

GLASSBORO IN THE NEWS

BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO
1 South Main Street
Glassboro, NJ 08028
www.glassboro.org

March 14, 2011
PR 04210-Author Event at Downtown Art Studio
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

GLASSBORO ART STUDIO WELCOMES YOUNG ADULT WRITERS TO FIRST 'AUTHOR'S EVENT' ON HIGH STREET

*Young Readers Ages Eight and Up and Families Invited to Free Event,
Featuring Book Signings and Discussions*

GLASSBORO – Six young adult and middle grade authors will participate in the first Author's Event at downtown Glassboro's Art Haven studio on Saturday, April 2 at 10:00 a.m. The free event is open to children ages eight and older and their families, and will include book signings and discussions.

Guest authors include Nancy Viau (*Samantha Hansen Has Rocks in Her Head*), Toni De Palma (*Jeremy Owl*), Cyn Balog (*Fairy Tale*), Ellen Jensen Abbott (*Waters Meet*), Keri Mikulski (*Head Games*) and Ellen Parry Lewis (*Future Vision*).

"This event is an effort to connect the arts and literacy into the Art Haven's offerings. I want to merge the two different medias," said Art Haven owner Monique Howard, herself an author and illustrator. Howard noted that Art Haven provides art classes for children and adults, including story illustration lessons that allow students to create art to match their words. The studio opened in December, 2010.

"Art Haven is a perfect fit for the East High Street section of downtown Glassboro, which makes up the Arts and Entertainment district of our downtown redevelopment plan. We are proud to welcome Art Haven and support Monique Howard's efforts to encourage arts education in Glassboro," said Councilman Joseph D'Alessandro. He noted that the Glassboro Academy for the Performing Arts featuring Let's Dance Studio is nearing completion on High Street, adding to the artistic mission of this section of downtown. In addition, Rowan University operates the Gallery on High Street, providing

space for rotating exhibits throughout the year. Moving forward, the district's mixed use configuration will include entertainment venues, entertainment-related businesses, art galleries and studios, retail boutiques and office space on upper floors.

More information on the Author Event and other Art Haven activities is available by contacting owner Monique Howard at 856-305-0995 or Arthaven.howard73@gmail.com. Art Haven is located at 13 East High Street, Suite N, in Glassboro.

Guest Author Bios:

Waiting for Sixth Author Bio...

Cyn Balog's first novel, FAIRY TALE (Delacorte), is a 2009 Romance Writers of America RITA finalist, and her second novel, SLEEPLESS, which School Library Journal calls "an interesting, quick-paced, and compelling paranormal romance" and Kirkus calls "a lovely read," released in 2010. Two more young adult paranormal novels, STARSTRUCK and LIVING BACKWARDS, will be released by Delacorte in 2011 and 2012. She lives in Bucks County, PA. Visit her online at www.cynbalog.com.

Toni De Palma's first novel, Under the Banyan Tree, was named to VOYA's Top Shelf for Middle Grade Fiction List. Her second book, Jeremy Owl, is about an eleven-year-old boy who learns that science has its limits and that sometimes magic turns up in the most unusual places. Toni holds an MFA in writing from Vermont College and is a 2008 New Jersey Arts Fellowship recipient. She teaches writing and loves visiting schools to discuss writing with students. In addition to writing, Toni enjoys riding her bike on the Ocean City boardwalk with her family and chasing her new puppy, Chester.

Ellen Jensen Abbott grew up in the White Mountains of New Hampshire building forts, pretending, and reading in the forests around her house. When she is not writing, she teaches English at the Westtown School in Pennsylvania. Her debut novel, a YA fantasy, Watersmeet (Marshall Cavendish, 2009), was a 2009 International Reading Association's Young Adult Notable Book, and was nominated for YALSA's Teen Top Ten and Best Books for Young Adults. The sequel to Watersmeet, The Centaur's Daughter, is due on September 1, 2011.

Keri Mikulski is the author of Head Games and Stealing Bases. A three-sport athlete in high school, Keri worked as a personal trainer, lifeguard, registered nurse, middle school teacher, columnist, and high school coach. Currently, she teaches college writing courses while working towards a Masters of Fine Arts degree in Creative Writing. Keri splits her time between the New Jersey suburbs and the shore with her family. Mikulski teaches writing and resides at the Jersey Shore with her family, where she plays a ton of pick-up basketball and worships Derek Jeter from afar. A three-sport athlete back when she was in school, Keri took enormous pride in her lucky game day scrunches and half-top Nike Air Jordan's. Find out more at <http://www.kerimikulski.com>.

Ellen Parry Lewis is a fiction author primarily focused on young adult fiction. When she was in college, she started writing Future Vision and immediately realized that writing was her true passion. She transferred to Rowan University in Glassboro, New Jersey where she studied journalism and

graduated at the top of her class in December 2009. Her first novel, FUTURE VISION, was published by Metal Lunchbox Publishing in October 2010. Though Ellen now spends the majority of her time writing novels, she has also spent time as a freelance writer. Her articles could be found in The Philadelphia Inquirer, Curious Parents Magazine, Plain Dealer, News Report, and others. Ellen lives in New Jersey with her husband, Al, and their two dachshunds, PB and Jay.

Nancy Viau has worked as an elementary school teacher, a counselor in an after-school program, an instructor for reluctant readers, and a freelance writer. She now specializes in writing for children, and along with her novel for kids 8-12 (SAMANTHA HANSEN HAS ROCKS IN HER HEAD, Amulet Books) and her forthcoming picture book (I CAN DO IT, Abrams Books for Young Readers), her stories, poems, and activities appear in: Highlights, Highlights High Five, Ladybug, and many other magazines. She enjoys visiting schools to present assembly programs and writing workshops. Website: <http://www.NancyViau.com>.

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