



## *The Twelfth Annual Virginia Festival of the Book* March 22-26, 2006

For program updates visit [www.vabook.org](http://www.vabook.org), or call 434-924-6890

### Politics and Current Affairs

#### Wednesday, March 22

##### **Flags: America's Embattled Emblems**

With authors Marc Leepson (*Flag: An American Biography*) and John Coski (*The Confederate Battle Flag: America's Most Embattled Emblem*).

4 p.m., City Council Chambers

##### **Founding Fathers, Secret Societies**

Robert Hieronimus, Ph.D., author of *Founding Fathers, Secret Societies: Freemasons, Illuminati, Rosicrucians and the Decoding of the Great Seal*, investigates the secret meanings behind our most significant national documents and symbols.

6 p.m., McIntire Room, Central Library

##### **Neglected Histories--Fascinating Tales**

Fintan O'Toole (*White Savage: William Johnson and the Invention of America*), Melvin Patrick Ely (*Israel on the Appomattox: A Southern Experiment in Black Freedom from the 1790s Through the Civil War*), and Lindsay Robertson (*Conquest by Law: How The Discovery Of America Dispossessed Indigenous Peoples Of Their Land*).

6 p.m., UVa Culbreth Theatre

#### Thursday, March 23

##### **Can There Be Peace in the Middle East?**

A conversation with Milton Viorst (*Storm from the East: The Struggle Between the Arab World and the Christian West*) and UVa professor William Quandt (*Peace Process: American Diplomacy and the Arab-Israeli Conflict Since 1967*).

2 p.m., McIntire Room, Central Library

#### Friday, March 24

##### **Race in America**

With Nick Kotz (*Judgment Days: Lyndon Baines Johnson, Martin Luther King, Jr., and the Laws That Changed America*) and Sheryll Cashin (*The Failures of Integration: How Race and Class Are Undermining the American Dream*).

10 a.m., McIntire Room, Central Library

##### **On the Beat: Political Journalism**

Longtime political journalist Jules Witcover presents his memoir, *The Making of an Ink-Stained Wretch*.

11 a.m., Miller Center

#### Friday, March 25 cont.

##### **The Influence of Sandra Day O'Connor**

Legal news commentator and reporter Joan Biskupic, discussing her new biography, *Sandra Day O'Connor: How the First Woman on the Supreme Court Became Its Most Influential Justice*. (Thomas Jefferson Center for the Protection of Free Expression )

6 p.m., Abbott Center Auditorium, Darden School

##### **Independent Media: Amy Goodman**

Host of "Democracy Now" and author of *The Exception to the Rule: Exposing Oily Politicians, War Profiteers, and the Media That Love Them*, Amy Goodman critiques the commercial news media and discusses the importance independent media. (Amnesty International)

7 p.m., UVa McLeod Hall Auditorium

#### Saturday, March 25

##### **"The Virtuous Republic": A Civic Conversation**

A discussion of the Founders, their view of an informed electorate, ordinary people vs. elites, and fears of the concentration of power. Panel: Barbara Clark Smith (Smithsonian), Mark McGarvie (University of Richmond).

10 a.m., City Council Chambers

##### **Journalism Then and Now**

With Digby Diehl (*Soapsuds*), Stephen Farnsworth (*The Mediated Presidency: Television News and Presidential Governance*), Margo Jefferson (*On Michael Jackson*), and Victor Navasky (*A Matter of Opinion*).

2 p.m., City Council Chambers

##### **Elias Khoury: A Reading and Conversation**

Elias Khoury speaks about *Gate of the Sun* and his experiences as a former member of the Fatah (Palestinian National Liberation Movement), his life as a scholar of Mideast studies, and his ideas and opinions about the current cultural climate in the Mideast.

2 p.m., UVa Bookstore

##### **The New Yorker and The Economist: Hertzberg and Wooldridge**

Join two of America's top political commentators for an open discussion of current affairs: Hendrik Hertzberg (Senior Editor, *The New Yorker*) magazine and Adrian Wooldridge (Washington Bureau Chief, *The Economist*).

4 p.m., UVa Campbell Hall, School of Architecture