

The Washington Post 2015 National Book Festival: Highlights



Performers with the Galilee Arches, which is composed of the St. Louis Arches and the Galilee Circus (Jessica Hentoff/Jessica Hentoff)

August 28

Library of Congress American Fiction Prize

10-10:45 a.m. Louise Erdrich, author of such novels as “The Plague of Doves,” “Love Medicine” and the National Book Award-winning “The Round House,” will be presented with the American Fiction Prize. She will be in conversation with Marie Arana, co-director of the National Book Festival.

Library of Congress American Fiction Prize

10-10:45 a.m. Louise Erdrich, author of such novels as “The Plague of Doves,” “Love Medicine” and the National Book Award-winning “The Round House,” will be presented with the American Fiction Prize. She will be in conversation with Marie Arana, co-director of the National Book Festival.

Watch Out For Flying Kids!

10-11:10 a.m. Members of two youth circuses — one from St. Louis, one from Israel — will perform acrobatics, juggling and other tricks. Raise your hand if you want to get in on the act; volunteers will be welcome. The show caps off a

presentation by **Cynthia Levinson**, author of “Watch Out for Flying Kids!: How Two Circuses, Two Countries, and Nine Kids Confront Conflict and Build Community.”

The Human Side of War

2:35-6:55 p.m. **Tom Brokaw** (“The Greatest Generation”), **Rick Atkinson** (the Liberation Trilogy) and others will participate in a program on the human side of war. The event will include readings and a panel discussion on novels about war with **Elliot Ackerman** (“Green on Blue”), **Phil Klay** (“Redeployment”), and **Roxana Robinson** (“Sparta”).

Romance is in the Air

7:15-9 p.m. A new festival program devoted to romance fiction will include best-selling novelists Beverly Jenkins, Paige Tyler and Sarah MacLean, who is also The Washington Post’s monthly romance book reviewer. They will discuss their work with Petra Mayer, an editor at NPR Books

Books to Movies

8-10 p.m. Washington Post film critic **Ann Hornaday** will moderate a discussion with authors whose books have been made into movies. Participating will be **A. Scott Berg**, **Lawrence Wright** and **Anne-Marie O’Connor**. A sneak peek of the film “Genius,” starring Colin Firth, Nicole Kidman and Jude Law and based on Berg’s biography of the literary editor Max Perkins, will be shown during the first hour.