

Eat Drink Read Write is produced by The Birmingham Public Library (BPL) and partner organizations, Birmingham Foodie Book Club, The Desert Island Supply Co. (DISCO), and Slow Food Birmingham (SFB).

Birmingham Foodie Book Club meets monthly, discussing books related to all aspects of food. This group of food writers and food lovers meets for events throughout the year and hosts an annual conference on food writing.
<http://foodiebookclub.wordpress.com/>

The Desert Island Supply Co. (DISCO) is a creative writing program for kids in Birmingham. Based in Woodlawn, DISCO's mission is simple: to give kids in Birmingham more opportunities to write.
<http://www.desertislandsupplyco.com>

Slow Food Birmingham (SFB) is the local chapter of Slow Food U.S.A. Slow Food is a global, grassroots movement that links the pleasure of food with a commitment to community and the environment.
<http://www.slowfoodbirmingham.com>

Special thanks for the generous contributions and support from:

The Daniel Foundation of Alabama

**Back Forty Beer Company
Continental Bakery/Chez Lulu
Highlands Bar and Grill
Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B-Q
Lazy Magnolia Brewing Company
Little Savannah Restaurant
Whole Foods Market**

All events are FREE and open to the public.

Events will be held at the Birmingham Public Library, Central, 2100 Park Place, Birmingham 35203, unless noted otherwise.

The following events are FREE, however reservations are required via Eventbrite website:

Thursday, September 15. Time: 6:30 p.m.,
BPL, Central, "Film, Folks & Food,"
<http://eatdrinkfilmnight.eventbrite.com/>

Saturday, September 17. Time: 3:30 p.m.,
BPL, Central, "At the Table With Robyn O'Brien and Michael Nolan,"
<http://atthetable.eventbrite.com/>

Visit www.bplonline.org/eatdrinkfest or e-mail hm@bham.lib.al.us or call 226-3670 for more information.

Eat Drink Read Write Festival
Birmingham Public Library
2100 Park Place
Birmingham, Alabama 35203

EAT DRINK READ WRITE FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 13 – 17, 2011

BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA



**ALL EVENTS ARE FREE AND
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

WWW.BPLONLINE.ORG/EATDRINKFEST

EAT DRINK READ WRITE

Americans are rethinking the relationship between eating and well-being. The time-honored connections we've enjoyed of eating and relaxing with family and friends, the assumption that our food will not harm us, along with the belief that there are unlimited resources for future food production come into focus with reality. What have we traded for expediency and profit in the food market? With thriving farmers' markets, a local and popular Slow Food chapter, a rise in urban farming, and growing community interest, the national conversation around these issues is heating up.

The Birmingham Public Library (BPL) and partners present the **Eat Drink Read Write Festival**. We're bringing food, culinary arts, and literature to the table in a format that will help foster community in a diverse city. Everyone eats, savors favorite foods, and enjoys food memories. By engaging folks in conversations around food we're able to bring everyone to the table, sharing interests and, experiences, creating a common bond. The festival goal is to increase awareness of food-related concerns in our community by exploring them from a variety of perspectives.

— "We should look for someone to eat and drink with before looking for something to eat and drink." ~ Epicurus

Tuesday, September 13. Time: 6:00 p.m.
Birmingham Public Library, Central
Birmingham Foodie Book Club Presents
Barry Estabrook and Frank Stitt



The book club hosts a discussion of *Tomatoland: How Modern Industrial Agriculture Destroyed Our Most Alluring Fruit*. Author and award-winning food journalist Barry Estabrook, will lead the discussion on how and why commodity tomatoes grew into flavor-free stand-ins for the homegrown, fresh tomatoes we love. Estabrook writes for *The New York Times*, *Saveur*, and other publications.

Chef Frank Stitt will discuss tomato varieties and share samples of tomato-based dishes. Stitt, an Alabama native, is owner of Highlands Bar and Grill. He was inducted into the James Beard Foundation Who's Who Hall of Fame earlier this year.

