

Celebrating

THE NEW JERSEY CENTER FOR THE BOOK



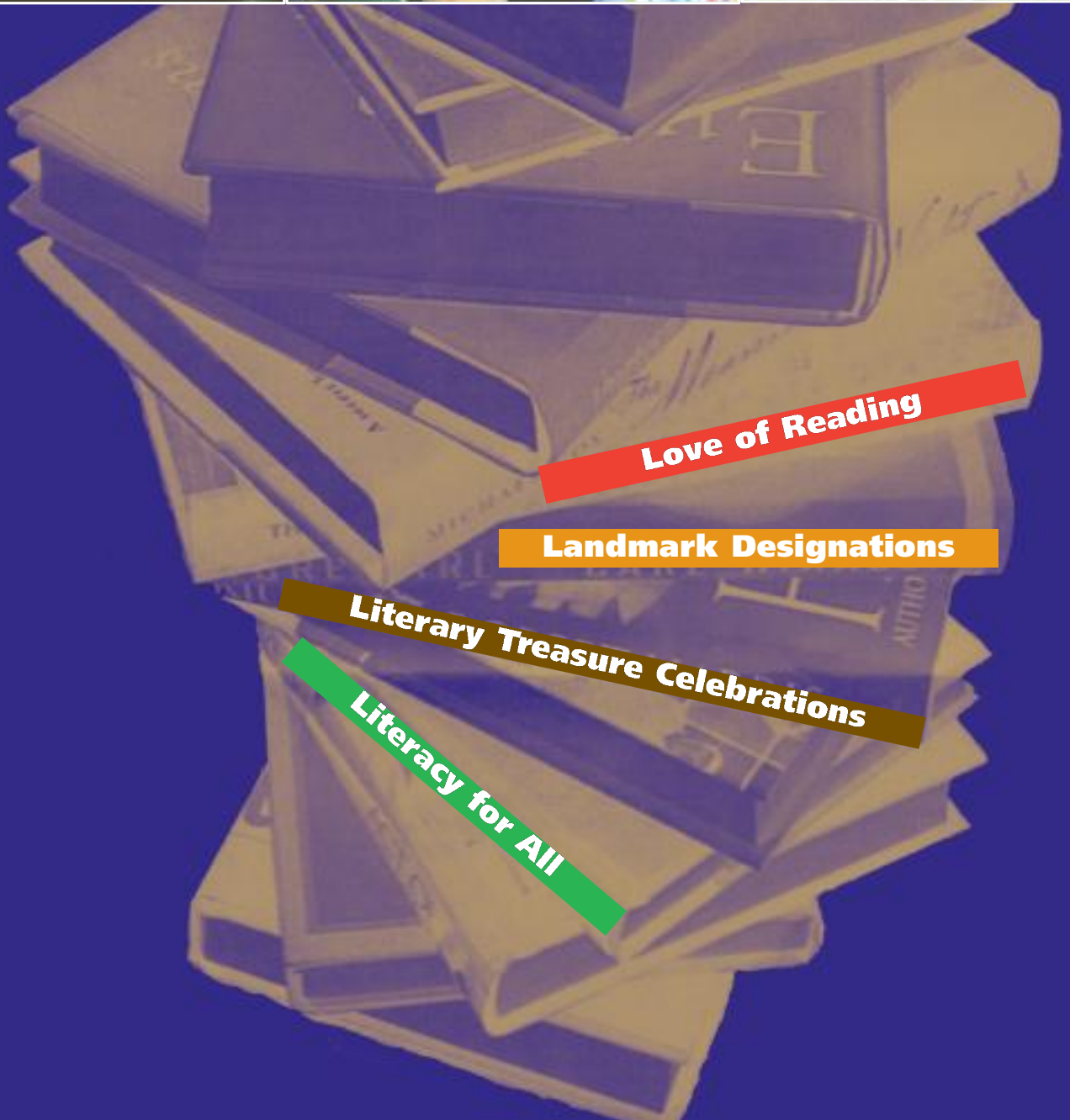
2002 Clothespin Doll Project



2005 National Book Festival



**New Jersey libraries plant
the seeds of great ideas.
2006**



Love of Reading

Landmark Designations

Literary Treasure Celebrations

Literacy for All

The Mission



On January 1, 2002, New Jersey became the 44th state to create a designated Center for the Book within the Library of Congress. The Center for the Book was established in the United States to promote books, reading, libraries and literacy. **The mission of the New Jersey Center for the Book also is to foster programs that celebrate the print culture in our society.**

The **New Jersey Center for the Book** adds an extraordinary dimension to the literary mosaic of our great state through its:

- ★ Sponsorship of programs designed to celebrate New Jersey's unique literary treasures.
- ★ Designation of literary landmarks that inspire both young and old with the state's rich literary heritage.
- ★ Recognition of talented authors from the state — both past and present — to encourage children and teens to become the writers of the future.

