

**Philadelphia Great Books Council**

presents the

**49<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Institute**

Sunday, May 18, 2008, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Arcadia University, Glenside, PA

**Fathers and Sons**

**Gilead – Marilynne Robinson**

**The Road – Cormac McCarthy**

You are cordially invited to attend the Philadelphia Great Books Council's 49<sup>th</sup> annual Spring Institute. In the morning, we will discuss Marilynne Robinson's 2005 Pulitzer Prize winning novel Gilead, the story, in the form of a letter to his young son, of Reverend John Ames's life in Gilead, Iowa, and the lives of his father and grandfather from the Civil War until 1956. In the afternoon, we take up The Road, Cormac McCarthy's 2007 Pulitzer Prize winning novel about a father and his beloved son on a desperate journey in a post-apocalyptic world, an unflinching account of the "worst and best" that humanity is capable of. In both fictions the authors depict the relationships between fathers and sons, generations and history, hopelessness, friendship, love, and, above all, perhaps, faith.

Additional lowdown for lovers of literature:

- \* \$45 fee covers:
  - \* Continental breakfast, lunch, and afternoon snacks.
  - \* A map and directions to Arcadia University by car, train or bus.
  - \* Copies of both **books, which will be mailed promptly upon receipt of registration.**

*Please detach and mail early!*

Please send check for \$45 per person, payable to Philadelphia Great Books Council, to:

Anne Cramer  
405 Jefferson Avenue  
Lindenwold, NJ 08021

For more information contact: Bill Meiers at (215) 953-0147 or wameiers@aol.com.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: Street \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Telephone ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ # of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ Amount \_\_\_\_\_  
E-Mail Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Vegetarian Lunch? \_\_\_\_\_

**Upcoming Events:**

**Philadelphia Great Books - Spring Theatre Party**

Sunday, March 2, 2008 at 2 p.m. at Arcadia University Theatre, Glenside, PA

Play: *The Tempest* – William Shakespeare, Discussion Afterward, \$15

Contact: Betsy Galante, (215) 402-8443; Sylvia or David Perelman, (215) 402-8656

**New England Great Books – Spring Institute - “The Good, the Bad, and the Optimistic”**

April 11-13, 2008 – Mystic Hilton, Mystic, CT; \$330 double, \$435 single occupancy

Readings: Thackeray, *VanityFair*; Yourcenar, *Memoirs of Hadrian*; Voltaire, *Candide*

Contact: Abbi Deeran, [springinstitute@yahoo.com](mailto:springinstitute@yahoo.com) or (781) 910-2656

**Wachs Great Books Summer Institute - “The Morality of Self”**

August 3-9, 2008 – Colby College, Waterville, Maine, \$525

Readings: Spinoza, *Ethics (Part IV)*; Eliot, *Middlemarch*; James, *The Art of Writing*;  
Strachey, *Eminent Victorians (General Gordon & Florence Nightingale)*;  
Browning, *Andrea Del Sarto & Fra Lippo Lippi*

Contact: Tom or Carol Beam, 215-836-2380, [agreatbook@aol.com](mailto:agreatbook@aol.com)

Additional and Other Information: [www.greatbooksdiscussionprograms.org](http://www.greatbooksdiscussionprograms.org)

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