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HOW TO USE THIS PROGRAM
Review the Festival at a Glance on pages 8–12, or go directly to the venue descriptions. Want to see our kids programming? Pick up a TD Kidstreet guide at WOTS!

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FESTIVAL MAP Back Cover
WELCOME TO THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE WORD ON THE STREET!

The Word On The Street was founded in 1989 with a simple mission: to create a free public festival celebrating reading and literacy in Toronto. For three decades, we’ve featured thousands of writers to a growing audience of book-lovers from Toronto and beyond.

We have hosted CanLit’s biggest names and welcomed emerging writers to develop their craft and connect first-hand with publishers, writers, and readers. This year we’re excited to present established authors like M.G. Vassanji, Maureen Jennings, and Cory Doctorow alongside rising stars like Casey Plett, Alicia Elliott, and Cherie Dimaline. Our shiny new Across the Universe stage highlights Canada’s award-winning genre authors. And TD KidStreet promises fun for the family, in both official languages, including a special musical performance by Sharon & Bram.

Perhaps what we’re most proud of is The Word On The Street’s place in Toronto’s story. Each year we work in partnership with the Toronto Book Awards, the Toronto Star, and the Toronto Public Library to explore the city we live in and how it’s changing. This year we are pleased to present our inaugural City Imagines keynote with author and city-builder Ken Greenberg on Tuesday, September 17 at The Concert Hall, to be followed by a discussion on urbanism and the arts. On Saturday, September 21, WOTS Plus returns with a full day of programming in partnership with the Toronto Public Library and Diaspora Dialogues.

The Word On The Street is more than just a festival: it’s a gateway to new stories and ideas. An invitation to browse hundreds of new books and magazines. An opportunity to learn about writing, publishing, and the arts. And most importantly, a forum to engage in that continual re-imagining of ourselves to which reading is so vital.

Everyone loves a good story. Thank you for being part of ours.

David Alexander  
Festival Director

Sarah Dunn  
President
We are proud to present the 30th edition of The Word On The Street—
Canada’s premier free public book and magazine festival, where we
celebrate the written word and champion literacy for all. As Canada’s
largest 100% Canadian book and magazine event, we are proud to feature
the contributions of Canadian authors to the cultural history of our
community and are excited to continue our role as a site of amplification
and discovery for the next 30 years and beyond.

TORONTO OFFICE
David Alexander
Festival Director
Maya Baumann
Programming Coordinator
Kirsten Brassard
Event Coordinator
Rebecca Diem
Communications Coordinator
Vannessa Barnier
Programming Assistant
Quinton Bradshaw
Festival Assistant
Sienna Tristen
Communications Assistant
Kim Robinson
Sponsorship Consultant
Kent Robinson
Designer

NATIONAL OFFICE
Helena Aalto
National Coordinator

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Meredith Tutching
Ontario Library Association

OUR WONDERFUL VOLUNTEERS
The Word On The Street would not be possible without the hard work and
dedication of our more than 250 volunteers. We value your commitment
to celebrating reading and advocating literacy. We couldn’t do it without
you! Thank you.
A MESSAGE FROM PREMIER DOUG FORD

I’m delighted to extend warm greetings to everyone attending The Word On The Street Toronto Book and Magazine Festival.

One of the many things that make Ontario great is our vibrant cultural, arts and literary scene. This festival is a great opportunity to showcase Ontario’s top authors and local creators, and to bring people together who share a love of reading and the written word.

My thanks go out to the hardworking team behind the 2019 edition of this signature event for our province’s authors, publishers and booksellers. Their hard work, creativity and abiding dedication to promoting literacy have helped make this one of the top literary festivals in Canada.

Best wishes for another inspiring festival.

Doug Ford
Premier of Ontario
LETTER OF GREETING

A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

It gives me great pleasure to extend greetings and a warm welcome to everyone attending the 30th The Word On The Street Toronto Book and Magazine Festival.

Best wishes to all attendees as you take part in this wonderful festival, a window into Canada’s literary scene, featuring indoor and outdoor activities, many special events and Canada’s biggest outdoor bookstore—an exhibitor market with over 200 vendors.

Community events promote and encourage residents to participate in their community, connect with each other and contribute to the community’s strength. I am delighted that wonderful events like yours are taking place in Toronto.

On behalf of Toronto City Council, I wish everyone an enjoyable and memorable event. Please accept my best wishes for continued success.

Yours truly,

John Tory
Mayor of Toronto
FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

AMAZON.CA BESTSELLERS STAGE

10:00AM
Full details on pgs. 18-24

10:30AM
THE BRILLIANT DARK
S.M. Beiko

11:00AM
SEMI-PROSE PODCAST WITH LESLIE SHIMOTAKAHARA

11:30AM
IMAGINATION ARCHITECTS: BUILDING WORLDS FROM WORDS
Fonda Lee, Sienna Tristen, Kelly Robson

12:00PM
RADICALIZED
Cory Doctorow

12:30PM
CULTS & MONSTERS
Nathan Ripley, Andrew Pyper, Nicole Lundrigan

1:00PM
EPIC FANTASY SAGAS
Evan Winter and Nicholas Eames

1:30PM
EMPIRE OF WILD
Cherie Dimaline

2:00PM
JADE WAR
Fonda Lee

2:30PM
ALICIA ELLIOTT & KAI CHENG THOM IN CONVERSATION

3:00PM
QUEER WRITING IN CANADA: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE
Casey Plett, Nancy Jo Cullen, Farzana Doctor, Kai Cheng Thom, Zoe Whittall

3:30PM
TEEN READS: FANTASY
Elly Blake, J.M. Frey, Kate Story

4:00PM
TORONTO 2033
Zainab Amadahy, Madeline Ashby, Mathew Borrett, Jim Munroe

4:30PM
A DELHI OBSESSION
M.G. Vassanji

5:00PM
CONCERT STAGE

10:00AM
Full details on pgs. 26-32

10:30AM
THE BRILLIANT DARK
S.M. Beiko

11:00AM
ALTERNATE FUTURES
Amal El-Mohtar and L.X. Beckett

11:30AM
SHARON & BRAM PRESENT SKINMARINK

12:00PM
FROM WHERE I STAND
Jody Wilson-Raybould

12:30PM
WRITING COMEDY FOR CANADIAN TV
Aurora Browne and more!

1:00PM
FULL DETAILS ON PGS. 34-35
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Great Books Marquee</th>
<th>Indigenous Voices</th>
<th>Learning Station</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td>FUTURE OF READING PANEL&lt;br&gt;Cory Doctorow, Gwen Benaway, Ben Dugas, Andreya Klobucar</td>
<td>OPENING CEREMONY</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td>ALL WE KNEW BUT COULDN’T SAY&lt;br&gt;Joanne Vannicola</td>
<td>TEEN READS: JUST LUCKY&lt;br&gt;Melanie Florence</td>
<td>LOVE LETTERING PROJECT&lt;br&gt;Lindsay Zier-Vogel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td>PRETTY AS A KNIFE&lt;br&gt;Téa Mutonji and Adnan Khan</td>
<td>YOU ARE ENOUGH: LOVE POEMS FOR THE END OF THE WORLD&lt;br&gt;Smokii Sumac</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td>DAYS BY MOONLIGHT&lt;br&gt;André Alexis</td>
<td>THIS PLACE: 150 YEARS RETOLD&lt;br&gt;Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm</td>
<td>CREE LANGUAGE LEARNING&lt;br&gt;Brenda Wastasecoot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30PM</td>
<td>STRONG YOUNG GALS&lt;br&gt;Lilian Nattel and Valentina Gal</td>
<td>CHASING PAINTED HORSES&lt;br&gt;Drew Hayden Taylor</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td>GRAPHIC MAESTROS: ART AND STORYTELLING&lt;br&gt;Chris Kuzma and Ness Lee</td>
<td>FROM THE ASHES&lt;br&gt;Jesse Thistle</td>
<td>VALLUM: METAPHOR MACHINE&lt;br&gt;Adam Sol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30PM</td>
<td>OBSESSION&lt;br&gt;Adam Foulds and Lynn Coady</td>
<td>FIRST NATION COMMUNITIES READ PRESENTATION</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td>TEEN READS: OPENING UP&lt;br&gt;Brian Francis and Heather Smith</td>
<td>TREATY #&lt;br&gt;Armand Garnet Ruffo</td>
<td>ANISHNAABEMOWIN LEARNING&lt;br&gt;Albert Owl</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td>EVERY LITTLE PIECE OF ME&lt;br&gt;Amy Jones</td>
<td>CROW WINTER&lt;br&gt;Karen McBride</td>
<td>MOHAWK LANGUAGE LEARNING&lt;br&gt;Mitchell Mittelstaedt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td>EAT YOUR WORDS – FOOD AND DIASPORA&lt;br&gt;Nathan Ripley, moderator; and Ann Hui</td>
<td>LEGACY: TRAUMA, STORY, AND INDIGENOUS HEALING&lt;br&gt;Suzanne Methot</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM</td>
<td>EDIBLE FAMILIAL TENSION&lt;br&gt;Zalika Reid-Benta and Derek Mascarenhas</td>
<td>A DIGITAL BUNDLE&lt;br&gt;Jennifer Wemigwans</td>
<td>METAPHOR MACHINE&lt;br&gt;Presented by FEELS ZINE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td>BODIES IN DANGER&lt;br&gt;Andrew Kaufman and Andrew Wilmot</td>
<td>CLOSING CEREMONY</td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00PM</td>
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Full details on pgs. 36-43
Full details on pgs. 44-47
Full details on pg. 48
### Stage in the Round

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td><strong>Saxophone &amp; Bass</strong>&lt;br&gt;Sophia Smith and Ben Duff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30AM</td>
<td><strong>Violin &amp; Bass</strong>&lt;br&gt;Andrew Chung and Robert Lee</td>
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<tr>
<td>11:00AM</td>
<td><strong>Gladiateurs Virtuel</strong>&lt;br&gt;Paul Roux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td><strong>Oral Literature</strong>&lt;br&gt;Dawne McFarlane &amp; Maryem Hassan&lt;br&gt;Tollar, Lynn Torrie &amp; Brian Walsh</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Family &amp; Friends Bilingual Fun-Spell</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Spoken Word Showcase W/ 2019 Toronto Poetry Slam Team</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>1:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Spectacle de Conte Avec Djennie Laguerre</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Voice &amp; Guitar</strong>&lt;br&gt;Caity Gyorgy, Sean Bertram</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Oral Literature</strong>&lt;br&gt;Eden Nameri, Sage Tyrtle, Sarah Abušarar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td><strong>La Marchande, La Sorcière, La Lune et Moi</strong>&lt;br&gt;Diya Lim</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Mustafa</strong>&lt;br&gt;Marie-Louise Gay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Gladiateurs Virtuel</strong>&lt;br&gt;Paul Roux</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30PM</td>
<td><strong>Toronto Book Awards Finalist</strong></td>
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<td>5:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Toronto Book Awards Finalist</strong></td>
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### La Scène Francophone Montréal

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00AM</td>
<td><strong>Diaporama Dialogues Presents: Writing While Black in CanLit</strong>&lt;br&gt;George Elliott Clarke, Whitney French, Phillip Morgan, Sarah Hagi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30AM</td>
<td><strong>Toronto Book Awards Finalist</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>12:00PM</td>
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<td>2:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Toronto Book Awards Finalist</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00PM</td>
<td><strong>Toronto Book Awards Finalist</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Toronto Book Awards

- **Diaporama Dialogues Presents: Writing in the Age of #MeToo**<br>SK Ali, Gwen Benaway, Tea Mutonji, Aparitha Bhandari
- **Toronto Book Awards Finalist**<br>Cary Fagan, Mike Barnes, Dionne Brand, Didier Leclair, Ian Williams
## FESTIVAL AT A GLANCE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TORONTO STAR TENT</th>
<th>VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO</th>
<th>WORDSHOP MARQUEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FULL DETAILS</strong></td>
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<td>5:00PM</td>
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**TORONTO STAR TENT**

