

Meet the Author  
**Ben Austen*****High-Risers******Cabrini-Green and the Fate of American Public Housing***

Tuesday, March 27, 2018

6:00 to 7:30 pm

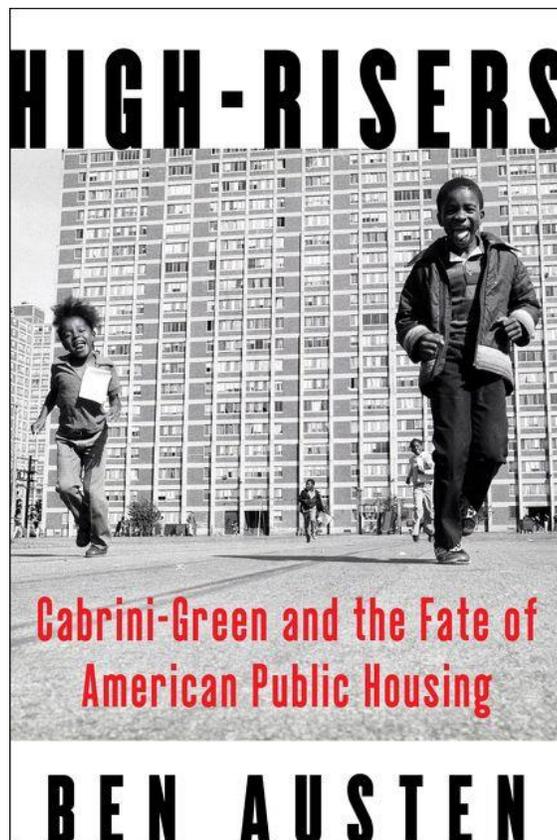
Built in the 1940s atop an infamous Italian slum, Cabrini-Green grew to twenty-three towers and a population of 20,000—all of it packed onto just seventy acres a few blocks from Chicago's ritzy Gold Coast (and the Newberry Library). Cabrini-Green became synonymous with crime, squalor, and the failure of government. For the many who lived there, it was also a much-needed resource—it was home. By 2011, every high-rise had been razed, the island of black poverty engulfed by the white affluence around it, the families dispersed.



In this novelistic and eye-opening narrative, Austen tells the story of America's public housing experiment and the changing fortunes of American cities.

**After the talk, Mr. Austen will sign copies of his book, which will be available for purchase.**

**Ben Austen** has written for publications including *Harper's Magazine*, the *New York Times Magazine*, *GQ*, and *New York*.



**Register to attend online at**

**[www.newberry.org/public-programs](http://www.newberry.org/public-programs)**