

Conference and Festival Kickoff



The kickoff event is free and open to the public. It will be held in the auditorium of the Turnbull Center, FSU's new conference center on Pensacola St. (beside the Civic Center.) Bring your friends and spouses to enjoy stimulating discussion, hors d'oeuvres and a cash bar. The panel discussion will be followed by a chance to meet and talk with conference presenters in a casual setting.

6:30 p.m. Panel Discussion: The Power of Books to Shape American Life

Moderator: Helen Moeller, Director of the LeRoy Collins Leon County Public Library System.

Speakers:



John Cole

Founding director of the Center for the Book at the Library of Congress. He has published extensively about the history of books and libraries in society and the history of the Library of Congress. Starting in 1984, the Center for the Book in the Library began to establish affiliate centers in the 50 states. Today, there is a State Center for the Book in all 50 states, as well as the District of Columbia and the U.S. Virgin Islands. These Center for the Book affiliates carry out the national Center's mission in their local areas, sponsor programs that highlight their area's literary heritage and call attention to the importance of books, reading, literacy and libraries.



John Fenstermaker

Fred L. Standley Professor of English, Emeritus, at Florida State University. He served as English Department Chair 1982-1994 and Director of the Program in American and Florida Studies 2001-2008. His most recent book is *The Art of Literary Research* (with Richard D. Altick). Fenstermaker is a founder of the Florida Book Awards program and is President of the Friends of Florida State University Libraries. He has served as President of the Florida College English Association, the Florida Association of Departments of English, the South Atlantic Association of Departments of English, and the South Atlantic Modern Language Association.



Wayne Wiegand

Wiegand is currently the F. William Summers Professor of Library and Information Studies and Professor of American Studies at Florida State University. A founder of the Florida Book Awards, his most recent book, *Books on Trial: Red Scare in the Heartland*, is co-authored with his wife Shirley. He also co-edited books on *Women in Print: Essays on the Print Culture of American Women from the Nineteenth and Twentieth Centuries*, *Genreflecting: A Guide to Popular Reading Interests*, and *Defining Print Culture for Youth: The Cultural Work of Children's Literature*.