

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**2008 Maine Literary Festival Focuses on the Environment  
Klinkenborg, Heinrich & Reichl Headline Weekend**

As we celebrate Earth Week, the Maine Literary Festival is pleased to announce its key speakers for the third annual festival, "For This Earth: Visions in Literature", scheduled for November 7, 8 and 9. The Festival focuses on the relationship among writing, poetry, nature and science in shaping how we live our lives and treat this earth, on our responsibility toward this earth and hope for a sustainable future despite how we have damaged our planet. Verlyn Klinkenborg, noted author and member of the New York Times Editorial Advisory Board, is the E.B. and Katharine White Memorial Lecturer on November 7. Bernd Heinrich headlines Saturday and Ruth Reichl headlines Sunday.

Professor Klinkenborg is the author of *Making Hay* (1986), *The Last Fine Time* (1991), *The Rural Life* (2003), and *Timothy: Or, Notes of an Abject Reptile* (2006). His work has appeared in many magazines, including *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *Esquire*, *National Geographic*, *Smithsonian*, *Mother Jones* and *The New York Times Magazine*, among others. He has taught literature and creative writing at Fordham University and Harvard University and is a visiting professor at Bard College and the visiting writer in residence at Pomona College. Klinkenborg has been a member of the editorial board of the *New York Times* since 1997, where his essays on rural life appear regularly. He is the recipient of a 2007 Guggenheim Fellowship. Mr. Klinkenborg and his family live on a farm in rural New York State.

Professor Heinrich is University of Vermont professor emeritus of biology and wildlife biologist and the nation's leading expert on thermoregulation of insects. He has published scientific books-including the National Book Award nominee and natural history classic, "Bumblebee Economics"-as well as popular books on natural history that have attracted a widespread following. Heinrich's latest book, *Winter World: The Ingenuity of Animal Survival*, 2008 was featured in a full-page article in the science section of the *New York Times* in January, on the date the book was published; it continues to reap critical praise. His previous books, including *Mind of the Raven: Investigations and Adventures with Wolf-Birds*, also merited kudos by national media.. He contributes articles in national publications including *Science*, *Scientific American*, *Smithsonian*, *Natural History* and the *New York Times*.

Ms. Reichl has been editor in chief of *Gourmet* magazine and [www.gourmet.com](http://www.gourmet.com) since April 1999. Previously she was restaurant critic at *The New York Times* from 1993 to 1999. As chef and co-owner of The Swallow Restaurant from 1974 to 1977, she played a part in the culinary revolution that took place in Berkeley, California. In the years that followed, she served as restaurant critic for *New West* and *California* magazines. In 1984, she became restaurant critic of the *Los Angeles Times*, where she was also named food editor. Ms. Reichl began writing about food in 1972, when she published *Mmmmm: A Feastyary*. Since then, she has authored the critically acclaimed, best-selling memoirs *Tender at the Bone*, *Comfort Me with Apples*, and *Garlic and Sapphires*, which have been translated into 16 languages.

“The festival is particularly exciting this year,” said chair Maryanne Shanahan. “Not only have we attracted a roster of fine authors, poets and chefs, we have struck a cord with people who are passionate about the environment and doing whatever they can to make a difference. The weekend combines serious literature and concepts with constructive and helpful suggestions for our individual lives, and good food and great fun.”

More than 25 authors, poets, scientists, critics and chefs will participate in this year’s festival at the Camden Opera House in Camden, and they will be announced shortly. Specifics about the Festival content as well as registration information can be found at [www.maineliteraryfestival.com](http://www.maineliteraryfestival.com). Questions can be directed to Ms. Shanahan at 207-837-2827.