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**ARIZONA STATE LIBRARY, ARCHIVES AND
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Date: December 19, 2006

PHOENIX, AZ – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

2007 ONEBOOKAZ FEATURES ARIZONA HISTORY AND CULTURE

Beginning in April 2007, libraries, schools, museums, and book clubs across Arizona will put on public programs about two books with Arizona topics as part of ONEBOOKAZ, the purpose being to celebrate reading, to bring communities together, and to prepare for the state centennial in 2012.

ONEBOOKAZ 2007 kicks off at the Arizona Book Festival on April 14th at the Carnegie Center, 1101 W. Washington St., Phoenix. Activities throughout April include author talks and book signings at the festival and at events planned in Flagstaff, Phoenix, Prescott, and Tucson; author interviews through TV, radio and newspapers; and book discussions and programs around the state.

Visit www.onebookaz.org for more details.

ONEBOOKAZ: *Going Back to Bisbee* chronicles Richard Shelton's nearly lifelong love affair with southwestern deserts, beginning in 1956 when he came to Arizona as a soldier stationed at Fort Huachuca. In the book, which uses a routine day trip to Bisbee as its setting, Shelton reflects on the history of the area, the beauty of the landscape, and his own life.

Richard Shelton is the author of nine books of poetry including *The Bus to Veracruz* (1978) and *Selected Poems: 1969-1981* (1982). A book about his experiences teaching creative writing to inmates in the Arizona prison system will be published in 2007 by the University of Arizona Press. Shelton has

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lived in Southern Arizona since 1956 and is Regents Professor of English at the University of Arizona. *Going Back to Bisbee* was his first major book of nonfiction.

ONEBOOKAZ for Kids: *Weedflower* tells the story of twelve-year-old Sumiko. Raised on a flower farm in California, Sumiko is used to being the only Japanese girl in her class. Even when the other kids tease her, she always has had her flowers and family to go home to. That all changes after the horrific events of Pearl Harbor. Sumiko and her family find themselves being shipped to an internment camp in the desert of Arizona. Sumiko soon discovers that the camp is on an Indian reservation and that the Japanese are as unwanted there as they'd been at home.

Cynthia Kadohata received the 2005 Newbery Medal for her first novel for children, *Kira-Kira*. She is also the author of *Weedflower* and several critically acclaimed adult novels, including *The Floating World*. Her newest novel, *Cracker! The Best Dog in Vietnam*, will be published in January 2007. She has published numerous short stories in such journals as *The New Yorker*, *Ploughshares*, *Grand Street*, and the *Mississippi Review*. She lives with her son in Long Beach, California.

“This year we are eager to get Arizonans geared up for the state centennial in 2012. From now until 2012, all the ONEBOOKS for adults and kids will center on Arizona topics and themes. We hope that ONEBOOKAZ will provide an opportunity for Arizona citizens to come together to read and discuss books that will increase their knowledge and appreciation of Arizona’s unique history and culture,” says Sarah Weber, ONEBOOKAZ Coordinator.

ONEBOOKAZ is presented by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records, the Arizona Humanities Council, Barnes and Noble Book Stores, the Arizona Library Association, and Maricopa Community Colleges, in partnership with libraries, museums, and educational institutions in Arizona; with support from APS, the Arizona Republic, Follett Library Resources, KAET, the Maricopa County Library Council, Phoenix College, Simon and Schuster Children’s Publishing, and the University of Arizona Press.

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