Notes from the NEIBA Advisory Council

Booksellers to Bookstore Owners

By Meg Wasmer, Copper Dog Books

So for months, this Notes from the AC was going to be a recap of the Hugo Award ceremony because I made a pilgrimage to Dublin to attend my first WorldCon this past week with the sole intent of seeing the Hugos. It was ethereal and beautiful. Mary Robinette Kowels Best Novel Hugo for the first book in the Lady Astronaut series was awarded to her by a real life lady astronaut, which was emotional to say the least. The Murderbot Diaries scored a much-deserved second Hugo for best Novella, which was validating because I am all about Murderbot. It was everything I hoped and dreamed for after a decade of swearing that I would someday get to WorldCon.

And yet, somehow this isn't the biggest book news in my life this month, because on August 1st Julie and I bought our store. It still hasn't sunk in yet. If you'd told me when I walked into Winter Institute that I'd be a bookstore owner before the end of the year, I never would have believed you. As I ease into ownership and Julie and I find how the distribution of labor is going to shake out, I can't help but be grateful to all the people who helped us get from fledgling booksellers at Borders to where we are today.

When Peter Sherman (now of Wellesley Bookstore) hired me for my very first bookstore job (which I was very bad at) I'm pretty sure that he didn't think that he was changing the course of my life. I was awarded a scholarship to the Fall Conference two years ago where the Bank Square and Savoy booksellers took me under their wing and made sure that I never sat alone at a dinner or panel, which left me hungering for the next NEIBA event. Liz at the ABA has fielded every question I've thrown at her. Maureen Karb waded through the first order I ever submitted through Edelweiss with me (it was a trial and her patience was saint-like).

All of my reps have been amazing while I wade through mountains of paperwork and get
fresh accounts set up. And seriously, John Hugo is entrusting me with the legacy of this store that we’ve spent the last three years building together. He tolerated our shaky first year, let me run absolutely amok the second year using all that knowledge I got at that first Fall Conference, and let me throw crazy ideas against the wall to see what stuck: the boozy book fair, educational seminars, the Pi Party. Then he kicked me out of the nest and sent me off on this unimaginable adventure.

So here I sit in Dublin with a glass of proper whiskey, absolutely in awe that this is my real life, really looking forward to seeing what the next adventure is.

Macmillan/Henry Holt Announces Matching Donation Campaign for *Me* by Elton John
Donations to Benefit Binc and Independent Booksellers

To celebrate the forthcoming publication of Elton John’s memoir *Me*, Macmillan/Henry Holt will donate $10 to Binc for every independent bookstore order of 20 copies or more, up to a total maximum match amount of $5,000. All orders placed by independent bookstores before November 15 are eligible for this program.

"We are proud to support our bookselling community and Binc; this program creates an opportunity to do so that we hope will be meaningful to the independent booksellers," said Maggie Richards, VP, Henry Holt and Company.

Pam French, Binc Executive Director said, "We are honored to..."
be working with Macmillan/Henry Holt on this innovative fundraising effort. By contributing to Binc, Macmillan/Henry Holt is giving booksellers the opportunity to strengthen the safety net for themselves and their colleagues while doing the daily work of ordering books for their bookshops.

The Foundation has been able to assist forty-four booksellers and their families and has distributed $103,039 in emergency assistance (as reported by the Foundation at mid-year January 1st – June 30th, 2019), due to the commitment of sustaining partners, including Macmillan. This assistance has alleviated medical debt, provided a safe place to live, afforded booksellers needed medical care, and much more.

Pam French concluded, "We couldn’t do this work without our publishing partners like Macmillan and are grateful for their continued support and creativity. Publishers supporting booksellers make this whole industry stronger."

---

**Action Items for August & September**

- **Fall Conference Scholarship Applications (below)** due **August 23**
- **Fall Conference Hotel Reservations** due **September 3**
- **Fall Conference Attendee Registration** due **September 26**
- **NEIBA Membership Enrollment & Renewal** — **ASAP**

---

**Quarto Kids Spring 2020 Preview**

You’re invited to the Quarto Kids Spring 2020 Preview!

**Tuesday, October 15th**

- **11:00AM** Mingling & Brunch
- **11:30AM** Spring Title Presentation
- **12:30PM** Author Presentation + Signing
Updated 2019 Fall Conference Registration Forms

Have you seen Monday’s 2019 Fall Conference e-blast? If so, we’ve made updates to the registration forms for booksellers, exhibitors, and schools/librarians. Please use the following:

Booksellers — click here!
Exhibitors — click here!
Schools/Librarians — click here!

