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BOOKS BY THE BANKS: CINCINNATI USA BOOK FESTIVAL **Saturday, November 3, 10:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. Duke Energy Center**

September 25, 2007 – The inaugural *Books by the Banks: Cincinnati USA Book Festival*, scheduled for Saturday, November 3 from 10:00 a.m.—6:00 p.m. at the Duke Energy Center, will celebrate and promote the joy and reading of books. The day-long festival will feature more than 85 local and national authors of fiction, history, mystery, biography, travel, non-fiction, children’s literature, and more.

Featured writers include:

- **Mary Kay Carson**, author of the upcoming children's book *Emi and the Rhino Scientist*, featuring Cincinnati Zoo scientist Terri Roth and her efforts to preserve the endangered Sumatran rhino.
- **Andrea Cheng**, author of fiction books for children and young adults. Her most recent novel is *Eclipse*, which is set in Cincinnati in the year 1952.
- **Brock Clarke**, author of the highly anticipated novel *An Arsonist’s Guide to Writers’ Homes in New England*.
- **Sharon Draper**, award-winning teacher and author of The Hazelwood High Trilogy - *Tears of a Tiger*, *Forged by Fire*, and *Darkness Before Dawn*. Her newest novel, *November Blues*, will be published this fall.
- **Brian Leung**, award-winning author whose new novel, *Lost Men*, has been critically acclaimed.
- **Robert Morgan**, author of historical fiction titles *Gap Creek*, *This Rock*, and *Brave Enemies*. This October, Morgan will publish a biography of Daniel Boone, entitled *Boone*.
- **Karen Robards**, noted author of romantic suspense novels. Her latest title is *Obsession*.

The festival and all events are free and open to the public. Attendees to the festival will have the opportunity to meet authors and to purchase signed copies of their books. In addition, activities will be held throughout the day such as author readings and panel presentations on topics like baseball, cartooning, local history, romance, and urban fiction. A commemorative *Books by the Banks* poster, illustrated by children’s book artist Will Hillenbrand, will also be available for purchase. There will also be a Kids Corner featuring costumed storybook characters, crafts, and other activities for families.

A joint effort of the Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Borders Books, CET, *Cincinnati Magazine*, the Mercantile Library, and the University of Cincinnati Libraries, Books by the Banks will be an annual community event designed to attract a broad range of book lovers from throughout the Tri-State.

Additional support provided by the Friends of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County, The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County Foundation, media sponsor 91.7 WVXU, and Stanard Design for logo design and branding.

More information about Books by the Banks is available online at www.booksbythebanks.org