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Ninth Annual Authors in Chelsea Brings the "Power of Writing" to Schools and the Community!

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The Chelsea District Library (CDL) will present the 9th annual Authors in Chelsea (AiC) event on Tuesday, March 13 and Wednesday, March 14. Each year AiC endeavors to bring in nationally-known authors that are engaging for both children and educators alike. This two-day event includes assemblies and workshops for more than 1,000 students in 1st – 6th grades so they can explore the art and craft of writing, encourage them to read and appreciate literature, and experience "The Power of Writing."

This year's line-up includes painter and photographer Rick Lieder with poet and author Helen Frost, who will be visiting 1st and 2nd grade students at North Creek Elementary School. Books featuring Helen's poetry and Rick's photography include *Step Gentry Out*, *Sweep up the Sun*, and more! Visiting 3rd – 5th graders at South Meadows is Michael Buckley, author of *The New York Times* best-selling series *The Sisters Grimm*. All 6th graders at Beach Middle School will be joined by award-winning author Nora Raleigh Baskin, author of *Anything But Typical* (ALA Schneider Family Book Award) and *Nine/Ten: A 9/11 Story*. Copies of the authors' books are available to students in their classrooms and for checkout at CDL.

While our distinguished guests will be spending most of their time in the classrooms, there will be an opportunity for the community to visit with our authors as well. The public is invited to join us for An Evening with the Authors at Washington Street Education Center on March 13 at 6:30pm in the Board Room. Each author will share their journey into the world of writing along with a Q&A session with the audience. There will also be an opportunity to purchase books to be signed by the authors, courtesy of Just Imagine. The first 20 families to arrive will also receive a free book!

The public is also encouraged to visit the library between now and March 14 to enjoy the *Wild Light* exhibit of Rick Lieder's photography and paintings. Rick's paintings, photography, and digital art have appeared in award-winning novels for both adults and children, and have been exhibited in galleries in the Midwest and Canada. The nature photography featured in his *Wild Light* exhibit centers on ordinary backyard wildlife and includes luminous photographs of honey bees and small birds in flight, glowing fireflies, majestic egrets, and more.

Support from the Chelsea Education Foundation and the Friends of the Chelsea District Library has allowed for the purchase of more than 300 books by this year's visiting authors. The books were distributed to classrooms and the media centers at each of the three participating Chelsea schools in advance of the authors' visits. For further information about the Authors in Chelsea program, please visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org/authors-in-chelsea/.

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The Chelsea Education Foundation is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization that provides funding for a wide spectrum of educational activities to benefit the residents of Chelsea, Michigan.

The Friends of the Chelsea District Library Friends of the Chelsea District Library raise funds to supplement the library's programs, events, materials and equipment.

About Us: Chelsea District Library is a not-for-profit organization whose mission is to provide equal access to quality resources that serve the lifelong cultural, educational and informational needs and interests of all people. The Library currently serves 15,100 residents in the Chelsea district, which includes the City of Chelsea and the Dexter, Lima, Lyndon, and Sylvan townships. Approximately 16,000 individuals visit the library each month. For more information visit chelseadistrictlibrary.org.

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