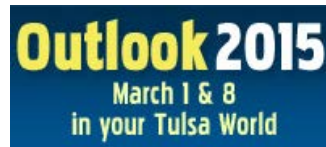




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Author Joseph Bruchac to receive Festival of Words Writer Award

The biennial event showcases Native writing and culture.

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Posted: Friday, March 6, 2015 12:00 am



By JAMES D. WATTS JR. World Scene Writer | 0 comments

Award-winning author and storyteller Joseph Bruchac will be honored at the Tulsa City-County Library's biennial Festival of Words, which showcases American Indian literature, culture and heritage.

Bruchac will presented with the Tulsa Library Trust's Festival of Words Writers Award at a ceremony 10:30 a.m. Saturday at Hardesty Regional Library's Connor's Cove, 8316 E. 93rd St. His award presentation will be followed by a book signing and a day of educational American Indian family events from 11:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m.

The award, presented every other year, consists of a \$5,000 honorarium and an engraved crystal. Previous winners include Joy Harjo, Leslie Marmon-Silko, Carter Revard (Osage) and Sterlin Harjo.

Author, storyteller and musician Joseph Bruchac will be honored at the Tulsa Library's Festival of Words. Courtesy

Bruchac's work, which includes more than 120 books for adults and children, often draws upon his memories of his grandfather, an Abenaki Indian, who inspired Bruchac's love of storytelling and an appreciation of his



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“The only time he even mentioned the word ‘Indian’ was when he told me, more than once, how he left school in the fourth grade, jumping out the window and never coming back because they kept calling him a ‘dirty Indian,’” Bruchac recalled. “I had to go outside my own immediate family to hear those stories, which for some reason I was always eager to hear. Because of his dark skin and very Indian appearance, he dealt with prejudice often during his life, and that made him reticent to speak directly about being Indian.”

Bruchac’s latest novel is “Killer of Enemies,” a post-apocalyptic young-adult novel following 17-year-old Apache hunter Lozen and her quest for survival and renewal. It received the 2014 Native American Librarians Association Award.

Family events during the Festival of Words events include genealogy tours, hands-on arts and crafts projects, children’s events, and a presentation by staff members of the Grey Snow Eagle House, which rehabilitates birds of prey such as golden and bald eagles.

The Festival of Words is free and open to the public.

For more information: tulsalibrary.org.

James D. Watts Jr. 918-581-8478

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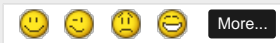
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