

The Literary Times

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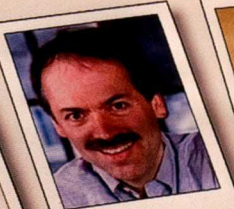
Rochester Arts & Lectures Brings Six Literary Stars to Town!



Khaled Hosseini
The Kite Runner



Alexander McCall Smith
The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency



Will Shortz
The New York Times' crossword editor



Audrey Niffenegger
The Time Traveler's Wife



Aaron Lansky
Outwitting History



Richard Russo
Empire Falls

Rochester Arts & Lectures' 2005/2006 Series of Uncommon Voices features one internationally bestselling mystery writer, one Pulitzer Prize-winning novelist, two nationally bestselling novelists, an acclaimed memoirist, and the country's most beloved crossword editor and puzzle master.

Story on page 2

ROCHESTER
Arts & Lectures

SOLD OUT

ROCHESTER Arts & Lectures

2005/2006 Series of Uncommon Voices

Sponsored by Nazareth College and Strong Health



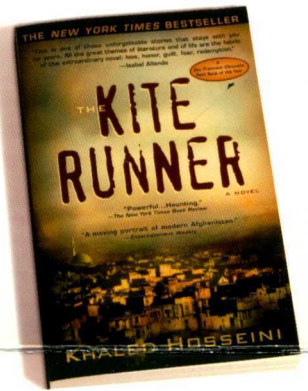
On **October 27, 2005**, Rochester Arts & Lectures will welcome debut novelist **Khaled Hosseini**, author of the extraordinary and heartbreaking runaway bestseller, *The Kite Runner*.

The novel presents a haunting, beautifully rendered portrait of brotherhood, love, and redemption set against the backdrop of the Afghan revolution.

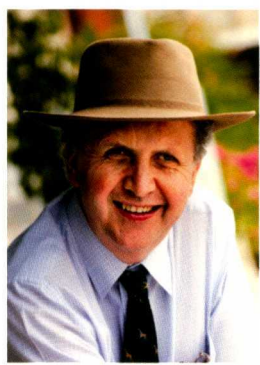
"To many Western readers, [Afghanistan's] can be an exhausting and bewildering history. But Hosseini extrudes it into an intimate account of family and friendship, betrayal and salvation that requires no atlas or translation to engage and enlighten us," (*The Washington Post*).

"This is one of those unforgettable stories that stay with you for years. All the great themes of literature and of life are the fabric of this extraordinary novel: love, honor, guilt, fear, redemption," says Isabel Allende.

A native of Kabul and the son of an Afghan diplomat, Hosseini is a practicing internist in the San Francisco Bay area.



"An Evening with Khaled Hosseini" is Underwritten by Thomson West.



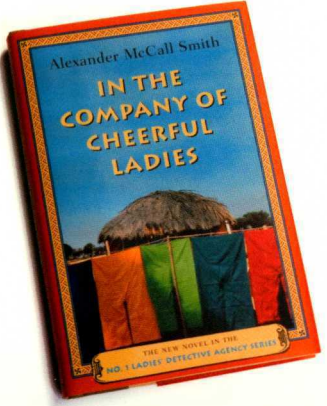
Internationally bestselling author **Alexander McCall Smith** was born in present-day Zimbabwe, resides in Scotland, writes stories about South Africa, and travels the world, but on **Thursday, November 10, 2005** he will be in Upstate New York for Rochester Arts & Lectures' 2005/2006 Series.

"There's no mystery as to why Alexander McCall Smith's books are everywhere. ... His works are engaging, delightful events, immersing readers in a world that is foreign,

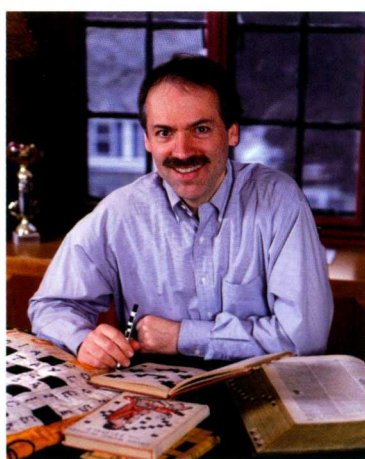
yet familiar, where good people try to do their best in life, with mixed results." (*Calgary Herald*)

The author of more than 50 books, including academic titles, short story collections, and children's books, McCall Smith is best known for his acclaimed and unique *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series, which features the delightful and engaging female detective, Precious Ramotswe.

The Sunday Philosophy Club, the first title in his new series, was also an immediate national bestseller.



"An Evening with Alexander McCall Smith" is Underwritten by The Chester and Dorris Carlson Charitable Trust.



On **December 8, 2005**, Rochester Arts & Lectures will welcome beloved American icon **Will Shortz**. Shortz is *The New York Times'* crossword editor, National Public Radio's "Weekend Edition" Puzzle Master, and the author/editor of more than 100 puzzle books.

