Notes From the NEIBA Advisory Council

By Ellen Jarrett, Porter Square Books, Cambridge MA

Writers Among Us

We at PSB, and all indie booksellers I’d wager, are always brainstorming for ways to engage with our community of writers —published, non published, self-published, aspiring — in a meaningful and mutually beneficial way. We, actually our marketing team, have hit on something that may not be novel in the literary world, but may be in the context of a bookstore. That is a Writer in Residence program (https://www.portersquarebooks.com/2019-writers-residence). The idea was first hatched back in January 2018. Management was unanimously behind it and requests for proposals went out to the public in June. The response was overwhelming. Committees were formed to read the proposals in which the applicants were asked to include a short essay answering the question “How will a Porter Square Books residency help you as a writer?”, a sample of a work in progress, and a CV. Eligible candidates have to live in the greater Cambridge area, NOT be employed at any bookstore or publisher; and not hold a permanent academic position at a college or university. Two writers, one writing for adults and the other for young readers, were selected to participate in our first term, February through October.
Our writers in residence receive the staff discount in the bookstore and café; have use of office space, such as it is, after 5pm on weekdays; and are free to take any galleys or ARC’s. The WIR are invited to submit staff picks which we rotate on a monthly basis; are responsible for writing at least three pieces for the store’s blog; and are asked to introduce and/or engage in any of our store events in some way throughout their term. Of course the WIR term will culminate in a reading of each writer’s work to which the public will be invited.

The aspect of this program that seemed to be most coveted by applicants was the availability of a dedicated work space – a place to escape from home, school, or work and steep in the love of books, the acquisition of books, and the lively discussion of books. Writers can expect minimal interruptions, but if a much loved author should wander in and make their acquaintance, it would be a welcome distraction!

If this sounds like something you might want to institute in your bookstore, feel free to contact us. We in New England are rich in writers and we should capitalize on that!

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**Book Industry Charitable Foundation (Binc) Scholarship Program**

**Deadline Tomorrow March 5**

The Book Industry Charitable Foundation (Binc) Scholarship Program seeks to make a lasting impact in book store employees’ lives and former Borders Group employees’ lives by offering scholarships to their dependents and spouses/partners based on financial need, academic performance, and community involvement – helping to make a college education more affordable for booksellers’ families. Scholarships are offered for full- or part-time study at an accredited institution of the student’s choice.

This new scholarship program reflects a change in eligibility requirements from previous years (booksellers themselves are now only eligible for the Karl Pohrt Memorial Scholarship). This change in eligibility realigns the program with Binc’s mission to strengthen the book industry and support career booksellers and their families.

**DETAILS & TO APPLY**

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**WHERE’S WALDO in 2019?**

*Don’t miss out!*

**Click to register for Find Waldo Local**

Registration deadline is March 1.

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# NEIBA Best Sellers

for the week ended

**Sunday February 24, 2019**

Based on reporting from the independent booksellers of NEIBA and IndieBound

## HARDCOVER FICTION

1. *Where the Crawdads Sing*  
   Delia Owens, Putnam, $26, 9780735219090

2. *Black Leopard, Red Wolf*  
   Marlon James, Riverhead Books, $30, 9780735220171

3. *Circe*  
   Madeline Miller, Little Brown, $27, 9780316556347

4. *There There*  
   Tommy Orange, Knopf, $25.95, 9780525520375

5. *Devotions*  
   Mary Oliver, Penguin Press, $30, 9780399563249

6. *The Silent Patient*  
   Alex Michaelides, Celadon Books, $26.99, 9781250301697

7. *Lost Children Archive*  
   Valeria Luiselli, Knopf, $27.95, 9780525520610

8. *A Gentleman in Moscow*  
   Amor Towles, Viking, $27, 9780670026197

9. *Bowlaway*  
   Elizabeth McCracken, Ecco, $27.99, 9780062862853

10. *The Overstory*  
    Richard Powers, Norton, $27.95, 9780393635522

11. *The Age of Light*  
    Whitney Scharer, Little Brown, $28, 9780316524087

12. *Gone So Long*  
    Andre Dubus, III, Norton, $27.95, 9780393244106

13. *Warlight*  
    Michael Ondaatje, Knopf, $26.95, 9780525521198

14. *Unsheltered*  
    Barbara Kingsolver, Harper, $29.99, 9780062684561

15. *Leading Men*  
    Christopher Castellani, Viking, $27, 9780525559054

## HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. *The Threat: How the FBI Protects America in the Age of Terror and Trump*  
   Andrew G. McCabe, St. Martin's, $29.99, 9781250207579

