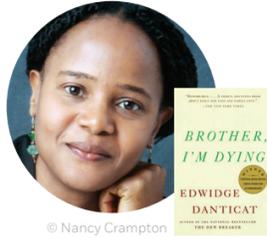


Edwidge Danticat

A powerful and widely celebrated voice in contemporary fiction, Haitian American bestselling author and social activist Edwidge Danticat has been awarded a MacArthur Fellowship, the National Book Critics Circle Award, and the Dayton Literary Peace Prize, among other honors. She is the author of *Claire of the Sea Light*; *Brother, I'm Dying*; *Breath, Eyes, Memory*, and the forthcoming picture book *Mama's Nightingale: A story of Immigration and Separation*.



© Nancy Crampton

Vanessa Diffenbaugh

Vanessa Diffenbaugh is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling debut and book club sensation *The Language of Flowers*. A foster parent herself, Diffenbaugh is an ardent advocate for foster care. Her eagerly anticipated second novel, *We Never Asked for Wings*, explores the themes of motherhood, young love, education, and immigration.



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Gayle Forman

Award-winning, internationally bestselling author and journalist Gayle Forman's novels strike a powerful nerve with readers. Always smart and fresh, her works, including the *New York Times* bestsellers *If I Stay*, *Where She Went*, and, most recently, *I Was Here*, garner praise worldwide. Gayle served as a writer and executive producer on the film adaptation of *If I Stay*, starring Chloë Grace Moretz.



© Dennis Kleinman

Karen Joy Fowler

Acclaimed author of *The Jane Austen Book Club* and *We Are All Completely Beside Ourselves*, Karen Joy Fowler is considered "one of the most accomplished and adroit fiction writers in America" by the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. Fowler's lectures are filled with the same imagination and sharp wit that fill the pages of her books, making her a popular choice for libraries and book festivals.



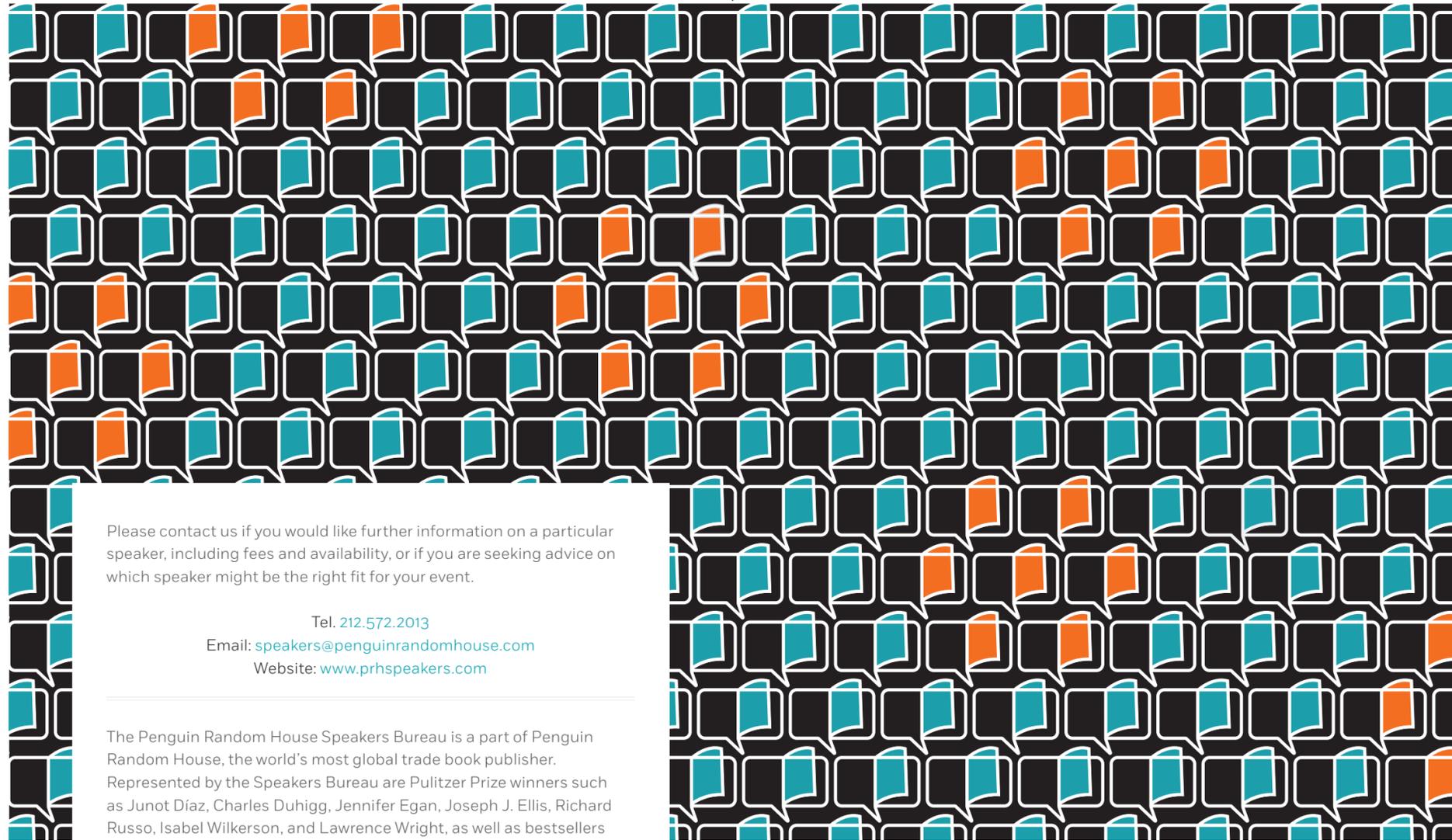
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Adam Gidwitz

