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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release

Log onto www.CincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage for more information.

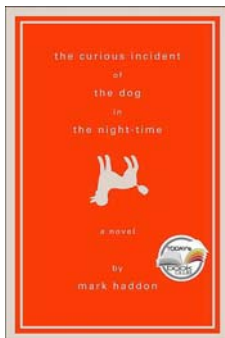
January 13, 2006

Community-Wide Reading Begins February 1 with Related Programs Going on Through March

On the Same Page 2006: Curiously Engaging **OTSP Launch Event: February 4 at Corryville Branch Library, 1:00 p.m.**

Now in its fifth year, On The Same Page 2006 (OTSP) will feature a novel by Mark Haddon, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*. Community-wide reading of this year's selection begins in February with related programming going on through March. While bringing people from around the Tri-State together to celebrate reading, an underlying goal of the program is to encourage them to experience a different worldview through literature.

About This Year's Selection - Haddon's engaging story is told in the voice of 15-year-old Christopher Boone, who appears to have Asperger syndrome, which is in the 'autistic spectrum' of neurological disorders. He lives with his father in a mid-sized city in England. While Christopher does not experience emotions in the same way that most people do, he is a math genius and he enjoys solving mysteries just like his favorite literary character, Sherlock Holmes. He relies on a sense of order within his environment to help him to deal with unpredictable events. Winner of the Whitbread Award in 2003, this novel presents many opportunities for discussion, as it is fast paced and readers feel captivated by Christopher and the challenges that he faces.



About the Author: Author Mark Haddon has gained a wide range of experiences, which enriched his abilities as a writer. Haddon was born in Northampton, England in 1962. He earned an undergraduate degree in English at Oxford University and a graduate degree in English Literature at the University of Edinburgh. All the while, he held a variety of jobs, from bicycle courier to theatre ticket agent to working with disabled children. He also provided illustrations for magazines, and was a cartoonist for several British publications. During the 1980s he wrote scripts for British television. Haddon's book was published in 1987— a children's story titled *Gilbert's Gobstopper*. He has continued to write children's books, including the series *Agent Z*, and he has changed his artistic focus from drawing to abstract painting. His first novel for adults, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* was published in 2003; he was subsequently awarded the Whitebread Prize as the best British novelist of the year. Mark Haddon lives in Oxford, England with his wife and son, and he continues to write and paint.

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Special Events

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Meet Temple Grandin: Author and scientist Temple Grandin will speak about her latest book, *Animals in Translation: Using the Mysteries of Autism to Decode Animal Behavior*. As a person with autism, she has made some fascinating correlations between the ways that animals and autistic people communicate.

- Thursday, January 26 – 7:00 p.m.
Joseph-Beth Booksellers
2692 Madison Rd.
(513) 396-8960

OTSP Launch: The program will officially be launched on February 4 at the featuring nationally recognized artist Barb Moran, who will talk about her work and her own experience of living with autism.

- Saturday, February 4 - 1:00 p.m.
Corryville Branch Library
2802 Vine St.
(513) 369-6034

Panel Discussions on Asperger Syndrome and Autism: featuring experts from Children's Hospital, Xavier University and the Autism Society of Greater Cincinnati.

- Saturday, February 25 - 2:00 p.m.
College Hill Branch Library
1400 W. North Bend Rd.
(513) 369-6036
- Saturday, March 18 - 2:00 p.m.
Main Library, Atrium
800 Vine Street
(513) 369-6945
- Wednesday, March 8 - 7:00 p.m.
Sharonville Branch Library
10980 Thornview Dr.
(513) 369-6049

4 Paws for Ability is an organization based in Xenia, Ohio, whose purpose is to train guide dogs for children with autism and other people with disabilities. Members of the staff of 4 Paws will be presenting programs about their organization at various branch locations. Meet service dogs from 4 Paws for Ability. Learn how 4 Paws trains service dogs for children with Autism and other disabilities.

- Saturday, March 4 - Noon
Symmes Township Branch
11850 Enyart Rd.
(513) 369-6001
- Saturday, March 25 - Noon
Anderson Branch Library
7450 State Rd.
(513) 369-6030
- Saturday, March 4 – 3:00 p.m.
Walnut Hills Branch Library
2533 Kemper Ln.
(513) 369-6053
- Saturday, March 25 - 3:00 p.m.
Delhi Township Branch Library
5095 Foley Rd.
(513) 369-6019

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Visionaries & Voices (V&V) is an art studio for persons with disabilities, including adults with autism. Housed within the Essex Studios on McMillan Street in Walnut Hills, V&V celebrates the art of artists with disabilities. During On the Same Page, V&V will exhibit art pieces at all 41 library branches, hands-on public art workshops at library branches, and an Open House at their studio.

Artist's Reception: Artists from Visionaries & Voices art studio will be exhibiting their work about their studio.

