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*On June 26, 1997, Harry Potter took the first step in his journey – and brought along millions of enthusiasts who not only traveled with him, but discovered paths of their own to friendship, to discovery, and to imagination.*

*On August 7-11, 2008, Terminus, a Harry Potter conference, will examine not only Harry's journey, but the individual journeys of those who read J. K. Rowling's books. For five days, over a thousand attendees will spend their time dissecting plotlines, analyzing characters, and celebrating aspects of J. K. Rowling's work. Our registrants will be scholars, educators, librarians, professionals, writers, artists and fans from around the world, all of whom will gather together as one community for one weekend of discussion and debate.*

## One series. One million journeys. *Continue the adventure.*

Terminus is unusual in its approach. By inviting and welcoming a wide variety of attendees, and encouraging all of them to lend their expertise and enthusiasm, Terminus will create a collaborative, participatory conference unlike any other. Scholars will examine the fan phenomenon, while educators teach costuming panels and fans dissect J. K. Rowling's story against a backdrop of literary theory. During the day, attendees will participate in intellectual analysis of the most famous boy wizard of his time. In the evenings, they will immerse themselves in Harry's world: The conference includes the Trade Winds Tournament, a wizarding talk show, a fan community showcase, a trivia challenge, and a *bon voyage* ball in the famed Grand Ballroom of the Hilton Chicago Hotel, among other diversions.

We expect over a thousand attendees at Terminus, and hundreds more community members at our Trade Winds Tournament, which will be played outdoors in classic Quidditch fashion. Most of our attendees are between the ages of 21 and 55, though we will also host a number of younger and older participants. They are ardent fans of the arts, as well as avid readers, particularly of fantasy and science fiction. While their backgrounds and histories may vary widely, our attendees share one common characteristic: a great love of Harry Potter.

Terminus represents a rare opportunity for our attendees to celebrate the well-loved *Harry Potter* novels as best-selling fiction for all ages – and a rare opportunity for the press to cover an international literary event. We hope that you join us to explore the journey the fans have taken with Harry, through celebration and scholarship, examination of literary mores and immersion in the wizarding world.

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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS - | - AUGUST 7-11, 2008 - | - [www.terminus2008.org](http://www.terminus2008.org)

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