



Press Release

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Dallas Public Library welcomes world-renowned author Amy Tan to conclude 2006 AuthorSpeak series

DALLAS, May 19, 2006 - One of the most highly acclaimed writers of our time, Amy Tan is author of *The Joy Luck Club*, a beloved international best-selling novel which explores the relationships of Chinese women and their Chinese-American daughters. She is also author of *The Kitchen God's Wife*, *The Hundred Secret Senses* and *The Bonesetter's Daughter*. In 2003, Ms. Tan published a collection of non-fiction work entitled, *The Opposite of Fate*. Ms. Tan will conclude the 2006 AuthorSpeak series in a special presentation on Thursday, June 1 at 7 p.m. in the 7th floor O'Hara Gallery.

Amy Tan has written two children's books, *The Moon Lady* (1992) and *The Chinese Siamese Cat* (1994). The latter is now being developed into a PBS children's television series, and is part of a symphony program of words and music produced and conducted by George Daugherty. Her film work includes a screenplay of *The Joy Luck Club*, which she co-wrote with Ron Bass ("My Best Friend's Wedding" and "Snow Falling on Cedars"). She is currently working on her next novel, tentatively titled *Saving Fish from Drowning*.

Tan was born in Oakland, CA, in 1952. Her father, who was educated in Beijing and worked for the United States Information Service after the war, immigrated to America in 1947. Her mother emigrated from China in 1949, shortly before the Communists seized control of Shanghai; tragically, she was forced to leave behind three daughters from a previous marriage, events that formed the basis for *The Kitchen God's Wife*. Tan grew up in Fresno, Oakland, and Berkeley, as well as the suburbs of the San Francisco. When she was fourteen, her father and older brother both died of brain tumors. Following the double tragedy, her mother took Amy and her younger brother to live in Europe, where Amy graduated from high school in Montreux, Switzerland in 1969.

In addition to being a writer, Tan is a member of "vintage garage" rock 'n roll band called The Rock Bottom Remainers. Other members include Stephen King, Dave Barry, Ridley Pearson, Mitch Albom, James McBride, Scott Turow, Matt Groening, and others. A video of their performance in Anaheim was produced by BMG Records. The band co-wrote their adventures in a book entitled *Mid-Life Confidential*.

The 2006 AuthorSpeak Series is supported by The Friends of the Dallas Public Library, Inc. and benefits Library programs.

Tickets are \$30. VIP tickets, which include a reception with the author and preferred seating, are \$50. For information on AuthorSpeak series go to www.dallaslibrary.org
To purchase tickets call 1-866-468-7621 online at www.TicketWeb.com

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