



Press Release

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***Bird Box* Author Josh Malerman Announced as Keynote Speaker for Michigan Notable Books Event**

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LANSING – *Bird Box* author Josh Malerman will be the keynote speaker at the 2019 Night for Notables celebration, the Library of Michigan announced.

Holding with the long-standing tradition of peer authors providing the keynote, Malerman, a 2015 Michigan Notable Book recipient, will speak and perform Saturday, April 27, at the Library of Michigan in Lansing.

Each year, 20 Michigan-related books are selected to be listed as a Michigan Notable Book. The Night for Notables event is a celebration of the authors whose work has been selected for the year.

“It is always important for us to have a Michigan Notable Book author provide the keynote for the event,” said State Librarian Randy Riley. “Authors talking to other authors about the significance of Michigan in their work hits the right note.”

Previous keynotes have included: Jesmyn Ward, Richard Ford, Thomas Lynch, Judith Guest, and Michael Moore.

Malerman is part a select group of Michigan author’s whose books have gone on to be made into movies. With the 1984 release of *The Dollmaker* starring Jane Fonda, Harriette Arnow is a member of this cohort; as are Jim Harrison, and Michael Zadoorian with his novel *The Leisure Seekers*, starring Helen Mirren and Donald Sutherland.

“We had heard rumors of Sandra Bullock being in the lead role for the *Bird Box* movie, but when we saw the billboard in Times Square, we knew that *Bird Box* was going to hit it out of the park” noted Riley. “It is always exciting when a great book goes on to reach even larger audiences.”

Malerman is in a long line of authors who make Michigan shine as a literary hub, Riley added.

The Night for Notables is hosted by the Library of Michigan Foundation. Expecting a record turnout, reservations are required. Details may be found at www.libraryofmichiganfoundation.org or by calling Darlene K. DePeel, 517.335.1488. VIP tickets are available!

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