**Jack Kerouac Literary Festival 2012**

The 2012 Festival features the world premiere of Kerouac's only full-length play, "Beat Generation," at Merrimack Repertory Theatre and several programs exploring writing and music.

The Festival is co-sponsored by UMass Lowell's Kerouac Center for Public Humanities and Center for Arts and Ideas, Lowell Celebrates Kerouac Inc., and the Cultural Organization of Lowell. For more details, visit uml.edu/artsandideas or lowellcelebrateskerouac.org. Unless otherwise noted, events are free and open to the public.

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**PRE-FESTIVAL EVENTS**

**Tuesday, August 7**

7:05 p.m.

**Kerouac Bobblehead Night: Lowell Spinners vs. Brooklyn Cyclones**
The first 1,000 ticket holders through the gates will receive a Jack Kerouac Bobblehead. The Bobbleheads are designed to honor "On the Road," featuring a bobbling thumb. These collectible items can be pre-ordered for $20, with half the proceeds supporting scholarships in the UMass Lowell English Department, which is the game sponsor. Bobbleheads can be pre-ordered for fans not able to attend the game, or tickets can be purchased for the game itself at www.lowellspinners.com or by phone at (978) 459-1702. This benefit is offered in collaboration with the Estate of Jack and Stella Kerouac and literary representative John Sampas.

For information, research sources, images, and commentary about Jack Kerouac's writing, life, and cultural influence, please visit the new website of UMass Lowell's Jack and Stella Kerouac Center for Public Humanities, www.jackkerouac5k.com, and check the Facebook page Kerouac at UMass Lowell for continuing updates and news sharing.

**Major sponsors:** UMass Lowell's English Dept., American Studies Program, Jack and Stella Kerouac Center for Public Humanities, and Center for Arts and Ideas. Lowell Celebrates Kerouac Inc., the Cultural Organization of Lowell (COOL), Merrimack Repertory Theatre; the Moses Greeley Parker Lectures; Enterprise Bank; and Lowell National Historical Park.

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**FESTIVAL EVENTS**

**Monday, October 8**

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

**Walking Jack: Kerouac Loop Walk**
See the novelist’s boyhood home and other landmark sites on both sides of Merrimack River. Starts and ends at Kerouac Commemorative, French and Bridge streets, downtown Lowell.

Tuesday, October 9

4:30 – 6:00 p.m.

"Young Angel Midnight": UMass Lowell Alumni Reception & Book-Signing
More than 30 authors from the departments of English, Music, and Art are represented in the award-winning anthology "Young Angel Midnight: An Emerging Generation in the Arts in Lowell." Meet the contributors and have your book signed in between readings, visual displays, and performances. Allen House, 3 Solomon Way, UMass Lowell South Campus.

7:00 p.m.

Regional Film Premiere of "The Typewriter"
Explores the role of typewriters in the literary legacy of Kerouac and other great writers of the 20th century. Lowell Film Collaborative event, Lowell National Historical Park Visitor Center Theater, 245 Market St.

Sunday, October 14

10:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

David Amram: Double Feature
Amram presents the classic independent film narrated by Kerouac, "Pull My Daisey," and "David Amram: The First Eighty Years." Amram will also read from his memoirs with Kerouac and on his own musical road. Beet Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John St.

1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Amram Jam
LCK presents the world-renowned musician and composer David Amram for an afternoon of music and spoken words in the spirit of the jazz-poetry collaborations of Amram and Kerouac in the 1950s. Everyone is welcomed to perform. Lowell BowlWorks, 203 Cabot St.

5:30 p.m.

Sunset on Jack's Bridge
Join LCK members in bidding adieux to the legendary Moody Street Bridge, a.k.a. Textile Memorial Bridge, Waterman Man (or Dr. Say) Bridge, and University Avenue Bridge — to be demolished in 2013. Flowers and readings will be dropped. Meet on the bridge or walk from Amram Jam site, 5:30 p.m.

8:00 p.m.

A Night of Music & Verse with John Sinclair & David Amram
Featuring John Sinclair, Amram, and friends. 119 Galley, 119 Chelmsford St.

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**POST-FESTIVAL EVENTS**

**Sunday, October 21**

3:30 p.m.

