



Fall 10-27-2010

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### Recommended Citation

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10/27/2010

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# Florida Author to Give Reading, Sign Books Nov. 9 at Little Chapel

## Quick Facts

- Mary Jane Ryals will give a reading of her new novel, "Cookie and Me," on Nov. 9 from 7-7:45 p.m. in the Little Chapel.
- Her brother, Robert, works as a reference librarian at Dacus Library.



*Mary Jane Ryals*

ROCK HILL, S.C. - **Mary Jane Ryals**, an acclaimed author with family ties to Winthrop, will visit the campus Nov. 9 for a reading and book signing.

**Ryals** will read from her new novel, "**Cookie and Me**," on Nov. 9 from 7-7:45 p.m. in the **Little Chapel**. After the reading, Ryals will autograph books until 8:15 p.m. A Friends of Dacus Library business meeting will follow the reading and book signing sessions.

The author, who lives in Tallahassee, Fla., has a number of connections to Winthrop University. Her grandmother, Eunice Stogner Brewton '24, earned her A.B. in education at Winthrop. In addition, **Ryals'** brother, Robert Ryals, works as a reference librarian in **Dacus Library**.

**Ryals**, a native of Florida, is an award-winning author of nonfiction, poetry and short stories who serves as editor of the *Apalachee Review* literary magazine and works as a research associate at Florida State University's College of Business. She is the 2006 winner of the Second Annual Yellow Jacket Press Chapbook Contest for Florida Poets. In addition, **Ryals** has been named the **2008-2010 Big Bend Poet Laureate**. She has published a poetry collection, "The Moving Waters" (2008); a nonfiction book, "Getting into the Intercultural Groove: Intercultural Communication for Everyone" (2006); a chapbook, "Music in Arabic" (2006), the winner of the Yellow Jacket Book Prize; a short story collection, "A Messy Job I Never Did See a Girl Do" (1999); and a collection of poetry in "North of Wakulla: An Anhinga Anthology" (1990).

The Nov. 9 reading and book signing are free and open to the public.

For more information about the reading/book signing, contact Antje Mays at 803/323-2274 or [maysa@winthrop.edu](mailto:maysa@winthrop.edu).

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