These forms have been edited to include the cost for all Wednesday lunches (the Rep Pick-Nic, Bookstore Owner Roundtable Lunch, Buyer Roundtable Lunch, and Cafe Owner/Manager Roundtable Lunch) — all of which are $15. If purchasing an Event Pack, please specify the tickets you’ll need for each of the Wednesday lunches.

The revised forms are also live on the Fall Conference page of the website and will be shared in all future 2019 Fall Conference correspondence.

#RomanceBookstoreDay Round-Up

@silverunicornbooks: Our first-ever Bookstore Romance Day was a huge success! Thanks to Kerry Winfrey, Lindsay D'Angelo, and the rest of the team at The Silver Unicorn for a great day!

@thebookloftberkshires: What a fabulous #BookstoreRomanceDay with bubbly discussion and even bubblier champagne. A big thanks to my fellow booksellers and all of our fans!
Suzanne Krohn and Stacie Williams for making it a special day!

@briarpatchbooks: Love is in the air at The Briar Patch! Today is Bookstore Romance Day and we’re celebrating by giving away a special Downtown Romance package...

@titcombsbookshop: Celebrating Bookstore Romance Day this Saturday! What’s your favorite romance novel?

---

**NEIBA Bookseller Scholarships for the 2019 Fall Conference**

NEIBA is pleased to announce that 5 Fall Conference scholarships are available to NEIBA member booksellers: 1 sponsored by BINC, 1 sponsored by HarperCollins, and 3 sponsored by NEIBA. Each of the Scholarships has a value of $500 to be used for two nights hotel and a full NEIBA Fall Conference meal package. We would especially like to hear from booksellers at our smaller and mid-size stores who haven't been able to attend many NEIBA events.

All applications must include your name, your store's name, your position at the store, and a short essay telling us why you would like to attend the 2019 NEIBA Fall Conference and what your goals and expectations are. The 3 NEIBA scholarships have additional requirements:

1. **NEIBA SCHOLARSHIP FOR FIRST TIME ATTENDEES** — for booksellers who have not attended the Fall Conference in 2+ years

2. **NEIBA SCHOLARSHIP FRONTLINE BOOKSELLERS** — for booksellers with less than 5 years of experience

3. **FRIENDS OF NEIBA DIVERSITY SCHOLARSHIP*** — In addition to the above, please answer to the following question in your application: What does diversity in literature mean to you as a bookseller and why is it crucial to have diversity in the bookselling community?

Recipients of each scholarship will be determined by the NEIBA Board of Directors.
The deadline for applications is THIS FRIDAY, August 23rd.

Please send your essays to Ali Schmelzle (Ali@NEBA.org).

*Because diversity comes in many forms, and means different things to different people, we are not asking you to tick a box on this application as to how you feel you qualify for this particular opportunity. Instead, we're trusting this community to honor this award with honesty. We at NEIBA are also committed to confidentiality and will withhold the winner's name upon request.

All booksellers welcome!

Please join trade editors from The MIT Press for a delightful lunch and book talk from 12-2 pm on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2019.

We'll be sharing some of our favorite forthcoming titles, while also hoping to hear from booksellers on the state of your stores and how we can better serve you and your customers.

Hosted by David Goldberg, Karen Corvello, and Clarissa Murphy at The MIT Press Bookstore
301 Massachusetts Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02139.

Please RSVP to David Goldberg (davidgol@mit.edu) by Tuesday, September 3.

Wholesaler Information & Resources

Social Media Spotlight

The Children's Bookshop
@thechildrensbookshop_brookline: Our young customers sometimes like to rearrange our Bear and Llama Llama, and we find them later in unexpected and hilarious positions. Today it seems someone decided to flip them both upside down and turn them into the stuffed animal version of this emoji 😴😴😴

Want to be featured? Use #NEIBA in social media posts (or tag @neibabooks) so we can see & share your photos!

