



Have you done *your* homework?

**ReadBoston**  
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Mythical Adventure Awaits You...

Come escape into the magical worlds that exist in books and help Boston's children live happily ever after at:

ReadBoston's  
4th Anniversary Celebration,  
*Adventures in Storyland*

Tuesday, November 9, 1999  
Boston Public Library (Dartmouth Street entrance)  
7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.  
Food, Fun, and Mind-Boggling Activities

Tickets — \$100.00/per person  
RSVP by November 5, 1999  
(617) 918-5290

**Authors and Other Notables:**

Mayor Thomas M. Menino, Superintendent Thomas Payzant,  
Elizabeth Berg, Andy Brickley, James Carroll, Bud Collins,  
John Kenneth Galbraith, Arthur Golden, John Hannah,  
Alice Hoffman, Jill McCorkle, Eileen McNamara, Sue Miller,  
Robert Parker, Lloyd Schwartz, and Dan Shaughnessy

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ReadBoston's mission is to help children become able readers by the end of third grade.  
All proceeds from the event will be used to buy books and support literacy programs for Boston children.

## Once upon a time...

the Honorable Thomas M. Menino and other distinguished leaders of the enchanted city of Boston noticed that thousands of children in the city were unhappy because they could not read. Knowing this made them very sad, but after many months they thought of an idea that would make all the children happy again.

In October 1995, the extraordinary initiative, ReadBoston, was brought to life to ensure that, by the year 2005, all Boston's children would be able to read well and independently by the end of the third grade. Since then, ReadBoston has spread across the city, engaging hundreds of organizations and thousands of children. However, this process is not complete.

If we want the stories of all children to unfold in a fun, enriching, and positive manner, the effort and participation of all is needed. So do your part by joining ReadBoston at its 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland*. The evening promises an escape into the magical worlds that exist in books. Come and see how you can help our children live happily ever after.

## A mythical adventure awaits you...

Tuesday, November 9, 1999

Boston Public Library (Dartmouth Street entrance)

6:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. VIP and Major Donor Reception

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Food, Fun, and Mind-Boggling Activities

## Hosted by...

Mayor Thomas M. Menino

Thomas Payzant, Superintendent of Boston Public Schools

Trustees of the Boston Public Library

## Authors & other notables...

**Elizabeth Berg** – *Until the Real Thing Comes Along* and *Talk Before Sleep*, **James Carroll** – *An American Requiem* and *The City Below*, **John Kenneth Galbraith** – *Name Dropping: From FDR On*, **Henry Louis Gates, Jr.** – prolific writer and editor, **Arthur Golden** – *Memoirs of a Geisha*, **Alice Hoffman** – *Here On Earth* and *Practical Magic*, **Jill McCorkle** – *Carolina Moon* and *Final Vinyl Days*, **Eileen McNamara** – Boston Globe columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner, **Sue Miller** – *While I Was Gone* and *The Good Mother*, **Robert Parker** – *Spenser Detective Series*, **Lloyd Schwartz** – winner of the Pulitzer Prize for criticism, author of poetry collections such as *Goodnight Gracie*, **Dan Shaughnessy** – Boston Globe columnist and author of *The Curse of the Bambino*

Martha Minow and Joe Singer, Joan Parker, Anne and Marty Peretz, Alvin Poussaint, Avery Rimer and Rick Weissbourd, Frederick and Zipporah Wiseman

## Special thanks to...

Trinity Communications, Inc., for invitation and event materials; Pen New England and its *Reach Out and Read* Book Fair for inviting the authors; and to all educators, families, and community members who are helping make ReadBoston a reality for Boston's children.

The Boston Globe

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Read

ReadBoston's  
4th Anniversary Celebration,

*Adventures  
in Storyland*



City of Boston, Massachusetts

Dear Special Guests,

On behalf of the City of Boston and the thousands of children who benefit from ReadBoston, I want to thank you for participating in this very special Anniversary Party — *Adventures in Storyland*.

As you know, ReadBoston has been hailed as a model by the U.S. Department of Education and the White House. We have made much progress in helping the children of Boston become independent readers by the end of third grade. But our mission has just completed its fourth year and we still have far to go.

These extraordinary efforts will not be achieved without your assistance. By participating in tonight's festivities, you will enable us to continue to distribute thousands of books and to help hundreds of programs develop meaningful literacy activities for children and families.

From the bottom of my heart, I want to again thank you.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Menino  
Mayor of Boston

# Agenda



7:00 p.m.

Food, fun, and mingling with authors and children's book characters.  
*(Don't forget to add your line to the Never-Ending Story!)*

8:15 p.m.

Remarks and acknowledgements —  
John Hannah, First Union Securities, and Mayor Thomas M. Menino

8:30 p.m.

