

**Nin Andrews** – Nin Andrews was born in Charlottesville, VA and currently resides in Poland, OH. She earned her BA from Hamilton College and her MFA from Vermont College. Andrews is the winner of the Pearl Chapbook Contest, the Kent State University chapbook contest, and the Gerald Cable Award. She received individual artist grants from the Ohio Arts Council in 1997 and 2003.

**Natalie Babbitt** – Dayton native Natalie Babbitt is the author/illustrator of fourteen books for children, among them *Tuck Everlasting* and *Kneeknock Rise*, a Newberry Honor Book. Five of her books have been named ALA Notable Children's Books.

**David Corbett** – Columbus native and OSU graduate David Corbett is a poet, screenwriter and the author of numerous short stories and articles, as well as novels. He was a private investigator in San Francisco for nearly fifteen years, after which he joined his late wife in a small law practice in northern California, where he continues to reside.

**John Dean** – Akron native John Dean earned a BA from Wooster College and a law degree from Georgetown University. Dean is most well-known for his involvement with the Watergate scandal in the 1970s. Dean is currently an author, columnist, and commentator on contemporary politics, strongly critical of conservatism and Republican Party.

**Anthony Doerr** – Born and raised in Parma, Anthony Doerr earned a BA from Bowdoin College and a MFA from Bowling Green. Doerr has been the recipient of two previous Ohioana Book Awards, one for a collection of short stories *The Shell Collector* (2003) and one for his first novel *About Grace* (2005), and the 2000 Ohioana Marvin Grant. In 2007, Doerr was a featured author at the first annual Ohioana Book Festival. He currently lives in Idaho with his family.

**Sharon Draper** – Living in Cincinnati, Sharon Draper is a professional educator and an accomplished writer. She has been honored as a National Teacher of the Year, is a four-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Literary Award, and is a *New York Times* best-selling author. In 2007, Draper won an Ohioana Book Award.

**Dawn Fitzgerald** – Dawn Fitzgerald is a former teacher and the author of several books for children, including *Getting in the Game* and *Julia Butterfly Hill: Saving the Redwoods*. She lives in Pepper Pike, Ohio.

**John Gallaher** – OU graduate John Gallaher is the author of *Gentlemen in Turbans, Ladies in Cauls* (Spuyten Duyvil Press, 2000), and *The Little Book of Guesses*, winner of the Four Way Books Levis Poetry Prize. He currently is the co-editor of *The Laurel Review*. Gallaher holds graduate degrees from Texas State University and Ohio University and lives in rural Missouri.

**Leslie Garis** – Leslie Garis has written on literary subjects for many national magazines and newspapers. She is best known for *New York Times Magazine* profiles of writers. Leslie is the granddaughter of Howard Cleveland and Lilian McNamara Garis. *House*

*of Happy Endings* is her story of growing up in “a worldly, imaginative, loving, but fatally wounded home.” She currently lives in New York City.

**Nikki Giovanni** – Kentucky native Nikki Giovanni grew up in Cincinnati. She is a poet, activist, mother, and professor, a three-time NAACP Image Award winner and the first recipient of the Rosa Parks Woman of Courage Award, and holds the Langston Hughes Medal for Outstanding Poetry. The author of twenty-seven books and a Grammy nominee, she is the University Distinguished Professor of English at Virginia Tech. Giovanni won an Ohioana Book Award in 1988.

**Deborah Griffith** – Deborah Griffith was the managing editor of *Bird Watcher Digest's* publications for seven years and is currently the editor-in-chief of the *Marietta Register*. She is also a freelance writer and editor living in Washington, WV.

**Margaret Peterson Haddix** – Washington Courthouse native Margaret Peterson Haddix earned a BA from Miami University. She is the author of several young adult books, including the *Shadow Children Series*. Haddix lives in Powell.

**Ann Hagedorn** – Dayton native Ann Hagedorn is an award-winning author and journalist, and has been a staff writer for *The Wall Street Journal*. She has taught writing at Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism and at Columbia University's Graduate School of Journalism. Hagedorn lives in Ripley.

