

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**SIGNING THEIR LIVES AWAY: THE MEN WHO RISKED THEIR LIVES TO SIGN  
THE DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE**

*Newport Historical Society to Host Bestselling Authors Independence Day Weekend*



**Newport, RI – (April 2010)** – In 1776 fifty-six men risked their lives and livelihood to defy the King of England and sign the Declaration of Independence. But how many of them do we really know? The Newport Historical Society is pleased to host a special Independence Day event, on July 3<sup>rd</sup> at 3pm, for a lively discussion with the authors of *Signing Their Lives Away: The Fame and Misfortune of the Men Who Signed the Declaration of Independence*, Denise Kiernan and Joseph D’Agnese.

During this family-friendly program, Denise and Joe will share some of their favorite signer stories, debunk myths and discuss how they came to write the book and produce a non-profit documentary on the legacy of the signers.

*School Library Journal* reviewed that, “Kiernan and D’Agnese present readers with astonishing individual portraits of all the signers in an attempt both to dispel some of the mythology surrounding the document as well as to establish a place in the historical discourse for those men not named Jefferson, Hancock, Franklin, or Adams.”

The authors will “sign their lives away” as they autograph copies of their book after the program. *Signing Their Lives Away* will be available for purchase for \$19.95 plus tax.

This program takes place at the 1739 Colony House on Washington Square. Admission costs \$5 per person, \$1 for current NHS members. For questions call 401-841-8770.

*Signing Their Lives Away: the fame and misfortune of the men who signed the Declaration of Independence* by Denise Kiernan and Joseph D’Agnese (Quirk Books 2009)



For additional information and/or to obtain media photos please contact: Elizabeth Sulock, Public Affairs Associate, 401-846-0813 x104, [esulock@newporthistorical.org](mailto:esulock@newporthistorical.org).

**About the Newport Historical Society**

Since 1854, the Newport Historical Society has collected and preserved the artifacts, photographs, documents, publications, and genealogical records that relate to the history of Newport County, to make these materials readily available for both research and enjoyment, and to act as a resource center for the education of the public about the history of Newport County, so that knowledge of the past may contribute to a fuller understanding of the present. For more information please visit [www.newporthistory.org](http://www.newporthistory.org).