Conference Quotes

“It was most gratifying for me to become affiliated with the Mayborn Institute, which sponsors and promotes the discussion and application of nonfiction only on the highest standards; and I thus pledge my continuing support to the growth and success of the Mayborn Institute’s program.”

- Gay Talese, author, *A Writer’s Life*

“It’s no accident that the Mayborn Conference has very quickly risen to preeminence among the nation’s literary conferences. Stacked with talent, smartly choreographed, and well-attended by enthusiastic confreres whose passion for non-fiction is palpable, the Mayborn offers a distinctive format no other conference can match.”

- Hampton Sides, author, *Ghost Soldiers*

“I’ve been to several comparable events, including one put on every year by the Nieman Foundation at Harvard, and I can tell you that yours was certainly among the best. It was a serious effort to explore the techniques of this extremely broad genre, but it also succeeded in being extremely entertaining.”


“... I think you and the Mayborn Institute are exactly on the right track. Storytelling is not a genre or a method. It’s a basic value, and one that in most journalism schools gets barely a lick and a promise. In committing yourself to this value, through the courses you offer, through the conference and through the Archer City experience, you are building a solid foundation for young journalists, no matter where their careers eventually take them. And you are giving us older hands renewed hope.

- Bill Marvel, *The Dallas Morning News*

“The Mayborn Conference is without peer in the country as a gathering place for serious nonfiction writers aiming to practice their craft at the highest possible level. Any writers conference that devoted itself to literary nonfiction would be unique, but with its sheer star power and concentration of first-class talent, Mayborn sets the bar hopelessly high for any would-be competitor.”

- James Hornfischer, Hornfischer Literary Management