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## Press Release

Contact: Dan Fitzgerald  
(732) 349-6200 ext. 5908

[dfitzgerald@theoceancountylibrary.org](mailto:dfitzgerald@theoceancountylibrary.org)

### Learn about the Stories, Science and History of Birds With Smithsonian Biologist Jay Falk

**TOMS RIVER** – Delve into the fascinating world of birds as Smithsonian Evolutionary Biologist and Behavior Escapologist Dr. Jay Falk discusses *The Bird Book: The Stories, Science, and History of Birds* in a virtual talk at 2 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 5.

Birds are dinosaurs with a history going back millions of years. Our fascination with them runs deep in history, and our close association is reflected in creation stories, myths, songs, and children's stories.

This book and presentation will explore:

- The natural history and deep cultural connection of birds, from their evolution and anatomy to their behavior and diversity
- Hawks, finches, swans, and birds of paradise, moving the focus away from a predictable species-by-species account and allowing for truly global coverage
- The stories, nature, and symbolism of European robins, eagles, and the mythical phoenix

Dr. Falk completed his PhD at Cornell University. He then moved to the University of Washington to study hummingbird movement and metabolism. Falk also investigated the genetics and development of feather coloration at the University of Colorado. He currently lives in Gamboa, Panama where he studies the hummingbirds that visit the feeders at his house on the edge of the forest.

Registration is required for this free program. To register, visit [tinyurl.com/BirdTalkOCL](https://tinyurl.com/BirdTalkOCL), stop by your local OCL branch, or call 732-349-6200.

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