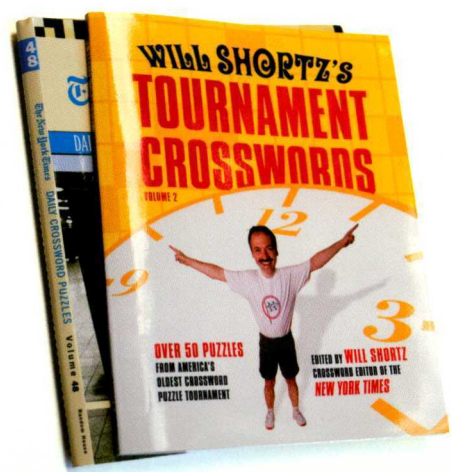
Shortz holds the world's only known college degree in Enigmatology.

He is the founder of the World Puzzle Championship (and captain of the U.S. team), a founder of

the Annual American Crossword Puzzle Tournament, and a serious collector of puzzle ephemera.

According to Shortz, a good puzzle should have a "sweet spot ... where the solver has to use all his skills to complete it, and that's where the great satisfaction comes in." Part of his job as editor, he says, is "to try to make that sweet spot for as many solvers as possible."

"An Evening with Will Shortz" is Underwritten by OcuSight Eye Care Center.



The New York Times bestselling novelist and book club favorite **Audrey Niffenegger** will participate in Rochester Arts & Lectures' Series on **Thursday, March 16, 2006**.

Niffenegger's debut novel, *The Time Traveler's Wife*, became a national bestseller, was featured as a Today Show Book Club selection, and was optioned for feature film.

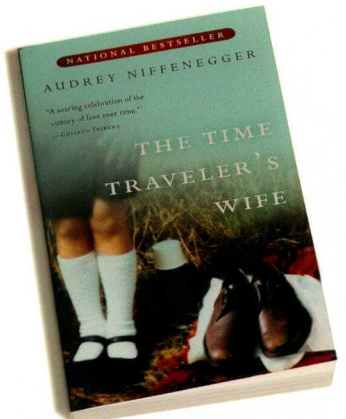
"This clever and inventive tale works on three levels: as an intriguing science fiction concept, a realistic character study

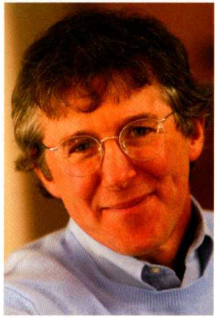
and a touching love story. Henry De Tamble is a Chicago librarian with 'Chrono Displacement' disorder; at random times, he suddenly disappears without warning and finds himself in the past or future, usually at a time or place of importance in his life." (*Publishers Weekly*)

Niffenegger describes her new work, *The Three Incestuous Sisters: An Illustrated Novel*, as "the book of my heart, a fourteen-year labor of love."

A nationally exhibited visual artist, Niffenegger teaches art and printmaking at Columbia College in Chicago.

"An Evening with Audrey Niffenegger" is Underwritten by Parkleigh.





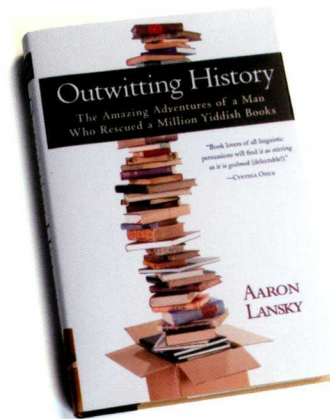
For twenty-five years, **Aaron Lansky** has dedicated himself to rescuing Yiddish books from extinction.

Lansky's memoir, *Outwitting History: The Amazing Adventures of a Man Who Rescued a Million Yiddish Books*, is a moving and inspiring account of his success in pioneering the effort to preserve the history of a generation.

On **Thursday, April 6, 2006**, Lansky, the Founder of the National Yiddish Book Center, will tell some of his remarkable stories, share his most important accomplishments, and explain the ramifications of his extensive literary, historical and cultural project.

"Lansky's account of salvaging books is both hilarious and moving, filled with Jewish humor, conversations with elderly Jewish immigrants for whom the books evoke memories of a faraway past, stories of desperate midnight rescues from rain-soaked Dumpsters, and touching accounts of Lansky's trips to what were once Jewish communities in Europe."
(*Publishers Weekly*)

"An Evening with Aaron Lansky"
is Underwritten by **Barbara and John Lovenheim.**



Rochester Arts & Lectures' 2005/2006 Series closes on **May 4, 2006** with a lecture by **Richard Russo**, one of the most significant contemporary American novelists.