Music and Prose with Tanya Donelly and Rick Moody
Singer/Songwriter Tanya Donelly (“Throwing Musings,” “The Breederes,” and “Skyfly”) will discuss songwriting, influence, and inspiration with the novelist, short-story writer, and essayist Rick Moody (“The Storm,” “Garden State,” and music essay, “On Celestial Music: Artful Other Adventures in Listening”). They will talk about their recent collaborations which experiment with the line between music making and prose writing. UMass Lowell South Campus, Witter and Broadway streets, Room TBA.

Oct. 10, 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 11, 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Oct. 12, 8 p.m.; Oct. 13, 4 p.m. and 8 p.m.; Oct. 14, 2 p.m. and 7 p.m.

World Premiere of "Beat Generation" by Jack Kerouac—Merrimack Repertory Theatre
Tickets start at $40 and can be purchased at MRT.org or by calling the MRT box office at 978-654-4679. National media contact Richard Komberg, 212-944-9444, RichardKomberg@Curtis.PR; MRT: Dan Berube, 978-654-7995, Dan.Berube@MRT.org; UMass Lowell: Nancy Cicco, 978-934-4844, Nancy_Cicco@uml.edu

Kerouac’s only full-length play will premiere in a stage reading on Oct. 10. This is a story of friendship and karma in the 1950s. The characters and dialogue capture the Beat mentality at the root of American counterculture as only Kerouac could. The play follows a group of friends based on Kerouac, Neal Cassady, Allen Ginsberg, and others through one day in 1953. Written in 1957, when the now-legendsody novel “On the Road” was published, and set in 1963, it play “about tension, about friendship, and about karma—what is it and how you get it.” The Los Angeles Times wrote “It bears traces of a deeper vision, defined by beatitude and decorum… This is what continues to give Kerouac resonance.” The play is being presented in collaboration with Kerouac Literary Estate representative John Sampas. The production is sponsored by UMass Lowell with additional support from 92.5 The River. MRT is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. MRT, 50 East Merrimack St., downtown Lowell.

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Along with the benefit of new Kerouac scholarship funds, the 2012 Festival offers visitors a chance to spend the entire day with the author. From his only full-length play, to the world premiere of his only full-length play, the Festival offers visitors a chance to spend the entire day with the author. From his only full-length play, to the world premiere of his only full-length play, Kerouac. The First Eighty Years," Kerouac’s only full-length play, will premiere in a stage reading on Oct. 10. This is a story of friendship and karma in the 1950s. The characters and dialogue capture the Beat mentality at the root of American counterculture as only Kerouac could. The play follows a group of friends based on Kerouac, Neal Cassady, Allen Ginsberg, and others through one day in 1953. Written in 1957, when the now-legendsody novel “On the Road” was published, and set in 1963, it play “about tension, about friendship, and about karma—what is it and how you get it.” The Los Angeles Times wrote “It bears traces of a deeper vision, defined by beatitude and decorum… This is what continues to give Kerouac resonance.” The play is being presented in collaboration with Kerouac Literary Estate representative John Sampas. The production is sponsored by UMass Lowell with additional support from 92.5 The River. MRT is funded in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. MRT, 50 East Merrimack St., downtown Lowell.
Friday, October 12
9:30 a.m. – 12 noon
Lowell High School Poetry Competition
Student poets read their poems in a judged contest at the school, where Kerouac shone as a scholar, athlete, and budding writer-poet from 1936-39. Lowell High School Freshman Academy, 40 Page St.

2:00 p.m.
David Kaiser: “How the Hippies Saved Physics”
UMass Lowell North Campus, One University Avenue, Room TBA.

3:00 p.m.
Talking Jack: Discussion and Readings of Favorite Kerouac Passages
Join local musicians, poets, and Kerouac lovers and interpreters for a spirited tribute to Jack! Cappy’s Copper Kettle, 245 Central St.

4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.
Mystic Jack: Walking Tour Led by Roger Brunielle
$15 donation per person requested; reservations advised (978-970-5000). Guided tour of Kerouac’s elementary school and childhood neighborhood. Meet at St. Louis Church, 221 West Sixth St.

8:00 p.m.
“This Is Beat!”: Improvisational Music Extravaganza
Featured artists include Kerouac’s friend David Amram, bon jazz singer Mark Murphy, and rock poet John Sinclair. Dom Polski Social Club, 10 Column St.

