986, Maguire has served as co-director and founding board member of Children’s Literature New England Inc., which promotes the significance of literature in children’s lives.

Dee Michel is writing a book tentatively titled “Friends of Dorothy: Why Gay Men and Boys Love Oz.” Michel has spoken on the topic at the Library of Congress, academic conferences, gay studies classes, Oz conventions and at Boston’s GLBT Youth Pride rally. Exhibits of Michel’s Oz collection, highlighting the gay connection, have been seen in academic and public libraries, and as part of a fine art show. His work has been discussed in the Village Voice, the New York Review of Books and other print, online and radio sources, and in academic works. Michel is a contributing editor to “The Baum Bugle” and the editor of the International Wizard of Oz Club’s Web site. He lives in Northampton, Mass.

Graham Rawle is a British writer and collage artist, whose weekly “Lost Consonants” first appeared in The Guardian in 1990 and ran for fifteen years. He has produced other regular series for The Observer and the Sunday Telegraph Magazine based in London. He has written “Wonder Book of Fun,” “Lying Doggo” and “Diary of an Amateur Photographer.” Rawle’s most recent book, an illustrated reinterpretation of “The Wizard of Oz”, won Best Illustrated Book as well as 2009 Book of the Year at the British Book Design Awards. Rawle has lectured and exhibited internationally and teaches design and illustration at the University of Brighton in the United Kingdom. He lives in London.

Eric Shanower discovered the Oz books at six years old. He attended the Joe Kubert School of Cartoon and Graphic Art in Dover, N.J. His graphic novel “The Enchanted Apples of Oz” was published by First Comics in 1986, followed by four more volumes. A collection his novels, “Adventures in Oz,” was issued by IDW Publishing in 2006. Shanower wrote and illustrated the children’s novel “The Giant Garden of Oz” and “The Salt Sorcerer of Oz.” He is writing scripts for Marvel Comics’s new best-selling adaptations of the Oz books, with art by Skottie Young. Shanower is best known for his “Age of Bronze” series of graphic novels, retelling the Trojan War legend, which won the Will Eisner Comics Industry Award for Best Writer/Artist in 2001 and 2003. The second collection, “Age of Bronze: Sacrifice,” was selected as one of the Best Books of the Year (2004) by Publishers Weekly. Shanower’s work also has been published by DC Comics, Archie Comics, Random House, Nickelodeon magazine, Slave Labor Graphics, Books of Wonder and Star Wars Insider. He lives in San Diego.

Dr. Sally Roesch Wagner, executive director of the Matilda Joslyn Gage Foundation in Fayetteville, N.Y., is a nationally recognized lecturer, author and performance interpreter of woman’s rights history. She was one of the first women in the United States to receive a doctorate in women’s studies and cofounded one of the country’s first college women’s studies programs at California State University, Sacramento. Wagner has taught in women’s studies for 39 years and is adjunct faculty in the honors program at Syracuse University. Wagner appeared in the Ken Burns PBS documentary “Not for Ourselves Alone: The Story of Elizabeth Cady

Stanton and Susan B. Anthony,” for which she wrote the accompanying PBS faculty guide. She appeared also on the PBS special, “One Woman, One Vote,” and has been interviewed numerous times on National Public Radio. Wagner has written “She Who Holds the Sky: Matilda Joslyn Gage,” the Introduction for the reprint of Gage’s 1893 classic “Woman, Church and State” and “Sisters in Spirit: Haudenosaunee (Iroquois’) Influence on Early American Feminists.” Wagner lives in Syracuse, N.Y.