

## PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release  
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Caption: Douglas Brinkley will speak at a special “Ding” Darling benefit.

### **Brinkley to speak at ‘Ding’ lunch**

Renowned American historian Douglas Brinkley has honored the “Ding” Darling Wildlife Society-Friends of the Refuge (DDWS) with an offer to speak during his upcoming visit to Sanibel Island. DDWS will host a lecture and lunch with Brinkley on Sunday, March 15, at 12 p.m. at The Sanctuary Clubhouse.

Brinkley will speak about this latest book, *American Moonshot: John F. Kennedy and the Great Space Race* and will touch upon his work-in-progress, *Silent Spring Revolution*. The latter book brings to light environmental heroes of the early 1960s, including Rachel Carson, President Kennedy, and Stewart Udall.

Only 100 tickets for the lunch event are available at \$75 each. Contact DDWS executive director Birgie Miller at 239-472-1100 ext. 4 or [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org) to purchase tickets. Ticket sales benefit conservation efforts at the J.N. “Ding” Darling National Wildlife Refuge on Sanibel Island.

Brinkley is the prolific bestselling author of a number of presidential biographies and other historical books and winner of awards such as the Sperber Prize for Best Book in Journalism, Washington Post Notable Book of the Year, Robert F. Kennedy Book Award, and the Grammy Award.

A professor of history at Rice University, the author serves as the CNN Presidential Historian and a contributing editor at *Vanity Fair*. The Chicago Tribune has dubbed Brinkley “America’s new past master.” He is a member of the James Madison Council of the Library of Congress and the Council on Foreign Relations. He lives in Austin, Tex., with his wife and three children.

#### 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](http://dingdarlingsociety.org) or contact Birgie Miller at 239-292-0566 or [director@dingdarlingsociety.org](mailto:director@dingdarlingsociety.org).