The Director’s Chair

Dear Friends,

Because of you, the Ohioana Book Festival begins its next ten years on Saturday, April 8.

If you were at the first festival in 2007, then you were one of 600 attendees who heard from ten authors. And if you came to our 10th anniversary event in 2016, you were one of 3,000 attendees who came to connect with more than 120 authors!

As you can see from our cover story, we will once again present a stellar lineup of Ohio authors representing every literary genre. And as it has been since the very first festival, it’s free and open to the public—a family-friendly event with no ticket and no advance registration required.

None of this would be possible without the support of our generous funders. Ohio Humanities is once again our Presenting Sponsor, with additional major support from the Greater Columbus Arts Council, Honda, the Reinberger Foundation, the Ohio Arts Council, and our new media sponsor, the Columbus Dispatch.

Check out the roster of authors below. Our next newsletter will include the complete schedule for April 8 and a list of community events where you can see your favorite authors. We’ll also be adding news and information on our website and our new blog—check them often! Mark your calendars now for April 8—we’ll see you at the Sheraton!
Dispatch. More than twenty libraries and literary organizations from around the state partner with us. And nearly 100 volunteers, led by the Ohioana Board of Trustees, work together to provide a great experience for both our authors and attendees. Truly, it is a collaborative effort.

Most of all, the Ohioana Book Festival would not be possible without people like YOU. The Ohioana Book Festival is an event that was created for you and everyone who shares the special love of books and reading. It is thanks to you that the festival has grown to become the largest event in the state that celebrates Ohio literature.

So please mark April 8 on your calendar and join us at the Sheraton Columbus at Capitol Square. In our next issue we'll share more details about this year’s programming. And of course you can check out our website and our new blog, where we'll be sharing more information in the weeks leading up to the festival.

See you next month!

David E. Weaver
Executive Director

*Author lineup may change without notice
NEW BOOKS

The following books arrived at the Ohioana Library in December. Look for them at your local library or bookstore!

Nonfiction


A dramatic modern adaptation of Rafael Sabatini’s “Captain Blood.” Dr. Peter Blood is convicted of treason for treating the wounds of a rebel during an uprising against King James II. Sentenced to a life of slavery in Barbados, Blood falls in love with Arabella, the niece of a plantation owner. The pair plan to escape, but a pirate attack forces Blood to choose between escaping to freedom without Arabella or staying with her and remaining a slave. Blood reluctantly escapes, unaware that fate will eventually bring him back to Arabella.


A collection of lyrical and illuminating essays about the serious, silly, seductive, and sometimes sorrowful relationships between women and their machines. This collection explores objects we sometimes take for granted, focusing not only on their functions but also on their powers to inform identity. For each writer, the device moves beyond the functional to become a symbolic extension of the writer’s own mind—altering and deepening each woman’s concept of herself.


When journalist Lisa Fenn saw a newspaper photo of two young wrestlers from a tough Cleveland high school, she flew back to her hometown to meet the boys, Leroy Sutton and Dartanyon Crockett. Lisa, who had decided to film the two boys for ESPN, grew close to them and began to understand their friendship, which was originally based on their physical disabilities but quickly grew into a brotherly bond. The three formed a surprising connection that Lisa found she could not walk away from after her documentary was finished. She worked to give the boys a chance to overcome poverty and physical handicaps through school and athletics, until they grew into a loving, resilient family.
Edible Flowers: A Global History. Reaktion Books Ltd. (London, UK) 2016. HC $19.95. Edible Flowers is the fascinating study of how flowers have been used for cooking in many cultures around the world. The book explores the cultural, symbolic, and religious meanings behind the eating of flowers on nearly every continent.

Left of Boom: How a Young CIA Case Officer Penetrated the Taliban and Al-Qaeda. St. Martin's Press (New York, NY) 2016. HC $27.99. Young CIA operative Doug Laux recalls his undercover operations in Afghanistan. Laux struggled with lying to his family and colleagues about what he really did for a living and the toll it took on him emotionally. His approach to his assignment resulted in unprecedented success, including the removal of Syrian president Bashar al-Assad from power.

