American Author: John Steinbeck

John Steinbeck was an American author, born on February 27, 1902, in Salinas, California. He is best known for his novels and short stories, which include works such as *The Grapes of Wrath* (1939), *Of Mice and Men* (1937), and *东 of Eden* (1952). Steinbeck's writing often focused on the lives of普通people and the social issues of his time, and his works continue to be read and studied today.

**The Writings of Steinbeck**

Steinbeck's writing career spanned over five decades, during which he produced numerous novels, short stories, and non-fiction works. His works often dealt with themes of social injustice, the human condition, and the importance of empathy and understanding. Steinbeck was a recipient of numerous awards and honors, including the Nobel Prize in Literature in 1962.

**Steinbeck's Legacy**

Steinbeck's influence extends beyond his lifetime, with his works being studied in schools and universities around the world. The John Steinbeck Center in Salinas, California, is dedicated to preserving his memory and legacy. The center offers exhibits, educational programs, and events that highlight Steinbeck's life and work.

---

**A Peace of My Mind: American Stories**

Join author and photographer John Noltner as he leads an in-depth conversation on identity based on stories from his first book, *A Peace of My Mind*. Participants will use writing exercises, small group discussions and large group reflection to address the notion of identity, drawing on issues of faith, gender, religion, class, race and political attitudes. The goal will be to help us reveal and understand these stories as all about us... if we choose to listen.

With more than 700,000 copies sold, this experience is a fine introduction to storytelling. Noltner, who has specialized in imagery, photo and lifestyle, believes the writing work has been published in various magazines, including National Geographic, Travel, Smithsonian, Forbes and Midwest Living.

In 2009, he embarked on a journey to explore the meaning of peace, one story at a time. This journey led him to produce an exhibit of personal stories, as well as a book in which ordinary people reveal extraordinary insights into how we work and what we have learned about the world that is more just for all.

The exhibit has traveled the country and engaged audiences in dialogues relating to peace, conflict resolution and social justice. The project has been featured on the front page of The New York Times and CNN, *A Peace of My Mind: American Stories*, to inspire and empower people from diverse backgrounds and cultures. In his newest exhibition, "A Peace of My Mind: The combination of art and storytelling transcends barriers and provides a human approach to the challenging issues of today.

---

**The John Steinbeck Map**

Developed his exhibit, "A Peace of My Mind." The structure of this program is made possible in part by state tax dollars allocated by the Ohio Legislature to the Ohio Arts Council (OAC). The OAC is a state agency that funds and supports quality arts experiences to strengthen Ohio communities culturally, educationally, and economically.**