



Jimmy Carter Library & Museum News Release

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Two Author Readings & Book Signings This Week

Andrew Billingsley on Thursday & Stephen Carter on Friday

Atlanta, GA. - The Jimmy Carter Presidential Library will host two best-selling authors this week.

On Thursday, Andrew Billingsley will read from his book "**Yearning to Breathe Free: Robert Smalls of South Carolina and His Families.**" The event will take place in the Carter Museum Theater at 7 p.m.

On Friday, Stephen L. Carter takes the stage to discuss his new novel "**New England White**". Both readings are free and open to the public. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. A book signing will follow each reading.

Billingsley's biography tells the story of Robert Smalls, a South Carolina slave who commanded a Confederate ship during the Civil War and successfully broke through a Union blockade. After the Civil War, Smalls entered the political arena as a delegate to the Constitutional Conventions of 1868 and 1895, a state senator and representative, and a five-term U.S. congressman.

Carter's "**New England White,**" centers around Lemaster and Julia Carlyle, two secondary characters from his first fictional novel, "The Emperor of Ocean Park," published in 2002. According to *Publishers Weekly*, "**New England White**" is "a compelling, literate page-turner that effortlessly blends a gripping whodunit with complex discussions of politics and race in contemporary America."

For more information call 404-865-7109 or visit www.jimmycarterlibrary.gov.