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**The Greenwich Arts Council announces
Kate Christensen, 2008 PEN/Faulkner winner, as Literary Lights
Patrons Lunch author Friday, December 5, 12 noon**

Kate Christensen, author of *The Great Man: A Novel*, which has just won the 2008 PEN/Faulkner award for fiction, will be the featured speaker at The Greenwich Arts Council's Literary Lights Patrons' Lunch on Friday, December 5, at 12 noon. The luncheon, held annually as part of the Arts Council's Literary Lights multi-author book signing that evening, will be held at the home of Laura Cunningham of Greenwich. Admission is \$100 for GAC members, \$125 for non-members, and includes a copy of Christensen's novel. Proceeds for the event benefit the children's educational programs of the Arts Council.

The PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction is a national prize which honors the best published works of fiction by American citizens in a calendar year. Three judges, chosen annually by the directors of the PEN/Faulkner Foundation, select five books from among the more than 300 works submitted, making this the largest peer-juried award in the country. The winning writer and four finalists are honored at a ceremony held in Washington at the Folger Shakespeare Library in May. Additional 2008 finalists include Annie Dillard, *The Maytrees*; David Leavitt, *The Indian Clerk*; T.M. McNally, *The Gateway: Stories*; and Ron Rash, *Chemistry and Other Stories*.

"We are thrilled to have an author of Kate's caliber for our Patrons' Lunch," says Emily Ragsdale, President of the Board of the GAC. "Greenwich is full of readers and book-reading groups who demand literary books."

Food for the luncheon is being donated by Blue Smoke Chop House, who will soon open a restaurant in Riverside. Space is limited. For paid reservations, call the Greenwich Arts Council, (203) 862-6754.

Further information is available by calling Literary Lights 2008 Co-chairs, Lucy Hedrick, (203) 637-1051, or Barbara Stretton, (203) 637-5845, or by logging on to www.greenwicharts.org.

The Greenwich Arts Council promotes the arts by nurturing artists and building audiences, bringing the arts to the community and the community to the arts.