

St. Louis County Library News Release: September 30, 2009
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SLCL Welcomes Pulitzer Prize-Winner & Clinton Biographer Taylor Branch

St. Louis County Library Foundation's 'Buzz' Westfall Favorite Author Series and the KMOX/Fontbonne Book Club present renowned historian Taylor Branch who will discuss his book, "The Clinton Tapes: Wrestling History with the President," Friday, October 30, at 7:00 p.m. at Library Headquarters, 1640 S. Lindbergh Blvd.

The program is free and open to the public. Doors will open at 6 p.m. Books for signing will be available at the event from Borders.

Charles Brennan, host of KMOX's "The Charlie Brennan Show" and the KMOX/Fontbonne University Club will serve as the program's Master of Ceremonies.

In "The Clinton Tapes," Taylor Branch draws on seventy-nine confidential conversations with President Bill Clinton from 1993 to 2001 to offer a unique record of the Clinton presidency, as well as one of the most vivid, frank, and intimate glimpses into the mind of a sitting president ever published.

Branch, a longtime friend of Clinton's, served as his secret diarist, tape-recording intense, often wry, occasionally strained late-night conversations about virtually every major event, issue, and personality of Clinton's two terms – everything the president thought and felt privately but was not able to say in public. Filled with surprising revelations, engaging anecdotes, pointed judgments, remarkable subtlety, and rich new detail, "The Clinton Tapes" offers a unique and enlarging perspective on one of our most brilliant, beleaguered, and perplexing presidents, as well as fresh lessons from his presidency.

Taylor Branch is the bestselling author of "Parting the Waters: America in the King Years, 1954-63" (which won the Pulitzer Prize), "Pillar of Fire: America in the King Years, 1963-65," and "At Canaan's Edge: America in the King Years, 1965-1968." The author of several other books, Branch began his career as a magazine journalist for The Washington Monthly, Harper's, and Esquire.

The program with Taylor Branch is a St. Louis County Library 'Buzz' Westfall Favorite Author Series presentation. The Westfall series features authors of politics, current issues, history, and sports. The series is co-sponsored by Fireman's Fund Insurance Companies; Jack Dubinsky and Sons; McMahon Berger; Piper Jaffray; Plaza Frontenac; Sachs Properties; Brown Smith Wallace LLC; Royal Banks of Missouri; St. Louis Business Journal; St. Louis Bank; Midwest Library Service; Nordstrom; The Booksource; Ivey-Selkirk Auctioneers; and S.M. Wilson & Co.

Program sites are accessible. Upon two weeks notice, accommodations will be made for persons with disabilities. Contact St. Louis County Library by phone 314-994-3300 or visit www.slcl.org.

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