New York Times bestselling author of *In a Glass Grimmly*, *The Grimm Conclusion*, and *A Tale Dark and Grimm*—an ALA Notable Book, a *New York Times* Editor's Choice, and a *Publishers Weekly* "Best Children's Book of the Year"—Adam Gidwitz inspires audiences with his message, "if you've got a good imagination and a good book, you're pretty much set for life."



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Annie Barrows

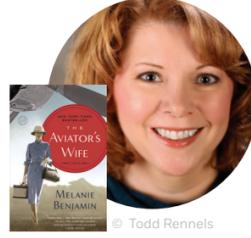
Annie Barrows enchanted millions of readers with *The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society*. Her new novel *The Truth According to Us* is "irresistible . . . a sly charmer of a story . . ." (Melanie Benjamin, *The Aviator's Wife*). A gifted storyteller and lecturer, Barrows is also the author of the beloved *Ivy & Bean* children's series.



© Annie Frantzekos

Melanie Benjamin

Melanie Benjamin's historical fiction tells the "stories behind the stories." In her *New York Times* bestseller *The Aviator's Wife*, she pulls back the curtain on the marriage of Charles and Anne Morrow Lindbergh, exploring their inner lives and unknown stories. Benjamin shares with audiences her passion for history and biography and tells how she uses them to craft her superb works of historical fiction.



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Geraldine Brooks

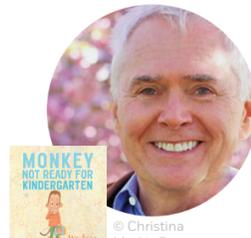
New York Times bestselling and Pulitzer Prize-winning author Geraldine Brooks writes impeccably researched historical novels, including *March*, *People of the Book*, *Caleb's Crossing*, and *The Secret Chord*. A former *Wall Street Journal* correspondent for Bosnia, Somalia, and the Middle East, she delves deeply into history with a journalist's eye for detail and a master storyteller's sense of character.



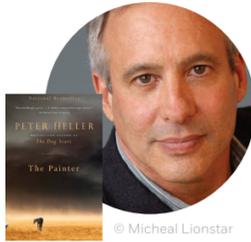
© Randi Baird

Marc Brown

Beloved children's book author and illustrator Marc Brown is best known for his bestselling *Arthur* series. Brown's latest picture book, *Monkey Not Ready for Kindergarten*, introduces young readers to a charming new character. Brown lectures on childhood literacy and his journey as an artist and writer.



