



East Baton Rouge Parish Library

7711 Goodwood Boulevard
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
70806

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
February 29, 2008

MEDIA CONTACT: Claire C. Delaune
(225) 231-3712

BRADBURY BIOGRAPHER VISITS LIBRARY

As part of The Big Read: One Book/One Community, author, Sam Weller, will be at the Bluebonnet Regional Branch Library, 9200 Bluebonnet Boulevard, on Saturday, March 1 at 2:00 p.m. Weller will offer insight into Ray Bradbury's life and writing during this free lecture. Following the program, there will be a book signing. Copies of Weller's book will be available for purchase.

Weller spent five years working with Ray Bradbury as his authorized biographer and continues to speak with him on a weekly basis. His book, *The Bradbury Chronicles: The Life of Ray Bradbury* won the Society of Midland Author's Award for Best Biography of 2005. The book was also a finalist for the prestigious Bram Stoker Award and a *Los Angeles Times* Bestseller. The *New York Times* Book Review called *The Bradbury Chronicles* "essential" and "engaging".

Weller is the former Midwest Bureau Chief for *Publishers Weekly* magazine. He is a contributing writer for the Chicago Public Radio program, *848* and his work has appeared on the National Public Radio program, *All Things Considered*. Weller is a regular contributor to the *Chicago Tribune Magazine*, a frequent literary critic for the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chicago Sun-Times*, as well as *Punk Planet* magazine. He is also a recurrent contributor to *Playboy.com*. As a staff writer for the Chicago alternative weekly, *Newcity*, Weller was the recipient of the Peter Lisagor Award for arts criticism - the highest honor in Chicago journalism.

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SAM WELLER

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Weller's short fiction has appeared in the anthology *Spec-Lit*, as well as *Tales from the Dim Unknown*. He is a full-time professor in the Fiction Writing Department at Columbia College Chicago where he teaches the only college-level course in the United States on the life and work of Ray Bradbury.

The Big Read: One Book/One Community is sponsored by The Big Read, the East Baton Rouge Parish Library, and The Baton Rouge Area Chamber. The Big Read is an initiative of the National Endowment for the Arts in partnership with the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Arts Midwest. Additional funding for this program has been provided by the Farnbacher Memorial Fund of the Baton Rouge Area Foundation.

For more information, call (225) 231-3710.

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