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Date: January 15, 2020

*****MEDIA ADVISORY***MEDIA ADVISORY***MEDIA ADVISORY*****

**Chris McGinley's Book Reading and Signing
Friday, January 17, 2020**

WHAT: Local author Chris McGinley will perform a short reading and book signing for his first book titled *Coal Black: Stories*. *Coal Black: Stories* is set in the hills of eastern Kentucky. The tales lay bare the dark realities of the region. Sometimes the backdrop is the opioid epidemic and all the human detritus and bloodshed that comes with it. Other times it's poachers or petty thieves who take center stage, people whose wild desperation invite danger everywhere they go. High in the hills the action takes place, alongside the rarely seen animals who hunt up there, and sometimes alongside the "haints" and spirits of popular folklore.

WHO: Chris McGinley writes crime fiction and has appeared in *Mystery Tribune*, *Mystery Weekly*, *Tough*, *Pulp Modern*, *Switchblade*, and *Elsewhere*. His story "Hellbenders" made the "Other Distinguished Mystery Stories of 2018" in *Best American Mystery Stories*. In the late 80s, he arrived in Lexington to pursue graduate work in English at the University of Kentucky, where he earned an M.A., and has been here ever since. He later received his Montessori training and now teaches at Sayre School. *Coal Black: Stories* is his first book. He lives in Lexington with his wife, Julie.

WHEN: **Friday, January 17, 2020 at 6:30pm.**

WHERE: **Sayre Lower School, 194 North Limestone Street, Lexington**

WHY: The stories in *Coal Black* are full of action, twists and turns, and characters on both sides of the law who navigate the treacherous, often violent terrain that spares so few. *COAL BLACK* is a collection of gritty crime stories—cleverly drawn tales with sometimes savage surprise endings.

"These are tough tales about tough people and I can't imagine someone picking up this book and not being impressed. I know I was." —Charles Dodd White, author of *In the House of Wilderness*

"Rarely have I come across a debut so assured. This is a book that deserves an audience, and stories that deserve to be remembered." —E.A. Aymar, author of *Unrepentant*

"These stories offer some of the best rural noir you'll ever read. They are a pitch-black journey into the heart of America." —Nick Kolakowski, author of *Maxine Unleashes Doomsday*

"Artfully crafted crime and horror set in Appalachia's mountains—with prose that hits like Thor. McGinley mines the veins of early American bedrock writers like Irving, Poe and Hawthorne. His tales burn hot and dark." —Jesse "Heels" Rawlins, crime writer and editor at The Flash Fiction Offensive

Our Mission:

Sayre School provides an innovative and inclusive learning environment that empowers students to achieve academic excellence, embrace challenge, and cultivate integrity in order to lead purposeful lives in an ever-changing world.