



**PRESS RELEASE
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Fast Food Nation Author Coming to the Pink Palace

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE (January 12, 2009) – *Fast Food Nation* author Eric Schlosser is coming to the Pink Palace Museum for a free book reading, Wednesday, February 4, 2009.

In 1998, Schlosser wrote an investigative piece on the fast food industry for Rolling Stone. What began as a two-part article for the magazine turned into a groundbreaking book: *Fast Food Nation: The Dark Side of the All-American Meal* (2001). The book helped to change the way that Americans think about what they eat. *Fast Food Nation* was on the New York Times bestseller list for more than two years, as well as on bestseller lists in Canada, Great Britain, and Japan. It has been translated into more than twenty languages.

Schlosser's second book, *Reefer Madness: Sex, Drugs, and Cheap Labor in the American Black Market* (2003), explored the nation's growing underground economy. It also became a New York Times bestseller. In 2003, Schlosser's first play, *Americans*, was produced at the Arcola Theatre in London.

Hoping to counter the enormous amount of fast food marketing aimed at children, Schlosser decided to write a book that would help young people understand where their food comes from, how it is made, how it affects society and how it can harm their health. Co-written with Charles Wilson, *Chew on This: Everything You Don't Want to Know About Fast Food* became a New York Times bestseller in spring 2006. Later that year, Fox Searchlight Pictures released a major motion picture based on *Fast Food Nation*, directed by Richard Linklater and co-written with Schlosser.

Eric Schlosser has been a correspondent for the Atlantic Monthly since 1996. His work has also appeared in Rolling Stone, Vanity Fair, the Nation, and The New Yorker. He has received a National Magazine Award and a Sidney Hillman Foundation Award for reporting. Schlosser is currently at work on a book about America's prison system.

3050 Central Avenue • Memphis, TN 38111-3399
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Operated by the City of Memphis Division of Park Services and Memphis Museums, Inc.



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Schlosser's appearance at the Pink Palace Museum is part of The River City Writers Series from the University of Memphis, hosted in collaboration with the Marcus Orr Center for Humanities and the Memphis Reads program.

The reading starts with a reception with food and beverages, followed by a book signing afterwards. As always, **River City Writers Series events are free and open to the public.**

When: February 4, 2009
Where: Crew Training International IMAX Theater in the Memphis Pink Palace Museum, 3050 Central Ave
Reception: 6:30 p.m.
Reading: 7:00 p.m., followed by book signing

For more information about the RIVER CITY WRITERS SERIES Contact: Jan Coleman, 901.678.4692.



Photo credit: Mark Mann

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