- Saturday, January 28 – Noon to 3:00 p.m.
Sharonville Branch Library
10980 Thornview Dr.
(513) 369-6049

Art Workshops: Unleash your creative side? Join artists from Visionaries & Voices studio for a fun, risk-free, and hands-on art experience!

- Saturday, March 4 – 11:00 a.m.
Bond Hill Branch Library
1703 Dale Rd.
(513) 369-4445
- Saturday, March 4 – 2:00 p.m.
Green Township Branch Library
6526 Bridgetown Rd.
(513) 369-6095
- Monday, March 6 – 6:30 p.m.
Reading Branch Library
9001 Reading Rd.
(513) 369-4465
- Thursday, March 9 – 6:30 p.m.
Cheviot Branch Library
3711 Robb Ave. (513) 369-6015
- Saturday, March 11 – 2:00 p.m.
Miami Township Branch Library
8 N. Miami Ave. (513) 369-6050
- Saturday, March 11 – 2:00 p.m.
Symmes Township Branch Library
11850 Enyart Rd.
(513) 369-6001
- Saturday, March 18 – 2:00 p.m.
Mt. Healthy Branch Library
7608 Hamilton Ave.
(513) 369-4469
- Saturday, March 25 – 11:00 a.m.
Delhi Township Branch Library
5095 Foley Rd.
(513) 369-6019
- Monday, March 27 – 7:00 p.m.
Harrison Branch Library
10398 New Haven Rd.
(513) 369-4442

Writing your Life Story

How do you put the story of your life down on paper? Where do you start? Work with writers from InkTank, a local writers' resource center, to learn how to share your experiences through the written word.

- Wednesday, February 22 - 7:00p
Groesbeck Branch Library
2994 W. Galbraith Rd.
(513) 369-4454
- Thursday, March 30 - 6:30 p.m.
Westwood Branch Library
3345 Epworth Ave.
(513) 369-4474

Sudoku Tournament: Be a puzzle wizard like Christopher. For all ages.

- Saturday, March 18 – 2:00 p.m.
Symmes Township Branch Library
11850 Enyart Rd.,
(513) 369-6001

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British Cooking: What are some of those foods that Christopher likes to eat?

- Wednesday, March 15 – 7:00 p.m.
Wild Oats - Rookwood Pavilion
For reservations and information, call (513) 981-0794

The Hound of the Baskervilles: Watch Christopher's favorite mystery starring his favorite detective, Sherlock Holmes.

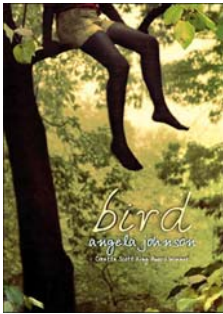
- Wednesday, March 22 – 7:00 p.m.
Symmes Township Branch Library
11850 Enyart Rd., (513) 369-6001

Rainman and Autism is a World: Following a book discussion at 2:00, watch these two films about autism.

- Saturday, March 25 – 3:00 p.m.
Walnut Hills Branch Library
2533 Kemper Ln. (513) 369-6053

Youth Book: This year's selection for middle school and teen readers is *Bird* by Angela Johnson. The author will be here to meet with students and talk about the book on March 20 and 21.

About the book: Having left her Cleveland home to search for her stepfather, 13-year-old Bird becomes all but invisible as she lurks around the edges of the small town of



Acorn, Alabama. Gradually, she makes her way into the lives of a few of the townspeople who seem to understand the fact that she is 'living under the radar'. Ethan, Jay, and Mrs. Pritchard each have a common bond with this quiet, searching girl: they have all experienced some trouble in their lives. Using simple yet poetic language and narration by three different characters, the author allows the stories of each character to slowly unfold. In the end, Bird doesn't find exactly what she was looking for, but she does find what she needs.

About the author: Angela Johnson has said that her earliest inspirations came from a variety of sources: from the storytellers in her family, from the stories that her teacher would read aloud after lunch at Maple Grove School, and from *Harriet the Spy*. She was born in 1961 in Tuskegee, Alabama, and at a young age she moved with her family to Portage County in northern Ohio. Her early years were rich in books and stories and she soon knew that one day she would become a writer. Ms. Johnson has published many children's picture books, books of poetry, and novels for young adults. In 2003 she was awarded a fellowship from the MacArthur Foundation, which seeks to support those who have shown dedication and originality in their creative work. She was honored with the Coretta Scott King Author Award in 2004. Ms. Johnson currently lives and works in northern Ohio. Angela Johnson will be visiting Cincinnati in March to meet with groups of students and to talk with them about her writing.

On the Same Page Cincinnati is a project of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County and is made possible in part by the Friends of the Public Library, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, *Cincinnati Magazine* and WVXU Radio. For more information about the On the Same Page program, visit www.cincinnati.library.org/samepage/

✓ **Our goal is to make our programs accessible to everyone. Please request ADA services one week in advance at 513-369-4400 (TTY 369-4409)**