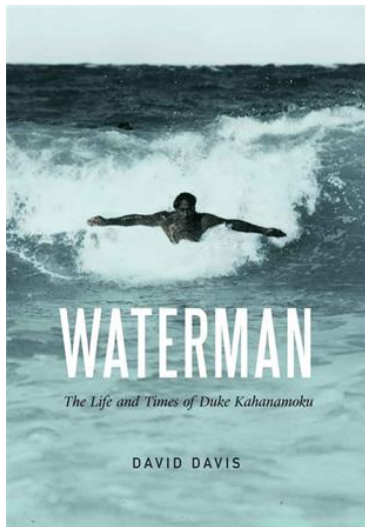




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**Author David Davis Discusses his Book on Waterman Duke Kahanamoku:
Olympic Champion and Surfing Legend**
Author Discussion at Beverly Hills Public Library on July 26



Beverly Hills, Calif. – On Tuesday, July 26 at 7 p.m. in the Beverly Hills Library Auditorium, award-winning journalist and author David Davis will discuss his biographical book, *Waterman: The Life and Times of Duke Kahanamoku* who was an Olympic champion that popularized the Hawaiian sport of surfing. Davis will take questions from the audience and sign books at the end of the event. Books will be available for sale.

David Davis is the author of *Showdown at Shepherd's Bush: The 1908 Olympic Marathon and the Three Runners Who Launched a Sporting Craze*; *Play by Play: Los Angeles Sports Photography, 1889–1989*; and *Marathon Crasher: The Life and Times of Merry Lepper, the First American Woman to Run a Marathon*. His work has appeared in *Sports Illustrated*, *Smithsonian*, the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, and in three anthologies, including *The Best American Sports Writing*. He lives in Los Angeles.

In *Waterman*, journalist David Davis examines the remarkable life of Duke Kahanamoku: surfer, Olympic gold medalist, Hawaiian icon, water man.

Duke Kahanamoku was a Native Hawaiian from Honolulu, Hawaii who was a three-time Olympic gold medalist and two-time silver medalist in swimming. He qualified for the U.S. Olympic swim team in 1912 and won his first gold medal in the 100-meter freestyle and silver medal in 200-meter freestyle relay.

Kahanamoku is widely credited with popularizing the ancient Hawaiian sport of surfing. In 1912, while returning from the Olympics, he brought surfing to the American East Coast with exhibitions and a few years later to Southern California. Kahanamoku died in 1968 at age 77. He was the first inductee into the international Surfing Magazine Hall of Fame as well as the Huntington Beach Surfing Walk of Fame.

To learn more about this exceptionally gifted legend, come to the Beverly Hills Public Library on July 26 to hear award-winning author Davis talk about his book which has been praised by Honolulu Magazine and Surfer Today as a “must read” and by the Wall Street Journal describing it as “A belated and bountiful tribute to this great Hawaiian's memory.”

For more information on this event and other Beverly Hills Public Library events, go to www.bhpl.org.

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