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'Chapters' fundraiser to benefit Tulsa City-County Library's Literacy Service

A leisurely evening in the bookstacks surrounded by friends who believe in literacy, fabulous food and relevant authors is a dream evening for reader.

In conjunction with National Literacy Awareness Month, Tulsa City-County Library and the Tulsa Library Trust present "Chapters: A Casual Evening of Books, Bards and Bites" on Friday, Sept. 6, 6:30 p.m. at Hardesty Regional Library, 8316 E. 93rd St. The cost is \$50 per person and reservations are accepted through Aug. 29.

Attendees will enjoy food and wine, followed by coffee, from some of the area's favorite restaurants while listening to authors Deborah Crombie, Russell Lawson and Jay Jennings. Crombie is the author of the best-selling mystery series featuring Scotland Yard Detective Inspector Duncan Kincaid and Sergeant Gemma James. Crombie's first novel, "A Share in Death," was published in 1993 and was nominated for the Agatha Award for Best First Novel. Her fifth novel, "Dreaming of the Bones," was short-listed by Mystery Writers of America for the 1997 Edgar Award for Best Novel, won the Macavity Award for Best Novel, as was voted by the Independent Mystery Booksellers Association as one of the hundred best mysteries of the century. Her 15th novel, "The Sound of Broken Glass," was on the New York Times Best Seller list in March of this year.

Lawson is a local historian and Professor of History at Bacone College in Muskogee. Lawson's 12 published books focus on exploration, science, local history and American Indian studies. In 2011, Fulbright Canada awarded Lawson a grant to help establish a traditional organic garden at Bacone College for teaching purposes. His book, "Frontier Naturalist: Jean Louis Berlandier and the Exploration of Northern Mexico and Texas," was selected as a finalist in the Texas Institute of Letter's Award for the Most Significant Book. He also is the editor of "The Encyclopedia of American Indian Issues Today."

Jennings is a freelance writer whose journalism, book reviews and humor appear in many national magazines, including the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, the Los Angeles Times, The Oxford American, and Travel & Leisure. "Carry the Rock: Race, Football and the Soul of an American City" is his first book and was named a 2010 Okra Pick by the Southern Independent Booksellers Alliance. He also was the editor of the 2012 Charles Portis anthology entitled "Escape Velocity: A Charles Portis Miscellany." Recently, he served as the chair of the Arkansas Literary Festival, which featured more than 90 authors, poets, illustrators, journalists and bloggers from across the country.

"Chapters" is sponsored by TulsaPeople Magazine, George W. Krumme, Charles and Marion Weber Foundation, Bryan R. Close, Linda and Doug Farquharson, Gelvin Foundation, Lynn and Bill Peacher, Dick Ekdahl, Susan and Bob Mase, Dr. Bernard and Marcy Robinowitz, Glenna and Alan Anderson, Nancy and Larry Born, Cheryl and Larry Chambers, Dr. Bruce and Beverly Dieterlen, Donna and Will Farrior, Terry and Mike Fenner, Sally and Jim Frasier, Janie and Earl Funk, Margaret and Curt Holdridge, Karen and Marilyn Mildren, Total Pilates, Kathleen Kastelic and Michael Stephens, Mary Ward and Karen Gaddis, and Farryl Stokes.

Appetizers, wine and dessert are provided by All Things Cake, Barnes & Noble, Bodean Seafood Restaurant, India Palace, KEO Asian Cuisine, Mimi's Café, Oliveto Italian Bistro, Panera Bread, Pepper's Grill, Ranch Acres Wine & Spirits, Reasor's, Toni's Flowers & Gifts, Tulsa Library Trust and Whole Food Market.

The 2013 "Chapters" committee includes: Nancy Born, Nancy Cox, Mary Dotson, Ros Elder, Linda Farquharson, Lynette Hardy, Leanne Helmerich, Roy McClain, Marty Laughlin, Jessica Magness, Loretta Raschen, Farryl Stokes, Cassie Spindle, Emily Taylor, Louan Torres, Tracy Warren and Lynn Peacher, chair.

Authors' books will be available for purchasing with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Ruth G. Hardman Adult Literacy Service. Call (918) 549-7364 for more information or to make a reservation.