- **FEDERAL ELECTION**
  - Bruce Campion-Smith, Susan Delacourt, Chantal Hebert

- **TIFF & GLITTER**
  - Peter Howell, Shinan Govani

- **DOUG FORD AT ONE YEAR**
  - Robert Benzie, Martin Regg Cohn, Kristin Rushowy

- **WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION**
  - Edward Keenan, Donovan Vincent

- **WRITING WITH THE CITY IN MIND**
  - Kevin Hardcastle, A.F. Moritz, Devyani Saltzman

- **THE MISSING MILLIONAIRE**
  - Katie Daubs

- **THEY CALL ME GEORGE**
  - Cecil Foster

- **HOUSE DIVIDED**
  - John Lorinc and Cheryll Chase

**VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO**

- **MOUINING ANTHOLOGY**
  - Fan Wu and others

- **TEEN READS: COMPLICATED LOVE**
  - S.K. Ali and Tanaz Bhathena

- **EMOTIONAL LANDSCAPES**
  - Andrew Forbes and K.D. Miller

- **BUILDING LITERARY COMMUNITIES PANEL**
  - Bânoo Zan, Khashayar Mohammadi, rob mclennan, Kirby

- **INTRICATE ART OF THE SONNET**
  - Sonnet L’Abbé, Ben Ladoucer, Doyali Islam

- **THE SENTENCE, WHAT BOOKS ARE MADE OF**
  - Janice Zawerbny and Leonicka Valcius

- **MAGAZINES CANADA DIGITAL SPOTLIGHT**
  - Craig Silverman, Rehana Begg, Drew Brown, Camille Dundas, Andrew Yates

- **PLAYWRIGHT SPOTLIGHT**
  - Amanda Parris and Nick Green

- **WRITING ABOUT YOURSELF: NONFICTION AND MEMOIR**
  - Diane Schoemperlen and Don Gillmor

- **FIRST PAGE CHALLENGE**
  - Sarah Sheard and Doug Richmond

**WORDSHOP MARQUEE**

- **THE FELLOWSHIP**
  - Rachel Manley

- **WRITING FOR INTERACTIVE AND VIRTUAL REALITY STORY TELLING**
  - David Oppenheim & Jessica Duffin Wolfe

- **WRITING WITH THE CITY IN MIND**
  - Kevin Hardcastle, A.F. Moritz, Devyani Saltzman

- **DRASTIC TIMES & HATE CRIMES**
  - Maureen Jennings and Rachel McMillan

- **WHAT GOES AROUND**
  - Ruth Clarke

- **RISING FROM THE ASHES: LOSS AND TRANSFORMATION**
  - Anubha Mehta, Elizabeth Greene, Merle Nudelman, Legathasan Tharmathurai

Full details on pgs. 61-64  Full details on pgs. 67-75  Full details on pgs. 78-79
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Kids Activity Tent</th>
<th>TD Children’s Literature Tent</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>10:00</td>
<td><strong>Heather’s Music Circle</strong></td>
<td><strong>Arthur Garber</strong> the Harbour Barber Joe Frank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30</td>
<td><strong>Why Don’t Cars Run on Apple Juice?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Small World</strong> Ishta Mercurio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00</td>
<td><strong>Why Don’t Cars Run on Apple Juice?</strong></td>
<td><strong>Nibi’s Water Song</strong> Sunshine Tenasco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30</td>
<td><strong>Kira Vermond, Suharu Ogawa, Dr. Sara Mazrouei</strong></td>
<td><strong>Bilal Cooks Daal</strong> Anoosha Syed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td><strong>Postcard Collaging</strong></td>
<td><strong>TD Children’s Literature Award</strong> Readings and Presentation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30</td>
<td><strong>Cary Fagan, The Collected Works of Gretchen Oyster</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00</td>
<td><strong>The Almost Epic Squad</strong></td>
<td><strong>The Scarecrow</strong> Terry and Eric Fan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30</td>
<td><strong>Lesley Livingston, Richard Scrimger, Kevin Sylvester, Ted Staunton</strong></td>
<td><strong>Climbing Shadows</strong> Shannon Bramer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00</td>
<td><strong>Ripple Foundation Workshop</strong></td>
<td><strong>Ripple Readers</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:30</td>
<td><strong>Wings of Fire Book #2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Moon Wishes</strong> Patricia and Guy Storms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:00</td>
<td><strong>Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao</strong></td>
<td><strong>I Promise</strong> Catherine Hernandez</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30</td>
<td><strong>Drawing Games</strong> Kean Soo and Tory Woolcott</td>
<td><strong>The Explorers: Quest for the Highrise</strong> Kristy Woudstra</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00</td>
<td><strong>Creaturemaker Workshop</strong></td>
<td><strong>Who is Tanksy?</strong> Bev Katz Rosenbaum</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:30</td>
<td><strong>Presented by Story Planet</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
The Word On The Street is once again proud to partner with Ontario Cultural Society of the Deaf and Silent Voice Canada to present the following schedule of ASL-accessible events. You can identify the ASL-interpreted segments in the program and our Festival at a Glance pages by the distinctive ASL symbol.

**AMAZON.CA BESTSELLERS**

12:45PM – 1:30PM
**CULTS & MONSTERS**
*Your Life Is Mine*, Nathan Ripley
*The Homecoming*, Andrew Pyper
*Hideaway*, Nicole Lundrigan

1:45PM – 2:15PM
*Empire of Wild*, Cherie Dimaline

**ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**

10:30AM – 11:00AM
*The Brilliant Dark*, S.M. Beiko

11:00AM – 11:30AM
**ALTERNATE FUTURES**
*This Is How You Lose The Time War*, Amal El-Mohtar
*Gamechanger*, L.X. Beckett

2:45PM – 3:15AM
**DIGITAL DYSTOPIA**
*Radicalized*, Cory Doctorow
*Stealing Worlds*, Karl Schroeder

**VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO**

10:30AM – 11:00AM
**TEEN READS: COMPLICATED LOVE**
*Love From A to Z*, S.K. Ali
*The Beauty of the Moment*, Tanaz Bhathena

11:00AM – 11:30AM
**EMOTIONAL LANDSCAPES**
*Lands & Forests*, Andrew Forbes
*Late Breaking*, K.D. Miller

**GREAT BOOKS MARQUEE**

12:00PM – 12:30PM
*Days by Moonlight*, André Alexis

2:45PM – 3:15PM
*Every Little Piece of Me*, Amy Jones
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>INDIGENOUS VOICES</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:00PM – 1:30PM</td>
<td><em>From The Ashes</em>, Jesse Thistle</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3:30PM – 4:00PM</td>
<td><em>Legacy: Trauma, Story, and Indigenous Healing</em>, Suzanne Methot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>CHILDREN’S ACTIVITY TENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:15PM – 1:00PM</td>
<td><em>Why Don’t Cars Run On Apple Juice?</em>, Kira Vermond &amp; Suharu Ogawa, with Dr. Sarah Mazrouei</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>TD CHILDREN’S LITERATURE TENT</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:20AM – 10:40AM</td>
<td><em>Arthur Garber the Harbour Barber</em>, Joe Frank</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:40AM – 11:00AM</td>
<td><em>Small World</em>, Ishta Mercurio</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00AM – 11:20AM</td>
<td><em>Nibi’s Water Song</em>, Sunshine Tenasco</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:20AM – 11:40AM</td>
<td><em>Bilal Cooks Daal</em>, Anoosha Syed</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:00PM – 2:20PM</td>
<td><em>Wings of Fire: The Lost Heir</em>, Mike Holmes</td>
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<td>2:20PM – 2:40PM</td>
<td><em>Moon Wishes</em>, Guy &amp; Patricia Storms</td>
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<tr>
<td>2:40PM – 3:00PM</td>
<td><em>I Promise</em>, Catherine Hernandez</td>
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<tr>
<td>3:00PM – 3:20PM</td>
<td><em>Amy Wu and the Perfect Bao</em>, Charlene Chua</td>
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A registered charity since 1975, Silent Voice provides a wide range of programs, services, and direct support to children, youth, adults, and families in an American Sign Language (ASL) environment.

Ontario Cultural Society of the Deaf supports and celebrates members of the Deaf community, preserves Deaf culture, heritage, and language (ASL), and increases cross-cultural awareness between Deaf and hearing communities.
Be sure to catch our Anniversary Series events happening across the festival! Look for the spaceship icon in the venue descriptions.

Watch for the rocket in the venue descriptions!

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**GREAT BOOKS MARQUEE**

**10:00AM – 10:45AM**

**THE FUTURE OF READING**

With authors Cory Doctorow and Gwen Benaway, Rakuten Kobo’s Ben Dugas, and online publisher Andrey Klobucar.

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**VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO**

**11:30AM – 12:15PM**

**BUILDING LITERARY COMMUNITIES**

With poets Khashayar Mohammadi, rob mclennan, Bānoo Zan, and Kirby.

**1:00PM – 2:00PM**

**DIGITAL MAGAZINES IN THE AGE OF DISINFORMATION**

Rehana Begg (CanadianManufacturing.com), Drew Brown (The NL Independent), Camille Dundas (ByBlacks.com), Craig Silverman (Buzzfeed News), and Andrew Yates (HuffPost Canada)

---

**AMAZON.CA BESTSELLERS**

**3:15PM – 4:15PM**

**QUEER WRITING IN CANADA**

With award-winning authors Casey Plett, Nancy Jo Cullen, Farzana Doctor, Kai Cheng Thom, and Zoe Whittall.

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**TORONTO STAR TENT**

**3:00PM – 3:40PM**

**WRITING WITH THE CITY IN MIND**

With TPL Writer in Residence Kevin Hardcastle, Toronto Poet Laureate A.F. Moritz, and AGO Director of Public Programming Devyani Saltzman.

---

**TPL: TRANSFORMATION STATION**

As our city keeps changing, your needs keep changing. So your library is changing, too. Come visit for interactive and unexpected ways to experience TPL. Try cool tech. Visit the bookmobile. Update your library card with our brand new look! And more.
The University of Toronto Bookstore is located on campus at U of T, occupying the space of the original Central Reference Library, which opened its doors in 1909. The Central Reference Library moved to its current location in 1977, when U of T took over the property and opened the current iteration of its bookstore. In addition to textbooks, clothing and stationery items, the bookstore houses a wonderful collection of general interest trade books in a variety of subjects and is open to the public seven days a week!

Located in the West end of Toronto, Another Story Bookshop sells a broad range of literature for children, teens and adults with a focus on themes of social justice, equity, and diversity. A proudly independent bookstore with more than 30 years of history serving the community.

Over the past 50 years, Bakka Books has changed owners, locations, and even its name (slightly) but what hasn’t changed is our knowledge of, commitment to, and sheer darned enjoyment of science fiction and fantasy. We’re Canada’s oldest science fiction and fantasy bookstore, and we’re proud to be part of the greater community.

Queen Books is an inclusive community book shop located in Toronto’s east end neighbourhood of Leslieville. We have a large children’s area and a large and highly curated adult selection. Our expert enthusiastic booksellers are always on hand to offer friendly hellos and book recommendations!

Ella Minnow Children’s Bookstore is a charming oasis in the Upper Beach neighbourhood, filled with books and clever gifts to delight children from baby to teen, plus a small but carefully selected collection of adult titles. We’re also proud to work with teachers and librarians in schools across the GTA.

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Based in Guelph, Ontario, Vish Khanna is an Assistant Editor at *Exclaim!* Magazine, where he currently oversees the Comedy section. His written work has been featured in *Pitchfork*, *NOW*, *The A.V. Club*, *The Globe and Mail*, *Spinner*, *Huffington Post*, *Signal to Noise*, *Aux*, *Eye Weekly*, *Chart Attack*, *Off the Shelf*, and more.