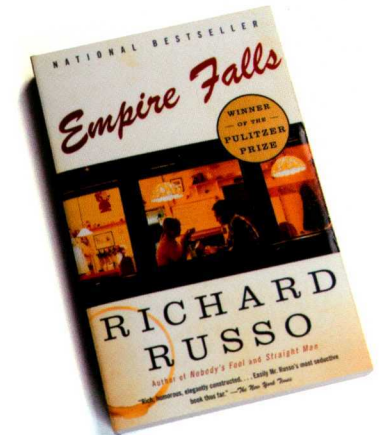
His books, *Mohawk*, *The Risk Pool*, *Nobody's Fool*, *Straight Man*,

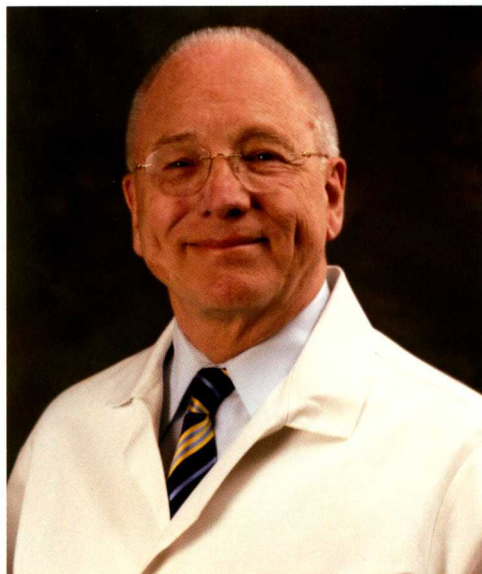
and *The Whore's Child*, are lovingly drawn depictions of working-class America in the late 20th century.

Russo won the 2002 Pulitzer Prize for *Empire Falls*; according to the judges, Russo "has demonstrated a peerless affinity for the human tragicomedy, and with this stunning new novel he extends even further his claims on the small-town, blue-collar heart of the country."

"We'll never know any place better than the place we grew up, and no place, I suspect, will ever be more important to us, at least in terms of our imaginative lives," says Russo. "For that reason there's something tragic in the understanding that many kids from small towns have—that in order to be a success in life, they'll have to leave; to remain behind would be an admission of failure. For many, it means leaving their heart's home."

"An Evening with Richard Russo"
is Underwritten by **Nancy and Alan Cameros.**





"It's a widely held view that a healthy community incorporates not only the physical well being of its residents, but an overall environment that enriches their lives. The University of Rochester Medical Center and Strong Health share this view and proudly support stimulating community programs such as

Rochester Arts & Lectures. Year after year, this outstanding lecture series inspires and excites, bringing new ideas and energy to our community and the region."

C. McCollister Evarts, M.D.,
Senior Vice President and Vice Provost for Health Affairs,
University of Rochester Medical Center and Strong Health CEO
Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures



"Nazareth College is pleased to continue its support for Rochester Arts & Lectures, enabling the Rochester community to learn from the nation's most distinguished artists and authors. At the very heart of a strong liberal arts education is exposure to a wide range of ideas. This partnership with Rochester Arts

& Lectures benefits the greater community while furthering Nazareth College's commitment to excellence in its liberal arts tradition."

Daan Braveman,
President
Nazareth College
Sponsor of Rochester Arts & Lectures

Tickets

Series tickets are \$120-\$228. **Sold Out**

A limited number of standing-room only tickets (\$15) are made available on the evening of each lecture, beginning at 6:45pm.

All lectures begin at 7:30pm at the Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 North Fitzhugh Street, Rochester. Parking is available at the Sister Cities Garage, 28 North Fitzhugh Street.

Rochester Arts & Lectures is a non-profit cultural organization.

We are grateful for the services provided by: Arena's Florist; Book Marshall Productions; Clark Moving and Storage, Inc.; Robert C. Grossman/Johnson, Mullan & Brundage, P.C., Attorneys at Law; Max of Eastman Place Restaurant, Wayne McCrossen/Max Printing Service; Lili Schwartz and Ben Agronick/liliandben design + technology; Suzanne Slack and Victor J. Ciaccia/AVS Quality Textile Printing; and Leon Zak/ZAK Software, Inc.

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Arts in Education Programs

Underwritten by Barnes & Noble Booksellers
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Our Arts in Education program includes:
The Outreach Education Program for High School Students

(featuring a special presentation by Audrey Niffenegger for Monroe County High School students).

and

The Encounters with Excellence Scholarship Program

(providing 84 Rochester City High School students with reserved, front-row lecture seats, autographed copies of the speakers' books, and admission to post-lecture receptions with the authors).

Uncommon Voices: The Best from the Rochester Arts & Lectures' Stage

This beautiful anthology (\$22) includes lectures by Isabel Allende, John Updike, Oscar Hijuelos, Maya Angelou, Margaret Atwood, Carl Hiaasen, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Carol Shields, Anne Lamott, Frank McCourt, David Maybury-Lewis, and Jane Hirshfield.

Uncommon Voices is available at Parkleigh (215 Park Avenue), Barnes & Noble Booksellers in Pittsford Plaza (3349 Monroe Avenue), the Museum Shop and Café at the George Eastman House (900 East Avenue), the Gallery Store at the Memorial Art Gallery (500 University Avenue), and Mercury Posters (1 Sumner Park, just off Monroe Avenue).

Proceeds benefit Rochester Arts & Lectures, a non-profit organization.

