



WE CAN presents the
Seventh Annual Day of Words, Wit & Wisdom



Imagination at Work: In Writing and in Life

Honoring:
Dorothy Stoneman,
2011 Woman of the Year



MacArthur Fellow,
Founder and President of
YouthBuild USA

Featured Speakers:

Award-winning author **Andre Dubus III**

*(Townie – A Memoir; The Garden of Last Days;
The House of Sand and Fog)*

Award-winning novelist **Jane Hamilton**

(Book of Ruth; A Map of the World)

Acclaimed author **Margot Livesey**

*(The House on Fortune Street; Banishing Verona;
Eva Moves the Furniture)*

Author and Emcee **Anne D. LeClaire**

(Listening Below the Noise; Entering Normal; Leaving Eden)

Spend a beautiful day sharing inspiration and joy, all to benefit the good work of WE CAN, dedicated to empowering women to achieve lasting positive change. Join us to celebrate these highly acclaimed authors and Woman of the Year who will entertain and inspire. Enjoy stimulating conversation, indomitable spirits, great food and a breathtaking view.

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June 2, 2011

8:30 am (doors open) to 2:30 pm
Tickets: \$150

Continental breakfast & lunch:

Spinach and Feta Stuffed Chicken
Salad, Rolls, Montillio's Dessert
Wychmere Harbor Club
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Mail to: 537 Main Street. #2H, Harwich Port MA 02646 or call 508-430-8111 THANK YOU!

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Woman of the Year

Dorothy Stoneman is founder and president of YouthBuild USA, an organization that empowers disaffected youth to take control of their futures by building infrastructure in their disadvantaged communities. She also chairs the National YouthBuild Coalition, which has nearly 1,000 member organizations in 45 states, Washington D.C., and the Virgin Islands, and which enjoys bi-partisan support in both houses of Congress.

Stoneman is being honored for her life-long commitment to social justice, her advocacy for those who too often lack a voice, and her success in engaging at-risk young people to become productive members of society and leaders in their own communities.

The recipient of a MacArthur Fellowship (“genius grant”), the prestigious international Skoll Award for Social Entrepreneurship, and numerous other honors and awards, Stoneman graduated from Harvard, moved to Harlem, and began a long career in helping others raise themselves out of poverty. The Huffington Post recently referred to her as “an exceptional individual who is confronting the country's economic and political crises with creativity, generosity, and passion.”

Stoneman said, “I’m pleased to receive this honor, which I see really as recognition of the success of YouthBuild. Through YouthBuild, over the years, more than 100,000 low-income young adults have produced over 20,000 units of affordable housing in 273 of America's poorest urban and rural communities. While building these homes, they have studied for their GEDs or high school diplomas at a YouthBuild alternative school, prepared for good jobs in the construction industry and/or for college, and learned leadership skills.”

“Our aim at YouthBuild,” Stoneman affirmed, “is to ensure that young people who are seeking a second chance at a productive life emerge as college graduates and young leaders.”

About the Authors

Andre Dubus III

Andre Dubus III is the author of a collection of short fiction, *The Cage Keeper and Other Stories*, and the novels *Bluesman*, *House of Sand and Fog*, which was a major motion picture nominated for an academy award, a #1 New York Times best seller, a finalist for the National Book Award, and an Oprah Book Club Selection, and *The Garden of Last Days*, the powerful New York Times best-selling study of lives colliding on the eve of the 9/11 attacks. His just-released book, *Townie*, is a memoir in which he describes being one of four children raised by a working mother in a depressed Massachusetts mill town and how he turned to violence - "on a fast track to getting killed - or killing someone else", and how - eventually - writing and love proved his salvation.

He has been awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship, The National Magazine Award for fiction, The Pushcart Prize, and was a finalist for the Rome Prize Fellowship from the Academy of Arts and Letters. His work has been included in the Best American Essays of 1994 and Best American Spiritual Writing of 1999.

Dubus has taught writing at Harvard University, Tufts University, Emerson College, and the University of Massachusetts Lowell where he is a full-time faculty member.

He lives with his wife, the performer Fontaine Dollas Dubus, and two sons and a daughter in Newbury, MA.

Jane Hamilton

Jane Hamilton is the author of six internationally recognized novels, the first of which, *The Book of Ruth*, won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, was an Oprah's Book Club selection and the basis for a 2004 television film of the same title. Hamilton's *A Map of the World*, which was adapted for a film in 1999 and, the same year, was also an Oprah's Book Club selection and was adapted for a TV movie of the same title. A third novel, *The Short History of a Prince*, was shortlisted for the prestigious Orange Prize and named a *Publishers Weekly* Best Book.

Her books have made the Los Angeles Times, New York Times, and Chicago Tribune annual Notable Book Lists.

Hamilton has taught at the Warren Wilson College MFA Program and Carleton College. She lives with her family on an apple farm in Wisconsin. By popular demand, Hamilton is making her second appearance at "A Day of Words, Wit and Wisdom."

Margot Livesey

Margot Livesey is the author of six novels, *Homework*, *Criminals*, *The Missing World*, *Eva Moves the Furniture*, *Banishing Verona* and *The House on Fortune Street*, and the short story collection *Learning by Heart*, all of which are acknowledged as “radiating with compassion, intelligence -- and mystery.” She grew up in a boys' private school in Scotland where her father taught and went on to receive her degree in English and Philosophy from England's York University.

Livesey won the L.L. Winship/PEN NE Award for *The House on Fortune Street*, which was also selected by the Women's National Book Association as one of its 9 Great Group Reads for 2009 as well as one of the year's "Best Books" by the Chicago Tribune, Miami Herald, and Entertainment Weekly.

She is a Distinguished Writer-in-Residence at Emerson College, has taught at Williams College, Bowdoin College, the Iowa Writers' Workshop, Tufts University, and Boston University where she is currently on the faculty. Livesey's work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Vogue*, and a number of literary quarterlies. She is also the Fiction Editor at the renowned literary journal, *Ploughshares*.

Livesey lives in Cambridge, MA with her husband Eric Garnick, who is an artist.

Anne LeClaire

Anne LeClaire is the author of eight best-selling novels, including the acclaimed *Entering Normal*, *The Lavender Hour*, *Sideshow*, *Every Mother's Son* and *Leaving Eden*. Her work has been published in 24 countries. Her latest book, *Listening Below the Noise* is her first non-fiction book and is based on her 19-year practice of silence.

LeClaire is a former reporter, radio news broadcaster, and newspaper columnist whose work has appeared in publications such as *Redbook*, *The Boston Globe*, and *The New York Times*. She teaches and lectures in the United States and abroad on the creative process and on the practice of silence, and has been on the faculty at the Maui Writers Conference. She lives with her husband in Chatham, MA.