**11:00AM – 11:45AM SEMI-PROSE PODCAST FEATURING LESLIE SHIMOTAKAHARA**

semi-prose is the books podcast that’s half as serious and twice as smart as your other favorite books podcast. Join Max, Allie, Evan, and Kristina—four semi-professional readers—as they explore new Canadian books through their personal histories, pop culture references, and readerly curiosities before the pros—the authors themselves—join the conversation. Because when you’re done the last page, you’ve only really read the half of it. Available on Soundcloud.

**RED OBLIVION**

When sisters Jill & Celeste Lau return to Hong Kong, they find their ailing father a shadow of his old self. According to his housekeeper, a couple of mysterious photos, anonymously mailed, led to his collapse. These pictures are only the first link in a chain of events that begin to reveal the truth about their father’s past. Someone from the old days has returned to haunt him. Can Jill piece together the story of her family’s past without sacrificing her father’s love and reputation? • Dundurn

Leslie Shimotakahara holds a Ph.D. in English from Brown University. Her memoir, *The Reading List*, won the Canada-Japan Literary Award in 2012, and her fiction has been shortlisted for the K.M. Hunter Artist Award. Leslie lives in Toronto.

**12:00PM – 12:30PM RADICALIZED**

Told through one of the most on-pulse genre voices of our generation, *Radicalized* is a timely collection consisting of four SF novellas connected by social, technological, and economic visions of today and what America could be in the near, near future. • Tor Books

Cory Doctorow is a coeditor of *Boing Boing*, a special consultant to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an MIT Media Lab Research Associate and a visiting professor of Computer Science at the Open University. His award-winning novel *Little Brother* and its sequel *Homeland* were *New York Times* bestsellers. Born and raised in Toronto, he lives in Los Angeles.
Cults, danger, murder! Nathan Ripley, Andrew Pyper, and Nicole Lundrigan weave together stories of troubled families, cult leaders, and control, leaving you unsure of everyone you’ve ever been close to in love and blood.

YOUR LIFE IS MINE

Bestselling author Nathan Ripley is back with another suspenseful page-turner—this time about a woman whose notorious father died when she was a child, and whose legacy has come back to haunt her. Blanche, an up-and-coming filmmaker, has distanced herself in every way she can from her father, the murderous cult leader, Chuck Varner. In 1996, when she was a small child, he went on a shooting spree before turning the gun on himself. Now, Blanche learns that her mother has been murdered, and she suspects that her father’s cult has found a new life. • SIMON & SCHUSTER

Nathan Ripley is the pseudonym of Journey Prize–winner Naben Ruthnum. His first novel, Find You in the Dark, was an instant bestseller, and his nonfiction book, Curry: Eating, Reading, and Race was critically acclaimed and one of the Globe and Mail’s best books of 2017. Ruthnum lives in the Parkdale neighbourhood of Toronto.

THE HOMECOMING

Bestselling author Andrew Pyper returns with a riveting psychological thriller about how the people you’ve known your whole life can suddenly become strangers. What if everything you knew about the people you loved was a lie? • SIMON & SCHUSTER

Andrew Pyper is the author of The Only Child, which was an instant Canadian bestseller in Canada. He is also the author of six previous novels, including The Demonologist, which won the International Thriller Writers award for Best Hardcover Novel.

HIDEAWAY

What if home is the most dangerous place you can be? Gloria Janes appears to be a doting suburban mother and loving wife. But beyond her canary-yellow door, Gloria controls her husband, Telly, as well as seven-year-old Maisy and her older brother Rowan, through a disorienting cycle of adoration and banishment. Suspenseful, unsettling, and masterful, Hideaway explores the secrets of a troubled family and illuminates an unlikely hero and a source of unexpected strength. • VIKING/PRHC

Nicole Lundrigan is the author of six critically acclaimed novels, including The Substitute and Glass Boys. Her work has appeared on best of the year selections of The Globe and Mail, Amazon.ca, and Now magazine. She grew up in Newfoundland, and now lives in Toronto.
From the author of the YA-crossover hit *The Marrow Thieves*, a propulsive, stunning and sensuous novel inspired by the traditional Métis story of the Rogarou—a werewolf-like creature that haunts the roads and woods of Métis communities. A messed-up, grown-up, Little Red Riding Hood. Broken-hearted Joan has been searching for her husband, Victor, for almost a year—ever since he went missing on the night they had their first serious argument. With only the help of Ajean, a foul-mouthed euchre shark with a knowledge of the old ways, and her odd, Johnny-Cash-loving, 12-year-old nephew Zeus, Joan has to find Victor. • *Random House Canada*

Cherie Dimaline was named Emerging Artist of the Year at the Ontario Premier’s Awards for Excellence in the Arts in 2014, and became the first Indigenous writer in residence at the Toronto Public Library. From the Georgian Bay Métis Community in Ontario, she now lives in Toronto.

Join Alicia Elliott and Kai Cheng Thom in conversation about navigating a world wrought with injustices, from the past to the present, personal to political.

*A Mind Spread Out On The Ground*  
A bold and profound work by Haudenosaunee writer Alicia Elliott, *A Mind Spread Out on the Ground* is a personal and critical meditation on trauma, legacy, oppression and racism in North America. • *Doubleday Canada*

Alicia Elliott is a Tuscarora writer living in Brantford, Ontario. She has written for *The Globe and Mail*, *CBC*, *Hazlitt* and many others. She’s had essays nominated for National Magazine Awards for three straight years, winning Gold in 2017, and her short fiction was selected for Best American Short Stories 2018, Best Canadian Stories 2018, and Journey Prize Stories 30. *A Mind Spread Out On The Ground* is a national bestseller.
I HOPE WE CHOOSE LOVE

*I Hope We Choose Love* is a hopeful collection of personal essays and prose poems that grow out of activist and community heartbreak. With her characteristic eloquence and honesty, Thom critiques essentialist identity politics, the concept of “safety,” virtue signaling, celebrity culture, and mob mentalities. She unpacks cancel culture, #MeToo and consent, the ways we enable each other to harm, how to heal through boundary setting, how we talk about suicide and our responsibility to each other to create a world we can bear to live in. Thom’s work urges us towards revolutionary love. • Arsenal Pulp Press

Kai Cheng Thom is the author of four books: *I Hope We Choose Love: A Trans Girl’s Notes From the End of the World, Fierce Femmes and Notorious Liars: A Dangerous Trans Girl’s Confabulous Memoir*, a place called No Homeland, and From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea.

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QUEER WRITING IN CANADA: PAST, PRESENT, FUTURE

3:15PM – 4:15PM

Where does queer literature in Canada come from, and where is it going? How do queer readers, as well as the larger CanLit world, talk about queer lit? Four writers sit down to discuss the history, necessity, viability, and future of queer literature in Canada. Moderated by Casey Plett. Part of the #WOTS30 Anniversary Series.

LITTLE FISH

Little Fish tells the story of Wendy, a 30-year-old trans woman from Winnipeg who learns that her late grandfather—a devout Mennonite farmer—might have been transgender himself. Alternately warm-hearted and dark-spirited, desperate and mirthful, Little Fish explores the winter of discontent in the life of one transgender woman as her past and future become irrevocably entwined. In 2019, Little Fish won both the Amazon Canada First Novel Award and the Lambda Literary Award: Transgender Fiction. • Arsenal Pulp Press

Casey Plett is the author of the multi-award-winning novel *Little Fish* (Arsenal Pulp Press) and the short story collection *A Safe Girl to Love* (Topside Press), and co-editor of the anthology *Meanwhile, Elsewhere: Science Fiction and Fantasy from Transgender Writers* (Topside Press).
WESTERN ALIENATION MERIT BADGE
Set in Calgary in 1982, during the recession that arrived on the heels of Canada’s National Energy Program, *The Western Alienation Merit Badge* follows the Murray family as they struggle with grief and find themselves on the brink of financial ruin. After the death of her stepmother, Frances Murray returns to Calgary to help her father, Jimmy, and her sister, Bernadette, pay the mortgage on the family home. When Robyn, a long-lost friend, becomes their house guest old tensions reignite. • WOLSAK & WYNN

Nancy Jo Cullen is the fourth recipient of the Writers’ Trust Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBT Emerging Writers. Her short story collection, *Canary*, was the winner of the 2012 Metcalf-Rooke Award. Her poetry has been shortlisted for multiple awards, including the City of Calgary WO Mitchell Book Prize.

ALL INCLUSIVE
A story about one all-inclusive resort, the ghost of an unknown father, and the tragedies we can’t forget. Ameera works at a Mexican resort, where every day is paradise — if “paradise” means paperwork, sales quotas, and entitled tourists. But it’s not all bad: Ameera’s secret pastime is the swingers scene, and the resort is the perfect place to hook up with like-minded couples. Meanwhile, she’s being plagued by another secret, the big unknown of her father’s identity. Unbeknownst to Ameera, her father is looking for her, and they both must come to terms with the reason why he abandoned her. • DUNDURN

Farzana Doctor is the award-winning author of *Stealing Nasreen*, *Six Metres of Pavement* and *All Inclusive*, and was named one of CBC Books’ “100 Canadian Writers You Need to Know Now”. She recently completed *Seven* (Dundurn, 2020), her fourth novel. She is also a psychotherapist and #EndFGM activist.

THE BEST KIND OF PEOPLE
George Woodbury, an affable teacher and beloved husband and father, is arrested for sexual impropriety at a prestigious prep school. A local author tries to exploit their story, while an unlikely men’s rights activist attempts to get Sadie onside their cause. With George locked up, how do the members of his family pick up the pieces and keep living their lives? How do they defend someone they love while wrestling with the possibility of his guilt? • HOUSE OF ANANSI

Zoe Whittall’s third novel, *The Best Kind of People*, was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize, is being adapted for film by director Sarah Polley, and was named Indigo’s #1 Book of 2016. She has also published three volumes of poetry. Her next novel, *The Spectacular*, is forthcoming with HarperCollins.

Kai Cheng Thom is the author of four books: *I Hope We Choose Love: A Trans Girl’s Notes From the End of the World*, *Fierce Femmes and Notorious Liars: A Dangerous Trans Girl’s Confabulous Memoir*, *a place called No Homeland*, and *From the Stars in the Sky to the Fish in the Sea*. 
Two-time Giller Prize winner M.G. Vassanji returns with a powerful new novel set in present-day Delhi. Munir Khan, a recent widower from Toronto, on a whim decides to visit Delhi, the city of his forbears. While sitting in the bar of the Delhi Recreational Club, a woman joins his table to await her husband. The two are from different worlds: Munir is a westernized agnostic of Muslim origin; Mohini, a modern Hindu woman. She’s religiously traditional, but also a liberal newspaper columnist. Against her better judgment, Mohini agrees to show Munir around the city and an inexplicable attraction begins. • Doubleday Canada

M.G. Vassanji won the Giller Prize for *The Book of Secrets* and *The In-Between World of Vikram Lall*, and the Governor General’s Literary Award for Non-Fiction for *A Place Within: Rediscovering India*. His novel *The Assassin’s Song* was shortlisted for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General’s Literary Award for Fiction. Most recently, his novel *Nostalgia* was a finalist in Canada Reads 2017.
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HOST
Leah Bobet’s latest novel, An Inheritance of Ashes, won the Sunburst, Copper Cylinder, and Prix Aurora Awards and was an OLA Best Bets book; her short fiction is anthologized worldwide. She lives in Toronto, where she works as an editor and book reviewer, makes jam, and builds civic engagement spaces.

THE BRILLIANT DARK

It’s been seven years since the Denizens were unmasked, and since Roan and Eli disappeared into the Brilliant Dark. Marked by Darklings and Death alike, Saskia is a mechanically minded Mundane, raised by Barton and Phae on daring stories about Roan. But the world Roan left behind is in turmoil and Saskia’s only option is to bring Roan and Eli back. The Brilliant Dark is the final, thrilling chapter in this series about gods, monsters, and the people who must decide if they’re willing to pay the ultimate price to protect the family they found... in a world that may not be worthy of saving. • ECW Press

S.M. Beiko is an eclectic writer and artist based in Winnipeg, Manitoba. She also works as a freelance editor, illustrator, and graphic designer. The first novel in this series, Scion of the Fox, won the 2018 Copper Cylinder Award.