---

**NEIBA Best Sellers**

**for the week ended Sunday August 18, 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. *Chances Are . . .*  
   Richard Russo, Knopf, $26.95, 9781101947746  
3. *The Nickel Boys*  
   Colson Whitehead, Doubleday, $24.95, 9780385537070  
4. *On Earth We’re Briefly Gorgeous*  
   Ocean Vuong, Penguin Press, $26, 9780525562023  
5. *City of Girls*
6. Inland **New!**
Téa Obreht, Random House, $27, 9780812992861
7. The New Girl
Daniel Silva, Harper, $28.99, 9780062834836
8. Summer of '69
Elin Hilderbrand, Little Brown, $28, 9780316420013
9. Normal People
Sally Rooney, Hogarth, $26, 9781984822178
10. Circe
Madeline Miller, Little Brown, $27, 9780316556347
11. The Guest Book
Sarah Blake, Flatiron Books, $27.99, 9781250110251
12. Ask Again, Yes
Mary Beth Keane, Scribner, $27, 9781982106980
13. Fleishman Is in Trouble
Taffy Brodesser-Akner, Random House, $27, 9780525510871
14. The Turn of the Key
Ruth Ware, Gallery/Scout Press, $27.99, 9781501188770
15. Evvie Drake Starts Over **New!**
Linda Holmes, Ballantine, $26, 9780525619246

**HARDCOVER NONFICTION**
1. Educated
Tara Westover, Random House, $28, 9780399590504
2. How to Be an Antiracist **New!**
Ibram X. Kendi, One World, $27, 9780525509288
3. Three Women
Lisa Taddeo, Avid Reader Press/S&S, $27, 9781451642292
4. The Pioneers
David McCullough, S&S, $30, 9781501168680
5. Becoming
Michelle Obama, Crown, $32.50, 9781524763138
6. Trick Mirror
Jia Tolentino, Random House, $27, 9780525510543
7. Maybe You Should Talk to Someone
Lori Gottlieb, Houghton Mifflin Harcourt, $28, 9781328662057
8. Salt, Fat, Acid, Heat
Samin Nosrat, Wendy MacNaughton (Illus.), S&S, $35, 9781476753836
9. The Source of Self-Regard
Toni Morrison, Knopf, $28.95, 9780525521037
10. The Second Mountain
David Brooks, Random House, $28, 9780812999326
11. The British Are Coming
Rick Atkinson, Holt, $40, 9781627790437
12. The Yellow House **New!**
Sarah M. Broom, Grove Press, $26, 9780802125088
13. Spying on the South
Tony Horwitz, Penguin Press, $30, 9781101980286
14. Homegrown: How the Red Sox Built a Champion from the Ground Up **New!**
Alex Speier, Morrow, $27.99, 9780062943552
Christopher Leonard, S&S, $35, 9781476775388
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TRADE PAPERBACK FICTION</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. The Overstory</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard Powers, Norton, $18.95, 9780393356687</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Little Fires Everywhere</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Celeste Ng, Penguin, $17, 9780735224315</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. A Gentleman in Moscow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amor Towles, Penguin, $17, 9780143110439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. The Tattooist of Auschwitz</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Heather Morris, Harper, $16.99, 9780062797155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The Witch Elm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tana French, Penguin, $17, 9780735224643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Beloved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toni Morrison, Vintage, $16, 9781400033416</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. There There</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tommy Orange, Vintage, $16, 9780525436140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Before We Were Yours</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lisa Wingate, Ballantine, $17, 9780425284704</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Eleanor Oliphant Is Completely Fine</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gail Honeyman, Penguin, $16, 9780735220690</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. The Woman in the Window</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.J. Finn, Morrow, $16.99, 9780062678423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. The Bluest Eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toni Morrison, Vintage, $14.95, 9780307278449</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Washington Black</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Esi Edugyan, Vintage, $16.95, 9780525563242</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. The Art of Racing in the Rain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garth Stein, Harper, $16.99, 9780062364913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Where’d You Go, Bernadette</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Maria Semple, Back Bay, $15.99, 9780316204262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. The Great Believers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rebecca Makkai, Penguin, $16, 9780735223530</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>TRADE PAPERBACK NONFICTION</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Born a Crime</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Trevor Noah, Spiegel &amp; Grau, $18, 9780399588198</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Sapiens</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yuval Noah Harari, Harper Perennial, $22.99, 9780062316110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Calypso</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Sedaris, Back Bay, $17.99, 9780316392426</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. White Fragility</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Robin DiAngelo, Beacon Press, $16, 9780807047415</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. The Spy and the Traitor</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ben Macintyre, Broadway Books, $18, 9781101904213</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. The Mueller Report</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Washington Post, Scribner, $15, 9781982129736</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Dopesick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beth Macy, Back Bay, $17.99, 9780316551304</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. How to Change Your Mind</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Michael Pollan, Penguin, $18, 9780735224155</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. In the Hurricane’s Eye</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nathaniel Philbrick, Penguin, $18, 9780143111450</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Killers of the Flower Moon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>David Grann, Vintage, $16.95, 9780307742483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Being Mortal</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
12. Just Mercy
Bryan Stevenson, Spiegel & Grau, $16, 9780812984965
13. Indianapolis • New!
Lynn Vincent, Sara Vladic, S&S, $18, 9781501135958
14. Into the Raging Sea • New!
Rachel Slade, Ecco, $17.99, 9780062699879
15. The Soul of an Octopus • New!
Sy Montgomery, Atria, $16, 9781451697728

