

PUTNAM COUNTY

GWM to host best-selling author at The Plaza

We all enjoy a compelling story about an unrecognized hero who finally gets the affirmation they are due. Georgia Writers Museum (GWM) is fortunate to host award-winning, best-selling author Lynn Cullen as its Meet the Author presenter on July 16 at The Plaza Arts Center in Eatonton.

Cullen will present her international best-selling book, *The Woman with the Cure*, an uplifting story of Dr. Dorothy Horstmann, whose brilliant research paved the way for the polio vaccine.

Cullen recently sat down with GWM to provide a few insights into her book and writing process.

GWM: What most appeals to you about historical fiction?

Cullen: History, to me, is about people. I want to know the story behind historical events, about the people who shaped them. Fiction allows the writer to take knowing the historical individual a step further. As a historical fiction writer, I look for ways to



Lynn Cullen

better understand what the life of a famous person has to say to us now.

GWM: Reviewing the storyline of your books, you focus largely on overlooked or misunderstood historical figures. Is that your writing mission?

Cullen: I've always been curious about what's behind the curtain of history. Who is the real person behind the legend? I'm particularly interested in the women whose achievements have been overlooked during the legend-making of male counterparts, hence my motto: "Setting her story straight since 2008." Actually, I've been at it

since 2007, but that doesn't rhyme.

GWM: How has being an author affected your life?

Cullen: Through my books, I've met people and gone places this shy girl from Indiana could never have dreamed of.

My most recent book about the race to stop the polio pandemic in the 1950s has taken me to many book clubs. Readers teach me something every time, like the polio nurse who worked with patients in iron lungs.

My research has taken me all over the world, to crazy places, like up in the bell tower of Trinity Church at the end of Wall Street in Manhattan, where I stuck my head out the window to see if the clock hand could strike off my head like in an Edgar Allan Poe story. It didn't, but I did get to ring the church bell, hanging onto the ropes like Quasimodo.

GWM: What most surprises you about your experience as an author?

Cullen: Each book has

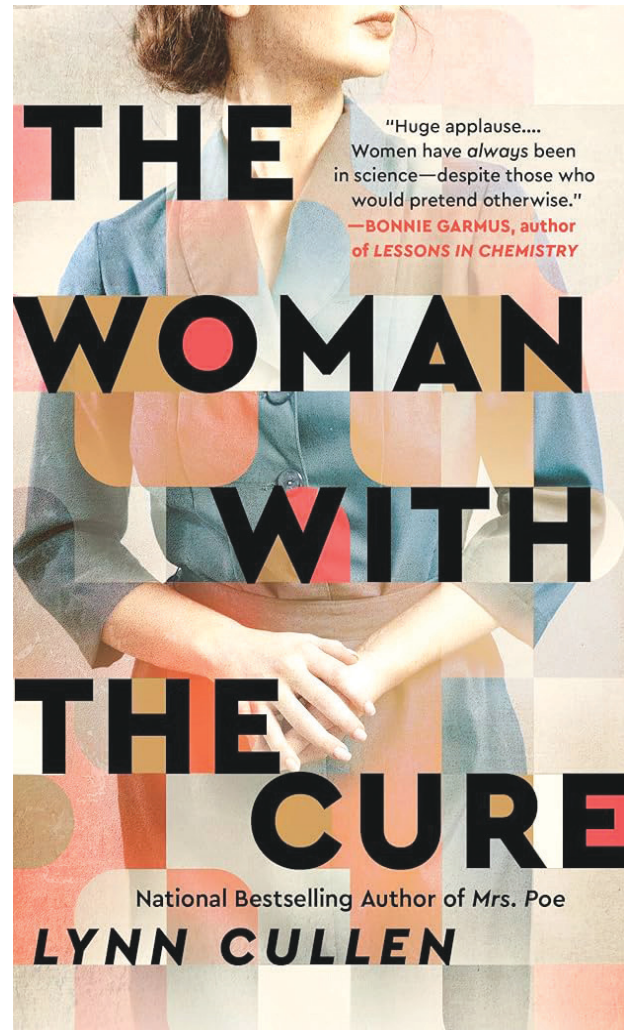
allowed me to peek into the vast web of human experience. History doesn't happen in a vacuum. It all connects, as do all of us – if only we realized how much our individual actions impact everyone else. This reminds me of another good thing about writing fiction vs. nonfiction: the author gets to philosophize.

GWM: Can you provide a sneak preview of your next book?

Cullen: It's about how the friendship between Marilyn Monroe and the only woman to extensively photograph her, Eve Arnold, changed both of them.

Tickets to hear Lynn Cullen speak about her international best-selling book, *The Woman with the Cure*, are \$40 each, available online through Georgia Writers Museum (georgiawritersmuseum.org). Also, pre-order Cullen's book for signing at the event, where doors open at 6:30 p.m. for a 7 p.m. program start.

- Contributed



GREENE COUNTY

Redman joins Coldwell Banker Lake Oconee Realty

Coldwell Banker Lake Oconee Realty (CBLO) has welcomed Kari Redman to its team of Realtors. Redman brings a wealth of experience in real estate investment and sales, having started her career in Aspen, Colo., before honing her skills in Park City, Utah.

Now based in Lake Country, Redman is ready to enhance CBLO's efforts in the Southeast real estate market. Her adventurous spirit and professional acumen make her a valuable addition to Coldwell Banker Lake Oconee Realty.

With more than 20 years in the insurance and surety industry, Redman possesses exceptional analytical and negotiation skills,

making her a formidable asset in managing complex transactions. Her commitment to excellence and client satisfaction is unwavering, and she is dedicated to helping clients achieve their real estate goals, whether through investing or finding their dream home.

"We are thrilled to have Kari on board," CBLO President and COO Jim Willis stated. "Her extensive expertise and unique background will greatly benefit our clients."

For more information or to schedule a consultation with Redman, contact Coldwell Banker Lake Oconee Realty at 706-467-3181 or visit online at coldwellbankerlakeoconerealty.com.

- Contributed



Kari Redman

GREENE COUNTY



Serenity Jackson

Marisa Williams

Presbyterians hear scholarship recipients

William Spencer Hinds
Contributed

Since 2017, the First Presbyterian Church of Greensboro annually evaluates and awards college scholarships to deserving graduating seniors in the district's school system. Named in honor of Adora Mills-Powers who used to be the church's musician, these \$2,000 scholarships are awarded to students who have excelled in the performing arts at their school. This year, the Adora Mills-Powers Scholarships were awarded to Serenity Jackson, a graduate at Lake Oconee Academy, and Marisa Williams, who attended Nathanael Green Academy.

Serenity Jackson says she has "a deep passion and dedication to the world of music and love it with all my heart." Although she has learned to play a variety of musical instruments, her main interest lies with the flute. She has competed in both district and state competitions.

Serenity will be attending Piedmont University with the ultimate goal of earning a Doctorate in Music Education and a Masters in Psychology so she can help spread music appreciation and culture in her work life after college.

Marisa Williams participated in the theater program at Nathanael Greene Academy throughout her high school years. She performed leading roles in one-act competitions and received All-Star Cast awards for her performances. Marisa also excels at interpretative speaking and during competitions this year won first place for a dramatic reading. She will be attending Georgia College and State University this fall majoring in chemistry. Her aspiration is to become a forensics scientist.

The First Presbyterian Church is located at 117 South Main St. (next to the Post Office) in downtown Greensboro. Sunday services during the summer are at 10 a.m.



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