2. *Becoming*  
   Michelle Obama, Crown, $32.50, 9781524763138

3. *Educated*  
   Tara Westover, Random House, $28, 9780399590504

4. *Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat*  
   Samin Nosrat, Wendy MacNaughton (Illus.), S&S, $35, 9781476753836

5. *Dreyer’s English*  
   Benjamin Dreyer, Random House, $25, 9780812995701

6. *Women Rowing North*  
   Mary Pipher, Bloomsbury, $27, 9781632869609

7. *The Life-Changing Magic of Tidying Up*  
   Marie Kondo, Ten Speed Press, $16.99, 9781607747307

8. *Maid: Hard Work, Low Pay, and a Mother’s Will to Survive*  
   Stephanie Land, Hachette Books, $27, 9780316505116
9. The Uninhabitable Earth: Life After Warming
David Wallace-Wells, Tim Duggan Books, $27, 9780316505116

10. Inheritance
Dani Shapiro, Knopf, $24.95, 9780525576703

11. The Source of Self-Regard: Selected Essays, Speeches, and Meditations
Toni Morrison, Knopf, $28.95, 9780525521037

12. The Library Book
Susan Orlean, S&S, $28, 9781476740188

13. How to Be a Good Creature
Sy Montgomery, Rebecca Green (Illus.), Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $20, 9780544938328

Reshma Saujani, Currency, $25, 9781524762339

15. Bad Blood
John Carreyrou, Knopf, $27.95, 9781524731656

**TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION**

1. The Tattooist of Auschwitz
Heather Morris, Harper, $16.99, 9780062797155

2. An American Marriage
Tayari Jones, Algonquin Books, $16.95, 9781616208684

3. The Immortalists
Chloe Benjamin, Putnam, $16, 9780735215092

4. Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine
Gail Honeyman, Penguin, $16, 9780735220690

5. The Lost Girls of Paris
Pam Jenoff, Park Row, $16.99, 9780778330271

6. Less
Andrew Sean Greer, Back Bay, $15.99, 9780316316132

7. The Power
Naomi Alderman, Back Bay, $16.99, 9780316547604

8. Pachinko
Min Jin Lee, Grand Central, $15.99, 9781455563920

9. All the Light We Cannot See
Anthony Doerr, Scribner, $17, 9781524731322

10. The Wife Between Us
Greer Hendricks, Sarah Pekkanen, St. Martin’s Griffin, $16.99, 9781250130945

11. Asymmetry
Lisa Halliday, S&S, $16, 9781501166785

12. Milkman
Anna Burns, Graywolf Press, $16, 9781644450000

13. The Friend
Sigrid Nunez, Riverhead Books, $16, 9780735219458

14. I Was Anastasia
Ariel Lawhon, Anchor, $16, 9781101973318

15. If Beale Street Could Talk
James Baldwin, Vintage, $14.95, 9780525566120

**TRADE PAPERBACK NONFICTION**

1. My Own Words
Ruth Bader Ginsburg, S&S, $18, 9781501145254

2. Sapiens
Yuval Noah Harari, Harper Perennial, $22.99, 9780062316110

3. White Fragility
Robin DiAngelo, Beacon Press, $16, 9780807047415

4. Searching for Stars on an Island in Maine
Alan Lightman, Vintage, $15.95, 9780525432593

5. You Are a Badass
Jen Sincero, Running Press, $16, 9780762447695

6. Killers of the Flower Moon
David Grann, Vintage, $16.95, 9780307742483

7. The Collected Schizophrenias: Essays
Esme Weijun Wang, Graywolf Press, $16, 9781555978273
8. The Monk of Mokha  New
Dave Eggers, Vintage, $16.95, 9781101971444
9. Our Towns: A 100,000-Mile Journey into the Heart of America  New
James Fallows, Deborah Fallows, Vintage, $16.95, 9780525432449
10. No Time to Spare: Thinking About What Matters
Ursula K. Le Guin, Mariner, $14.99, 9781328507976
11. Enlightenment Now
Steven Pinker, Penguin, $18, 9780143111382
12. Ruth Bader Ginsburg: In Her Own Words  New
Helena Hunt (Ed.), Agate B2, $11.95, 9781572842496
13. Code Girls
Liza Mundy, Hachette, $16.99, 9780316352543
14. Shoe Dog  New
Phil Knight, Scribner, $20, 9781501135927
15. Hillbilly Elegy  New
J.D. Vance, Harper, $16.99, 9780062300553

