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Harvard Historian to Receive Prestigious Award for Excellence in American History

The Friends of the Concord Free Public Library have selected Pulitzer Prize winner Bernard Bailyn to receive the 2010 Ruth Ratner Miller Award for Excellence in American History. Bailyn will accept the prize and speak at the Main Library, 129 Main Street, Concord, on Saturday, October 23, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

Bailyn's historical work centers on early American history and the American Revolution. He is the author of *The Ideological Origins of the American Revolution*, for which he received the Pulitzer and Bancroft Prizes; *The Ordeal of Thomas Hutchinson*, which was awarded the National Book Award in History; and *Voyagers to the West*, which won the Pulitzer Prize in History.

According to Rob Mitchell, a member of the Miller Award Committee, Bailyn is a "major force" in the study of American history. "Bailyn is widely respected as a teacher," said Mitchell. "He's an important scholar, and he's accessible to the rest of us."

The Ruth Ratner Miller Memorial Award for Excellence in American History was established in 1998 by Richard Miller to honor the life of his mother. Ruth Ratner Miller was an original member of the Holocaust Commission and a founding trustee of the Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC. Past winners of the award include Stephen Ambrose, Arthur M. Schlesinger Jr., David Halberstam and Doris Kearns Goodwin.

Ticket sales for the Miller Award lecture benefit the Friends of the Concord Free Public Library (\$15 adults, students free). Tickets are available at the Concord Free Public Library, 129 Main Street, and the Concord Bookshop, 65 Main Street. For more information, visit www.concordlibrary.org.

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