



New York Library Association

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MEDIA RELEASE

***Rain Reign* to Represent New York at National Book Festival**

The Empire State Center for the Book has selected Ann M. Martin's *Rain Reign* (Macmillan, 2014) to represent New York State at the 2015 National Book Festival in Washington DC. The book is the state's selection for the National Book Festival's "Discover Great Places Through Reading" map. Each state selects one book about the state or by an author from the state that is a good read for children or young adults. The map is distributed at the Festival and listed in "Great Reads About Great Places" on the websites of both the National and Empire State Centers for the Book.

The story set in an upstate New York town is about a young girl with Asperger's syndrome who has a penchant for homonyms. The book was awarded the 2015 Schneider Family Book Award, which honors an author for the artistic expression of the disability experience. Ann M. Martin is a resident of New York State and is known to a generation of readers as the author of the *Baby-Sitter's Club* series.

The National Book Festival will be held in Washington DC on Saturday, September 5, 2015. It will feature award-winning authors, poets, and illustrators at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center. Festival goers can meet their favorite authors, get books signed, have photos taken with mascots and storybook characters, and participate in a variety of learning activities. States will be promoting reading and library programs and literary events.

The selection will be formally recognized at the New York State Writers Hall of Fame Induction on June 2, where among others, Francine Prose, David Remnick and Colm Toibin will be inducted during a gala dinner held at the Princeton Club of New York.

The Empire State Center for the Book is committed to the book in all formats. Interests of the Center include the promotion of the culture of reading, literature, literacy, book arts, and book history throughout New York State. The Center promotes literature, literacy and libraries.

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