The Red and the Black: American Film Noir in the 1950s. University of Illinois Press (Champaign, IL) 2016. PB $28.00. Critical wisdom has it that we said a long goodbye to film noir in the 1950s. Robert Miklitsch begs to differ. Mixing scholarship with a fan's devotion to the genre, the author analyzes marquee films like Kiss Me Deadly alongside lesser-known classics. He addresses the social and technological factors that downplayed the genre as well as the inventive filmmakers who continued to pioneer it, reexamining a lost period in the history of American film.

The Carnival Campaign: How the Rollicking 1840 Campaign of “Tippecanoe and Tyler Too” Changed Presidential Elections Forever. Chicago Review Press (Chicago, IL) 2016. HC $26.99. Americans have come to expect a circus or carnival atmosphere in presidential campaigns, but prior to 1840, they were nothing like that. The fight between incumbent Democrat Martin van Buren and Whig Ohioan upstart William Henry Harrison, dubbed “Old Tippecanoe” after a battlefield, became the first campaign launched as mass entertainment. Pulitzer Prize-nominated author Shafer presents the colorful story of the time when image first trumped ideas in presidential politics.

Theft of Ohio: 1783-1795. Turas Publishing (Corpus Christi, TX) 2016. HC $79.00. Author Walker asked himself a troubling question: “How could more than 30,000 square miles of land (Ohio) change hands in only twelve years? Who owns Ohio?” He attempts to answer this question from four separate perspectives: the actual documentation of the U.S. government, eastern woodland Native Americans, frontier settlers, and British officials in Canada.

Icing: A Deliciously Sweet Romance. WaveCloud Corp. (Aurora, CO) 2016. PB $12.99. Denie Shaw seems to have a perfectly balanced life—she owns ‘Icing,’ a cupcake shop, with her three best friends. When Cleveland Monsters hockey player (and Denie’s crush) Tom Billingsly enters the scene, Denie must overcome her fear of heartache to trust in God to give her the recipe for her best life.

The Let Go: Stories. Queens Ferry Press (Plano, TX) 2015. PB $14.95. This collection, set in the varied landscapes of Ohio, includes seven stories about hardships and the hope that arises from them.

Drowning Tides. Mira Books (Ontario, Canada) 2017. HC $26.99. When forensic psychologist Claire Britten started working with lawyer Nick Markwood on his South Shores project, she had no idea it would endanger her life—and the life of her daughter. But when the little girl goes missing from her South Florida home and Nick insists his longtime nemesis is to
Combat nurse Helen Eberhart and Lt. Frank R. Daley, M.D. marry after a whirlwind romance. They are both sent to the front lines of Europe in WWII, with only letters to connect them for months at a time. Based on a true story, *With Love, Wherever You Are* is the story of battles in both love and war, and of how Frank and Helen defied all odds to be together.

Melnick, Daniel. *The Ash Tree*. West of West Books (Fresno, CA) 2015. HC $25.00.
The story of an Armenian-American family who makes a home in California after the Armenian genocide in 1915. The story is spread among five members of the Ararat family who overcome tragedies both personal and historic to build a universal story about immigrants in America.

It's 1952, and nine-year-old Jasper Leary has just been abandoned on his uncle's farm with nothing but a change of clothes and his Bible. No one knows where his mother has gone or if she is coming back. Jasper decides to flee, embarking on a dangerous search that will take him through a shocking and adult world of scandal and murder. The past is still chasing his mother—and now it is after him, too.

The second book of the *Museum Mystery Series*. Susan and Amy are charged with finding the wife of the dean of the College of Fine Arts in Foothills, Ohio, after she goes missing. The dean receives a nude painting of his wife in the mail, postmarked “Mexico.” He asks Susan and Amy to investigate, and they run head-on into art fraud, prostitution, and murder.