ALTERNATE FUTURES

Despite dystopia, Amal El-Mohtar and L.X. Beckett find room for romance.

THIS IS HOW YOU LOSE THE TIME WAR

Two time-traveling agents from warring futures, working their way through the past, begin to exchange letters—and fall in love in this thrilling and romantic book from award-winning authors Amal-El Mohtar and Max Gladstone. Among the ashes of a dying world, an agent of the Commandant finds a letter. It reads: Burn before reading. • SAGA PRESS

Amal El-Mohtar is an award-winning author, editor, and critic. Her fiction has most recently appeared on Tor.com and Uncanny Magazine, and in anthologies such as The Djinn Falls in Love & Other Stories and The Starlit Wood: New Fairy Tales. She teaches creative writing at the University of Ottawa.
GAMECHANGER

Neuromancer meets Star Trek in Gamechanger. Rubi Whiting is a member of the Bounceback Generation. The first to be raised free of the troubles of the late twenty-first century. Now she works as a public defender helping troubled individuals with anti-social behavior. That’s how she met Luciano Pox. Luce is a firebrand and has made a name for himself as a naysayer. But there’s more to him than being a lightning rod for controversy. Rubi has to find out why the governments of the world want to bring Luce into custody, and why Luce is hell bent on stopping the recovery of the planet.

• Tor Books

Toronto author and editor L.X. Beckett frittered away their misbegotten youth, before deciding to make a shift into writing science fiction. Their first novella, Freezing Rain, a Chance of Falling, published in 2018, takes place in the same universe as Gamechanger. L.X. identifies as feminist, lesbian, genderqueer, married, and Slytherin, and can be found on Twitter or at a writing advice blog, the Lexicon.

IMAGINATION ARCHITECTS: BUILDING WORLDS FROM WORDS

Adventure from and through underworlds, traversing plains of destruction and hope, Fonda Lee, Sienna Tristen and Kelly Robson will discuss the fantastical, intricate worlds they’ve built and the wars that go on inside of them, both internally and externally. Moderated by Derek Künsken. Presented in partnership with Can-Con 2019.

JADE WAR

The Kaul siblings battle rival clans for honor and control over an Asia-inspired fantasy metropolis in Jade War, the sequel to the World Fantasy Award-winning novel Jade City. Faced with threats on all sides, the Kaul family is forced to form new and dangerous alliances, confront enemies in the darkest streets and the tallest office towers, and put honor aside in order to do whatever it takes to ensure their own survival—and that of all the Green Bones of Kekon. • Orbit

Fonda Lee is the World Fantasy Award-winning author of Jade City and the award-winning YA science fiction novels Zeroboxer, Exo, and Cross Fire. Born and raised in Canada, Lee is a black belt martial artist, a former corporate strategist, and action movie aficionado who now lives in Portland, Oregon.
THE HERETIC’S GUIDE TO HOMECOMING
Ashamed of his past and overwhelmed by his future, Ronoah Genoveffa Elizzi-denna Pilanovani feels too small for his name. He despairs of fulfilling his spiritual identity—until he begins a cross-continental pilgrimage with an otherworldly mentor. One part fantasy travelogue, one part emotional underworld journey, *The Heretic’s Guide to Homecoming* is a slow-burning story about stories and the way they shape our lives.

Sienna Tristen is the author of multiple-award-winning fantasy novel *The Heretic’s Guide to Homecoming*; she is one half of The Shale Project, a multimedia storytelling initiative “roughly in the shape of a planet”, dedicated to publishing healing and innovative fiction.

GODS, MONSTERS, AND THE LUCKY PEACH
Discover a shifting history of adventure as humanity clashes over whether to repair their ruined planet or luxuriate in a less tainted past. In 2267, Earth has just begun to recover from worldwide ecological disasters. Minh is part of the generation that first moved back up to the surface of the Earth to reclaim humanity’s ancestral habitat. She’s spent her entire life restoring river ecosystems, but lately Minh’s long-term restoration projects have stalled due to the invention of time travel. When she gets the opportunity to take a team to 2000 BC to survey the Tigris and Euphrates rivers, she jumps at the chance to uncover the secrets of the shadowy think tank that controls time travel technology.

Kelly Robson’s fiction has appeared in *Asimov’s Science Fiction*, and *Tor.com*. Her novella *Waters of Versailles* won the 2016 Aurora Award, and she has also been a finalist for the Nebula Award, World Fantasy Award, Theodore Sturgeon Award, Sunburst Award, and John W. Campbell Award for Best New Writer. She lives in Toronto.

FROGCATCHERS
A man wakes up alone in a strange room with no recollection of who he is or how he got there. This is—as he reads from an old-fashioned keychain beside his bed—the Edgewater Hotel. Even worse, something ominous seems to be lurking in one of the rooms. A haunted hotel on the edge of reality, an endless bridge spanning an infinite ocean, and a man and a boy looking for a way out. This is the setting for a boundary-pushing, genre-defying new work of fiction by one of comics’ master storytellers.

Jeff Lemire is the award-winning, *New York Times* bestselling author of such graphic novels as *Essex County*, *Sweet Tooth*, *The Secret Path* (with Gord Downie), and most recently, *Frogcatchers*. He lives in Toronto, with his family, and their troublesome pug, Lola. Find him online at @JeffLemire.

Presented in association with the Toronto Comic Arts Festival.
Two sagas featuring strong characters who are motivated to survive and thrive despite the odds. **Evan Winter** and **Nicholas Eames** birthed characters who were born into the battle, through familial ties or those ties stripped away.

**RAGE OF DRAGONS**

*Game of Thrones* meets *Gladiator* in this debut epic fantasy about a world caught in an eternal war, and the young man who will become his people’s only hope for survival. *The Rage of Dragons* launches a stunning and powerful debut epic fantasy series that readers are already calling the best fantasy book in years. • *Orbit*

Born in England to South American parents, **Evan Winter** was raised in Africa near the historical territory of his Xhosa ancestors. Evan has always loved fantasy novels, but when his son was born, he realized that there weren’t many epic fantasy novels featuring characters who looked like him. So, before he ran out of time, he started writing them.

**BLOODY ROSE**

Tam Hashford has always dreamed of living through glory days of her own. With a renowned mercenary for a mother and an illustrious bard for a father, battles and adventure seem the only way to really live. So when she learns that the most revered mercenary crew in Grandual is in need of a bard, she grabs her lute and goes on tour. Led by the infamous Bloody Rose, Tam and her new band embark on a mission that will earn them everlasting fame—or certain death. • *Little, Brown*

**Nicholas Eames** was born to parents of infinite patience and unstinting support in Wingham, Ontario. Though he attended college for theatre arts, he gave up acting to pursue the much more attainable profession of ‘epic fantasy novelist.’ *Kings of the Wyld* was his first novel.

**JADE WAR**

The Kaul siblings battle rival clans for honor and control over an Asia-inspired fantasy metropolis in *Jade War*, the sequel to the World Fantasy Award-winning novel *Jade City*. Faced with threats on all sides, the Kaul family is forced to form new and dangerous alliances, confront enemies in the darkest streets and the tallest office towers, and put honor aside in order to do whatever it takes to ensure their own survival—and that of all the Green Bones of Kekon. • *Orbit*

**Fonda Lee** is the World Fantasy Award-winning author of *Jade City* and the award-winning YA science fiction novels *Zeroboxer*, *Exo*, and *Cross Fire*. Born and raised in Canada, Lee is a black belt martial artist, a former corporate strategist, and action movie aficionado who now lives in Portland, Oregon.
While navigating paranoia and control through digital devices and the darkweb, Cory Doctorow and Karl Schroeder’s characters are fighting for their lives and the lives of others.

**Radicalized**

Told through one of the most on-pulse genre voices of our generation, *Radicalized* is a timely collection consisting of four SF novellas connected by social, technological, and economic visions of today and what America could be in the near, near future. • Tor Books

Cory Doctorow is a coeditor of *Boing Boing*, a special consultant to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an MIT Media Lab Research Associate and a visiting professor of Computer Science at the Open University. His award-winning novel *Little Brother* and its sequel *Homeland* were a *New York Times* bestsellers. Born and raised in Toronto, he lives in Los Angeles.

**Stealing Worlds**

Sura Neelin is on the run from her creditors, from her past, and father’s murderers. She can’t get a job or a place to live, she can’t even walk down the street: the total surveillance society that is mid-21st century America means that every camera and pair of smart glasses is her enemy.

But she might have a chance in the alternate reality of the LARP games. She just needs an introduction, and the skills to play. Turns out, she has very valuable skills, and some very surprising friends. • Tor Forge

Karl Schroeder lives in Toronto, Canada with his wife and daughter. He is the author of *New York Times* Notable book *Ventus*, and acclaimed Virga steampunk space opera series. A member of the Association of Professional Futurists, Karl consults and speaks about the future as well as writing about it.

**Teen Reads: Fantasy**

Elly Blake, J.M. Frey and Kate Story bring you teens who have a lot on their plates. Ruby and Robin are prisoners of wars they’ve become major players in, gaining momentum and power amongst a colourful cast of comrades and lovers. Ophelia and Rowan are on a path of survival and self-discovery, working to save themselves and two worlds. Join these authors in conversation about their young heroes.
**ACROSS THE UNIVERSE**

**NIGHTBLOOD**
The explosive finale of the *New York Times* bestselling *Frostblood Saga*, perfect for fans of *Red Queen* and *A Court of Thorns and Roses*, now in paperback. • *Little, Brown/HBG*

Elly Blake is the *New York Times* bestselling author of *Frostblood*, *Fireblood*, and *Nightblood*. She lives in Southwestern Ontario with her husband, kids, and a Siberian Husky mix that definitely shows frostblood tendencies. Find her online at EllyBlake.com or @elly_blake.

**THE SKYLARK’S SACRIFICE**
Robin Arianhod has been shot down, and is on the run. Trapped behind enemy lines, her only choice is to disappear inside the sprawling capital of Klonn, and use the mysterious rocket pack she stole from the enemy to end the decade-old war. Her vigilantism attracts the attention of more than just the city guards, though, and Robin finds herself embroiled in an underground Klonnish rebellion. But are the rebels really her allies, or are they using her as bait? And will the secrets of her former arch-nemesis end the war, or lead Robin and her allies to their deaths? • *REUTS Publications*

J.M. Frey is an author, screenwriter, and professional smartypants, and she’s appeared in podcasts, documentaries, and on radio and television to discuss all things geeky. Her debut novel *Triptych* was nominated for two Lambda Literary Awards, and garnered a place among the Best Books of 2011 from *Publishers Weekly*.

**ANTILIA: SEER AND SACRIFICE**
The fate of both worlds is in their hands... Rowan and Ophelia, separated and lost in Antilia, find that the magical land of their childhood dreams has been ravaged and divided. Ophelia navigates a labyrinth of psychic peril; Rowan learns the fighter’s survival. Can the Chosen come into their power, turn Antilia and Earth from destruction, and find the courage to stand against the forces of oppression and hate? *Seer and Sacrifice* brings the Antilia chronicles to a gripping conclusion. • *ChiZine Publications*

Kate Story is a recipient of the K.M. Hunter Award for her work in theatre. Her novel, *This Insubstantial Pageant*, was ranked a “top science-fiction read” by the *Toronto Star*. *Antilia: Sword and Song* is her first YA fantasy novel. Its sequel, *Antilia: Seer and Sacrifice*, was released in July.
A collection of ten short fiction stories from a wide range of local sci-fi authors, Toronto 2033 speculates how the city and its residents will deal with numerous challenges: heat waves and rising lake water, gated neighbourhoods and suspicious neighbours, and memories of a global pandemic that tinge everyday interactions. Digital artist Mathew Borrett brings to life each story with ten remarkable illustrations of a future Toronto. Published by Spacing. Moderated by Editor Jim Munroe.

