

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE CONTACT: Joyce Linehan (617) 282-2510 x 1, joyce@ashmontmedia.com

PRIZE WINNERS TO APPEAR AT 2011 BOSTON BOOK FESTIVAL OCT. 15, 2011 Pulitzer Prize and National Book Critics Circle Award Winners Among Presenters

(BOSTON—April 19, 2011) The third annual Boston Book Festival will take place on Saturday, Oct. 15, 2011, in various locations around Copley Square. Among the authors at this year's festival will be several recent prize winners.

- Jennifer Egan, author of *A Visit From the Goon Squad*, and winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize, and the 2011 National Book Critics Circle Award, for Fiction.
- Siddhartha Mukharjee, author of *The Emperor of all Maladies: A Biography of Cancer*, winner of the 2011 Pulitzer Prize for General Nonfiction.
- **Sarah Bakewell**, author of *How to Live: Or, a Life of Montaigne in One Question and Twenty Attempts at an Answer,* winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for Biography.
- **Isabel Wilkerson**, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns: The Epic Story of America's Great Migration,* winner of the National Book Critics Circle Award for General Nonfiction.

The complete line-up, which will include over 100 authors, scholars and presenters, will be announced over the summer. The featured authors will represent a wide array of programming, and include award winners, best-selling authors, renowned scholars, children's writers, and writers of fiction, non-fiction and poetry.

According to Founder and Executive Director Deborah Z Porter, "We are thrilled to announce that these prize winners will appear at the 2011 Boston Book Festival. This prestigious recognition of their work speaks to the caliber of writers we've been able to attract to what has quickly become one of our city's signature events."

In just two years, the Boston Book Festival has become one of the most anticipated events in the cultural life of the City. Boston Book Festival organizers estimate that about 25,000 people took part in indoor and outdoor 2010 festival activities through the 12-hour day. More than 130 authors and scholars participated in forty presentations, panels and participatory sessions in various Back Bay venues. The Festival takes advantage of the great architectural treasures in Copley Square, utilizing such venues as Trinity Church, Old South Church and the Boston Public Library, among others. A street fair in the square featured exhibitors and live music throughout the day. All daytime events are FREE and open to the public.

In 2010, the Boston Book Festival initiated the One City One Story program, which saw the distribution of 30,000 copies of a Tom Perrotta short story throughout the Boston area, and culminating in a town hall meeting with the author and more than 200 readers eager to discuss the story. Boston Book Festival organizers will continue this well-received and innovative program, and will announce this year's story in the coming months.

The Boston Book Festival is produced by the non-profit organization of the same name, and is made possible with the generous support of sponsors and individual donors. For more information about the Boston Book Festival, visit <u>www.bostonbookfest.org</u>.

Boston Book Festival Partners include Mayor Thomas M. Menino; The Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism and Special Events; The City of Boston Parks and Recreation Department; ReadBoston; Boston Public Library; the Boston Athenæum; PEN New England; Grub Street; Trinity Church; Old South Church; Boston Children's Museum; Cambridge Public Library, New Center for Arts and Culture; 826 Boston; Brattle Theatre, Berklee College of Music; Emerson College; Harvard Book Store; Brookline Booksmith, Porter Square Books; Independent Film Festival Boston and Newtonville Books.

Boston Book Festival Board of Directors: President Deborah Z. Porter; Treasurer Steve Oristaglio; Secretary Susana B. Lopez; Hannah Gilligan Commoss, Paul La Camera, Callie Crossley, Robert Duboff, Rona Kiley, Glenda Manzi, Jeff Mayersohn, John Taylor "Ike" Williams. **Honorary Advisory Board:** Henry Louis Gates, Jr., Ann Gund, Steve Grossman, Arthur Golden, Phil Balboni, Amy Ryan, Diane Patrick, Tom Perrotta, Lou Casagrande. Joyce Linehan Ashmont Media 10A Burt St., Dorchester, MA 02124 (617) 282-2510 www.ashmontmedia.com www.twitter.com/ashmont www.facebook.com/joyce.linehan Skype: joycelinehan AIM: joyceashmont