



DOWNTOWN • 610 Quincy St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 394-6139 or (605) 394-4171  
NORTH • 10 Van Buren St. Rapid City, SD 57701 • (605) 716-4098

## **For Immediate Release**

### **For more information:**

Marsha Ahrenkiel, 394-6139, extension 212

## **Library Hosts Book Discussion of ‘The Master Butchers Singing Club’**

RAPID CITY (September 8, 2008) – The Rapid City Public Library will host the next installment in their ‘Sunday Selections’ book discussion series on Sunday, September 21st at the downtown library from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. Refreshments will be provided. The book to be discussed is Louise Erdrich’s **The Master Butchers Singing Club**. SDSMT professor Kathy Antonen will lead a lively discussion of this book, which is the One Book South Dakota selection for 2008-09. The One Book program is sponsored by the South Dakota Humanities Council’s Center for the Book.

Erdrich’s book is a post World War I drama with a myriad of characters struggling to scratch out a decent living in small-town North Dakota. The title comes from the main character, who is a butcher and who loves to sing. The men’s singing club he forms in the community is a recurring theme in the book, as the characters create worthwhile lives amidst murder, illness, death and love.

Louise Erdrich is a critically acclaimed author whose books often have a Native American setting, reflective of her mother’s French and Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) heritage; she herself is an enrolled member of the Anishinaabe nation. In *The Master Butcher’s Singing Club*, the author shifts to explore her German background, coming from her German American father. In addition to her fiction titles, Erdrich has published children’s literature, poetry, non-fiction, and short stories; she also owns Birchbark Books, a Minneapolis bookstore.

Erdrich is one of the featured authors at the South Dakota Festival of Books, held in Sioux Falls from September 24-27. Other authors include Rapid City’s very own Lori Armstrong and Virginia Driving Hawk Sneve, as well as Susan Power, Otto Penzler and Kenneth Davis.

**-- END --**

## **Sunday Selections Book Discussion – Press Release**

### **Page Two**

*The Rapid City Public Library has served the Rapid City area since 1879, and now has two locations, the downtown library at 610 Quincy Street and the north library within General Beadle Elementary School at 10 Van Buren St. Both offer print and electronic resources for adults, young adults and children as well as computers and Internet access and a variety of programs and events. In March 2008, USA Today named the Rapid City Public Library's downtown library as one of the nation's 10 greatest places to "Find a Nook and Read a Book."*

*Find video footage of RCPL events at:*

*<http://www.youtube.com/user/rapidcitylibrary>*

*Find photos of RCPL events at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rcpl/>*