Jim Munroe is a “pop culture provocateur” according to the Austin Chronicle. His novels have been praised by comics legend Neil Gaiman, his lo-fi sci-fi feature films by Wired and The Guardian, and his videogames have appeared at Sundance and Cannes. www.jimmunroe.net

Zainab Amadahy is of mixed race background that includes African-American, Cherokee, Seminole, Portuguese, Amish, Polynesian, and other trace elements (if DNA testing is accurate). She is an author of screenplays, nonfiction and futurist fiction, the most notable being the adequately written yet somehow cult classic Moons of Palmares. Based in peri-apocalyptic Toronto, Zainab is the mother of three grown sons and a cat who allows her to sit on one section of the couch.

Madeline Ashby is a science fiction writer, futurist, speaker, and immigrant living in Toronto. She is represented by Anne McDermid & Associates, and UTA. She has worked with Intel Labs, the Institute for the Future, SciFutures, Nesta, Data & Society, The Atlantic Council, the ASU Center for Science and the Imagination, Changeist, and others. Her essays have appeared at BoingBoing, io9, WorldChanging, Creators Project, Arcfinity, MISC Magazine, and FutureNow. She is the author of the Machine Dynasty novels. Her novel Company Town was a Canada Reads finalist. madelineashby.com @madashby

Mathew Borrett is an artist living and working in Toronto. He has worked as an illustrator and as an environment concept artist in the film and TV industry. He has contributed numerous illustrations to Spacing since the magazine launched in 2003. web: mathewborrett.com
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**CONCERT STAGE**

**SHARON & BRAM PRESENT SKINNAMARINK  11:00AM – 11:45AM**

Sharon Hampson, the late Lois Lilienstein (d. 2015), and Bram Morrison are among Canada’s most famous children’s performers. The trio, known simply as Sharon, Lois and Bram, formed in Toronto in 1978 and went on to create two children’s television shows, most notably The Elephant Show, and to release 21 full-length albums. Though Lois died in 2015, Sharon and Bram have worked with Sharon’s daughter Randi and illustrator Qin Leng to turn their famous song Skinnamarink into a picture book. • Tundra/PRHC

Based on the classic folk song made famous by a beloved trio of children’s entertainers, this picture book is best sung aloud! “Skinnamarink” is a timeless anthem of love and inclusion. Join Sharon and Bram for a special performance to celebrate this exciting new book.

**FROM WHERE I STAND  12:15PM – 1:00PM**


**Steve Paikin** is the anchor of TVO’s flagship current affairs program, The Agenda with Steve Paikin. A native of Hamilton, Ont., Steve received his bachelor of arts degree from the University of Toronto (Victoria University, 1981) and his master’s degree in broadcast journalism from Boston University.

*From Where I Stand* is a timely, forthright, and optimistic book for all Canadians. Drawn from speeches made over a ten-year period, Jody Wilson-Raybould’s inspiring prose outlines the actions that must be taken—by governments, Indigenous Nations, and ordinary Canadians—to achieve true reconciliation in this country. The good news is that Indigenous Nations already have the solutions. Now it is time to act and build a shared future based on the foundations of trust, cooperation, good governance, and recognition. Removing the barriers that are keeping these solutions from being put into effect will not only empower Indigenous Peoples—it will enrich all Canadians and make Canada stronger. • UBC Press

**Jody Wilson-Raybould** is a lawyer, advocate, and a proud Indigenous Canadian. She was Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations for British Columbia from 2009 to 2015 and was elected as Member of Parliament for Vancouver Granville in 2015. She was appointed the Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada, making her the first Indigenous person to serve in this portfolio.
Comedic innovators such as Aurora Browne (THE BARONESS VON SKETCH SHOW), and other special guests discuss the funny business of writing for stage, sit-coms, sketches, and more. Moderated by Norm Wilner of NOW Magazine.

A life-long Torontonian, Norman Wilner became the senior writer for NOW in early 2008. He hosts NOW’s free screenings at The Royal and TIFF’s Reel Talk: Sneak Previews at TIFF Bell Lightbox. He’s also the host of your new favourite podcast, Someone Else’s Movie someoneelsesmovie.com. Norm lives in Little Italy with his wife, the magnificent knitwear designer and author Kate Atherley, and their terrible dog.
Gwen Benaway is a Two-Spirited Trans poet of Anishinaabe and Métis descent. She has received many distinctions and awards, including the Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBTQ Emerging Writers. She is the author of two previous poetry collections and her latest book is *Holy Wild*. She lives in Toronto.

Cory Doctorow is a coeditor of *Boing Boing*, a special consultant to the Electronic Frontier Foundation, an MIT Media Lab Research Associate and a visiting professor of Computer Science at the Open University. His award-winning novel *Little Brother* and its sequel *Homeland* were New York Times bestsellers. Born and raised in Toronto, he lives in Los Angeles.

Ben Dugas is a Product Manager at Rakuten Kobo Inc and has lived in the world of ebooks for just over a decade. He used to work on improving content quality and content support and now focuses on matching products, disambiguating contributors and solving other data related problems.

Andreya Klobucar is the founding Editor-In-Chief of *Mimp Magazine*: a platform & annual print volume with an aim to celebrate the infinite imperfections of the women around us and within. An imaginative storyteller and entrepreneur experienced in Publishing and Creative Direction, Andreya’s work revolves around creating opportunities to amplify the voices of women with a vision for the future.
Joanne Vannicola grew up in a violent home with a physically abusive father and a mother who had no sexual boundaries. After being pressured to leave home at fourteen, and after fifteen years of estrangement, Joanne learns that her mother is dying. Compelled to reconnect, she visits with her, unearthing a trove of devastating secrets. Joanne relates her heartfelt journey from child performer to Emmy Award-winning actor, from hiding in the closet to embracing her own sexuality and independence. • Dundurn

Joanne Vannicola is an Emmy Award-winning actor and has been nominated four times for her work in television and film in her career. She is also the recipient of the Leslie Yeo award for Volunteerism, 2019. Vannicola started and is the chair of the first LGBTQ+ committee at ACTRA Toronto.

Spanning race, class and identity, Adnan Khan and Téa Mutonji have written pieces about young characters merely existing, trying, and the trouble it comes with. Moderated by Catherine Hernandez.

Catherine Hernandez is a queer Filipina femme, Navajo wife, radical mother, the artistic director of b current performing arts, and an award-winning author of multiple books and plays. Her debut novel Scarborough was shortlisted for the Trillium and Toronto Book Awards.

Omar Ali is a ticking time bomb. A phone call from his ex-girlfriend Anna’s father plunges him into darkness when he learns that she’s committed suicide. Clueless and hurting, Omar turns to violence and petty crime to cope. His nefarious activities catch the attention of the RCMP, who pressure him into becoming an informant at a mosque they suspect harbours a terrorist cell. Unravelling from insomnia, sorrow, and rage, Omar grasps at his last shred of hope, embarking on a quest to find the note he’s convinced Anna left for him. • Arsenal Pulp Press

Adnan Khan has written for VICE, the Globe and Mail, and Hazlitt. He has been nominated for a National Magazine Award and in 2016 won the RBC Taylor Emerging Writer Award. There Has to Be a Knife is his first novel. He lives in Toronto.
GREAT BOOKS MARQUEE

SHUT UP YOU’RE PRETTY

In Téa Mutonji’s disarming debut story collection, a woman contemplates her Congolese traditions during a family wedding, a teenage girl looks for happiness inside a pack of cigarettes, a mother reconnects with her daughter through their shared interest in fish, and a young woman decides to shave her head in the waiting room of an abortion clinic. These punchy, sharply observed stories blur the lines between longing and choosing, exploring the narrator’s experience as an involuntary one. • ARSENAL PULP PRESS

Téa Mutonji is an award-winning poet and writer. Born in Congo-Kinshasa, she now lives and writes in Scarborough, Ontario where she was named emerging writer of the year (2017) by the Ontario Book Publishers Organization.

DAYS BY MOONLIGHT

Botanist Alfred Homer, ever hopeful and constantly surprised, is invited on a road trip by his parents’ friend, Professor Morgan Bruno, who wants company as he tries to unearth the story of the mysterious poet John Skennen. But this is no ordinary road trip. Alfred and the Professor encounter towns where Black residents speak only in sign language and towns that hold Indigenous Parades; it is a land of house burnings, werewolves, and witches. • COACH HOUSE BOOKS

André Alexis was born in Trinidad and grew up in Canada. Fifteen Dogs won the 2015 Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize. His other books include Pastoral, The Hidden Keys, and, Asylum. His most recent book is Days by Moonlight.

STRONG YOUNG GALS

Against the odds, these young female protagonists fight a history echoing through their present. With strength and power, Lilian Nattel and Valentina Gal build worlds for their characters to rise above expectations and flourish.

GIRL AT THE EDGE OF SKY

Lily Litvyak is no one’s idea of a fighter pilot: a tiny, dimpled teenager with golden curls who lied about her age in order to fly. But in the crucible of the air war against the German invaders, she becomes that rare thing—a flying ace, glorified at home and around the world as the White Lily of Stalingrad. Girl at the Edge of Sky is a masterwork of the imagination, subtle and bold all at once, bringing us deep into the precarious life of a remarkable woman who lies to fight for the country that would disown her, and then lies to survive the enemy that would annihilate her. • RANDOM HOUSE CANADA

Born in Montreal, Lilian Nattel now lives in Toronto with her husband and two daughters. She is the author of The River Midnight, The Singing Fire, and Web of Angels.
PHILIPOVNA: DAUGHTER OF SORROW

*Philipovna: Daughter of Sorrow* is a creative non-fiction based on the author’s mother’s surviving the holodomor [the Ukrainian starvation]. No one foresees the horrors that her family will have to face between the fall of 1930 and the spring of 1933. In the end, out of a healthy extended family, only Philipovna, a cousin and an aunt survive. The acts of real savagery that are perpetrated on the village are unflinchingly narrated by a pre-pubescent girl, who also gives us a good grasp of the beauty and richness of the Ukrainian culture with its superstitions, customs and celebrations. • Guernica (MIROLAND)

Valentina Gal is the blind daughter of Ukrainian immigrants who settled in Hamilton Ontario after WWII. While at McMaster University, she discovered that her city was diverse and peopled by colourful characters. Her writing and storytelling explore both her mother’s tragic history and her family’s adventures in becoming first generation Canadians.

1:00PM – 1:30PM GRAPHIC MAESTROS: ART AND STORYTELLING

Chris Kuzma and Ness Lee take us through the creative process of telling stories through art. Moderated by Andrew Townsend.

LUNCH QUEST

Have you ever been looking for your lettuce, but instead you find skate kids shredding the moon, bunny gladiators astride bumpy frogs, and dance party dance-offs so twisty they put a bag of pretzels to shame? No? Then dig into this collection of comic vignettes to find what you’ve been missing. • Koyama Press

Chris Kuzma is an artist living in Toronto, ON with his wife, two children and their cat. He divides his time between drawing comics, doing freelance illustration and teaching at OCAD University. He is one-third of the Wowee Zonk comics collective. This is his first all-ages graphic novel.

DEATH THREAT

In the fall of 2017, the acclaimed writer and musician Vivek Shraya began receiving vivid and disturbing transphobic hate mail from a stranger. Celebrated artist Ness Lee brings these letters and Shraya’s responses to them to startling life in *Death Threat*, a comic book that, by its existence, becomes a compelling act of resistance. • Arsenal Pulp Press

Ness Lee is an illustrator/artist based in Toronto. Her work has appeared in award publications such as American Illustration 35 and the Society of Illustrators 57. She has exhibited at galleries in Toronto, New York, Boston and Tokyo. She has a Bachelors of Design degree in Illustration from OCAD.

*Presented in association with the Toronto Comic Arts Festival.*
There are always individuals with powerful desire, a need to control, and who must wrestle the subsequent consequences. Adam Foulds and Lynn Coady explore two differently dangerous characters in these chilling tales.

