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**Best-selling Authors Highjack Bookmobile  
For a Cross-Country Journey**

*Acclaimed authors share stories of the books that changed their lives*

*Project launches at the American Library Association Conference  
on July 12, 2009 in Chicago*

San Francisco, CA --- July 9, 2009 – Author Tom Corwin launches his multi-media documentary project ***Behind the Wheel of the Bookmobile*** at the American Library Association Conference on Sunday, July 12 at 4:15PM at McCormick Square in Chicago.

***Behind the Wheel of the Bookmobile***, a quixotic journey by author/musician Tom Corwin honors the place books have in our lives. Corwin has purchased a classic, bio-diesel-ready bookmobile and is stocking it with more than 3,000 donated books from libraries and publishers. A growing list of acclaimed authors have agreed to join him, taking turns at the wheel on a cross-country journey. At each stop, Corwin will open the bookmobile's doors and invite the public in to take their choice of digital and analog titles in exchange for an interview about the books that have influenced their lives.

Supporting authors include Pulitzer Prize winners Michael Chabon, Junot Diaz & Lawrence Wright, as well as bestselling authors Robert Anderson, Tamim Ansary, Lewis Black, Ethan Canin, Peter Coyote, Dave Eggers, Andrew Sean Greer, Daniel Handler, Paul Hawken, Mark Kurlansky, Annie Lamott, Armistead Maupin, Christopher Moore, Michael Ondaatje, Arthur Phillips, Michael Pollan, Tom Robbins, Scott Simon, Amy Tan, Scott Turow, Vendela Vida, Ayelet Waldman and Tobias Wolff – with more joining the trip day by day.

An ongoing literacy education and outreach program will be designed around ***Behind the Wheel of the Bookmobile's*** continued travels. The public will follow the journey through online updates, blog postings, interviews, webisodes and tweets. Content will also be distributed to schools, teachers, and classrooms across the nation through the project's national partners. A full-length documentary is also in the works.

“Books influence our lives in ways too often untold,” says Corwin. “Our trip is designed to tell some of those stories, while our back roads route connects the project to American's literary history.”

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Behind the Wheel of a Bookmobile  
July 9, 2009  
Page Two

Corwin has forged a partnership with the National Book Foundation and received the support of prestigious organizations such as the Association of American Publishers First Book and the American Library Association.

About the launch:

Tom Corwin will appear at the Bookmobile on Sunday, July 12 at 4:15PM at McCormick Square, Chicago.

About Tom Corwin, creator:

Tom Corwin is an author, musician, and music producer. His credits include work with artists such as Bonnie Raitt, Patti Labelle, Booker T., and Stevie Wonder. Tom is the author of the bestselling book *Mostly Bob* (New World Library) and *Mr Fooster Traveling on a Whim* (Doubleday). In addition, he served as consulting producer on the feature documentary "Emile Norman: By His Own Design" which aired nationally on PBS in fall 2008.

About Peter Laufer, co-creator:

Peter Laufer is a journalist and broadcaster and the author of more than a dozen books dealing with social and political issues worldwide. His latest book is *The Dangerous World of Butterflies* (Lyons Press). He co-produced the documentary films "Exodus to Berlin" and "Garbage." Among his credits as a globetrotting correspondent *for* NBC News was the George Polk Award for his study of Americans in prisons overseas.

For more information, visit [www.bookmobiletravels.com](http://www.bookmobiletravels.com), or to schedule an interview with Tom Corwin, please contact Marlene Saritzky at [marlene@bookmobiletravels.com](mailto:marlene@bookmobiletravels.com) or 415.713.1241.

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