Dessert



We are delighted to have the following Authors and other Notables involved with this evening's festivities:



**Elizabeth Berg** — *Until the Real Thing Comes Along* and *Talk Before Sleep*

**Andy Brickley** — Boston Bruins

**James Carroll** — *An American Requiem* and *The City Below*

**Bud Collins** — Boston Globe columnist

**John Kenneth Galbraith** — *Name Dropping: From FDR On*

**Arthur Golden** — *Memoirs of a Geisha*

**Alice Hoffman** — *Here On Earth* and *Practical Magic*

**Jill McCorkle** — *Carolina Moon* and *Final Vinyl Days*

**Eileen McNamara** — Boston Globe columnist and Pulitzer Prize winner

**Sue Miller** — *While I Was Gone* and *The Good Mother*

**Robert Parker** — *Spenser Detective Series*

**Lloyd Schwartz** — Winner of the Pulitzer Prize for criticism; author of poetry collections, including *Goodnight Gracie*

**Dan Shaughnessy** — Boston Globe columnist and author of *The Curse of the Bambino*





Dear *Adventures in Storyland* Guests,

When a group of dedicated citizens banded together with Mayor Menino four years ago to launch ReadBoston, they had one goal in mind: to increase dramatically the number of children reading at grade level by the end of third grade. Many of those people are here tonight. We salute your unswerving devotion to kids and reading.

For those of you who are new to ReadBoston, welcome to the campaign! We won't make you a card-carrying member, but we'll be sure to encourage you to get more involved. Help your company, church, or synagogue conduct a book drive; donate to our book fund to purchase books for kids who don't have any; and most importantly, read to a child you know.

If ReadBoston is to reach its goal, the campaign must constantly expand until all sectors of the community are actively participating. Only then can we fulfill our promise that our children will not only learn to read but also learn to love reading.

Thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

Margaret Williams  
Executive Director  
ReadBoston

## The Adventures of ReadBoston

Great strides have been made since ReadBoston began four years ago. Thousands of children benefit from community mobilization efforts, and children's reading levels are showing real improvement.

- Over 1,500 volunteers from colleges, corporations, faith organizations, and community groups provide one-to-one reading assistance each week during the school year.



- Book drives and donations have generated 560,000 new books in schools, community libraries, and for kids to take home.

- A massive teacher training effort to improve reading instruction is taking place in Boston's elementary schools.



- Community groups, schools, and libraries have launched family literacy programs to spark children's interest in reading. These efforts are reaching thousands of children and families each year.

## Campaign Activities

ReadBoston works to increase literacy awareness and involvement in every part of the community. The campaign headquarters provides advice and support through research and referral help, workshops, program consulting, and reading resources. At any given time, ReadBoston coordinates over 100 active alliances with schools, childcare providers, businesses, community-based groups, and organizations interested in promoting reading. Current activities include:

### Books for Kids

ReadBoston solicits donations for new children's books. In addition to group book drives, individuals can easily donate books through ReadBoston's Cyber Book Drive on our Web page. Our address is: <http://www.cityofBoston.com/readboston>.

### Community Assistance

Through programs such as the Storymobile and the Reading Trail, ReadBoston helps families and community organizations prepare young children to become reading ready. Literacy specialists from ReadBoston work with more than 100 organizations to provide staff training, reading and writing materials, take-home reading tips, and ongoing technical assistance.

### Family Involvement

Families play a critical role in helping their children become good readers. Our family literacy initiative advocates for the creation of active home-reading programs in elementary and preschool schools as well as for teachers to have face-to-face conferences with parents at least twice a year regarding their child's reading progress.

For more information or to get involved with ReadBoston, please call (617) 695-READ, or visit us on our Web page at <http://www.cityofBoston.com/readboston>

*A* Special Thank You to the organizations who have donated to ReadBoston's Adventures In Storyland.

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**Read**Boston



*Every Word Counts*

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(617) 635-READ • Fax: (617) 918-5475

<http://www.cityofBoston.com/readboston>

# ReadBoston Corporate Sponsorship Options 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland*



## Gold Star \$5,000

Company name in pre-event ads in *The Boston Globe* • 12 tickets to 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland* • Company name listed in event program book • 50 books donated to an elementary school in company name • 4 tickets to VIP reception with renowned authors and celebrities • Company acknowledged as Gold Star sponsor by the Mayor • Promoted as Gold Star sponsor in all press interviews • Company featured in 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland*, press releases



## Silver Star \$2,500

Company name in pre-event ads in *The Boston Globe* • 6 tickets to 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland* • Company name listed in event program book • 25 books donated to an elementary school in company name • 2 tickets to VIP reception with renowned authors and celebrities



## Bronze Star \$1,000

Company name in pre-event ads in *The Boston Globe* • 2 tickets to 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland* • Company name listed in event program book

*Yes!* We want to support ReadBoston and celebrate its work for children's literacy by sponsoring its 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland*.



Gold Star \$5,000 \_\_\_ Silver Star \$2,500 \_\_\_ Bronze Star \$1,000 \_\_\_

We would like to make an additional contribution to ReadBoston in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_, which will be used toward books and literacy programs for thousands of children.



Contact Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Company Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



*Please contact Mew Ming Chiu at (617) 918-5285 with any questions.*

*Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.*

*Yes! I want to support ReadBoston and celebrate its work for children's literacy at its 4th Anniversary Celebration, *Adventures in Storyland*.*

Please reserve  place(s) at \$100 per person.

I want to make an additional gift that will be used toward books and literacy programming for thousands of children.

\$1,000     \$500     \$250     \$125     other amount

Individual contributors of \$500 or more will receive an additional place at the party, as well as 2 places at the VIP reception.

I cannot attend this event, but I wish to help children become good readers with a contribution of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to ReadBoston. Please make checks payable to ReadBoston.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law. Please contact ReadBoston at 617-635-READ with any questions.