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Best-selling NC writer John Hart to help promote Buncombe literacy

By Damien Chambers

ASHEVILLE North Carolina novelist John Hart will speak at the Literacy Council of Buncombe County's annual fundraiser, the Authors for Literacy dinner and silent auction, on Aug. 27, the group announced Thursday.

Hart is the author of three best-sellers: "The King of Lies," "Down River" and "The Last Child." In April he became the first novelist to win Edgar mystery fiction awards for two consecutive novels.

"We are very thrilled to announce to the public that John will be speaking," said Ashley Vandewart, the council's developmental director. "John is an extremely talented writer. The audience will find him very entertaining, especially if he speaks the same way that he writes."

In addition to Hart's presentation and the dinner, the event will include a silent auction featuring original artwork, a portrait session, vacations, private catering by local chefs and more.

Proceeds will benefit Literacy Council programs to teach adult literacy, writing, math and English as a second language skills in both individual and small group learning sessions taught by volunteers.

The dinner will be 6-9 p.m. Aug. 27 at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel, 31 Woodfin St. Tickets are \$75; VIP tickets, at \$125, include a reception with the author.

This is the third annual Authors of Literacy dinner. The first two sold out, Vandewart said.

To learn more, visit www.litcouncil.com or www.johnhartfiction.com.



Durham native and Rowan County resident John Hart, author of three popular mystery novels, will speak at a Literary Council event in Asheville on Aug. 27. (Special to the Citizen-Times)