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Virginia Festival of the Book & New Dominion Bookshop Announce 2019 Carol Troxell Reader

November 8, 2018— Charlottesville, Va.—A program of Virginia Humanities, **the 25th anniversary Virginia Festival of the Book**, in partnership with **New Dominion Bookshop**, announces today that the 2019 Carol Troxell Reader will be *New York Times* bestselling author/illustrator for young readers **Jarrett Krosoczka**. He is a two-time winner of the Children’s Choice Book Awards Third to Fourth Grade Book of the Year, a Will Eisner Comic Industry Award finalist, and is currently a **finalist for the 2018 National Book Award for Young People’s Literature**. His new book, *Hey, Kiddo* (October 2018), is a graphic novel memoir of growing up grappling with a mother’s addiction and an absentee father.

As the 2019 Carol Troxell Reader, Krosoczka will give a reading of his work at **New Dominion Bookshop on Wednesday, March 20 at 4:00 PM**. This event is FREE to attend and open to the public. A private reception will follow. In addition, as a Festival youth headliner, he will speak to 2,500 elementary school students from local public and private schools at two multi-school assemblies, held earlier on March 20 in the St. Anne’s-Belfield School Convocation Center. For details about these and other Festival programs, visit VaBook.org.

In making this announcement, **Virginia Festival of the Book director Jane Kulow** said, “We are pleased to bestow this additional honor on Jarrett, in recognition of the importance of his work. His popular elementary school series are great for young children; *Hey, Kiddo* offers something for more mature readers and Jarrett’s role as the 2019 Carol Troxell Reader will really highlight that. I think Carol would be excited by this choice!”

About the Carol Troxell Reader: In January 2017, our community suffered a terrible loss with the sudden passing of Carol Troxell, thirty-year owner of New Dominion Bookshop. To honor Carol’s memory, her influence on Charlottesville’s literary community, her support for the Virginia Festival of the Book, and her unerring knack for recommending books for any sort of reader, the Festival features an author as the Carol Troxell Reader each year, featuring them in a solo reading at the Bookshop in addition to other Festival programming.

About the Virginia Festival of the Book: A signature program of Virginia Humanities and the Virginia Center for the Book, the Virginia Festival of the Book brings readers and writers together for a five-day program of mostly free events including author readings, book signings, panel discussions, programs for children, and more. **The 25th annual Festival will be held March 20-24, 2019**, in Charlottesville and Albemarle County, Virginia. The Festival consistently attracts audiences of more than 20,000 from more than forty states each year, with an estimated local economic impact of about \$4 million annually. To learn more, visit VaBook.org.

About New Dominion Bookshop: New Dominion Bookshop is the oldest independent bookseller in Virginia, located in Historic Downtown Charlottesville. Our collection includes many selections from fiction, non-fiction, and children’s literature, and a unique selection of architecture and landscape gardening resources. To learn more, visit NDBookshop.com.

About Virginia Humanities: Virginia Humanities connects people and ideas to explore the human experience and inspire cultural engagement. As the state humanities council, Virginia Humanities reaches millions in its estimated annual audience through festivals, grants, fellowships, digital initiatives, teacher institutes, radio programs, podcasts, apprenticeships, and school programs. Headquartered at the University of Virginia in Charlottesville, Virginia Humanities endeavors to serve Virginians in every corner of the Commonwealth. To learn more, visit VirginiaHumanities.org.