

PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

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Caption: Michael Grunwald wrote the definitive book on the history of Florida Everglades development and restoration.

w/book cover art

Tickets for *The Swamp* author ‘Ding’ events near sellout

Only 75 tickets remain for Michael Grunwald’s lecture about his book *The Swamp: The Everglades, Florida, and the Politics of Paradise* on March 20 at The Community House on Sanibel Island. For the private reception event preceding the lecture, 25 tickets still are available. Hosted by the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS), the events benefit water-quality research and education at the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge.

The bestselling Florida author will be doing book-signings at two separate events on Friday, March 20. An exclusive cocktail and nosh reception with an author meet-and-greet starts at 5:30 p.m. for a limited number of ticketholders. At \$125 each, reception tickets also include reserved VIP seating at his 7 p.m. lecture that will follow. Tickets for the lecture-only are \$30. For more information and to purchase tickets, visit dingdarlingsociety.org/articles/the-swamp-presentations.

The Swamp, which informed the eponymous 2018 PBS documentary, tells the story of the manmade destruction and attempted resurrection of the Florida Everglades, the riveting history of humanity's relentless war against nature in Florida, and belated efforts to make peace.

Reviewers from the *Washington Post* declared *The Swamp* “brilliant.” The *Boston Globe* called Grunwald “a superbly lucid and masterful stylist, blending exhaustive research and superlative prose into a book as valuable as a week in Fort Lauderdale at one-hundredth the price.”

Grunwald, a senior writer for *POLITICO Magazine*, has won the George Polk Award for national reporting, the Worth Bingham Prize for investigative reporting, and many other honors in his 25-year journalism career. *The Swamp* and a later book, *The New New Deal: The Hidden Story of Change in the*

Obama Era, both won him the gold medal for non-fiction at the Florida Book Awards. Grunwald is currently working on a book about food and climate change.

“With the current state of our coastline from red tides, algae, and rising seas, Michael Grunwald’s award-winning book about the Florida Everglades’ backstory has never been more relevant or urgent,” said DDWS executive director Birgie Miller.

Sponsors for *The Swamp* presentations include: **Guardian Sponsor:** WGCU; **Defender Sponsors:** Mike & Terry Baldwin, Gresham Family, Pfeifer Realty Group, Mitchell’s SandCastles, Re/Max of the Islands, Hank & Linda Spire. For more information about the presentations, contact Dot Voorhees at 239-472-1100 ext. 239.

ABOUT DDWS

As a non-profit 501(c)3 organization, DDWS works to support J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge’s mission of conservation, wildlife and habitat protection, research, and public education through charitable donations and Refuge Nature Shop profits.

To support DDWS and the refuge with a tax-deductible gift, visit dingdarlingsociety.org or contact Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or director@dingdarlingsociety.org.

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