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Mythic Journeys Offers Special Discounted Rate to K-12 Educators

James Hillman, Janis Ian and Joyce Carol Oates are among more than 140 participants at conference and performance festival celebrating Joseph Campbell Centennial

ATLANTA, GA – The Mythic Imagination Institute and the Krispy Kreme Foundation are pleased to extend a special invitation for K-12 educators to attend Mythic Journeys for just \$100 per person. Regular admission for the general public is \$275.

The first annual Mythic Journeys conference and performance festival will bring together more than 140 of the world's leading scholars, psychologists, educators, business leaders, artists, authors, filmmakers and performers for an unprecedented dialogue on the importance of storytelling in contemporary life from June 3-6, 2004, at the Atlanta Hyatt Regency Hotel.

“The Krispy Kreme Foundation and The Mythic Imagination Institute are both committed to helping K-12 educators gain the tools they need to be as effective as possible in the classroom,” states Michael Karlin, president and co-founder of The Mythic Imagination Institute, organizer of the event.

“Stories have been used since the birth of language to communicate complex ideas, social norms and moral values to children and adults,” he adds. “The world's great stories are a repository of human wisdom that can guide us through the complexities of life. These stories and their metaphors are essential tools for educating our youth.”

(more)

Merging cross-disciplinary roundtable conversations and hands-on workshops with a multicultural art exhibit, marketplace and theatrical, music and dance performances, Mythic Journeys will both honor and continue the discourse started by Joseph Campbell (1904-1987), the great authority on mythology.

Among programming of interest to teachers, the education track at Mythic Journeys will feature:

Living Room Discussions: Myth in Education: A workshop with Caldecott Award-winning children's book authors Gerald McDermott and Jane Yolen, philosopher Sam Keen, multimedia producer Fiona Passantino, children's book author Holly Black, Krispy Kreme President/CEO Scott Livengood and others.

Myth and Sports: A workshop with author and filmmaker Phil Cousineau, who will discuss his latest book *The Olympic Odyssey* about the Olympic games. Slides and film clips illustrate the importance of the body and sports in motivating children and adults to be complete people.

Three Magic Beans: A workshop with Caldecott-Award winning author Gail E. Haley. From the Garden of Eden to the Mountains of Appalachia, illustrated with slides, artifacts and marionettes, discover how Jack is, in fact, Everyman, with his own committee of internal archetypes. Haley travels to schools and gives lively presentations using mythology and puppetry.

Cross Cultural Endings: Why Do We Have These Stories?: A panel discussion with folklorist Alan Dundes, religion scholar Laurie Patton, Native American leader Chief Jake Swamp, and literature scholars Verlyn Flieger and Ari Berk.

Violence in Fairy Tales: A panel discussion including authors Joyce Carol Oates and Delia Sherman which discusses why traditional tales were often violent, how these tales have evolved over time and teaching tales to today's children.

Educators can register for Mythic Journeys, and/or review the complete list of program participants and a program overview, at www.mythicjourneys.org or by calling (404) 832-4127.

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About the Mythic Imagination Institute

Mythic Imagination Institute is an Atlanta-based nonprofit arts and education corporation that seeks to activate imagination and intelligence by increasing mythic literacy. Through conferences, performances, art exhibitions, publications and other programs, the Institute builds bridges between disciplines: artists, business professionals, scholars, scientists and anyone who loves stories. Mythic Imagination endeavors to bring the wisdom waiting inside the great myths, folklore and stories of the world to a wider audience in the hope of creating a world with more tolerance, passion, wonder and creativity. For more information, visit www.mythicimagination.org.

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