**Mary Sayre Haverstock** – Oberlin resident and former Director of the Ohio Artists Project, Mary Haverstock is an affiliate scholar at Oberlin College, Ohio. She has been an art critic for the *Washington Post*, contributing editor of *Art in America*, and has lectured at numerous universities and museums, including the Allen Memorial Art Museum at Oberlin. Her publications include *Artists in Ohio, 1787-1900*.

**Angela Johnson** – Raised in Kent, Angela Johnson's award winning works range from picture books to poetry to novels for children and young adults. Johnson has written over 40 books, in 1999 won the Ohioana Alice Louise Wood Award for Children's Literature, and was named a 2003 MacArthur Fellow.

**Lee Lowenfish** – Acclaimed sportswriter Lee Lowenfish is a historian, journalist, broadcaster, and jazz commentator. Lowenfish is the author of three other books about baseball, aside from his biography *Branch Rickey*.

**Herbert Woodward Martin** – Long-time Dayton resident, Herbert Woodward Martin is poet-in-residence at the University of Dayton. The recipient of the Ohio Governor's Award, he has authored seven volumes of poetry. In 1998 Martin received an Ohioana Citation in the field of Theater.

**Howard Norman** – Toledo native Howard Norman divides his time between Washington, D.C. and Vermont. A professor of English at the University of Maryland, he

is also the award-winning author of *The Bird Artist* and *The Northern Lights*, both finalists for the National Book Award.

**Robert Olmstead** – A professor of English at Ohio Wesleyan University, Robert Olmstead was the recipient of a Guggenheim fellowship and an NEA grant. Prior to attending Syracuse University's graduate program in creative writing, Olmstead worked as farmer, dish washer, house painter, laborer, \ butcher, road crew, cotton mill employee, and English teacher. He is an accomplished writer and has published numerous books.

**Connie Schultz** – A bi-weekly columnist for the Cleveland *Plain Dealer*, Connie Schultz won the Pulitzer Prize for Commentary in 2005. Her other awards include the Scripps-Howard National Journalism Award, the national Headliners Award, and the Robert F. Kennedy Award for social-justice reporting. Her narrative series “The Burden of Innocence,” which chronicled the life of a man wrongly incarcerated for rape, was a Pulitzer Prize finalist. Schultz is married to Ohio senator, Sherrod Brown.

**George Sullivan** – The author of more than a hundred nonfiction books for young people, George Sullivan's expert knowledge of photographic history is the basis not only of Ohioan *Berenice Abbott*, *Photographer*, but also *Picturing Lincoln*, which was named a Notable Social Studies Trade Book for young People. Sullivan lives in New York City.

**Larissa Szporluk** – A professor at Bowling Green State University, Larissa Szporluk has won the Academy of American Poets Prize (1994), the Avery Hopewood Award, and has been a Henry Hoyns Fellow at the University of Virginia. Szporluk has published four books of books of poetry.

**Joni Tevis** – Martin's Ferry native Joni Tevis grew up in Easley, South Carolina, and is currently finishing a PhD in literature and creative writing from the University of Houston. *The Wet Collection* is her first book.

**Edmund White** – Cincinnati native Edmund White has written many award-winning novels and biographies. White has received the Guggenheim and Ingram Merrill Fellowships and the Award for Literature from the American Academy. Having lived in Paris for many years, he is now a New Yorker and teaches at Princeton University.

**Lisa Watts** - A writer and editor of a number of college and lifestyle magazines, Cleveland native Lisa Watts lived in Wooster, Ohio, where she edited the College of Wooster alumni magazine and worked as a freelance writer. Now living in Greensboro, N.C., she edits magazine sections on destination cities for a number of in-flight magazines.

**Paul Zimmer** – Kent State graduate and Canton native Paul Zimmer is the author of twelve books of poetry and the winner of an Award for Literature from the Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. Zimmer received a 2005 Ohioana Book Award for *Trains in the Distance*. He splits his time between a farm in southwestern Wisconsin and a small house in the south of France.

**William Zink** – Akron native William Zink is a graduate of both the University of Akron and the Ohio State University. Zink has written seven books, started his own publishing company (Sugar Loaf Press) and still holds down a day job. He currently writes, works, and lives near Columbus.