MASS MARKET
1. The Name of the Wind
Patrick Rothfuss, DAW, $9.99, 9780756404741
2. American Gods  New
3. Dune
Frank Herbert, Ace, $9.99, 9780441172719
4. To Kill a Mockingbird
Harper Lee, Grand Central, $9.99, 9781455538966
5. A Storm of Swords  New
George R.R. Martin, Bantam, $9.99, 9780345543981
6. Good Omens
7. The Catcher in the Rye  New
J.D. Salinger, Little Brown, $8.99, 9780316769488
8. The Diary of a Young Girl  New
Anne Frank, Bantam, $7.99, 9780553577129
9. A Game of Thrones  New
George R.R. Martin, Bantam, $9.99, 9780553593716
10. The Midnight Line
Lee Child, Dell, $9.99, 9780399593505

CHILDREN'S ILLUSTRATED
1. Goodnight Moon
Margaret Wise Brown, Clement Hurd (Illus.), Harper, $8.99, 9780694003617
2. The Good Egg
Jory John, Pete Oswald (Illus.), HarperCollins, $17.99, 9780062866004
3. Make Way for Ducklings
Robert McCloskey, Puffin, $7.99, 9780140564341
4. Hello Lighthouse
Sophie Blackall, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, $18.99, 9780316362382
5. The Very Hungry Caterpillar  New
Eric Carle, Putnam, $10.99, 9780399226908
6. Where the Wild Things Are  New
Maurice Sendak, Harper, $18.95, 9780060254926
7. Good Night, Gorilla  New
Peggy Rathmann, Putnam, $7.99, 9780399230035
8. Julián Is a Mermaid  New
Jessica Love, Candlewick, $16.99, 9780763690458
9. Little Blue Truck  New
Alice Schertle, Jill McElmurry (Illus.), HMH Books for Young Readers, $7.99, 9780544568037
Raj Haldar, Chris Carpenter, Maria Beddia (Illus.), Sourcebooks Jabberwocky, $17.99, 9781492674313

CHILDREN'S INTEREST
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1. On the Come Up
   Angie Thomas, Balzer + Bray, $18.99, 9780062498564
2. The Hate U Give
   Angie Thomas, Balzer + Bray, $18.99, 9780062871350
3. New Kid
   Jerry Craft, HarperCollins, $12.99, 9780062691194
4. Max and the Midknights
   Lincoln Peirce, Crown Books for Young Readers, $13.99, 9781101931080
5. Astrophysics for Young People in a Hurry
   Neil DeGrasse Tyson, Norton Young Readers, $11.95, 9780393356502
   New
   Rey Terciero, Bre Indigo (Illus.), Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, $12.99, 9780316522885
7. Five Feet Apart
   Rachael Lippincott, Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers, $18.99, 9781534451568
8. Dragon Pearl
   Yoon Ha Lee, Rick Riordan Presents, $16.99, 9781368013352
9. Two Can Keep a Secret
   Karen M. McManus, Delacorte Press, $19.99, 9781524714727
10. The Poet X
    New
    Elizabeth Acevedo, HarperTeen, $17.99, 97800626662804

CHILDREN'S SERIES TITLES

1. Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild
   Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9781338236576
2. Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Meltdown
   Jeff Kinney, Abrams, $13.95, 9781419727436
3. Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas
   Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935173
4. The Wild Robot
   New
   Peter Brown, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, $16.99, 9780316381994
5. Narwhal's Otter Friend (Narwhal and Jelly, #4)
   Ben Clanton, Tundra Books, $12.99, 9780735262485
6. Dog Man Unleashed
   Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935203
7. Dog Man and Cat Kid
   Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935180
8. The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1)
   New
   Rick Riordan, Hyperion, $7.99, 9781423134947
9. The Hive Queen (Wings of Fire, Book 12)
   Tui T. Sutherland, Scholastic Press, $16.99, 9781338214482
10. The Princess in Black
    New
    Shannon Hale, Dean Hale, LeUyen Pham (Illus.), Candlewick, $6.99, 9780763678883