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**For Immediate Release**

## **Registration Opens for 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Author Fest of the Rockies**

**MANITOU SPRINGS, CO, August 25, 2010**-Registration is now open for the fifth annual Author Fest of the Rockies. It is set for October 1-2, 2010 at The Historic Cliff House at Pikes Peak in Manitou Springs. The event is held by the Friends of the Manitou Springs Library, and is a signature event of the nonprofit board. The Friends of the Manitou Springs Public

Library works to fundraise and lend support to the Library, which is a 1910 Carnegie library building, and one of the few remaining Carnegies to operate continuously as a library. A statewide literary event, Author Fest is open to anyone interested in any form of writing or reading or the written/spoken word.

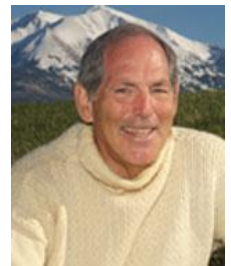


Carleen Brice

The conference schedule, bios of presenters and session abstracts are on the website as well as information on the Library and lodging opportunities.

Hard copies of the registration form are available at Black Cat Books and the Manitou Springs Public Library. The online registration form is available at

[www.authorfestoftherockies.org](http://www.authorfestoftherockies.org).



Bruce Ducker

“It’s our fifth year, and Author Fest gets bigger and better,” said Laura Ettinger, 2010 Chair of Author Fest. “This conference creates a collaborative forum for any fan of the written or spoken word in all its forms. Readers, authors, editors, poets, illustrators, photographers, bookclub members and aspiring writers of any age will all find something useful at our sessions.” Sponsors include: TalkingBooks TV, Black Cat Books, The Avenue Hotel B&B, The Cliff House at Pikes Peak, Creative Medium graphic design, MS Graphics, Kinfolks of Manitou, and D’Vine Wine of Manitou Springs.

Keynote speakers for Author Fest are Carleen Brice, whose book *Orange Mint and Honey* was recently made into a Lifetime network movie; Bruce Ducker, who has nine books in publication, including *Dizzying Heights*, and is considered “Colorado’s answer to Carl Hiaason”; Cicily Janus, author of *The New Faces of Jazz*, and; Mark Obmascik, whose humorously autobiographical *Halfway to Heaven* chronicles his mid-life quest to conquer all 54 of Colorado’s Fourteeners.



Mark Obmascik

The two-day literary conference features over 50 Colorado authors who will present sessions on a wide variety of topics, including: self publishing/publishing/publishers, writing, editing, dramatic reading/storytelling, writing exercises, creative nonfiction,

illustrators, graphic novels, how to start a book club or discussion group. Also covered will be kid-friendly topics, such as:

storytelling, creative writing, plotting and use of technology. Other presentations will discuss how to critique books, how readers/writers are using current and new technology (ebooks and readers, vooks, etc.), Internet marketing and using social media for promotion. Associations as well as literary agents will also be on hand. Sponsorships and vendor tables are available but limited. If interested, contact [sponsorships@authorfestoftherockies.org](mailto:sponsorships@authorfestoftherockies.org).



Cicily Janus

Additional activities leading up to Author Fest include a Kickoff Party, Literary Movie Night, Banned Book Reading night, an Open Mic Night and an Author's Showcase. All of these events are free to the public. The Friends of the Manitou Springs Public Library is a 501c3 that exists to promote and support the Manitou Springs Public Library as a full service library by supplementing the City's normal processes. For more information about Author Fest of the Rockies, call Laura Ettinger at 719-231-7202, email [laura.ettinger@authorfestoftherockies.org](mailto:laura.ettinger@authorfestoftherockies.org) or go to [www.authorfestoftherockies.org](http://www.authorfestoftherockies.org). Join us on Facebook (Author Fest of the Rockies) and Twitter (@AuthorFest).

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