MASS MARKET
1. Dune
Frank Herbert, Ace, $9.99, 9780441172719
2. Good Omens
3. 1984
George Orwell, Signet, $9.99, 9780451524935
4. A Game of Thrones
George R.R. Martin, Bantam, $9.99, 9780553593716
5. The Diary of a Young Girl
Anne Frank, Bantam, $7.99, 9780553577129
6. The Catcher in the Rye
J.D. Salinger, Little Brown, $8.99, 9780316769488
7. The Name of the Wind
Patrick Rothfuss, DAW, $9.99, 9780756404741
8. Lord of the Flies
William Golding, Perigee, $9.99, 9780399501487
10. Animal Farm • New!
George Orwell, Signet, $9.99, 9780451526342

CHILDREN’S ILLUSTRATED
1. The Pigeon HAS to Go to School!
Mo Willems, Hyperion Books for Children, $16.99, 9781368046459
2. Make Way for Ducklings
Robert McCloskey, Puffin, $7.99, 9780140564341
3. If I Built a School • New!
Chris Van Dusen, Dial Books, $17.99, 9780525552918
4. Blueberries for Sal
Robert McCloskey, Puffin, $7.99, 9780140501698
5. Goodnight Moon
Margaret Wise Brown, Clement Hurd (Illus.), Harper, $8.99, 9780694003617
6. We Don't Eat Our Classmates
Ryan T. Higgins, Disney/Hyperion, $17.99, 9781368003551
7. Pat the Bunny
Dorothy Kunhardt, Golden Books, $9.99, 9780307120007
8. Hello Lighthouse
Sophie Blackall, Little, Brown Books for Young Readers, $18.99, 9780316362382
9. Good Night, Gorilla • New!
Peggy Rathmann, Putnam, $7.99, 9780399230035
10. Llama Llama Red Pajama • New!
Anna Dewdney, Viking Books for Young Readers, $8.99, 9780451474575
CHILDREN'S INTEREST
1. Camp
Kayla Miller, HMH Books for Young Readers, $12.99, 9781328530820
2. Diary of an Awesome Friendly Kid: Rowley Jefferson's Journal
Jeff Kinney, Abrams, $13.99, 9781419740275
3. New Kid
Jerry Craft, Harper, $12.99, 9780062691194
4. The Hate U Give
Angie Thomas, Balzer + Bray, $18.99, 9780062871350
5. One of Us Is Lying New!
Karen M. McManus, Delacorte Press, $17.99, 9781524714680
6. Ghosts New!
Raina Telgemeier, Graphix, $10.99, 9780545540629
7. Smile
Raina Telgemeier, Graphix, $10.99, 9780545132060
8. Wilder Girls New!
Rory Power, Delacorte Press, $18.99, 9780525645580
9. The Book Thief New!
Markus Zusak, Knopf Books for Young Readers, $14.99, 9780385754729
10. Drama
Raina Telgemeier, Graphix, $10.99, 9780545326995

CHILDREN’S SERIES TITLES
1. Dog Man: For Whom the Ball Rolls New!
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $12.99, 9781338236590
2. The Poison Jungle (Wings of Fire, Book 13)
Tui T. Sutherland, Scholastic Press, $16.99, 9781338214512
3. Dog Man: Brawl of the Wild
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9781338236576
4. Dog Man New!
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545581608
5. Just Jaime (Emmie & Friends)
Terri Libenson, Balzer + Bray, $12.99, 9780062851062
6. Dog Man: Lord of the Fleas
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935173
7. Dog Man Unleashed New!
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935203
8. Ivy and Bean (Ivy & Bean, #1) New!
Annie Barrows, Sophie Blackall (Illus.), Chronicle, $5.99, 9780811849098
9. The Lightning Thief (Percy Jackson and the Olympians, Book 1) New!
Rick Riordan, Hyperion, $7.99, 9781423134947
10. Dog Man and Cat Kid New!
Dav Pilkey, Graphix, $9.99, 9780545935180