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N E W S R E L E A S E

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Beschloss to deliver 12th governor's lecture Oct. 2

Michael Beschloss, an award-winning historian and author of eight books, including the acclaimed *New York Times* best-seller "The Conquerors: Roosevelt, Truman and the Destruction of Hitler's Germany, 1941-1945," will deliver the 12th Annual Governor's Lecture in the Humanities on Oct. 2 at Joslyn Art Museum in Omaha.

Presented by the Nebraska Humanities Council, Creighton University and the University of Nebraska, the 7:30 p.m. lecture will explore great American presidents and is free and open to the public.

Newsweek has called Beschloss "the nation's leading presidential historian." He was appointed NBC News presidential historian—the first time any major network has created such a position—and appears regularly on "Meet the Press" and the "Today" show. He also is a regular on PBS's "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer," and was nominated for an Emmy for his role in creating the Discovery Channel series "Decisions that Shook the World," narrated by Morgan Freeman.

He recently completed "Presidential Courage: Brave Leaders and How They Changed America, 1789-1989," a book about major, controversial decisions by American presidents, scheduled for publication in May.

Beschloss was born in Chicago in 1955. An alumnus of Williams College, he is also the only political historian of national stature to have an advanced degree from the Harvard Business School. He has been an historian on the staff of the Smithsonian Institution (1982-1986), a senior associate member at Oxford University in England (1986-1987), and a senior fellow of the Annenberg Foundation in Washington, D.C. (1988-1996).

Of "The Conquerors" *The New York Times Book Review* said in a front-page review that the "vigorously written" book was "history as it was spoken at the time, and there is not a dull page."

"Taking Charge" was the first volume of Beschloss's highly praised trilogy on President Lyndon Johnson's newly released secret tapes. The *Wall Street Journal* called it "sheer marvelous history." The second volume, "Reaching for Glory," was called "an incomparable portrait of a President at work" by the *New York Times Book Review*. Both books were national bestsellers.

Beschloss's first book, "Kennedy and Roosevelt: The Uneasy Alliance," started as his senior honors thesis at Williams College. "Mayday: Eisenhower, Khrushchev and the U-2 Affair" was called "a grand narrative, crowded with well-drawn portraits" by the *New Yorker*. "The Crisis Years: Kennedy and Khrushchev, 1960-1963" won the Ambassador Book Prize and was called by the *New Yorker* the "definitive" history of John Kennedy and the Cold War.

Beschloss lives in Washington, D.C., with his wife, Afsaneh, and their two sons.

A fundraising reception and dinner will begin at 5:30 p.m. For details, contact Aimee at the Nebraska Humanities Council at (402) 474-2131 ext. 102 or at nhc@nebraskahumanities.org.

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Editor's Note: For a complete biography or a photo of Michael Beschloss, contact Aimee Poor at the Nebraska Humanities Council at (402) 474-2131 ext. 102 or at nhc@nebraskahumanities.org.