© Christina Markis Brown



© Micheal Lionstar

Peter Heller

Peter Heller is an award-winning adventure writer and the bestselling author of *The Dog Stars*. He captivates audiences with his stories about crossing the high seas with eco-pirates, kayaking remote gorges, and—the ultimate adventure—becoming a successful novelist. Heller’s latest novel, *The Painter*, is a wildly suspenseful tale about an artist trying to outrun his past.



© Sara Jane Semrad

Cristina Henríquez

Cristina Henríquez is the author of three books, including the widely acclaimed novel *The Book of Unknown Americans*. Hailed as “a flawlessly written book about immigration,” the novel brings to life the varied human stories behind the ongoing debate about immigration through the eyes of characters from all over Latin America.



© Todd Rafalovich

Jennifer Holm

Three-time Newbery Award-winning and *New York Times* bestselling author Jennifer Holm is a favorite among young readers and educators. Her critically acclaimed novels include her latest, *The Fourteenth Goldfish*. She is the co-creator and writer of the *Babymouse* and *Squish* graphic novel series. Holm speaks about the personal stories that influence her novels and how graphic novels can be used to inspire reluctant readers.



© Hannah Dunphy

Phil Klay

U.S. Marine Corps veteran Phil Klay wowed critics and readers alike with his National Book Award-winning short story collection *Redeployment*. With hard-eyed realism and emotional depth, Klay takes audiences to the front lines of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars to show the complex feelings of soldiers at war and of the homecomings that follow.



© Annika Lee

Chang-rae Lee

A deeply influential speaker and writer, Chang-rae Lee explores race, class, and immigrant life with poignancy and originality. His debut novel, *Native Speaker*, won the Hemingway Foundation/PEN Award, and his status as a literary master has only grown stronger with his most recent novels *The Surrendered*, a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, and *On Such a Full Sea*.



© Dese'Rae L. Stage

Emily St. John Mandel

Emily St. John Mandel is the author of *Station Eleven*, which was a *New York Times* bestseller, a finalist for the National Book Award, and George R. R. Martin’s favorite novel of 2014. The author of three previous highly acclaimed novels, Mandel is a poised and thoughtful speaker, drawing audiences in with her lectures on the craft of writing.



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Eimear McBride

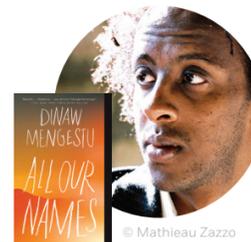
Eimear McBride’s debut novel, *A Girl Is a Half-formed Thing*, has won almost every major literary award, including the Baileys Women’s Prize for Fiction, and has elicited widespread international praise that includes comparisons to Virginia Woolf and James Joyce. McBride discusses feminism, modernism, and literary experimentation, as well as her journey to publication.



© Stephen Cutri

Paula McLain

Paula McLain’s critically acclaimed *New York Times* bestselling novel *The Paris Wife* has been a publishing phenomenon. Her new novel, *Circling the Sun*, tells the remarkable story of pioneering horse trainer, adventurer, and aviator Beryl Markham. McLain’s engaging talks offer a window into her research and the compelling characters that have inspired her fiction.



© Mathieu Zazzo

Dinaw Mengestu

An Ethiopian American, award-winning novelist, Dinaw Mengestu dazzled the literary world with his debut, *The Beautiful Things That Heaven Bears*, and won a 5 Under 35 Award from the National Book Award Foundation and a place on *The New Yorker’s* 20 Under 40 list. He has won a MacArthur Genius Grant and critical acclaim for his novels *How to Read the Air* and *All Our Names*.



© Kevin Day Photography

Celeste Ng

Celeste Ng’s debut novel, *Everything I Never Told You*, graced numerous Best of 2014 lists and was the winner of the 2014–2015 Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature in Adult Fiction. In her novel and keynote presentations, Ng deftly explores issues of cultural identity, gender relations, and the struggles faced by multicultural families.



