FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Virginia Writers Club Announces Keynote Speaker for Fifth Symposium

Charlottesville, Virginia – The Virginia Writers Club (VWC) announced today that author Sharyn McCrumb will be the keynote speaker for the 2015 *Navigating Your Writing Life: Balancing Business and Craft.* McCrumb is an award-winning Southern writer, best known for her Appalachian "Ballad" novels, including the New York Times best sellers *The Ballad of Tom Dooley, The Ballad of Frank Silver*, and *Ghost Riders*.

"Virginia Writers Club is proud to have Sharyn McCrumb as our keynote speaker," said Betsy Ashton, President, Virginia Writers Club. "She brings a wealth of knowledge about writing with a Southern voice to our Symposium. Participants will be entertained and educated with what she has to say."

VWC is currently celebrating its 97th year as one of the oldest organizations of its kind in the country. A non-profit, VWC is dedicated to fostering the art, craft, business and advocacy of the literary arts throughout the Commonwealth.

The symposium will be held Saturday, August 1, 2015, at The Dickinson Fine & Performing Arts Center at Piedmont Virginia Community College in Charlottesville, from 8:30 to 4:00. The 2015 symposium will feature panel presentations and workshops on topics such as soliciting feedback and editing, crime and mystery writing, marketing, defeating writer's block, crafting effective query letter, the art of short story telling, and taming social media. The symposium is open to the public.

Symposium registration and additional event information can be found on the VWC website: http://www.virginiawritersclub.org/. Event updates are also posted on the symposium Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/VWC.2015Symposium

For more information, please contact Maggie Duncan, VWC Symposium Chairperson, at phyllisduncan52@gmail.com 540-256-7601.

Contact: Maggie Duncan, Virginia Writers Club Symposium Chair

540-256-7601, phyllisduncan52@gmail.com

When: Saturday, August 1, 2015

Where: The Dickinson Fine & Performing Arts Center at

Piedmont Virginia Community College, Charlottesville, Virginia

###