Wednesday, September 14. Time: 12:00 noon.
Birmingham Public Library, Central
Brown Bag Program: PieLab



PieLab is a combination cafe, design studio, and community clubhouse in the Black Belt town of Greensboro, Alabama. It is based on the notion that the best way to bring people together and do good for the community is to feed them. PieLab team members will share insight on how the formula, Pie + Conversation = Ideas / Ideas + Design = Positive Change brings folks together over good things to eat. Pies will be available for sampling.

Wednesday, September 14. Time: 7:00 p.m.
Woodrow Hall, 5504 1st Ave North, Woodlawn
Food Stories

DISCO (The Desert Island Supply Company Co.) will present a live storytelling event modeled after NPR's popular program, *The Moth*. Food Stories will bring together local storytellers, to tell a true story in the first person, in five minutes. The story subject must somehow involve food. Cash bar; Whole Foods Market will provide refreshments.

Thursday, September 15. Time: 6:30 p.m.
Birmingham Public Library, Central
Film, Folks & Food

FREE. Reservations required, <http://eatdrinkfilmnight.eventbrite.com/>
We will screen a montage of food-related short films by Joe York, a native of Glencoe, Alabama. An award-winning filmmaker for the Southern Foodways Alliance at the University of Mississippi, York has shot and directed more than 30 films on Southern food culture. His films cover subjects from an artisanal cheese producer in Georgia, to the post Katrina rebuild of Wille Mae's Scotch House restaurant in New Orleans, recognized in 2005 by the James Beard Foundation as an American Classic, to the work of Vietnamese fishermen off the coasts of Alabama and Mississippi. Jim 'N Nick's Bar-B-Q will provide refreshments.



— "Southerners can't stand to eat alone. If we're going to cook a mess of greens we want to eat them with a mess of people." ~ Julia Reed

Friday, September 16. Time: 6:30 p.m.
Birmingham Public Library, Central
Bards & Brews All-Star Poetry Slam

Bards & Brews is the popular monthly poetry slam/beer tasting launched in 2010 at the BPL. This special program features monthly winners of Bards & Brews slams. Free the Hops (FTH), a grassroots movement working to change beer laws in Alabama will provide information. Back Forty Beer Company and Lazy Magnolia Brewing Company will provide beer to sample. Continental Bakery/Chez Lulu will provide refreshments.

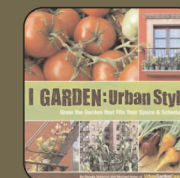
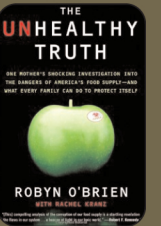
Saturday, September 17. Time: 9:00 a.m.
Pepper Place Saturday Market
Food Writing Workshop

DISCO (The Desert Island Supply Company Co.) will offer a vegetable-themed writing booth for children and adults at Pepper Place Saturday Market. The market is open April through December near downtown Birmingham. Library staff will be on site with food-related craft activities for kids.

Saturday, September 17. Time: 3:30 p.m.
Birmingham Public Library, Central
At the Table with Robyn O'Brien and Michael Nolan

FREE. Reservations required, <http://atthetable.eventbrite.com/>

Robyn O'Brien brings her perspective as a former Wall Street analyst, author, and mom to inspire diverse audiences into action, as she tackles issues of our country's industrial food supply and its link with rising health care costs. O'Brien wrote *Unhealthy Truth: How Our Food Is Making Us Sick and What We Can Do About It*. O'Brien is convinced that restoring the integrity of our food supply is an inspired act of economic patriotism.



Michael Nolan, a.k.a. "The Garden Rockstar" focuses on the premise that it is possible for anyone to grow and eat great food, live a healthier lifestyle, and save money at the same time. Nolan is co-author of *I Garden: Urban Style* and food advocate whose no-bull approach to gardening has been featured in *The New York Times*.

Michael blogs about his experiences at MyEarthGarden.com. Little Savannah Restaurant will provide refreshments.