

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Award-Winning Author to Speak to Local High School Students**

Martinsville, Virginia – April 8, 2008/ Kevin Cropp, award-winning author of *The Time Keeper* will be conducting a conference call to an English class at Bassett High School outside Martinsville, Virginia on Monday, April 14, 2008 at 10:15 am. He will discuss his book and how it relates to the pressures of high school, as well as the writing process in general.

After discovering *The Time Keeper* through the Adopt an Author program, Mary Compson of Basset High applied for a grant from DonorChoose.org and quickly received funding to add the novel to her curriculum. The novel provides a wonderful balance between interesting content and a reading level accessible to both advanced and struggling readers. Compson comments, “The students feel connected to the protagonist and the story. They are also thinking critically and analyzing the difficult relationship at the heart of the story. Having the opportunity to actually correspond with the author has really heightened their involvement – and everyone is reading! We’ll finish the book within the next week probably – then we’re going to have a conference call with Kevin Cropp. My kids are thrilled! This has been a great reading experience.”

*The Time Keeper*, set in NC and VA, touches on points between parents and their children that many people can identify with. “Dealing with many relevant topics for high school students, such as family conflict, reconciliation and forgiveness, dying, loss, goal-setting, and conflict with teachers and girlfriends, the story of Corey Wailes sets an example of persevering through tragedy,” says Laura Stalvas, another English teacher and Creative Writing teacher who has taught Cropp’s book in her class.

Hadley Goodman, President of Copper Press Publishers, says, “We are honored to provide a program where our author can go into the school systems to enrich and encourage future writers.” Cropp has visited or talked to numerous schools and other organizations, such as cancer treatment centers, in an attempt to raise awareness of the brevity of life and youth, and the importance of forgiving those you love.

Cropp has received recognition as a finalist for two awards for his debut novel; *The Benjamin Franklin Award for Best New Voice of 2006*, and the *USABooknews Award for Best Fiction of 2006* – but he feels that his greatest achievement lies in touching other people’s lives and letting them learn from his own mistakes. “In the final days of my mother’s life, I was granted the wisdom to enjoy, appreciate and love the mother who gave birth to me,” says Cropp. “I now know that losing her was too dear a price to pay for such wisdom and my hope is to offer this insight to others like me at not such a high price.”

Please contact Copper Press if you are interested in receiving more information, setting up an interview with Kevin, or covering the event. For a photo of Kevin, visit [www.copperpresspublishers.com](http://www.copperpresspublishers.com) .

For more information on the product, to read a chapter, or to order online, visit the Copper Press website at [www.CopperPressPublishers.com](http://www.CopperPressPublishers.com).

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