

March 1, 2023

Author and historian Erik Larson to appear April 18 in Distinguished Speaker Series

Erik Larson, historian and author of a half dozen international best sellers, will be the History Center's Distinguished Speaker Series special guest for 2023 when he sits down with WITF-FM's Scott LaMar Tuesday, April 18, at the Appell Center for the Performing Arts.

Larson is a master of narrative non-fiction. His vividly written books have won several awards and been published worldwide. His critically acclaimed book "The Devil in the White City" intertwines the stories of the Chicago 1893 World's Fair and one of America's worst serial killers. It remained on the New York Times best-seller lists for more than six years, won an Edgar Award for nonfiction crime writing, was nominated for the National Book Award, and was voted one of the 125 most important books of the last 125 years by the New York Public Library.

Larson's success and high profile made him appealing to the committee that selects speakers for the events, said Ron Hershner, longtime chairman of the committee. Hershner also praised the way Larson goes about his writing.

"He does a marvelous job of searching out and utilizing primary resource materials," Hershner said. "The History Center has one of the finest collections of primary resource material in the region, and Larson's approach to research and writing fits well with our mission."

Erik Larson graduated summa cum laude from the University of Pennsylvania, where he studied Russian history, language and culture. He also received a master's degree in journalism from Columbia University. After a brief stint at the Bucks County Courier Times, Larson became a staff writer for The Wall Street Journal, and later a contributing writer for Time magazine.

Distinguished Speaker Series events, held every three years, are fundraisers for the History Center. For more information, visit www.yorkhistorycenter.org.

IF YOU GO

What: An Evening with Erik Larson

When: 8 p.m. Tuesday, April 18

Where: Strand Theatre at the Appell Center for the Performing Arts

Tickets: On sale now through the Appell Center box office at <https://tickets.appellcenter.org/9000/9001> or 717-846-1111.

MEDIA CONTACT: Dan Fink, dfink@yorkhistorycenter.org, 717-848-1587 ext. 216

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