

NEWS RELEASE

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Friends of the Libraries' Fall Luncheon Features NC State Poet

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

John Balaban, poet-in-residence and professor of English in the Creative Writing Program at North Carolina State University, will be the guest speaker at the Friends of the Libraries' annual Fall Luncheon, scheduled for noon on Wednesday, Nov. 12, in the McKimmon Center. His talk, entitled "Poetry Passports," will focus on his poetry and his award-winning translations of Vietnamese poetry.



John Balaban

The 15th annual NCSU Libraries Faculty Award will also be presented during the luncheon. The award is given to an NC State faculty member who has contributed consistently or notably to the operation and development of the Libraries.

Balaban is the award-winning author of 12 books of poetry and prose. He has received the Academy of American Poets Lamont Prize, a National Poetry Series Selection, and two nominations for the National Book Award. His book "Locusts at the Edge of Summer: New and Selected Poems" won the 1998 William Carlos Williams Award from the Poetry Society of America. Balaban also served as past president of the American Literary Translators Association. He received his B.A. from Penn State University and his M.A. from Harvard University.

Balaban, who received a prestigious Guggenheim Fellowship in April, is using the opportunity to write poetry and begin a new English translation of Nyugen Du's classic, "The Tale of Kieu," a 19th-century novel-in-verse that is the hallmark of Vietnamese poetry.

For ticket information, call the Friends of the Library at 919/515-2841, Monday through Friday, 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more information on the Fall Luncheon, visit the Friends' Web site at www.lib.ncsu.edu/friends/.

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