



Image courtesy of the artist



Lynda Barry, courtesy of the artist

PRESS CONTACT:

**Glennnda McGann**

*Assistant Dean for Development  
and External Affairs*

Herron School of Art and Design, IUPUI

Eskenazi Hall

735 W. New York St., HR224A

Indianapolis, IN 46202

317-278-9477

[gmmcgann@iupui.edu](mailto:gmmcgann@iupui.edu)

## Illustrator and writer Lynda Barry to speak at Herron Feb. 24

In partnership with the IU School of Liberal Arts at IUPUI, Herron School of Art and Design will host cartoonist Lynda Barry at a free public lecture. The event, a part of the Rufus & Louise Reiberg Reading Series, will take place Feb. 24 at 7:30 p.m. in the Basile Auditorium of Eskenazi Hall.

The *San Francisco Chronicle* has characterized Barry as “...an evangelist who urges people to pick up a pen—or a brush . . . and look at their own lives with fresh, forgiving eyes”.

Barry’s book, *What It Is*—part memoir, part collage and part workbook—instructs her readers in methods for opening up their own creativity. It won the 2009 Will Eisner Comics Industry Award for Best Reality-Based Work and is one of the texts used in introductory English classes at IUPUI.

“My students found the book refreshing, delightfully different and inspiring to them as writers,” said Associate Professor of English and Director of Writing Stephen L. Fox. “Biology major Haley McGough, said ‘...If ever there was something to successfully break the monotony of formulas, this book is it .... Barry took me to a world and finally asked me to speak—something I had been missing for weeks.”

Herron Associate Professor of Foundation Studies William Potter said, “Lynda Barry’s view of the creative process is honest, inspirational and encouraging. I think that IUPUI students will find her visit to be ‘a shot in the arm’ in their journey as creative thinkers.”

Born in Wisconsin in 1956, Barry studied at Evergreen State College. She has worked as a painter, cartoonist, playwright, editor, commentator and teacher. She created *Ernie Pook’s Comeek*, which ran for two decades in North American

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alternative weekly publications. Her book *The Good Times are Killing Me* was adapted as an off-Broadway musical.

Founded in 1997 in honor of former IUPUI English Department Chair Rufus Reiberg and his wife, Louise, The Reiberg Reading Series brings national and regional writers to IUPUI. Speakers have included Jane Smiley, Helen Prejean, Maxine Hong Kingston, Patricia Hampl, Richard Jones, Edward Hirsch and Martin Espada.

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## Parking Information

Guests of Herron School of Art and Design should park in the Sports Complex Garage, just west of Herron. Park in the visitor side of the garage and bring your garage ticket to the Basile Auditorium for parking validation, courtesy of The Great Frame Up. Parking in the surface lot requires an IUPUI parking permit.