

# News Release: American Library Association

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NOBEL LAUREATE OPENS PRESIDENT'S PROGRAM IN DALLAS

Nobel Laureate Isaac Bashevis Singer and Economist John Kenneth Galbraith are two of the outstanding speakers to be featured in ALA President Russell Shank's President's Program, "The Library in American Society", during the ALA Summer Conference in Dallas, June 23-29.

Singer, whose stories about Jewish life in Poland won him the 1978 Noble Prize for Literature, will speak at the Opening Session, 8-10 p.m., Saturday, June 23. As an author who has greatly enriched libraries' collections for over 30 years, Singer will reflect on the impact that reading and the printed word can have on our culture.

Since his arrival in the United States from Poland in 1935, Singer has written reviews, articles and fiction for the Yiddish Newspaper The Jewish Daily Forward. He first received recognition and acclaim when his 1945 Yiddish novel, The Family Moskat, was published in an English translation in 1950. Singer's 30 books include Satan in Goray, The Manor, and Sosha. He has also written children's books and several collections of short stories.

Galbraith, Harvard University's recently retired Paul M. Warburgh Professor of Economics, will speak at the final program, 8-10 p.m., Wednesday, June 27. Galbraith's experience as an economist, diplomat, political activist,

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add one--President's Program

social critic and author give him a unique perspective to survey and comment on the American Scene. Galbraith will discuss the political, physical and intellectual environment of American Society, particularly as this reflects the mood of the people toward reading, schools, libraries and other intellectual aspects of culture.

Galbraith has served as the U.S. Ambassador to India, editor of Fortune Magazine, and the author of the best-selling novel, The Triumph. However, he is best known for his work in the field of economics and particularly for his book, The Affluent Society, a witty, polished study of economic and social problems of a high income community.

The President's Program will also co-sponsor the Freedom to Read Foundation's (FTRF) 10th Anniversary Celebration, 2-4 p.m., Sunday, June 24. FTRF President Kathleen Molz will give an overview of the Foundation's work and the status of the First Amendment for the past 10 years. Molz serves on the ALA Executive Board and is a professor in the School of Library Services at Columbia University.

Following Molz, attorney Robert O'Neil and author Jessica Mitford, will give their prognosis for the First Amendment for the next 10 years. O'Neil is Vice President of Indiana University and former Dean of the Law School at the University of Cincinnati. He wrote the landmark article on library involvement in First Amendment issues, "Libraries, Liberty, and the First Amendment". He is currently writing a book on the law and library involvement.

Mitford began her writing career at 38 and gained national prominence with The American Way of Death, a book the New Yorker hailed as "a brilliant journalistic case against the whole funeral industry. Her other books include Daughters and Rebels and A Fine Old Conflict.

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add two--President's Program

Francis Keppel, Director of the Aspen Institute Program in Education for a Changing Society, and Senior Lecturer at Harvard University School of Education will be the speaker at the President's Program III, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m., Tuesday, June 26. Keppel, who has enjoyed a long career in education, business, and government will speak on lifelong learning and the role of the library in non-traditional education. Keppel has served as the Dean of the Graduate School of Education at Harvard University, the Assistant Secretary of Health, Education and Welfare, and Chairman of the Board of the General Learning Corporation. He was recently appointed by President Carter as a Commissioner of the National Commission on Library and Information Services.

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Singer, whose stories about Jewish life in Poland won him the 1978 Nobel Prize for Literature, will speak at the Opening Session, 8-10 p.m., Saturday, June 25. As an author who has greatly enriched libraries' collections for over 30 years, Singer will reflect on the impact that reading and the printed word can have on our culture.

Since his arrival in the United States from Poland in 1935, Singer has written reviews, articles and fiction for the Yiddish newspaper The Jewish Daily Forward. He first received recognition and acclaim when his 1948 Yiddish novel, The Family Moskat, was published in an English translation in 1950. Singer's 20 books include Satan in Goray, The Nigger, and Yasha. He has also written children's books and several collections of short stories.

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