The home of the **New Jersey Center for the Book** is the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies at Rutgers, the State University. The **New Jersey Center for the Book's** website is among the resources provided by SCILS to the Center. Programs, publications and projects of the **New Jersey Center for the Book** are supported by tax-deductible donations from individuals, corporations and foundations.

NATIONAL BOOK FESTIVAL



More than 100,000 people attended the National Book Festival on Sept. 24, 2005, in Washington, D.C. Renee Swartz, chair of the **New Jersey Center for the Book**, distributed **G is for Garden State** posters that were designed especially for the New Jersey display. A special bookmark with tomatoes was created to match the New Jersey tomato theme of the exhibit.

The following themes have been represented in New Jersey's exhibit over the years: 2002's theme was **Clothespin Dolls**, based on NJ author Barbara Cohen's book *Molly's Pilgrim*; 2003's theme was **open access to information for all** based on the book *Goin' Someplace Special* by Patricia C. McKissack and Jerry Pinkney, which highlighted the 68 new library and renovated buildings in New Jersey; 2004's theme was **a nurturing and caring community encourages us all to succeed**, based on the book *Somebody Loves You Mr. Hatch* by Eileen Spinelli; 2005's theme was **Libraries Grow Ideas** based on the book *G is for Garden State* by Eileen Cameron and Doris Ettinger; 2006's theme was **NJ Libraries Plant the Seeds of Great Ideas** based on the book *Miss Rumphius* by Barbara Cooney.

- 1 New Jersey author **Walter Dean Myers** signs special National Book Festival posters at the NJ Exhibit. Joining Walter Dean Myers at the booth are **Mary Chute**, the 2005 Acting Director of IMLS, Chair **Renee Swartz**, and **John Cole**, Director of the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress.
- 2 Author **Eileen Cameron** and illustrator **Doris Ettinger** show their book *G is for Garden State*.
- 3 Board Members **Jackie Spritzer** and **Bonnie Kunzel** at the 2006 National Book Festival.
- 4 *Somebody Loves You Mr. Hatch* was the 2004 New Jersey Poster.
- 5 An Astronaut Doll, one of the hundreds of clothespin dolls made by the young people of New Jersey for the event.

LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE



The annual **Letters about Literature** contest encourages young readers to explore their personal responses to books they have read by writing letters to the books' authors. The **New Jersey Center for the Book** received the most entries in the United States — **more than 7,000 essays** — **triple the number of any other state in the 2006 competition**. Winners and semi-finalists in the New Jersey competition were honored at the annual Letters about Literature reception held at the Governor's residence, Drumthwacket, in Princeton. This year's celebration, held by invitation from **Governor Jon Corzine**, was part of Drumthwacket's reopening for special events.

① New Jersey Secretary of State **Nina Wells** listens to Dean of the School of Communication, Information and Library Studies **Gus Friedrich**, the master of ceremonies at the Awards Reception.

② Students and families celebrate during the Awards Ceremony.

③ Commissioner of Education **Lucille Davy** presents the 75 finalists with certificates signed by Governor Corzine.

④ Board Member **Pat Morris** reviews entries. Pat is the heart and soul of the Letters about Literature project. As the logistical coordinator of this statewide program, she communicates with teachers, records entries of all participants, and continually promotes the Letters about Literature project.

AUTHOR EVENTS



In April, 2006, the Center dedicated a special poster listing 20 New Jersey authors nominated by New Jersey residents. The final list of authors was selected by a panel comprised of New Jersey scholars, professors and authors. The poster has been distributed statewide to libraries.

In addition, the **New Jersey Center for the Book** partnered with the Rutgers Rare Book Library to sponsor an **Art of the Book** program featuring poet **Galway Kinnell** at the Rutgers Newark Dana Library.

