

NEWS RELEASE

Feb. 9, 2004

NC State Preview

Events at NC State University

For use by the media as calendar-of-events items or for information

NC State Hosts Acclaimed Author Alice Sebold

What: To celebrate the launch of its new Master of Fine Arts (MFA) in Creative Writing, the North Carolina State University Creative Writing Program will host an evening with Alice Sebold, author of the critically acclaimed novel *The Lovely Bones*. Sebold will read from *The Lovely Bones*, which held a top-10 position on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 66 weeks.

The evening will also include a discussion session between Sebold and Wilton Barnhardt, associate professor of English at NC State. Barnhardt was Sebold's teacher at the University of California at Irvine before he came to NC State in 2002, and he worked with her throughout the creation of *The Lovely Bones*. Sebold also is the author of a memoir, *Lucky*.

The new MFA in Creative Writing at NC State will admit its first full class in fall 2004. The program provides an opportunity for students of superior ability in imaginative writing to develop their skills and critical judgment through the practice of writing and the study of literature. The aim of the program is to prepare talented students for careers in writing and teaching writing.

Who: The lecture is sponsored by the NC State Creative Writing Program, the Department of English and the College of Humanities and Social Sciences.

When: Wednesday, Feb. 18, at 7 p.m.

Where: Talley Student Center Ballroom, located in the Talley Student Center on Cates Avenue on NC State's main campus. Parking is available in the Cates Avenue parking deck and on the street.

Cost: Free for NC State students, faculty and staff, \$15 for the general public.

Contact: For tickets, call NC State Ticket Central at 919/515-1100. For more information about NC State's new MFA in Creative Writing, visit www.chass.ncsu.edu/mfa.

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