



NEWS RELEASE FROM EWU
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***Get Lit!* 2006 adds Alexander McCall Smith to lineup**

CHENEY, Wash. - Further enhancing the *Get Lit!* 2006 lineup, Eastern Washington University Press announces the addition of best-selling author Alexander McCall Smith to the headliners list for the Northwest's premier literary festival. His presentation, "On Being a Serial Novelist," is scheduled for 3 p.m., Sunday, April 23, at the Met Theater in Spokane.

McCall Smith is best known for his award-winning *No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency* series, with more than 4 million books from that series in print. His 2004 novel, *The Sunday Philosophy Club*, also made national best seller lists. Additionally, he has published children's books, short stories and a collection of African folktales.

McCall Smith, born in what is now Zimbabwe, is currently a medical law professor at the University of Edinburgh, in Scotland. A man of diverse experiences, he was vice chairman of the Human Genetics Commission of the United Kingdom for four years and chair of the British Medical Journal Ethics Committee. He also is the co-founder of an amateur orchestra, owing to his hobby of playing the bassoon.

McCall Smith joins a lineup that already included prize-winning authors Marilynne Robinson, Yusef Komunyakaa and Nancy Pearl. The core of the festival, sponsored by Eastern Washington University Press, will be held April 20-23, in Spokane and Cheney.

Festival passes for *Get Lit!* 2006 headliner performances are now available at all TicketsWest outlets, online at www.ticketwest.com or by calling (800) 325-SEAT.

In addition to presentations by the headliners, featuring audience Q-and-A sessions followed by book signings, the festival also includes readings by popular regional authors, writing workshops and a panel on editing, author visits to K-12 schools, a literary kids' concert, and youth and teen poetry slams.

Information about authors and events is posted on the festival's website, www.ewu.edu/getlit, and will be updated as additional events are scheduled. You may also call the *Get Lit!* office at (509) 623-4262 for information.

The *Get Lit!* 2006 media contact is Cathy Dixon; she can be reached at (509) 359-4868.