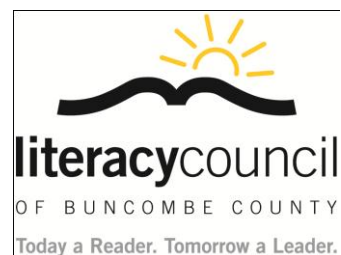


PRESS RELEASE: For Release July 1, 2010

Contact: Ashley Vandewart
Development Director
The Literacy Council of Buncombe County
31 College Place, Suite B-221
Asheville, NC 28801
828-254-3442, ext. 205
donors@litcouncil.com



PSA Brief:

John Hart, a North Carolina thriller novelist and author of three New York Times best-sellers, will keynote the Authors for Literacy Dinner & Silent Auction benefitting the Literacy Council of Buncombe County.

John Hart puts mystery into reading; the Literacy Council takes it out. The heroes in Hart's books overcome barriers to solve crimes, while the Literacy Council's students overcome incredible odds to uncover the mystery of English literacy.

Authors for Literacy, featuring John Hart, will include dinner, drinks, and an auction with valuable and unique items: Friday, Aug. 27, 2010 at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel. Contact the Literacy Council at 254-3442 x205 for more information.

Extended Press Release:

**Author of Three NY Times Best-Sellers
Promotes Literacy in Asheville
*John Hart to Read at Authors for Literacy Event***

Asheville, North Carolina –The Literacy Council of Buncombe County announces this week that North Carolina thriller novelist John Hart will keynote their annual fundraiser, the Authors for Literacy Dinner and Silent Auction.

Hart is the author of three New York Times best-selling novels: *The King of Lies*, *Down River* and *The Last Child*. In April 2010, Hart earned the distinction of being the only author to win Edgar awards for two consecutive novels.

John Hart puts mystery into reading; the Literacy Council takes it out. The heroes in Hart's books overcome barriers to solve crimes, while the Literacy Council's students overcome incredible odds to uncover the mystery of English literacy. Just as Hart's heroes discover truths about their personal lives along the way, Literacy Council students find confidence and develop self-sufficiency to transform their lives as individuals, parents, workers and citizens.

—MORE—

Not only will guests enjoy listening to Hart read excerpts from his award-winning novels, they will also have the opportunity to bid on valuable and unique auction items including original artwork, a portrait session, vacations and private catering by local chefs.

All proceeds will benefit the Literacy Council's programs to teach adults basic reading, writing, math and English language skills through individual and small group instruction by trained volunteers.

Authors for Literacy will be held at the Renaissance Asheville Hotel on Friday, August 27, 2010 from 6:00-9:00 p.m. This is the third annual Authors for Literacy event and it has sold out each year. Tickets are available to the general public beginning July 1 for \$75.00 or \$125 (includes private reception with the author). Call Ashley Vandewart at the Literacy Council, 828-254-3442 ext. 205 for more information.

The Authors for Literacy Dinner and Silent Auction fundraiser is made possible by our Corporate Partners and auction item donors. The event Co-Chairs, Gene Adams and James Carter, are aided by Honorary Co-Chairs Mary Hart and Charles & Eleanor Owen.

About the Literacy Council of Buncombe County

The Literacy Council of Buncombe County teaches adults basic reading, writing, math and language skills through individual and small group instruction by trained volunteers. Success comes from the trusted bond that develops between instructors and students. The Literacy Council, accredited by ProLiteracy America and serving the community since 1987, provides highly individualized tutoring to fit the needs of over 360 students in two core programs – Adult Education and English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). For more information, visit litcouncil.com or call 828-254-3442.