Saturday, October 13
9:30 a.m.
Commemorative at “The Commemorative”
Reflections of the literature and life of Jack Kerouac and friends with readings and performances. Jack Kerouac Commemorative at Kerouac Park, French and Bridge streets.

10:30 a.m.
Jack Kerouac’s Lowell: A Bus Tour
$10 donation per person requested; reservations required (978-970-5000). A guided tour of Kerouac places with interpretive readings by Kerouac scholar Roger Brunelle. Begins at Kerouac Commemorative, French and Bridge streets.

11:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
Writers on the Road: Charles Dickens and Jack Kerouac
Nancy Metz, Prof. of English and Dickens scholar at Virginia Tech, and journalist Kathleen Pierce, who has written about Kerouac’s American journeys, will discuss the travel writing of both authors. Metz is the author of “The Companion to Martin Chuzzlewit.”
Booth Cotton Mills Museum, 115 John St.

12:30 p.m.
Jack as Jack: Kerouac, the Writer-Athlete, with Author Jay Atkinson
The author of “Paradise Road,” about his own tracking of the spirit of Kerouac on the routes traveled in “On the Road,” Atkinson will share his knowledge of the star athlete of Lowell High School who went to Columbia University on a scholarship to play football. Morgan Cultural Center, 40 French St.

2:00 p.m.
Connecting Kerouac, Ginsberg, Steinbeck, & Whitman: A Talk by Poet George Wallace
Lowell National Park Visitor Center, 246 Market St. 2:00 p.m. Presented by Lowell Celebrates Kerouac! and the Moses Greeley Parker Lectures.

3:30 p.m.
Reading and Book-signing with Poet Tom Sexton.
Lowell native and former Poet Laureate of Alaska Tom Sexton will read from his new book of Lowell poems, “Bridge Street at Dusk.”
Whiter House Museum of Art, 243 Worthen St.
3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Kerouac Open Mike
Writers, musicians, and Kerouac admirers are invited to contribute their own work or favorite passages by the author. Old Worthen Tavern, 141 Worthen St.

3:30 – 5:00 p.m.
Reading Jack: Tours of Kerouac’s Boyhood Library, Source of His Literary Passion
Lowell historian Bill Walsh will lead a tour of youth Kerouac’s favorite hideaway, an architectural and literary landmark. Pollard Memorial Library, 401 Merrimack St.
4:00 p.m.
100th Anniversary Ceremony: “The Way of the Cross and Grotto”
(The Grotto of Doctor Sax)
Catholic Mass and reception. Franco-American School, 357 Pawtucket St.

5:00 p.m.
Creative Non-Fiction Reading & Book-Signing: Judith Dickerman-Nelson & Joe Blair
UMass Lowell 1991 alumni Judith Dickerman-Nelson (“Believe in Me: A Teen Mom’s Story”) and Joe Blair (“On the Iowa Sea”) about marriage and fatherhood will read from and sign their memoirs published this year. They are graduates of MFA programs in writing at Emerson College and the University of Iowa, respectively. Their 1997 classmate, Fimbair Shewan, is co-owner of the Old Court Irish pub in downtown Lowell. The Old Court, Central and Middle streets.

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
Ghosts of the Pawtucketville Night: Walking Tour Led by Roger Brunielle
$10 donation per person requested; reservations recommended (978-970-5000). Guided tour of neighborhood sites in Kerouac’s life and his novels “Doctor Sax” and “Maggie Cassidy.” Meet at Cumnock Hall, One University Ave., UMass Lowell North Campus.

8:30 p.m.
Jazz For Jack: David Amram, Judith Murray, Sauce, and More
LOKI presents an evening of jazz standards featuring Amram, accompanied by Lowell’s finest musicians, including jazz combo Sauce and singer Judith Murray. Back Page night club, 15 Keowny Square, behind the Blue Taleh restaurant.

For more details, visit uml.edu/artsandideas or lowellcelebrateskerouac.org.

Visit the exhibit “Dickens and Massachusetts: A Tale of Power and Transformation” at the Winsted House, 243 Worthen St. and the exhibit “Dickens and Massachusetts: A Tale of Power and Transformation” at the Social Club, 10 Coburn St.