**XAVIER RIDDLE AND THE SECRET MUSEUM**

**TCA BIOGRAPHIES**

**Brad Meltzer**

*The* *New York Times* bestselling author, Brad Meltzer, is the co-creator and executive producer of Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum, based on the children’s book series *Ordinary People Change the World*. Best known for his thrillers, Brad is one of the few authors to ever have books on the bestseller list in fiction, non-fiction, children’s books, advice and even comic books. He was also named one of the “Top 25 Most Powerful Authors” by The Hollywood Reporter. He is the host of Brad Meltzer’s Decoded on the History Channel, Brad Meltzer’s Lost History on H2, and the co-creator of Jack & Bobby on The WB. Raised in Brooklyn and Miami, Brad is a graduate of the University of Michigan and Columbia Law School. He currently lives in Florida with his wife, who’s an attorney.

**Jackie Joyner Kersee**  
Having been dubbed ‘The Greatest Female Athlete of the 20th Century’ by Sports Illustrated, Jackie Joyner-Kersee’s athletic accomplishments are second to none. By the conclusion of her career in the heptathlon and long jump events, she had amassed six Olympic medals (3 gold, 1 silver, 2 bronze) and four World Champion titles over four consecutive Olympic Games. Jackie was the first woman in history to earn more than 7,000 points in the heptathlon and still holds the world heptathlon record of 7,291 points. She continues to hold the Olympic and national records in the long jump and her 1994 performance in the long jump remains the second longest in history. In addition to her athletic accomplishments, she is also a philanthropist and an advocate for children’s education, health issues, racial equality, social reform and women’s rights. In 1988, Jackie established the Jackie Joyner-Kersee Foundation, which provides youth, adults, and families with the resources to improve their quality of life, with special attention directed to East St. Louis, IL. She is also the author of *A Kind of Grace*, her autobiography, and *A Woman’s Place is Everywhere*.

**Margaret Washington**Margaret Washington is professor of history at Cornell University. Her publications include the award winning, *A Peculiar People: Slave Religion and Community Culture among the Gullahs*; an edited and annotated publication of the *Narrative of Sojourner Truth*, and a biography entitled, *Sojourner Truth’s America,* which won the Letitia Woods Brown Award from the Association of Black Women Historians, the inaugural Darlene Clark Hine Award from the Organization of American Historians and was voted one of the year's ten outstanding academic books by *Choice Magazine*. She has been advisor and historical consultant for numerous documentary films, including “Africans in America,” “Unchained Memories: The Narratives of Former Slaves;” “This Far by Faith: A History of the Black Church;” “Wade in the Water: the Musical Legacy of Gullah Culture;” and “Abraham and Mary Lincoln: A House Divided.” Washington was featured in the CNN series, “Race for the White House," and recently in “Tell Them We are Rising: The Story of Historically Black Colleges and Universities.” She is currently writing a book entitled, “‘Thine for the Oppressed’: Black and White Women Activists in the Age of Emancipation.”

**Chris Eliopoulos**

Chris Eliopoulos began his career working for Marvel Comics and has worked on literally thousands of comics. He’s written or illustrated comics including Cow Boy, Franklin Richards: Son of a Genius and Pet Avengers. He’s the author/illustrator of a couple of graphic novels, Cosmic Commandos and Monster Mayhem and illustrates the *Ordinary People Change the World* series, which is being adapted to the PBS KIDS animated show, Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum.