

December 6, 2008



Dear Fans,

Thanks to you I have completed another successful book tour, visited over a dozen cities in the Northeast, Midwest and South and burned through several boxes of black markers. However, the real highlight was seeing, meeting and in some cases, catching up with each of you. What a remarkable group of people – truly the greatest fans ever.

I also want to express my sincere gratitude for your generous support of **Feeding Body & Mind**. Through your kindness we were able to collect thousands of donated books that will be provided to those in need through our nation's food banks. What an amazing accomplishment during these very difficult times.

As you know, there is a clear correlation between poverty and low-literacy skills. While food can keep one alive, it cannot, by itself, lift one from poverty. However, increased literacy skills can; thus the **Feeding Body & Mind** program in partnership with *Feeding America*[™], the national organization that runs the nation's two hundred-plus food banks.

I've traveled to many places around the country, visiting schools, food banks and literacy organizations, in the inner city, rural areas and suburbs and the need for literacy support is clear in all of these areas. Unfortunately, government funding for these programs is negligible.

However, I'm happy to announce that along with the books you donated this year and through my signings events with individuals like yourself and the collection efforts of schools, libraries, bookstores and even entire communities, we have collected and forwarded to food banks around the country hundreds of thousands of books. Way to go.

Perhaps the most exciting news of all is that we have reached out to other authors asking them to join us in this fight. And, I'm pleased to share that in 2009 we will have multiple best-selling authors onboard. So, check back soon to see a full list of authors as well as their tour schedules so that you may meet them in person, have them sign a book as well as share a book with someone through the **Feeding Body & Mind** program.

To my fans, you have touched and inspired me this holiday season and more importantly, you've helped those less fortunate. I look forward to seeing you all next Spring.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Baldacci". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, sweeping initial "D".

David Baldacci