



**Dr. Elliot Engel**  
**Literary Lecturer**

**January 9—Mitchell County Schools**

**January 10 —Yancey County Schools**

Professor Elliot Engel is considered the most insightful, personable, and entertaining academic keynote speaker to come out of academia in the last fifty years. His witty, engaging speaking style imparts hard, factual information, leaving his audiences virtually spellbound, yet charmed by periods of laughter and flashes of insight. Using anecdotes, analysis, and large doses of humor, he gives new insights into the backgrounds, accomplishments, and lives of the great masters of English and American literature.

Published in both Great Britain and the US, Engel is the author of seven books including, *A Dab of Dickens & A Touch of Twain: Literary Lives from Shakespeare's Old England to Frost's New England*. His articles have appeared in numerous magazines, including Newsweek. As one of the most sought after and beloved speakers on literature, his mini-lecture series on his favorite literary hero, Charles Dickens, appeared on PBS stations nationwide.

As a professor, Engel has taught courses at Duke University, NC State University, and University of North Carolina. For his scholarship and teaching, he has received North Carolina's Adult Education Award and the Victorian Society Award of Merit.

**January 9, 2012—Mitchell County Schools**

- 8:30 Harris Middle School, topic: Emily Dickinson
- 10:00 Mitchell High School, topic: A Light History of English
- 2:00 Bowman Middle School, topic: Emily Dickinson

**January 10, 2012—Yancey County Schools**

- 8:30 Mountain Heritage High School, topic: William Shakespeare
- 10:00 Cane River Middle School, topic: Edgar Allan Poe
- 1:15 East Yancey Middle School, topic: Edgar Allan Poe

*Performances in the schools are made possible by the Toe River Arts Council with support from a Grassroots Art Grant through the North Carolina Arts Council, a state agency, Yancey County Community Fund and the United Way of Mitchell County. TRAC also received support from the Mountain Air Resident's Fund.*

***Toe River Arts Council, PO Box 882, Burnsville, NC 28714***