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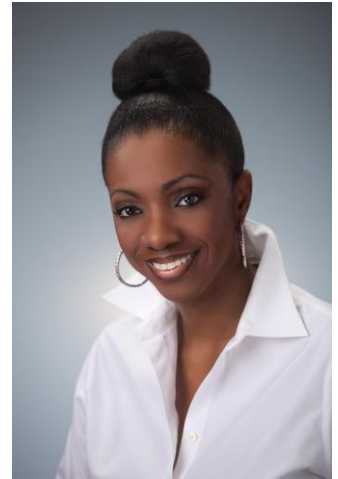
#Bookstock2016: A Festival for the Whole Family @MemphisLibrary

Award-winning authors Kimberla Lawson Roby and Thomas Christensen set to attend!

MEMPHIS, TN – Families across the city of Memphis will take their “Hats Off to **Bookstock**” on **Saturday, April 23, 2016, 11 am – 3 pm** at the **Benjamin L. Hooks Central Library** (3030 Poplar Avenue) in celebration of “Shakespeare, Dr. Seuss, and Everything in Between.”

A literacy festival of books and the authors who write them, Bookstock will offer a range of free activities for the whole family like a scavenger hunt through Central Library, face painting, chalk art, live music, food trucks, book signings, author talks, and more!

Best of all, customers will meet and greet **award-winning authors Kimberla Lawson Roby** (*Best Friends Forever*) and **Thomas Christensen** (*1616: The World in Motion*), who will talk about their books and answer customers’ questions.



More than 40 local authors will participate in the celebration of books also. Offering stacks of books for sale, authors will supply an endless selection of fiction and non-fiction titles to choose from.

To highlight the event’s theme, a marathon of sonnets by Shakespeare will be read to honor the 400th anniversary of Shakespeare’s death, and featured author Thomas Christensen will talk about what the world was like during Shakespeare’s time, as discussed in his book *1616: The*

World in Motion.

Dr. Seuss enthusiasts will enjoy watching a Dr. Seuss speed painter and a special appearance by character Cindy Lou Who, played by Samantha Bray, a star from *The Grinch Who Stole Christmas*.

“A common theme for the authors that we’re celebrating is hats, like Dr. Seuss’ *Cat in the Hat* and Kimberla Lawson Roby’s books about church pastors’ wives who wear big hats! So, we’re encouraging

customers to join us in wearing hats to Bookstock this year,” explained Adult Services Coordinator Wang-Ying Glasgow. “We also will host hat-making workshops that are sure to excite creativity and personality in our customers young and old!”

Teens ages 13 – 18 will explore CLOUD901, an 8,300-square-foot teen learning lab filled with state-of-the-art technology like 3-D printers, X-Boxes, PlayStation 4s, MacBook Pros and Airs, monitors, keyboards, microphones, and headsets! Also inside the Lab is a sound mixing lab and isolation booths, video production lab, Makerspace, art studio, and more. During the event, teens will view the film *Romeo & Juliet* inside CLOUD901 and hear twin performers Passion and Purpose as they rap Shakespeare!

“Bookstock is the Library’s premiere event,” Director of Libraries Keenon McCloy commented. “It offers fun and educational activities for kids, teens, and adults. For authors, it’s a wonderful networking opportunity with writing workshops and a chance to sell their books. Customers can choose from age-appropriate activities, while listening to live music and eating great food. In essence, there’s something for everyone at Bookstock.”

For more information about Bookstock, call (901) 415–2709 or search #Bookstock2016 @MemphisLibrary on Twitter.

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ABOUT THE MEMPHIS PUBLIC LIBRARY & INFORMATION CENTER:

The Memphis Public Library & Information Center (MPLIC) is committed to satisfying the customer’s need to know. With 18 Library locations throughout the Greater Memphis area, MPLIC offers an array of programs, services, and resources for citizens and visitors to enjoy. They include JobLINC mobile career services, LINC/2-1-1 telephone referral services, a TV and radio station (WYPL TV-18, WYPL FM 89.3), a small business center, laptops for checkout and free Wi-Fi access, in addition to books, e-books, DVDs, records, compact discs, and educational programs for children, teens, and adults. Customers can find age-appropriate services and a list of Library locations at www.memphislibrary.org.

Memphis Public Libraries are publicly and privately funded. Approximately three million people visit the Memphis Public Library & Information Center each year.

ABOUT THE CITY OF MEMPHIS:

Memphis is the largest city in Tennessee and a major cultural center for the Southeastern United States. It has a metropolitan population of more than one million. For more information about the City, visit www.memphistn.gov.