① **Michael Joseph**, Rutgers Rare Book Librarian, chair **Renee Swartz**, and board member **Phyllis Anker** display the New Jersey Author poster. ② **Marianne Gaunt**, Rutgers University Librarian, at the Book Arts event.

Landmarks

The **Center for the Book** celebrates literary treasures of New Jersey that may have been overlooked in the state's history.

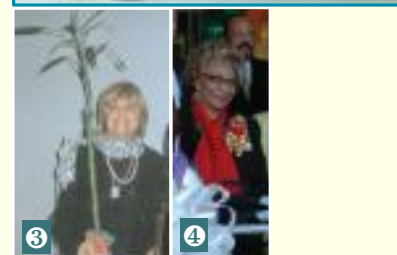
Literary Landmarks include:

① **Newark Public Library** — the essence of the scholarly library and an outstanding resource for the citizens of New Jersey. **Wilma Grey**, Director of the Newark Public Library and NJ Center for the Book Board member.

② **Paterson Public Library**, serving New Jersey citizens for more than 100 years, is the longest continuously operating public library in New Jersey.

③ On May 20, 2006, the **Joyce Kilmer Tree** was designated a New Jersey literary landmark on the Rutgers Campus.

④ Center for the Book Board Member and Camden County Freeholder **Riletta Cream** dedicates the new Camden City Municipal Library. Freeholder Cream is responsible for securing the \$5 million allocation to build this new facility.



Partnerships

① Board Members **Ken Sheinbaum**, Secretary of the Center for the Book and Director of the Monmouth County Library System, and ETS Vice President **Frank Miller** judge the Letters about Literature essays at ETS.

② **Marianne Gaunt**, **Dr. Gus Friedrich**, and **Dr. Betty Turock** join **Dr. John Y. Cole**, Director of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress, at the Beta Phi Mu reception celebrating distinguished librarianship in New Jersey.

③ Dignitaries at the Youth Detention Center State Library Reception include (standing left to right) **Jeff Kesper**, Director of the Library Development Bureau; a guest; **Bonnie Kunzel**, Director of Youth Services and Consultant at the State Library; **Norma Blake**, New Jersey State Librarian; Board Member **Phyllis Anker**; (seated left to right) **Valerie L. Egar**, Special Counsel to the Executive Director of the Juvenile Justice Commission; **Renee Swartz**, Chair of the Center for the Book; **Mary T. Previte**, former administrator of the Camden County Juvenile Detention Center for 30 years and a four-term legislator from Camden County, who keynoted the opening of the exhibit.

④ Part of the Youth Detention Center Traveling Exhibit from the 17 Youth Detention Centers in New Jersey.



★ **Educational Testing Service** has been the gracious host of two Letters about Literature statewide receptions and the annual judging of the essays. The Library of Congress selects about 25 essays from the New Jersey entries from each of the three age group categories (Grades 4-6, Grades 7-8, and Grades 9-12) and returns them for judging. The judges meet one day in February at Educational Testing Service to read the 75 finalists' essays and select a winner in each grade category.

★ The **Rutgers Chapter of Beta Phi Mu**, the **Alexander Library** and the **New Jersey Center for the Book** co-sponsored a reception for inductees to celebrate distinguished librarianship in New Jersey. **Marianne Gaunt**, Rutgers University Librarian, also hosted the first **New Jersey Center for the Book** author event.

★ The **New Jersey State Library** and the **New Jersey Center for the Book** cosponsored the New Jersey Young Adult Author Conference in May, 2005. The Youth Detention Center Traveling Exhibit, first seen at the National Book Festival, began its tour of New Jersey at the Monmouth County Library.

★ The **New Jersey Association of School Librarians** continues to promote the **New Jersey Center for the Book** through its website, publicity and monthly newsletter, edited by Board Member Pat Morris.

★ The **New Jersey Historical Society** and the **New Jersey Center for the Book** co-sponsored an author program in September that featured author Michael Iverson, who spoke about Italian Americans in New Jersey.

Check the website for information on the **New Jersey Center for the Book's** newest partnerships with **Liberty Science Center** and **Stevens Institute of Technology**.



The **New Jersey Center for the Book** seeks to establish partnerships to support its activities as it moves forward with its mission.

Board members at a meeting at the Mary Jacobs Library in Rocky Hill, N.J. hosted by Larry DeCicco.



