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For Immediate Release

Best Selling Author, Eric Jay Dolin, at Library for Talk and Signing

Rapid City, S.D. – July 26, 2010 – The public is invited to a talk, slide show and book signing by Eric Jay Dolin on his new book *Fur, Fortune and Empire: The History of Fur Trade in America*. This event takes place on Monday, August 9 at 6:30 p.m. at the downtown Rapid City Public Library.

Beginning in the early 1600s, Dolin traces the dramatic rise and fall of the American fur industry, from the first Dutch encounters with the Indians to the rise of the conservation movement in the late nineteenth century. Populated by a larger-than-life cast—including Dutch governor Peter Stuyvesant; President Thomas Jefferson; America's first multimillionaire, John Jacob Astor; and mountain man Kit Carson—*Fur, Fortune, and Empire* is the most comprehensive and compelling history of the American fur trade ever written.

Dolin will speak about how fur trade transformed this country. It is a tale of imperial aspirations, clashing cultures, fluctuating fortunes and bloody wars. He will show how the relentless pursuit of furs by trappers and Indians pushed some species to the verge of extinction while at the same time charting a course for American expansionism.

Dolin is the author of *Leviathan: The History of Whaling In America*, which was chosen as one of the best nonfiction books of 2007 by *The Los Angeles Times* and *The Boston Globe*. He is a graduate of Brown, Yale, and MIT, where he received his Ph.D. in environmental policy. Dolin lives in Marblehead, Mass., with his wife and two children. Learn more about Dolin and his

work at www.ericjaydolin.com.

Find out about library resources, services and events by visiting our website at www.rapidcitylibrary.org.

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The Rapid City Public Library has served the Rapid City area since 1879, and now has two locations, the downtown library at 610 Quincy Street and the north library within General Beadle Elementary School at 10 Van Buren St. Both offer print and electronic resources for adults, young adults and children as well as computers and Internet access and a variety of programs and events. In March 2008, USA Today named the Rapid City Public Library's downtown library as one of the nation's 10 greatest places to "Find a Nook and Read a Book."

Find video footage of RCPL events at: <http://www.youtube.com/user/rapidcitylibrary>
Find photos of RCPL events at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/rcpl/>