

## **For Immediate Release**

June 25, 2006

For additional information

Contact John Riddle at

[ilovetowriteday@ilovetowriteday.org](mailto:ilovetowriteday@ilovetowriteday.org)

302-834-4910

I Love To Write Day was celebrated last year on November 15 when over 20,000 school all across the United States held special writing activities and events. Bookstores, libraries, community centers and hundreds of writing groups also joined in the fun. Plans are underway to celebrate the fifth I Love To Write Day on November 15, 2006.

"I was very pleased with the number of people who celebrated I Love To Write Day," said John Riddle, a Delaware author who created a special day that encourages people of all ages to write. "The response from schools was overwhelming, and I was amazed at the creative ways they celebrated I Love To Write Day," he said.

Jane McFann, an English teacher at Glasgow High School in Delaware, and an author of 15 books, is supporting I Love To Write Day. "Writing is wonderful, because it is a great skill to take into any career, and it has a way of clarifying one's thoughts. It is amazing how one skill can touch so many aspects of a person's life," she said. "As a writer and a teacher, I believe that anything that brings the joy of writing to students and makes them realize it has both a personal and a practical value has my whole hearted support!"

On I Love To Write Day, people of all ages are encouraged to write something: a poem, a short story, an essay, a letter to the editor, start a novel, finish a novel...the possibilities are endless. "I Love To Write Day is an opportunity for people of all ages to become better writers," said Riddle. "On that day many people will discover for the first time how important it can be to put your thoughts and feelings on paper. Learning how to write well is something that everyone needs, and on November 15, people will join as a community of writers. For many people, that will be the beginning of their writing career. I Love To Write Day has the potential to launch the career of the next John Grisham, Mary Higgins Clark, Stephen King or Toni Morrison."

The Governor of Delaware, Ruth Ann Minner, officially declared November 15 I Love To Write Day in the State of Delaware, and "urges all Delawareans to set time aside today to write something and share the joys of the written word." The Governors of seven other states have joined the party, and have proclaimed November 15 I Love To Write Day in their states: Florida, Pennsylvania, Michigan, New Jersey, Maryland, Louisiana and Kentucky. More Governors will be contacted this year, and asked to recognize I Love To Write Day. "When people become better writers, they become better communicators, and everyone wins," Riddle said.

The 2006 Honorary Chairperson of I Love To Write Day is Delaware author Candy Abbott. “The very concept of *I Love to Write Day* intrigued me from the moment I learned of it five years ago,” said Abbott. “I see this event as a spark, igniting enthusiasm for writing that may otherwise lie dormant, especially in our students. The authoritative voices of teachers and parents can only do so much to instill a love for learning in children. But when someone with a passion for a topic visits the classroom, the lesson takes on a whole new meaning.

“The annual celebration of *I Love to Write Day* gives those of us who have a passion for writing an opportunity to sing praise for the thrill that comes when we see a blank page turn into a story or article that can evoke emotion, entertain the reader, leave a legacy, or persuade the masses. After spending an hour with fifth graders on *I Love to Write Day*, critiquing their stories and reading mine aloud, the joy of writing that shines in their eyes stays with me for days. Their teacher later confessed that her students wrote with great enthusiasm for weeks after my visit. I’d say that’s a positive event,” said Abbott.

I Love To Write Day is FREE, and to be included in the official count, people should stop by the Website [www.ilovetowriteday.org](http://www.ilovetowriteday.org) to register. Several publishers are donating books to schools that come up with the most creative way of celebrating I Love To Write Day. Help spread the word about I Love To Write Day in your community!

For additional information about I Love To Write Day, please contact John Riddle at [ilovetowriteday@ilovetowriteday.org](mailto:ilovetowriteday@ilovetowriteday.org)