



Contact:
Suzanne M. Thinnes
Communications Manager
4400 Forbes Avenue
Pittsburgh, PA 15213
412.578.2458 (office)
412.491.6889 (cell)

For Immediate Release

Behind the Books. What the Authors Have to Say! Lecture Series Brings Nationally Acclaimed Writers to Pittsburgh

(PITTSBURGH, PA – October 11, 2007) A new lecture series is giving area teens a glimpse into the minds of their favorite authors. This month, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh will kick off *Behind the Book: Authors Talk to Teens*, a lecture series designed to show teen readers that books are not only words on a page, but works of art that can serve as the catalysts for inspiration and self-confidence.

The *Behind the Book: Authors Talk to Teens* 2007-2008 lecture series includes visits from:

- **Ned Vizzini, author of *Be More Chill* and *Teen Angst? Naaah***
October 24, 2007 (6:00 pm)
CLP - Squirrel Hill
5801 Forbes Avenue
- **Angela Johnson, author of *First Part Last***
December 12, 2007 (6:00 pm)
CLP - Homewood
7101 Hamilton Avenue
- **David Levithan, author of *Boy Meets Boy* and *Are We There Yet?***
February 2008 (Please visit www.carnegielibrary.org for future details.)
- **Authors Reader's Theatre**
**featuring Avi, author of *Crispin At the Edge of the World*; Sarah Weeks, author of *Jumping the Scratch*,
Walter Dean Myers, author of *Street Love* and Pam Munoz Ryan, author of *Paint the Wind*.**
April 16, 2008 (10:00 am)
CLP - Main; Lecture Hall
4400 Forbes Avenue

The series will focus on the writing processes of various authors, with time for a question and answer and book signing session. Copies of the authors' latest books will be made available for purchase; however, teens are encouraged to bring in their own copies for signing.

A recent economic impact study showed that 70% of the city of Pittsburgh's residents between the ages of 13 and 36 have a Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh library card. *Behind the Book: Authors Talk to Teens* was developed after numerous requests from teens. "We feel that teens will have a greater appreciation of literature if they are directly exposed to those that create it," says Karen Brooks-Reese, Teen Services Coordinator, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh. "Teens may be more likely to pick up a book if they have met the author."

Behind the Book: Authors Talk to Teens is presented in partnership with PPG Industries. Admission to each lecture is free, but registration is requested. Please contact teens@carnegielibrary.org or call 412-578-2599. Additional information about the authors is available at www.carnegielibrary.org/teens

###

About Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh

Building Communities, Enriching Lives

Established as a public trust in 1895, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh serves the citizens of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County with a distinguished history of leadership among the country's great public libraries. Through its 19 neighborhood locations, including Main Library and the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh is the region's most visited asset. Each year the Library provides more than 8,000 free programs, classes and other learning and training opportunities that are tailored to meet the dynamic and diverse needs of people living in Western Pennsylvania.