

Houston History Book Fair & Symposium Showcases Authors

Houston, TX – October 11, 2011 – **Houston Arts and Media** and **Story Sloane's Gallery** will be co-hosting the second annual **Houston History Book Fair & Symposium** on Saturday, November 12, 2011 at the historic Heights Church of Christ at Heights Blvd and 16th Street. The event runs from 10:00am until 4:00pm, and admission is free to the public. It is the only comprehensive symposium event dedicated solely to the history of Southeast Texas, and is especially apropos during this 175th anniversary of Houston.

There are 26 authors of regional history committed to attending this special event thus far, and all will be there throughout the day selling and signing their various books and talking to the event's attendees. Every half hour during the event, a different author will be speaking in two separate rooms about the topic of their work.

There will also be a panel discussion, sponsored by **Arcadia Publishing**, from noon until 12:50pm in the church library during which four Arcadia authors will answer questions and discuss the process of researching and preparing a book on local history. That panel will be followed by Lucy Chambers of Bright Sky Press speaking about what publishers look for in a book proposal.

Book topics are widely varied, from specific neighborhoods and communities to police and labor histories to railroads. There are titles that cover early Houston, Republic-era Texas, local sports history and venerated businesses. New this year will be two well-researched works of historical fiction which are set in our area. The authors of each will become a story teller with a great passion for their subject.

Other sponsors of the event include the University of Houston's Hobby Center for Public Policy and The Houston Club.

The event is designed to be a fun way to draw attention to Southeast Texas history and raise awareness for ongoing HAM projects such as their **HAM Slices of History** videos, their many documentary projects such as the award-winning **Houston: A Nation's Capitol**, the **Neighbor to Neighbor Oral History Project** and the multi-volume **Historic Schools of Harris County**.

All attending teachers with ID will receive a free gift of historic posters courtesy of **Story Sloane's Gallery**, a photo gallery specializing in images of our past with an emphasis on Houston from the early 1900s till the 1980s. More information at <http://www.sloanegallery.com>

Door prizes will be awarded throughout the day. Attendees are encouraged to stay and listen to speakers as long as they like, and this year, each half hour will offer a choice of topics. Speaker lists will be coming soon.

The event location is itself a City of Houston landmark designed by famous architect, Alfred Finn, and built in 1924.

More information about the event and the schedule of speakers and authors may be found at the Houston Arts and Media website at <http://www.houstonartsandmedia.org/book%20fair.html>

Parties interested in supporting **HAM's** efforts through donations or volunteerism should contact Houston Arts and Media via e-mail at info@houstonartsandmedia.org.

About **Houston Arts and Media**:

Houston Arts and Media's purpose is to produce educational and historical film, video and books. The work will be done by members of Houston's creative, educational, research and production communities. Houston Arts and Media is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt charitable organization.

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