

December 28, 2015

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lake Villa District Library welcomes Andrea Mays, author of *The Millionaire and The Bard*

Andrea Mays, author of *The Millionaire and the Bard*, will be at Lake Villa District Library Sunday, January 31 at 2pm. Refreshments will be served and book sale and signing will follow the program. Call 847.245.5115 to register.

LVDL, along with libraries throughout Illinois, are 'all about the Bard' this winter in support of the Lake County Discovery Museum's upcoming exhibit *First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare*. Sponsored by The Folger Shakespeare Library, the Cincinnati Museum Center and the American Library Association, the exhibit is touring all 50 states, Washington D.C and Puerto Rico and will be at the Discovery Museum---the only site in Illinois---February 3-28, 2016.

In addition to the LVDL's many Shakespeare related programs and activities, *The Millionaire and the Bard*---which tells the story of Henry Folger, the American industrialist whose thrilling pursuit of Shakespeare's First Folio became a lifelong obsession---is the 2016 Winter One Book selection and cornerstone of the library's winter reading program. Winter reading is an initiative at the library yet this year, there's a twist. Participants need to learn at least one thing about William Shakespeare and Andrea Mays book is the perfect vehicle.

From the book jacket: *The Millionaire and the Bard* is a literary detective story, the tale of two mysterious men---a brilliant author and his obsessive collector---separated by space and time. It is a tale of two cities---Elizabethan and Jacobean London and Gilded Age New York. It is a chronicle of two worlds---art and commerce---that unfolded an ocean and three centuries apart. And it is a thrilling tale of the luminous book that saved the name of William Shakespeare "to the last syllable of recorded time."

Like Henry Folger, Andrea Mays has been possessed by a lifelong obsession with Shakespeare and his times. She spent much of her Manhattan girlhood holed up in the New York Public Library listening to vinyl LP recordings of the Royal Shakespeare Company. For years she carried around in her rucksack tattered copies of Folger Library editions of Shakespeare plays and haunted the old Bouwerie Lane Theatre.

Andrea has degrees in economics from the State University of New York at Binghamton and from UCLA, and teaches economics at California State University at Long Beach. In Washington, D.C., she was a presidential appointee to the U.S. International Trade Commission, where she

served as economist to the chairman. She divides her time between California and Washington, where her Gilded Age townhouse, the residence of Daniel Chester French while he sculpted the Lincoln Memorial, stands in the shadow of the Folger Shakespeare Library. This is her first book.

Lake Villa District Library enriches life in our community by connecting people with resources, services and each other. The library is located at 1001 E. Grand Avenue, Lake Villa, Illinois.

###

For more information contact:

Nina Kenney - Public Relations/Marketing Coordinator

nna@lvdl.org 847.245.5102 www.lvdl.org