Pavla, a beloved child born to peasants in an unnamed country, stuns her parents and community when she is born—she is a dwarf. Pavla seeks a “cure” for her smallness from a charlatan, but his terrifying actions result in her magical transformation and flight from her community. Pavla crosses paths with Danilo, who seeks to protect her. This allegorical novel is not only a commentary on the nature of being, but also a subversive fairy tale about love and overcoming superstition while adopting modern invention.

Johnny Earl, a professional baseball player, ends his career unceremoniously with a knee injury. He gets busted for selling cocaine and serves seven years in prison. He heads back to his hometown of Steubenville, Ohio, to retrieve a cache of drug money he stashed before he went to jail. But before he can leave town, he is picked up for questioning by the FBI for the murder of Rayce Daubner, the informant who helped get him sent to prison in the first place. Then, a former prison cellmate (and white supremacist) shows up to claim the drug money. Five characters with separate agendas come together in a tale of murder, lies, and political intrigue.

**Poetry**

This collection of poetry celebrates the popular culture of the “Age of Aquarius” as well as the zodiac sign.

Demaree’s latest collection of poetry is tripartite; its sections can be read individually or together as a continuous narrative. Birth (“A Violent sound in Almost Every Place”), Life (“We Are Arrows”), and Death (“All the Birds Are Leaving”) are all represented in the collection.

A collection of forty-six poems in various formats that run
chronologically to tell the stories of real people throughout history, from the famous—Martin Luther, John James Audubon, and Mae West—to the unknown—Annie C. and H.L. All relate mixed emotions about their “near-death” experiences and their aftermath.

**Young Adult**


Hadley moves to a gorgeous beach town just before the start of her sophomore year and meets a great new guy named Nick Jenkins, who quickly becomes her boyfriend. Nick is her dream guy, but he has a past. He used to date former TV actress Simone Hendrickson. Nick says the affair is long over, but when Hadley finds out Nick and Simone have kissed after school one day, Hadley must determine whether Nick is telling the truth and whether she can rival his affection for a famous TV star.


Willow Lamott tried to forget her best friend, who was convicted of murder. When Ashton Keller returns to their small town of Gilt Hollow four years later, Willow is instantly drawn back to him and his dark world of vengeance and mystery. Ashton also immediately falls again for Willow, who inspires him to try to clear his name and become the good person she sees inside him. But their search for the truth about the real killer may end up destroying them both.

**Middle Grade & Children’s**


An illustrated, step-by-step guide for newbie gardeners. Simple instructions and vibrant photographs make it easy for kids to understand everything they will need to become a gardener.


Written and illustrated by artist Sandra Gross, *I See, You See: Day* tells the story of a baby’s day using high-contrast illustrations perfect for a baby’s developing eyes and growing recognition.


This board book is a product of the City Silence Project’s mission to slow down the world by turning off digital devices and boosting stillness, wonder, and creativity. The book is designed to be calming and to help families appreciate the benefits of gentle quiet.


Little Karl walks through the city with his mother and asks questions about the world. Why can’t everyone live together comfortably as his family? An explanation of Marxism for young readers.

**Coming Soon**

**Ohioana Book Club** February 15, 2017, 10:00 a.m. – noon, Ohioana Library, Columbus

The book for February is *Epitaph* by Mary Doria Russell (the 2016 Ohioana Book Award winner for Fiction and winner of the inaugural Readers’ Choice Award). The club meets in the Ohioana reading room at 10:00 a.m. If you would like to attend, please e-mail us at ohioana@ohioana.org.

**Ohioana Hamilton County Authors Reception** April 2, 2017, 1:30 – 4:00 p.m., Main Library, Public Library of Cincinnati and Hamilton County, Cincinnati

Book lovers can connect with local authors as dozens of published writers from Cincinnati and Hamilton County chat with fans, sign books, and talk about the writing process. For more information, call 513-369-6919.

**Thurber House Evenings with Authors** Columbus Museum of Art, Columbus

The Winter/Spring 2017 series features outstanding writers across all genres. For schedule and ticket information, visit [http://thurberhouse.org/evenings-with-authors.html](http://thurberhouse.org/evenings-with-authors.html).