Larry DeCicco Carol Phillips Lois Wilkins Cathy Miller

OUR SUPPORTERS

The **New Jersey Center for the Book** is supported by:

- ★ **Educational Testing Service**
- ★ The federal **Institute of Museum and Library Services** through the Library Services and Technology Act administered by the **New Jersey State Library**
- ★ **Monmouth County Library**
- ★ The **School of Communication, Information and Library Studies at Rutgers University**
- ★ The **Betty Turock Foundation**
- ★ **Readers** like you

The **New Jersey Center for the Book** welcomes individual donors, corporate sponsors and foundation support. For further information on how you can support the Center for the Book, please call **732-431-7235** or check www.njcenterforthebook.org.

ANNUAL EVENTS

Check our website www.njcenterforthebook.org for announcements of upcoming events. Annually, the **New Jersey Center for the Book** participates in:

- ★ The **National Book Festival** in Washington, D.C.
- ★ **Letters about Literature**, a national reading-writing initiative affiliated with the Library of Congress
- ★ **Letters about Literature Awards Reception** celebrating statewide contest winners

ACTIVITIES

- ★ The **Book Arts** Symposium
- ★ **Literary Landmark** Designations
- ★ Statewide **Author** Events, Exhibits and Discussions
- ★ A **Stellar Science Spectacular** planned for 2007 in partnership with **Liberty Science Center** and **Stevens Institute of Technology**
- ★ **A Continuing Celebration of Miss Rumphius** A new award to be presented at the **Stellar Science Spectacular** to honor a librarian or school library media specialist who has done something special in spreading ideas, literacy, or setting a standard of excellence in the library profession. Nomination information is available at www.njcenterforthebook.org

2007 STELLAR SCIENCE SPECTACULAR

The **New Jersey Center for the Book** is proud to announce as a celebration of its fifth anniversary a **Stellar Science Spectacular** that will be held at Liberty Science Center in October, 2007, to promote **science literacy**. This symposium for teachers and librarians will feature workshops, discussions, presentations and a variety of learning resources that will qualify for professional development hours. Featured speakers will be Governor Corzine and Lucille Davy, Commissioner of Education. This event is offered in partnership with Stevens Institute of Technology, Boston Museum of Science, the NJ Department of Education, and the NJ Association of School Librarians.

Check www.njcenterforthebook.org for activities.

In Special Recognition

Chair and Coordinator **Renee B. Swartz**, shown here with First Lady Laura Bush, was appointed by President Bush to serve as a member of the National Institute of Museum and Library Services Board the federal division of the Executive Branch that is the chief funding force and grant-providing agency for 122,000 libraries and 17,500 museums in the United States. She continues to chair the New Jersey State Library Advisory Council, the Monmouth County Library Commission, and the Program Associates at SCILS.



Board Member **Dr. Betty J. Turock** is the 2006 recipient of the Joseph W. Lippincott Award, given for outstanding participation in professional library activities, notable published professional writing, or other significant activities on behalf of the profession. This is the highest award given by the American Library Association. Dr. Turock is past president of the American Library

Association and Professor Emerita at SCILS, Rutgers University.



Board Member **Lucille Davy** was appointed **New Jersey Commissioner of Education** by **Governor Corzine**.

Notables



Author **Jim Murphy** received the Rutgers Medal for Distinguished Contribution to Children's Literature at the New Jersey Author Symposium on April 20, 2006, at the Alexander Library, Rutgers.

Board Member and Educational Testing Service Vice President **Eleanor Horne** received the first Literary Lion Award for her sustained efforts in promoting literacy.



Board Member **Bonnie Kunzel** was selected to serve on the American Library Association Newbery Award Committee for 2008. Bonnie was named 2006 Librarian of the Year by the New Jersey Library Association. Board Member **Carol Phillips**, past president of the New Jersey Library Association, was also honored as a previous New Jersey Librarian of the Year.

The **New Jersey Center for the Book** is fortunate to have the guidance of many of New Jersey's most prominent citizens and business and community leaders who work tirelessly to achieve its mission.

- ★ *Publications Committee:* Chair Phyllis Anker, Bonnie Kunzel, Pat Morris, Carol Phillips, Ken Sheinbaum, Renee Swartz, and Lois Wilkins.
- ★ *Designed by* Tracy Ilvento, Applied Business Communications
- ★ *Printing contributed by* Hatteras Press Inc.