



NEWS

Friends of the Hennepin County Library
300 Nicollet Mall, Minneapolis, MN 55401

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Pen Pals Welcomes “the Most Popular Poet in America,” Billy Collins

The two-term U.S. Poet Laureate’s new book of poetry, *The Rain in Portugal* (October 2016), is included with each ticket.

On October 13 and 14, nearly 1,400 people will fill Hopkins Center for the Arts to see America’s favorite poet. Billy Collins is famous for conversational, witty poems that welcome readers with humor, but often slip into quirky, tender, and profound observations on daily life and poetry itself. No poet since Robert Frost has managed to combine high critical acclaim with such broad popular appeal. Collins’s poetry has appeared in anthologies and a variety of periodicals including the *American Poetry Review*, *Harper’s*, *Paris Review*, and *The New Yorker*. Collins served as U.S. Poet Laureate from 2001 to 2003, and as the New York State Poet Laureate from 2004 to 2006. His other honors and awards include the Mark Twain Prize for Humor in Poetry, as well as fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the National Endowment for the Arts, and the Guggenheim Foundation.

- Thursday, October 13 at 7:30pm – SOLD OUT
- Friday, October 14 at 11am

Tickets for the Friday morning event are available at supportHCLIB.org or by calling the Box Office: 612-543-8112. Each ticket includes a complimentary copy of Mr. Collins’ new book.

ABOUT PEN PALS: All Pen Pals programs are held at the Hopkins Center for the Arts — located at 1111 Mainstreet in Hopkins. Tickets are \$40 - \$50 (prices include all taxes and handling fees). Proceeds benefit our outstanding Hennepin County Library system.

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ABOUT FRIENDS OF THE HENNEPIN COUNTY LIBRARY:

Friends of the Hennepin County Library enriches the resources and enhances the potential of the Hennepin County Library. Friends of HCL raises support for essential HCL programs and services such as Homework Help, Teen Tech Squad, and Senior Outreach as well as for the key HCL initiatives of engaging readers of all ages, expanding early learning environments, and supporting kindergarten-readiness programs.