**DREAM SEQUENCE**

Henry Banks, star of the UK’s most popular television series, has higher aspirations, ones befitting of his talent: a serious film career, beginning with a role in a brilliant Spanish director’s next movie. To make the jump to the big screen, he’ll have to remake himself in more than one way. Meanwhile, Kristin, an unstable American fan, has her own ambitions. Dream Sequence is a moving depiction of desire and delusion and the unsettling consequences of fame. • BIBLIOASIS

Adam Foulds is a poet and novelist from London, England, now living in Toronto. He has been the recipient of many literary awards, including the European Union Prize For Literature. His 2009 novel, The Quickening Maze, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Dream Sequence is his fourth novel.

**WATCHING YOU WITHOUT ME**

Scotiabank Giller Prize–winning author Lynn Coady delivers a creepy and wholly compelling novel about the complex relationship between mothers and daughters and sisters, women and men, and who to trust and how to trust in a world where the supposedly selfless act of caregiving can camouflage a sinister self-interest. • HOUSE OF ANANSI

Lynn Coady is the critically acclaimed and award-winning author of six books, including Hellgoing, which won the Scotiabank Giller Prize, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize, and was an Amazon.ca and Globe and Mail Best Book. Coady lives in Toronto and writes for television.

**TEEN READS: OPENING UP**

Young characters struggling with their own sense of identity while managing the identities of those around them. Experiences of betrayal, shifting gender identity, and caring for parents as children inform Brian Francis and Heather Smith’s characters.
BREAK IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

After Toby’s mother dies by suicide, Toby becomes convinced that she is destined to follow in her path. While hatching a plan to escape her pain, her long-estranged father announces he’d like to meet her. She soon learns that not only is he gay, he’s also a world-famous female impersonator and a temperamental man-child ill-prepared to be a real parent. As Toby is forced to rebuild the life she thought she knew, it is only through the support of a quirky circle of friends and family that she can finally put together the many different pieces that make up her past, present, and future. • HarperCollins

Brian Francis is the author of two previous novels. His most recent, Natural Order, was selected by the Toronto Star, Kobo, and Georgia Straight as a Best Book of the Year. His first novel, Fruit, was a Canada Reads finalist and was selected as a Barnes and Noble Discover Great New Writers title. He lives in Toronto.

CHICKEN GIRL

Poppy used to be an optimist until a photo of her is mocked online. Disillusioned, Poppy trades her beloved vintage clothes for a feathered chicken costume and a job as an anonymous sign waver outside a restaurant. There, Poppy meets six-year-old Miracle, who helps Poppy see beyond her own pain and opens her eyes to the people around her. As the summer unfolds, Poppy stops glorifying the past and starts focusing on the present. But just as she comes to terms with the fact that there is good and bad in everyone, she is tested by a deep betrayal. • Penguin Teen

Heather Smith is originally from Newfoundland, and now lives in Waterloo, Ontario, with her husband and three children. Her east coast roots inspire much of her writing. Her previous novel, The Agony of Bun O’Keefe, received a starred review from Kirkus and Quill & Quire.

2:45PM – 3:15PM

Every Little Piece of Me

From the bestselling author of We’re All in This Together comes a novel about family, friendship, fame, and the cost of living in the public eye—because when everyone suddenly knows your name, it’s easy to forget who you really are. • McClelland & Stewart

Amy Jones’s first novel, We’re All in This Together, was a national bestseller and a finalist for the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. Originally from Halifax, she lived in Thunder Bay for many years before moving to Toronto. Every Little Piece of Me is her second novel.
Journey Prize winner **Naben Ruthnum** writes fiction under the pseudonym **Nathan Ripley**. His first novel, *Find You in the Dark*, was an instant bestseller, and his nonfiction book, *Curry: Eating, Reading, and Race* was critically acclaimed and one of the *Globe and Mail*’s best books of 2017. Ruthnum lives in the Parkdale neighbourhood of Toronto.

**CHOP SUEY NATION**

*Chop Suey Nation: The Legion Cafe and Other Stories from Canada’s Chinese Restaurants* is a travelogue, culinary investigation, family memoir and cultural commentary. Driving across Canada, from Victoria, BC to Fogo Island, Newfoundland, Ann Hui writes about small-town Chinese restaurants and the families who run them. The road trip reveals a family’s secret—her parents had run a Chinese restaurant, The Legion Cafe, before she was born. By the end of her journey Hui has a new appreciation for the importance of these restaurants in the country’s history, making the case for the quintessentially Canadian nature of chop suey cuisine. •

**EDIBLE FAMILIAL TENSION**

In these debut collections from **Zalika Reid-Benta** and **Derek Mascarenhas**, both writers craft a series of beautiful short stories about familial relationships, intergenerational trauma, being racially othered, and trying to exist in a way that makes sense.

**FRYING PLANTAIN**

Set in Toronto’s “Little Jamaica” neighbourhood, *Frying Plantain* follows one young girl from elementary school to high school graduation in twelve interconnected stories that expose the tensions between mothers and daughters, second-generation Canadians and first-generation cultural expectations, and Black identity and predominantly white society. •

**Ann Hui** has been the *Globe and Mail*’s national food reporter since 2015, using food as a lens to explore public policy, health, the environment, and agriculture. She has twice been nominated for National Newspaper Awards. *Chop Suey Nation* is her first book.

**Zalika Reid-Benta** is a Toronto-based writer whose work has appeared on *CBC Books*, in *TOK: Writing the New Toronto*, and in *Apogee Journal*. She received an M.F.A. in fiction from Columbia University in 2014 and is an alumnus of the 2017 Banff Writing Studio.
COCONUT DREAMS
In Coconut Dreams Derek Mascarenhas takes a fresh look at the world of the new immigrant and the South Asian experience in Canada. Through seventeen linked stories, the lives of the Pinto family are explored. Starting with a ghost story set in Goa, India in the 1950s, the collection weaves through various timelines and perspectives to focus on two siblings, Aiden and Ally Pinto, who tackle their adventures in a predominantly white suburb with innocence, intelligence and a timid foot in two distinct cultures. • Book*hug Press

Derek Mascarenhas is a graduate of University of Toronto’s School of Continuing Studies Creative Writing Program. Derek is one of four children born to parents who emigrated from Goa, India, and settled in Burlington. Derek currently resides in Toronto. Coconut Dreams is his first book.

4:30PM – 5:00PM BODIES IN DANGER
Surreal situations of bodily anxiety, internal threats, external pressure. Andrew Kaufman and Andrew Wilmot take the readers along for a visceral rollercoaster ride.

THE TICKING HEART
One night Charlie shares a cab with a stranger. Smoke envelopes him and he wakes up to find himself in the Epiphany Detective Agency. Charlie is trapped in Metaphoria, a place where everything means something else. His first client insists on hiring him to find her husband’s heart. She’s so insistent that she replaces his heart with a bomb. He has twenty-four hours to find her husband’s heart or it will explode. The new book by the author of the cult hit, All My Friends Are Superheroes. • Coach House Books

Andrew Kaufman lives and writes in Toronto. He is the author of international bestseller All My Friends are Superheroes, The Waterproof Bible, The Tiny Wife, and Born Weird, which was named a Best Book of the Year by the Globe and Mail. The Ticking Heart is his latest book.

THE DEATH SCENE ARTIST
A compelling narrative interspersed with blog fragments and film scripts, The Death Scene Artist is a three-act surrealist exploration of the obsessive fault-finding of body dysmorphia, the internal conflict of gender dysphoria and the dangerous desires of a man who has lived several hundred half-minute lives without having ever experienced his own. • Wolsak & Wynn

Andrew Wilmot is a writer, painter and editor, living in Toronto. He is an academic editor, specializing in matters of body dysmorphia and eating disorders. He is also co-publisher and co-EIC of the online magazine Anathema: Spec from the Margins. The Death Scene Artist is his first novel.
**HOSTS**

Nancy Cooper is from the Chippewas of Rama First Nation in southern Ontario. She works at the Southern Ontario Library Service in Toronto as the First Nation consultant.

Tyler (Ty) J Sloane (they/them) is a twenty-five-year-old Two-Spirit Non-Binary Mixed Race (Anishinaabe/Chinese/Greek/Irish) multidisciplinary theatre/performance artist. They aim to emphasize marginalized voices that intersect: race; fluid sexualities; trans, non-binary, and fluid gender expressions; non-monogamous relationships; and class. They’ve explored the aforementioned themes in various disciplines including photography, visual art, and theatre.

**OPENING CEREMONY 10:30AM – 11:00AM**

Reconciliation in Canada is part of our vision as an organization. We hope the dialogue inspired on this stage guides us on a pathway to bridge relationships between the Indigenous and non-Indigenous nations on Turtle Island. We are humbled and thankful to have have Elder Whabagoon open this space, marking our continued commitments to a path towards reconciliation and inclusivity.

**TEEN READS: JUST LUCKY 11:00AM – 11:30AM**

Lucky loves her grandparents. True, her grandma forgets things…like Lucky’s name, but her grandpa takes such good care of them that Lucky doesn’t realize how bad things are. When her grandma accidentally sets the kitchen on fire, Lucky can’t hide what’s happening any longer, and she is sent into foster care. She quickly learns that some foster families are okay. And some really, really aren’t. Is it possible to find a home again when the only one you’ve ever known has been taken from you? • Second Story Press

Melanie Florence is an award-winning writer of Cree and Scottish heritage. She is the author of the picture books *Stolen Words* and *Missing Nimama*. She has authored several YA novels including *The Missing*, *He Who Dreams*, and *Just Lucky*. Melanie lives with her husband and two children in Toronto.

**YOU ARE ENOUGH: LOVE POEMS FOR THE END OF THE WORLD 11:30AM – 12:00PM**

In his debut poetry collection *you are enough: love poems for the end of the world*, Smokii Sumac addresses the grief of being an Indigenous person in Canada, shares timely (and sometimes hilarious) musings on consent, sex, and gender, and through it all, helps us come to know that we are enough, just as we are. *you are enough* won the 2019 Indigenous Voices Award in Published Poetry in English. • Kegedonce Press
Smokii Sumac is a Ktunaxa two spirit and transgender poet and a PhD Candidate in Indigenous Studies at Trent University. Smokii’s debut poetry collection, *you are enough: love poems for the end of the world* (Kegedonce Press) won the Indigenous Voices Award for published poetry in 2019.

12:00PM – 12:30PM

**THIS PLACE: 150 YEARS RETOLD**

Explore the past 150 years through the eyes of Indigenous creators in this groundbreaking graphic novel anthology. Beautifully illustrated, these stories are an emotional and enlightening journey through magic realism, serial killings, psychic battles, and time travel. See how Indigenous peoples have survived a post-apocalyptic world since Contact. • Portage & Main

Kateri Akiwenzie-Damm is a writer, poet, spoken-word performer, librettist, publisher, and activist from the Saugeen Ojibway Nation. Kateri has written books of poetry, was a contributor to the graphic novel anthology *This Place*, was editor of the award-winning *Skins*, has been published internationally, and performed and spoken around the world.

*Presented in association with the Toronto Comic Arts Festival.*

12:30PM – 1:00PM

**CHASING PAINTED HORSES**

*Chasing Painted Horses* is the magical story of four unlikely friends who live in Otter Lake, a reserve north of Toronto. Mom sets up a little home art contest, and Danielle, a small and quiet girl from school, draws a breathtakingly beautiful horse. The reactions to her work set in motion a series of events that will shape the children’s lives, and fundamentally changes how they look at their world. • Cormorant Books

An Ojibway from the Curve Lake First Nations in Ontario, Drew Hayden Taylor is an award-winning playwright (with over 70 productions of his work), a journalist/columnist (appearing regularly in several Canadian newspapers and magazines), short-story writer, novelist and tv screenwriter.

