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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Press Release



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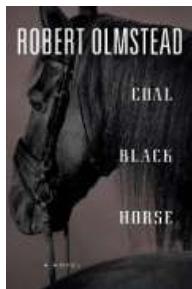
7th Annual Community-Wide Reading Program

Public Library Selects 2008 “On the Same Page Cincinnati” Titles

The Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County is pleased to announce the 2008 selections for “On the Same Page,” (OTSP) the annual community wide reading event that celebrates the joy of reading and encourages community dialogue.

ADULT TITLE

Coal Black Horse, Robert Olmstead

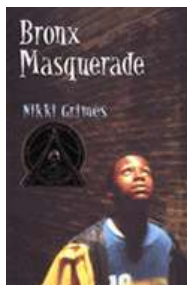


Published in April 2007, Olmstead’s novel follows a young man through the life-altering landscape of the Civil War. Sent to retrieve his father from the battlefields, he takes a wise and loyal horse to assist him on his treacherous journey. Returning safely back home, he has been forever changed by all that he has seen of war. *Coal Black Horse* was recently selected as the 2007 Chicago Tribune Heartland Prize winner for fiction.

Robert Olmstead is an established writer of fiction (four novels, numerous short stories) as well as magazine and journal articles. Professor Olmstead is Director of Ohio Wesleyan University's Creative Writing Program. He has also published a textbook for fiction-writing workshops (*Elements of the Craft*) and a non-fiction memoir (*Stay Here With Me*).

YOUTH TITLE

Bronx Masquerade, Nikki Grimes



Named a Coretta Scott King Award Winner in 2003, Ms. Grimes’ novel portrays a high school English class as they discover ways to express themselves to one another through poetry.

Nikki Grimes is the recipient of the 2006 NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children. Her distinguished works include ALA Notable book, *What is Goodbye?*, the novels *Jazmin's Notebook*, *Dark Sons*, and *The Road to Paris* (Coretta Scott King Author Honor Books). Creator of the popular *Meet Danitra Brown*, Ms. Grimes lives in Corona, California.

ABOUT “ON THE SAME PAGE CINCINNATI”

In an effort to foster a sense of community through reading, area organizations joined in partnership in 2002 to establish “On The Same Page”, a community wide reading project. OTSP is a project of the Public Library of Cincinnati & Hamilton County with support from the Friends of the Public Library, Joseph-Beth Booksellers, *Cincinnati Magazine*, 91.7 WXXU, and CET.

This year’s event will run from February through March 2008. During February, the Library encourages community members to read the selected titles, and in March, participate in activities related to the book such as discussions and author visits. Previous OTSP titles include *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, *The Lightning Thief*, *Book One of 'Percy Jackson and the Olympians'* by Rick Riordan, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* by Mark Haddon, *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, *Crossing the River* by Caryl Phillips, *Savage Inequalities* by Jonathan Kozol, and *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines.

Look for OTSP news/updates closer to the date at <http://www.cincinnatiLibrary.org/samepage>