

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**“New York Times Best Selling Author Elizabeth Kostova Promotes Literacy in Asheville with Fundraising Event”**

August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2008

This fall, author Elizabeth Kostova will be in Asheville to read from her best selling novel *The Historian*. The reading is part of the inaugural Authors for Literacy fundraising event hosted by the Literacy Council of Buncombe County. The first annual Authors for Literacy event is sponsored by Reynolds Mountain. All proceeds from the event will support the work of the Literacy Council of Buncombe County.

“An Evening in Eastern Europe with Elizabeth Kostova” will take place on September 12, 2008 at 6 p.m. at the UNC-Asheville Reuter Center. Guests will enjoy an evening of Eastern European food, wine, silent auction and friendship and be transported back in time as Elizabeth Kostova reads excerpts from her novel, *The Historian*. This thrilling modern story about Dracula has been translated into 40 languages. Elizabeth Kostova’s mother, Eleanor Johnson, has been a tutor at the Literacy Council of Buncombe County since 2002. Eleanor’s relationship with the Literacy Council led to her daughter’s collaboration with the agency’s fundraiser.

While in Asheville, Elizabeth will also be involved in the academic community, as she will appear as a guest speaker in classes at UNC Asheville.

The Literacy Council of Buncombe County works to improve the basic education and English language skills of Buncombe County adults by providing them with one-on-one and small group tutoring by trained volunteers. In addition to the Adult Basic Education and English as a Second Language programs, the Literacy Council will soon be working with high school students who are at risk of quitting school or have dropped out, to help them improve their basic literacy skills in order to obtain a G.E.D. and employment.

For more information call the Literacy Council at # 254-3442.