1:00PM – 1:30PM

**FROM THE ASHES**

In this extraordinary and inspiring debut memoir, Jesse Thistle, once a high school dropout and now a rising Indigenous scholar, chronicles his life on the streets and how he overcame trauma and addiction to discover the truth about who he is. *From the Ashes* is a remarkable memoir about hope and resilience, and a revelatory look into the life of a Métis-Cree man who refused to give up. • Simon & Schuster
The First Nation Communities READ (FNCR) program began in 2003 and celebrates the best of Indigenous Literature on Turtle Island. It was launched and is still maintained by the First Nation Public Library community in Ontario. Each year publishers and authors nominate books that have been created by First Nation, Metis, and/or Inuit people. A jury of First Nation librarians choose the selected title along with a short list of four books in the Children’s and YA/Adult categories. The creators of the selected title are the recipients of the Periodical Marketers of Canada Indigenous Literature Award and each receive $3000. For more information, visit sols.org.

A treaty is a contract. A treaty is enduring. A treaty is an act of faith. A treaty at its best is justice. It is a document and an undertaking. It is connected to place, people and self. It is built on the past, but it also indicates how the future may unfold. In this far-ranging work, Ruffo documents his observations on life—and in the process, his own life—as he sets out to restructure relationships and address obligations nation-to-nation, human-to-human, human-to-nature. • Wolsak & Wynn

Armand Garnet Ruffo was born and raised in northern Ontario and draws upon his Ojibwe heritage for much of his writing. A multi-genre writer, he is the author of Grey Owl: The Mystery of Archie Belaney and Norval Morrisseau: Man Changing into Thunderbird. He lives in Kingston, Ontario.

Since coming home to her First Nation reserve after losing her father, Hazel has been dreaming of an old crow, an Algonquin demigod named Nanabush. She soon learns the quarry that’s been lying unsullied for over a century on her father’s property is stirring the old magic that crosses the boundaries between this world and the next. With the help of the trickster Nanabush, Hazel must unravel a web of deceit that, if left untouched, could destroy her family and her home on both sides of the Medicine Wheel. • HarperCollins

Karen McBride is an Algonquin Anishinaabe writer from the Timiskaming First Nation in the territory that is now Quebec. She holds a bachelor of arts in music and English, a bachelor of education from the University of Ottawa and a master of arts in creative writing from the University of Toronto. Karen works as an elementary school teacher on her home reserve. Crow Winter is her first novel.
Five hundred years of colonization have taken an incalculable toll on the Indigenous peoples of the Americas: substance use disorders and shockingly high rates of depression, diabetes, and other chronic health conditions brought on by genocide and colonial control. With passionate logic and chillingly clear prose, Suzanne Methot uses history, human development, and her own and others’ stories to trace the roots of Indigenous cultural dislocation and community breakdown in an original and provocative examination of the long-term effects of colonization. Methot also shows how we can come back from this with Indigenous ways of knowing lighting the way. • ECW Press

Suzanne Methot is a Nehiyaw (Cree) writer, editor, educator, and community worker born in Vancouver, British Columbia, and raised in Peace River, Alberta. She has worked in the non-profit sector, in the classroom, and in advocacy and direct-service positions in Indigenous community–based agencies. She currently lives in Toronto, Ontario.

An essential contribution to Internet activism and a must read for Indigenous educators, A Digital Bundle frames digital technology as an important tool for self-determination and idea sharing, ultimately contributing to Indigenous resurgence and nation building. By defining Indigenous Knowledge online in terms of “digital bundles,” Jennifer Wemigwans elevates both cultural protocol and cultural responsibilities, grounds online projects within Indigenous philosophical paradigms, and highlights new possibilities for both the Internet and Indigenous Communities. • University of Regina Press

Jennifer Wemigwans is Anishnaabekwe (Ojibwe/Potawatomi) from Wikwemikong First Nation and President of Invert Media. She is an assistant professor at the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education (OISE) at University of Toronto.

We are humbled and thankful to have Elder Whabagoon close the day with ceremony, and view it as a call to action to continue working towards reconciliation on Turtle Island—home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples with long histories on this land and who continue to honour us with their stories today.
## THE LOVE LETTERING PROJECT  11:15AM – 12:00PM

The Love Lettering Project is a community engagement project that asks participants to write anonymous letters about what they love about where they live and hide them for strangers to find. Lindsay Zier-Vogel has toured the project around the UK, Canada’s north, the US and recently travelled to Brazil.

## CREE  12:15PM – 1:00PM

Join Brenda Wastasecoot for an engaging lesson in Cree, and take some knowledge home to share.

## VALLUM: METAPHOR MACHINE WITH ADAM SOL  1:15PM – 2:00PM

We’re going to create a metaphor machine for use in poetry, prose, and tax forms. Children, adults, amateurs, professionals, late-comers and security personnel are all welcome! Through a series of creative games, this workshop will stretch participants’ understanding of how to use, enjoy, and experiment with metaphor.


## ANISHINAABEMOWIN  2:15PM – 3:00PM

Listen as Albert Owl illustrates stories in Anishinaabemowin live onstage, and learn new vocabulary along the way.

## MOHAWK  3:15PM – 4:00PM

Join Mitchel Mittelstaedt for an engaging lesson in Mohawk, and take some knowledge home to share.

## FEELS ZINE  4:15PM – 5:00PM

Join the team behind Feels for an interactive writing workshop in accessing our emotional selves and expressing vulnerability. Explore how to ask yourself questions in a different way and hone in on the core of your feelings through writing.
Join Our Authors at Word on the Street!

Stop by our booth for 30% off the hottest new releases!

THE HOLY TRINITY
THREE IN ONE
Unveiling God’s presence In The Bible

By Tommy C. Seay Sr.
www.tommyceseay.com
Published by Xlibris Publishing Company

“Seay’s book is thorough...And for certain Christians who are ready for intense Bible study in this tradition, this book may offer new insights into familiar stories.”

The Sacramental Book Review

Once you pick this book up and begin to read, you will not be able to put it down. Visit your online or local bookstores today!
Sophia Smith is a saxophone and woodwind player, composer, and educator based in Toronto. Sophia’s work as a musician ranges from section player to band leader in many styles. Her modern jazz group, The Sophia Smith Quartet, is releasing their debut album this fall. Sophia studied classical performance at Wilfrid Laurier University before attending Humber College for jazz and commercial music.

Ben Duff on bass.

Andrew Chung is a violinist from Toronto who has studied jazz at Humber College. Andrew has performed at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity for the past year and will be performing jazz violin in Toronto.

Robert Lee is an upright bassist, composer, and bandleader in Toronto. He is a graduate from the University of Guelph and Humber College. Robert participated in the Spectrum Music New Voices Composers residency and attended the Keep an Eye Summer Workshop in the Netherlands. He was featured on Jazzology on JAZZFM91.

GULNARA – 1001 ARABIAN NIGHTS

Dawne McFarlane’s Scottish grandfather told her there were faeries in the apple tree when she was wee. Since then she has been telling stories around campfires, kitchen tables, in classrooms and at international festivals. She teaches the art and craft of storytelling to teachers in Canada and abroad, and is the Artistic Director of the Toronto Storytelling Festival.

Maryem Hassan Tollar is a renowned Egyptian-Canadian vocalist, known for her world music performances as well as original compositions. She performs with Turkwaz, whose recording “Nazar” was nominated for a 2017 Juno award for World Music Album of the year. Maryem was the featured vocalist in Tafelmusik’s production of “Tales of Two Cities: The Leipzig-Damascus Coffee Houses” www.turkwaz.ca

Presented in partnership with Storytelling Toronto.
TRADITIONAL FOLKTALES

Lynn Torrie is a member of the York Storytelling Guild and a regular host of Storytelling Toronto's Storytent, where she indulges her passion for traditional folk tales. Her original adaptations have been told at the Toronto Storytelling Festival, the Ottawa Signature Series, and Guelph’s Tea ‘n Tales. When not telling stories herself, she teaches workshops in storytelling and coaches emerging tellers.

Brian Walsh is a professional Storyteller with a background in spiritual care, psychotherapy, world religions, and Celtic studies. Usually specializing in stories from Celtic Mythology, Brian is especially interested in sacred stories as vehicles for healing, wisdom, and building deeper relationships, all while having some fun along the way.

www.brianwalsh.ca

12:30PM – 1:30PM SPOKEN WORD SHOWCASE WITH THE 2019 TORONTO POETRY SLAM TEAM

The 2019 Toronto Slam Team is comprised of what makes Toronto so unique: vibrancy and voice. An amalgamation of new and established artists, this year’s team consists of AG, Gavin, Prince, and d_tha_poet. A wonderful mix of culture, identity, humor, politics, and humanity await any audience who witnesses them perform.

2:00PM – 2:30PM VOICE & GUITAR

Caity Gyorgy is a Calgary born vocalist based in Toronto who specializes in singing jazz. She is noted for her performances at events like The Toronto Jazz Festival, the Calgary Jazz Festival, and the TU Jazz Festival. Most recently she became the 2019 Grand Champion of the Calgary Stampede Talent Search. Her arrangements and compositions often feature her own vocal improvisation which sets her apart from other jazz singers. She is a thrill to watch.

Coming off of the release of his 2018 debut album, “The Right Place”, 21-year-old Sean Bertram is a formidable talent: a jaw-dropping young guitar-slinger who is equally comfortable in jazz, pop and rock, a singer with a pure voice and dizzying falsetto, and a songwriter who makes the craft look deceivingly easy.
EDEN NAMERI

Jewish lore abounds with tales about Chelm, the village of fools. Its inhabitants face their many dilemmas with persistence, pluck and their own peculiar logic. Travel to a faraway time and place, where common sense is rare indeed. • Eden Nameri tells tales of all kinds, with a particular affinity for stories rooted in Jewish tradition. Her renditions of Bible stories and other classic tales incorporate a mixture of original and traditional interpretation, along with plenty of personal perspective.

SAGE TYRTLE

When her son was born, Sage and her partner moved to a tent in the woods for two years. Until they ran into a monster. • Sage Tyrtle is a Professional Storyteller and Workshop Facilitator, featured on NPR, PRX, CBC, MacLean’s, Now Magazine, Toronto Star. Moth Story Slam Winner.

SARAH ABUŠARAR

"Times Were Different Then" are a collection of tales told by the storyteller’s father. His childhood stories about growing up in Palestine at the start of the occupation are stories of child poverty, childhood resistance, and refugees. “While my mother told me fairy tales, my father told me real life stories that also contained kings, brave young men, and monsters.” • Sarah Abušarar comes from a long line of storytellers on her paternal side. She tells stories to both adults and children. Sarah has told, both nationally and internationally, at various cultural centres, museums, art galleries, festivals, libraries, parks, and homes.

Presented in partnership with Storytelling Toronto.
This year’s finalists...

Be With: Letters to a Caregiver
Mike Barnes
Biblioasis

The Student
Cary Fagan
Freehand Books

Reproduction
Ian Williams
Random House
Canada

Theory
Dionne Brand
Knopf Canada

This Country of Mine
Didier Leclair
Trans. by Elaine Kennedy
Deux Voiliers Publishing

Diaspora Dialogues

at The Harbourfront Centre

Author Interviews

Saturday, September 21st
Leslie Shimotakahara • Rebecca Esehsah
Melanie Florence • Joanne Vannicola
Zalika Reid-Benta
Derek Mascarenhas
and more
FREE ADMISSION

Panel Discussions

Sunday, September 22nd
10 a.m. to 11 a.m.
'Writing while Black in CanLit'
w/ Whitney French, George Elliott Clarke + more
FREE ADMISSION

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
'Writing in the Age of ‘metoo’'
w/ Gems Benaonay, Tea Mutanga, SK. All + more
FREE ADMISSION

For more information visit: www.diasporadialogues.com
The 4th Poet Laureate of Toronto and the 7th Parliamentary/Canadian Poet Laureate, **George Elliott Clarke** is a pioneering scholar of African-Canadian literature. His recognitions include the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellows Prize, the Governor-General’s Award for Poetry, the Dartmouth Book Award for Fiction, and the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award.

**Whitney French** is a writer, storyteller and arts-educator. Her writing has been published in *Quill and Quire*, *Geist*, *Descant Magazine* and CBCbooks.ca. Her latest project is an anthology of creative non-fiction by Black Canadians called *Black Writers Matter* published through the University of Regina Press (2019).

