

## 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL TAMPA BAY GREAT BOOKS CONFERENCE WEEKEND JANUARY 19-21, 2018

Greetings from the Tampa Bay Great Books Council.

We are pleased to announce our 13<sup>th</sup> annual Great Books Conference Weekend, to be held on **January 19-21, 2018** at the beautiful Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront Hotel, located at 333 First Street South, in downtown St. Petersburg, Florida. This year, we will return to our traditional three-day format for the conference: a Friday evening reception, two discussions on Saturday morning and afternoon, a dinner outing on Saturday evening, and a final discussion on Sunday morning.

The theme of our upcoming annual conference will be **“Vietnam: Looking Back Through Three Vietnamese Novelists.”** The three readings for discussion will be the following: *THE SYMPATHIZER*, the Pulitzer-Prize winning novel by Viet Thanh Nguyen; *THE SORROW OF WAR: A NOVEL OF NORTH VIETNAM*, by Bao Ninh; and *PARADISE OF THE BLIND*, by Duong Thu Huong. These works will give participants three different perspectives on a painful and controversial period in Vietnamese and American history. We believe that they will become an excellent sequel to the Ken Burns documentary series on Vietnam which will air on PBS stations this fall.

Registration for the conference is **\$189** per participant. This fee includes a set of three books: to facilitate discussions, participants are required to use only the editions provided by the Tampa Bay Great Books Council. The registration fee also includes the Friday evening (January 19<sup>th</sup>) reception and a luncheon on Saturday (January 20<sup>th</sup>). All discussions will be led by moderators trained in the Great Books method of “shared inquiry.” Those registrants who wish to bring a non-participating guest (spouse, friend, etc.) must include an addition **\$79** when registering.

A very special in-season discount hotel room rate of **\$160** (single) and **\$180** (double) is being offered to conference registrants who wish to stay at the hotel on Friday evening (January 19<sup>th</sup>) and/or Saturday evening (January 20<sup>th</sup>). **IF YOU PLAN TO STAY OVERNIGHT AT THE HOTEL, PLEASE INDICATE THAT ON YOUR REGISTRATION FORM.**

**PLEASE NOTE: To reserve a room at the Hilton St. Petersburg Bayfront, you must call the hotel directly at (727) 894-5000. Your registration to the Great Books Conference does NOT include hotel reservations. These must be made separately and independently by you. HOTEL RESERVATIONS TO THIS CONFERENCE MAY NOT BE IMMEDIATELY AVAILABLE, SO PLEASE BE PATIENT AND WAIT FOR FURTHER INFORMATIONAL DETAILS TO BE MAILED OUT. IF AND WHEN YOU DECIDE TO RESERVE A HOTEL ROOM, BE SURE TO MENTION THAT YOU WILL BE ATTENDING THE GREAT BOOKS CONFERENCE WEEKEND IN ORDER TO RECEIVE THE SPECIAL DISCOUNT.**

If you should have any questions about the conference (venue, schedules, books etc.), do not hesitate to contact us at the information listed below. We hope that you will be able to join us in St. Petersburg, Florida in January 2018 for an exciting weekend of intellectual stimulation, cultural enrichment, and enjoyable socialization—all in Great Books style!

Sara Cohen, President and Co-Ordinator, Tampa Bay Great Books Council [saradacinteriors@aol.com](mailto:saradacinteriors@aol.com)

Patrick DeMarco, Secretary, Tampa Bay Great Books Council [pdemarco@tampabay.rr.com](mailto:pdemarco@tampabay.rr.com)

**REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE ANNUAL GREAT BOOKS CONFERENCE WEEKEND IN ST. PETERSBURG**

**JANUARY 19-21, 2018**

**HILTON ST. PETERSBURG BAYFRONT HOTEL**

Detach this form, fill it out completely, and attach your registration check of **\$189** payable to the **"Tampa Bay Great Books Council."** Mail this completed form and your check to the following address:

**Patrick DeMarco  
9707 Sunnyoak Drive  
Riverview, FL 33569-5651**

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**R E G I S T R A T I O N F O R M**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

**ADDRESS** \_\_\_\_\_

**CITY** \_\_\_\_\_ **STATE** \_\_\_\_\_ **ZIP CODE** \_\_\_\_\_

**PHONE** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-MAIL** \_\_\_\_\_

**DO YOU PLAN TO STAY AT THE HILTON ST. PETERSBURG BAYFRONT HOTEL DURING THE CONFERENCE?** YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_

**ARE YOU BRINGING A NON-PARTICIPATING GUEST?** YES \_\_\_\_\_ NO \_\_\_\_\_  
(IF YES, PLEASE ADD **\$79** TO YOUR REGISTRATION FEE.)

**NAME OF GUEST** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE: HOTEL ROOM RESERVATIONS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE TO CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS UNTIL AFTER OCTOBER 1, 2017. FURTHER DETAILS AND INFORMATION REGARDING THE COMPLETE CONFERENCE WEEKEND'S SCHEDULE OF EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES WILL BE MAILED TO YOU AT A LATER DATE**

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