



## News Release

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## ANDREW SEAN GREER, AWARD-WINNING AUTHOR OF "THE CONFESSIONS OF MAX TIVOLI," SELECTED AS ASPEN WRITERS' FOUNDATION'S 2011 WRITER-IN-RESIDENCE

(September 1, 2011) Aspen, CO – Award-winning novelist Andrew Sean Greer, author of *The Story of a Marriage* and *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, and recipient of the PEN/O'Henry Prize for Short Fiction has been selected as the Aspen Writers' Foundation's (AWF) 2011-2012 Writer-in-Residence. Greer first appeared at the AWF in 2009 as a Winter Words guest author and then again in 2011 as part of The Great Read, AWF's community reading initiative which celebrated F. Scott Fitzgerald's modern American classic, *The Great Gatsby*. Greer performed passages from the novel on Aspen Public Radio's Great Gatsby radio drama series and gave public readings and talks where he related his own work to that of Fitzgerald's. He also participated in the AWF's Writers in the Schools program, which brings authors to area schools to emphasize the importance of writing and literature to students.

"Andy was a natural choice for our Writer-in-Residence position," said Lisa Consiglio, executive director of the Aspen Writers' Foundation. "Given his commitment to our programs and enthusiasm for our work, we know he will serve as an excellent ambassador for the AWF, as he has already done, time and time again. He has been a long-standing advocate for the power of stories and we couldn't be more thrilled to have him serve in this role."

### Author Profile

Andrew Sean Greer is the bestselling author of *The Story of a Marriage*, which *The New York Times* has called an "inspired, lyrical novel," and *The Confessions of Max Tivoli*, which was named a best book of 2004 by the *San Francisco Chronicle* and the *Chicago Tribune*, while garnering many other coast-to-coast honors. His first novel, *The Path of Minor Planets*, and his story collection, *How It Was for Me*, were also published to wide acclaim. His stories have appeared in *Esquire*, *The Paris Review*, *The New Yorker*, and other

national publications, and have been anthologized most recently in *The Book of Other People* and *Best American Nonrequired Reading*. He is the recipient of the PEN/O'Henry Prize for Short Fiction, the Northern California Book Award, the California Book Award, and the New York Public Library Young Lions Award. His fellowships include the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA), in which he collaborated on the "The Great Gatsby Radio Show." The author currently splits his time between San Francisco and New York.

### **About the Residency**

The AWF launched its Writer-in-Residence program in 2009 with memoirist Ishmael Beah, author of the international bestseller *A Long Way Gone*. The 2010/2011 position was held by IMPAC Prize recipient and National Book Award winner, Colum McCann, author of the bestselling novel *Let the Great World Spin*. The residency provides a space for authors to hone their craft, giving them time to write, meet patrons and convene with other authors. They also make special appearances, lead writing workshops, and serve as an ambassador and advisor to the Aspen Writers' Foundation. Andrew Sean Greer will assume the role beginning in September of this year.

The year-long residency will feature Greer at a number of upcoming AWF events including a private dinner for the Aspen Writers' Foundation's National Council this fall, and as a guest moderator for the 2012 Winter Words series. He will also participate in the 2012 Aspen Summer Words Writing Retreat and Literary Festival and is currently at work on a new novel.

**The Aspen Writers' Foundation** was founded in Aspen in 1976 as a cutting edge poetry conference and literary magazine. Today the Aspen Writers' Foundation is one of the nation's leading literary centers and a stage for the world's most prominent authors. AWF programs employ literature as a tool for provoking thought, broadening perspectives, fostering connections, inspiring creativity, and giving voice. Since 2009, the AWF has partnered with the Aspen Institute, underscoring the highest humanistic ideals of Aspen founder Walter Paepcke: to better understand human challenges by cultivating one's inner life through the exchange of words, stories, and ideas.

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