

THE WRITE MAN

Jamie Kabler has helped create every reader's dream: the Rancho Mirage Writers Festival, a four-day event dedicated to the written word and to the authors who inspire, challenge, amuse, and fascinate us with their work. The event takes place each January at the Rancho Mirage Public Library. "It's the best writers festival held at a public library," says Kabler, the festival's founder.

Kabler attended a writers conference in Sun Valley a few years ago and, feeling inspired, thought, *I could do this; let's do one here*. With the help of friends, who, like Kabler, were ready to donate their time and money to make the dream a reality, the Rancho Mirage Writers Festival was born. The success of the event, now in its third year, speaks for itself, with a budget that has grown from \$90,000 to \$700,000 and a lineup that includes at least one National Book Award-winner and 30 *New York Times* best-selling authors.

"My favorite part is all the preparation that goes into making it happen," Kabler explains. "It's exciting to reach out to writers. What's been amazing is the support and enthusiasm from readers in the valley."

Kabler insists on the festival staying right where it is. "I love Rancho Mirage," he says. "The event will always be here; everything happens in Rancho Mirage." *Rancho Mirage Writers Festival, January 21-23, 2016,*

www.rmwritersfest.org

