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East Hampton Library's 14th Annual Authors Night A Smashing Success!

(East Hampton, NY, August 14, 2018) – The East Hampton Library presented their 14th annual Authors Night fundraiser on Saturday, August 11 under a grand tent on a field in Amagansett. This year's event broke a record; raising more than \$400,000 to support essential community programs and services at the East Hampton Library.

One of the most popular and celebrity-studded events of the Hamptons' summer calendar, Authors Night features 100 authors across all genres. The "Premier Literary Event of the Hamptons" has grown over its history to become one of the most successful celebrations of books and authors in America, and one of the largest library-author events of its kind in the country.

More than 2,000 people came out to enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and wine, meet and mingle with the authors, buy their books and have them personally inscribed at the lively cocktail party—with all proceeds benefitting the East Hampton Library. Twenty-four dinner parties, hosting 600 dinner guests, each featuring one or more of the guest authors, followed the book signing cocktail reception at 8 pm, at nearby private homes.

Authors Night Founding Honorary Chair **Alec Baldwin**, was joined by his wife **Hilaria Baldwin**, both of whom signed their recent books. Hilaria Baldwin also served as one of the evening's Honorary Co-Chairs. Other 2018 Honorary Co-Chairs were: **Robert A. Caro**, **Lee Child**, **A.J. Finn**, **A.M. Homes**, and **Dr. Ruth Westheimer**.

Notable authors in attendance included **Amy Chozick**, **Tom Clavin**, **Joanna Coles**, **Blanche Wiesen Cook**, **Elliott Erwitt**, **Florence Fabricant**, **Jules Feiffer**, **Emily Jane Fox**, **Wendy Goodman**, **Michael Gross**, **Michael Isikoff**, **Steve Israel**, **Dave Itzkoff**, **Ndaba Mandela** (grandson of Nelson Mandela, who travelled from Africa to attend the event), **Wednesday Martin**, **Glynnis MacNicol**, **Malcolm Nance**, **Geraldo Rivera**, **Bob Roth**, **Jill Santopolo**, **Beck Dorey-Stein**, **Nathan Turner**, **Piper Weiss**, and **Chris Whipple**.

"We're very thankful for the support and generosity of Alec and Hilaria Baldwin; they're our superheroes," said Sheila Rogers, East Hampton Library Board President. "Because of the success of Authors Night, we can provide many community programs and services at the Library throughout the year, all free of charge. "

Publishing firms and authors generously donate the books for Authors Night, with 100% of the book sales benefitting the East Hampton Library. More than 7,000 books were donated for this year's event. "Half of this year's participating authors joined us for the first time this year. We were thrilled to feature best-selling authors like **Lee Child** and **A.J. Finn**, they attracted tremendous interest," said Dennis Fabiszak, East Hampton Library's Director. "Authors Night is our largest fundraiser of the year. The funds raised at this year's event will represent approximately 15% of our annual operating budget." Local dinner party hosts also underwrite all of their party expenses, with 100% of the dinner party ticket proceeds going to the Library.

Authors Night 2018 Sponsors: The Hilaria & Alec Baldwin Foundation, CIBC Private Wealth Management, Saunders Real Estate, "Moms Don't Have Time To Read Books," The Podcast With Zibby Owens, Alice & Stanley Harris, Swedish Culinary Summer, Domaine Franey Wines & Spirits, Starbucks, Montauk Brewing Co., WPPB 88.3 FM, Hamptons.com

Authors Night 2018 Photos: Eugene Gologursky/Getty Images for East Hampton Library:

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East Hampton Library's Authors Night Facebook Album, photos by Richard Lewin: <http://tinyurl.com/yctjr9pz>

Authors Night website: <http://authorsnight.org/> East Hampton Library website: <http://easthamptonlibrary.org/>

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