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IWU, ISU to Welcome Author Sarah Vowell

Rebecca Welzenbach
Illinois Wesleyan University

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IWU, ISU to Welcome Author Sarah Vowell
October 12, 2006

BLOOMINGTON, Ill. - Author, journalist and radio personality Sarah Vowell will speak at Illinois Wesleyan and Illinois State Universities on Tuesday, Oct. 24, as the featured author for the 5th Annual Ames/Milner Visiting Author Program.

The author of four books, Vowell won *Newsweek's* "Rookie of the Year" non-fiction award in 1997 for her first book, *Radio On: A Listener's Diary*. Another book, *The Partly Cloudy Patriot*, was a national bestseller. As a journalist and columnist, Vowell has contributed to *Time* magazine, *San Francisco Weekly*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *The Village Voice* and *Esquire*, among others.

Vowell's academic and literary interests range from family to pop culture and American history, as illustrated by her second book, an essay collection titled *Take the Cannoli: Stories from the New World*. Described by *People* magazine as "wise, witty and refreshingly warm-hearted," the essays address Vowell's love for *The Godfather* films as well as her research into her family's Cherokee roots and their ancestors' forced migration on the Trail of Tears. She is currently at work on her fifth book, tentatively titled *Puritan Nation*.

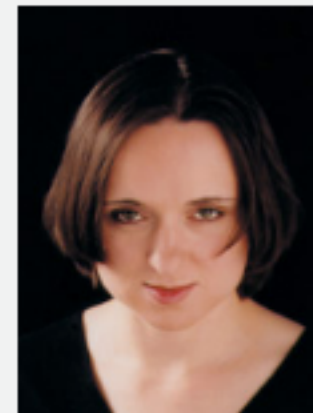
The New York Times has praised Vowell's "funny querulous voice and shrewd comic delivery." A contributing editor for public radio's *This American Life* since 1996, Vowell has also been heard in movie theatres around the world as the voice of Violet Parr in the 2004 Pixar animated film *The Incredibles*.

A fellow at New York University's New York Institute for the Humanities, Vowell also promotes academic and philanthropic activity as the president of the board of 826NYC, a nonprofit writing and tutoring center for Brooklyn children. According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, "Vowell is and will continue to be one of the more important voices of her generation."

Following is a schedule for the Visiting Author Program on Oct. 24. All events are free and open to the public.

- 2p.m.- 3p.m.: "An Afternoon with Sarah Vowell" at ISU's Milner Library (201 N. School St., Bloomington).
- 7 p.m.-8:30 p.m.: "An Evening with Sarah Vowell," followed by a question and answer session, at Westbrook Auditorium in Illinois Wesleyan's Presser Hall (1210 Park St., Bloomington). Immediately following the presentation will be a book signing in the John Wesley Powell Rotunda of The Ames Library (1 Ames Plaza, Bloomington).

For additional information about the Ames/Milner Visiting Author Program, contact Lynda Duke, IWU academic outreach librarian and assistant professor, at (309) 556-3220.



Sarah Vowell

Contact: Rebecca Welzenbach, (309) 556-3181