© Kris Krug

Ruth Ozeki

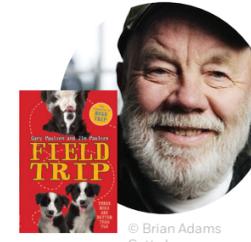
Ruth Ozeki is a filmmaker, novelist, and Zen Buddhist priest. Her critically acclaimed novels have been published internationally, and her most recent work, *A Tale for the Time Being*, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Whether discussing the meat industry, agribusiness, or Zen Buddhism, Ozeki’s lectures are always thoughtful, sometimes philosophical, but never without her trademark biting wit.



© Russel Gordon

R. J. Palacio

R. J. Palacio took the world of children’s literature by storm with the publication of her debut novel, *Wonder*, a #1 *New York Times* bestseller that has sold over a million copies in North America. Palacio continues to travel the country, speaking about the novel that has inspired countless children, educators, and families to embrace the book’s theme of choosing kindness.



© Brian Adams Getty Images

Gary Paulsen

Three-time Newbery Honor-winning author Gary Paulsen is one of the world’s most popular authors for young readers. He has written over 200 books and has been hailed as “one of the best-loved writers alive” by *The New York Times*. Paulsen is a masterful storyteller and entertains audiences of children and adults with his lively presentations.



© Nina Subin

Chris Pavone

Former book editor Chris Pavone is the author of the *New York Times* bestselling *The Expats*, winner of the Edgar Award for Best First Novel, and the thriller *The Accident*. Just as his books are layered with suspense, his lectures are filled with anecdotes from ordinary life and what it’s like to be on both sides of the book business.



© Michael Lionstar

Will Schwalbe

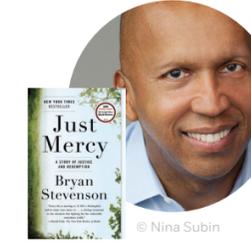
Will Schwalbe is the author of the critically acclaimed, *New York Times* bestselling memoir *The End of Your Life Book Club*. This moving memoir about a mother-son book club earned an “A” from *Entertainment Weekly*, was an Indie Next pick, and one of Amazon’s Top Ten books of the year. He speaks frequently at schools and libraries.



© Mark Bennington

Jane Smiley

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Jane Smiley is one of America’s most celebrated literary treasures. Her most recent book, *Early Warning*, is the second installment in a trilogy of novels that spans a hundred years. As a speaker, Smiley’s topics are as diverse as her body of work, ranging from literature to politics, child rearing to farming.



© Nina Subin

Bryan Stevenson

Called “America’s young Nelson Mandela” by Nobel Peace Laureate Archbishop Desmond Tutu, Stevenson is the founder of the Equal Justice Initiative. His *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Just Mercy* is an inspiring story of unbreakable humanity in the most desperate circumstances. He is the recipient of a MacArthur Foundation Genius Grant and an NAACP Image Award, and his TED talk has been viewed over 2.6 million times.



© Leonardo Cendamo

Elizabeth Strout

A Pulitzer Prize-winning author and *New York Times* bestselling mainstay, Elizabeth Strout captivates audiences with her distinctively New England stories and powerful narrative ability to transform the ordinary into the extraordinary. Her short story collection *Olive Kitteridge* won the 2009 Pulitzer Prize and has been made into a Golden Globe-nominated HBO miniseries. Her most recent novel, *The Burgess Boys*, was published to critical acclaim.



© Michael Lionstar

J. Courtney Sullivan

J. Courtney Sullivan is the author of *New York Times* bestsellers *Commencement*, *Maine*, and *The Engagements*. Her radiant style and wicked sense of humor come through vividly in her talks. Sullivan lectures about her work as both a nonfiction and fiction writer to a variety of venues, from libraries to festivals.



© Marty Umans

Jacqueline Woodson

Jacqueline Woodson won the 2014 National Book Award for her *New York Times* bestselling memoir *Brown Girl Dreaming*. Woodson is a four-time Newbery Honor winner, a recipient of the NAACP Image Award, and was recently named the Young People’s Poet Laureate by the Poetry Foundation. She gives stirring lectures that delve into the inspiration behind her books and explore important issues of race, gender, and bullying.