**Sarah Hagi** is a writer of essays, journalism, criticism and branded content. Beyond writing, she has produced, developed and hosted online video content and has appeared on numerous radio programs and podcasts.

**The Student** is a portrait of a life in two snapshots. It’s 1957 and Miriam Moscowitz is starting her final year of university with unwavering ambition. She is a serious and passionate student of literature who studies hard, dates a young Jewish man with a good job, and is the apple of her father’s eye and the worry of her mother’s. But then, in a single moment, her dreams crumble around her. Unsure of how to break a path for herself, she begins a reckless affair with an American student obsessed with the civil rights clashes in the south. When the young man abandons her to join the movement back home, Miriam gets on a bus to follow him, no longer sure of anything in her life. Forty-eight years later, Miriam is about to witness her son’s wedding (a newly-legal, same-sex marriage). She climbs the stairs to her study to look at a book she had carried with her on a bus to Detroit. She reads the marginalia written in her young, minuscule handwriting. It is familiar and strange, embarrassing and exhilarating, and she wonders what the young person who had written all these words
almost half a century ago had to do with the old woman who read them now. *The Student* is a compassionate and compelling work of fiction that brings together two pivotal times in history. With its innovative structure, masterful prose, and intelligently crafted characters, this book illustrates how we are shaped by—and can eventually overcome—the constraints of the times we occupy. • FREEHAND BOOKS

**Cary Fagan** is also the author of six novels and three story collections for adults. His books include *A Bird’s Eye* (finalist for the Rogers Trust Fiction Prize, an Amazon.ca Best Book of the Year) and the story collection *My Life Among the Apes* (longlisted for the Giller Prize, Amazon.ca Best 100 Books of 2013). Cary was born and raised in Toronto, where he lives with his family.

Drawing on the author’s seven years of caring for his mother through Alzheimer’s, *Be With: Letters to a Caregiver* is what its title promises: four dispatches to an anonymous long-term caregiver. In brief passages that cast fresh light on what it means to live with dementia, Barnes shares trials, insights, solace—and, ultimately, inspiration. Meant to be a companion in waiting rooms, on bus routes, or while a loved one naps, *Be With* is a dippable source of clarity for harried readers who might only have time for a few lines or paragraphs. Mike Barnes writes with sensitivity and grace about fellowship, responsibility, and joyful relatedness—what it means to simply be with the people that we love. • BIBLIOASIS

**Mike Barnes**, a dual Canadian-American citizen, has published 11 books across a range of genres: poetry, short fiction, novels, and memoir. His poems have appeared in numerous anthologies, and his stories have appeared twice in Best Canadian Stories and three times in The Journey Prize Anthology. He has won a National Magazine Award Silver Medal in the short story category. His collection of poems, *Calm Jazz Sea*, was shortlisted for the Gerald Lampert Memorial Award; and *Aquarium*, his first collection of stories, won the Danuta Gleed Award. He has also published many essays, one of which, the photo-text collage “Asylum Walk”, won the Edna Staebler Award. His last novel, the neo-noir thriller *The Adjustment League*, was named by Maclean’s one of the 10 best books of 2016, and his recent nonfiction book, *Be With: Letters to a Caregiver*, has been praised by Margaret Atwood as “Timely, lyrical, tough, accurate.” He works as a private English tutor and lives in Toronto.
Dionne Brand’s literary credentials are legion. Her latest novel, Theory, won the 2019 OCM BOCAS Prize for Caribbean Literature, and was a Globe and Mail Best Book. Her latest poetry collection, The Blue Clerk, was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize and won the Trillium Book Prize. Her collection Ossuaries won the Griffin Poetry Prize, and other collections have won the Governor General’s Literary Award, the Trillium Book Award and the Pat Lowther Memorial Award. Among her novels, In Another Place, Not Here was selected as a NYT Book Review Notable Book and a Best Book by The Globe and Mail; At the Full and Change of the Moon was selected a Best Book by the LA Times; and What We All Long For won the Toronto Book Award in 2016. Brand was also awarded the 2016 Harbourfront Festival Prize for her contribution to the world of books and writing, and from 2009 to 2012 she served as Toronto’s third Poet Laureate. In 2017, she was named to the Order of Canada. Brand is a Professor in the School of English and Theatre Studies at the University of Guelph.

Apollinaire, a doctor in his tropical African homeland, works as a call centre agent in icy Toronto. Still seeing himself as a physician and hoping to obtain his licence to practice in Canada, he drives around at night in a borrowed taxicab, illegally treating the ill and ailing, while leaving his loved ones behind. The people he visits include a violent countryman, an AIDS victim who uses a storm lantern for lighting, a former torturer who loves Scrabble, and a host of other characters striving to understand what life means in this new country which is now their own. • DEUX VOILIERS PUBLISHING
Born in Montreal to Rwandan parents, Didier Leclair grew up in different African countries, including Gabon, Benin, Togo and Republic of the Congo. He returned to Canada in the late 1980s. The author of eight novels, he has won the Trillium Book Award and the Christine Dimitriu Van Saanen Book Prize. The original French version of his novel, Ce pays qui est le mien, translated by Deux Voiliers Publishing’s Elaine Kennedy as This Country of Mine, was a finalist for the Governor General’s Award for French-language Fiction in 2004.

In his debut novel, Reproduction, Ian Williams offers readers a funny, surprising and poignant exploration into the nature of family; those that we are born into and those we invent by love. Felicia and Edgar meet as their mothers are dying. Felicia, a teen from an island nation, and Edgar, the lazy heir of a wealthy German family, come together only because their mothers share a Toronto hospital room. This chance encounter begins a complicated relationship that stretches over decades and impacts the lives of those they become involved with. Through his dazzling language and incredible imagination, Williams ponders what it means to be part of a family in the modern world. • RANDOM HOUSE CANADA

Ian Williams is the author of Personals, shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize and the Robert Kroetsch Poetry Book Award; Not Anyone’s Anything, winner of the Danuta Gleed Literary Award for the best first collection of short fiction in Canada; and You Know Who You Are, a finalist for the ReLit Prize for poetry. He was named one of 10 Canadian writers to watch by CBC. Williams is currently assistant professor of poetry in the Creative Writing program at the University of British Columbia. He completed his doctorate in English at the University of Toronto under George Elliott Clarke. In 2014-2015, he was the Canadian Writer-in-Residence for the University of Calgary’s Distinguished Writers Program. He has held fellowships or residencies from Vermont Studio Center, the Banff Center, Cave Canem, and the National Humanities Center. Born in Trinidad, Williams grew up in Brampton, Ontario, and worked in Massachusetts and Toronto before moving to Vancouver.
In 2018, Molly Ringwald revisited her filmography and admitted that *The Breakfast Club* is “troubling” once reflected in the #MeToo era. In this panel, we will discuss how the movement has affected these authors’ writing processes, if at all, and whether or not the current conversations have made them appreciate or denounce books, movies and art they’ve loved in the past. Panelists include S.K. Ali, Gwen Benaway, and Téa Mutonji. Moderated by Aparitha Bhandari.

S. K. Ali is the author of YA novels, *Love from A to Z*, and the 2018 Morris award finalist, *Saints and Misfits*. She has a degree in Creative Writing and has written about Muslim life for various media, including the *Toronto Star* and *NBC News*. She lives in Toronto with her family.

Gwen Benaway is a Two-Spirited Trans poet of Anishinaabe and Métis descent. She has received many distinctions and awards, including the Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBTQ Emerging Writers. She is the author of two previous poetry collections and her latest book is *Holy Wild*.

Téa Mutonji is an award-winning poet and writer. Born in Congo-Kinshasa, she now lives and writes in Scarborough, Ontario where she was named emerging writer of the year (2017) by the Ontario Book Publishers Organization. *Shut Up You’re Pretty* is her first book.

Reading by Cary Fagan.

Reading by Mike Barnes.

Reading by Dionne Brand.

Reading by Didier Leclair.

Reading by Ian Williams.
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HOSTS

Dan Smith is the former Insight and Books editor at the Toronto Star and is the author of The Seventh Fire: The Struggle for Aboriginal Government.

Deborah Dundas is the Books Editor at the Toronto Star, and has been a journalist and reviewer at the Star and other publications for more than 20 years.

Bruce Campion-Smith is a reporter in the Toronto Star’s Ottawa bureau. He joined the Star in 1988 and has been a transportation beat reporter, assistant city editor and an editorial writer covering municipal politics. He joined the Ottawa bureau in 2003. The coming election will be his sixth federal campaign.

Susan Delacourt is a Toronto Star columnist who has written about federal politics for more than two decades as a reporter and bureau chief. She is a frequent guest on national radio and television political affairs programs.

Chantal Hébert, Toronto Star political columnist, cut her teeth in politics at Queen’s Park in the late seventies. Since then she has reported in French and in English on Canada’s constitutional and referendum wars, the 1988 free-trade debate, as well as the ups and downs of federal politics over the last 35 years.

Peter Howell is the movie critic for the Toronto Star. He’s also president of the Toronto Film Critics Association. Howell often discusses movies as a guest on radio and TV shows. He has been with the Star for 31 years, 21 of those as a member of the Star’s Entertainment Department.

FEDERAL ELECTION

The Star’s leading politics reporters cover Election Canada 2019. Join Ottawa bureau reporter Bruce Campion-Smith and political columnists Susan Delacourt and Chantal Hébert as they provide an in-depth analysis of the upcoming federal election.

TIFF & GLITTER

Movie critic Peter Howell and entertainment contributing columnist Shinan Govani discuss the hits and misses and glamour and glitter of this year’s Toronto International Film Festival.
Shinan Govani, a contributing columnist for the Toronto Star who was once dubbed “the go-to Canadian” by Page Six, is both social chronicler and pop culture decoder. He’s reported from Art Basel in Miami, fashion weeks in Milan and Paris and film festivals at Sundance, Cannes, and Toronto.

DOUG FORD AT ONE YEAR  1:00PM – 2:00PM

Join Queen’s Park Bureau Chief Robert Benzie, Queen’s Park columnist Martin Regg Cohn and Queen’s Park reporter Kristin Rushowy as they assess and evaluate Doug Ford and his administration after one tumultuous year in office.

Robert Benzie is Queen’s Park Bureau Chief for the Toronto Star. He is responsible for coordinating the provincial political coverage for the Star, which he joined in 2003. Benzie has covered countless elections and leadership contests at federal, provincial and municipal levels.

Martin Regg Cohn writes the Ontario politics column for the Toronto Star. A foreign correspondent for 11 years, he was chief of the Middle East and Asia bureaus, then Foreign Editor, and a world affairs columnist. He previously covered national politics from Ottawa.

Kristin Rushowy is a reporter in the Star’s Queen’s Park bureau. Prior to that, she spent 15 years on the education beat, with a focus on early years and the move to full-day kindergarten. She was a member of a Star team that won a National Newspaper Award.

WATERFRONT REVITALIZATION  2:00PM – 3:00PM

Join city columnist Edward Keenan and reporter Donovan Vincent as they discuss the revitalization of Toronto’s waterfront, exploring the transformation and the effects it will have on Torontonians by creating new places to live, work, learn and play.

Edward Keenan is a city columnist for the Toronto Star who has lived in the city all his life. His book Some Great Idea: Good Neighbourhoods, Crazy Politics, and the Invention of Toronto explores Toronto’s history and identity crisis in the years since amalgamation, and he is also the author of the children’s book The Art of the Possible: An Everyday Guide to Politics.

Donovan Vincent is a housing and civic affairs reporter with the Toronto Star. His areas of specialty are feature writing, particularly stories that have human interest themes. He has extensive experience covering municipal politics, having worked for several years out of the Star’s city hall bureau during then-mayor David Miller’s time in office.
Bastions of our literary city A.F. Moritz, Kevin Hardcastle, and Devyani Saltzman gather to discuss writers and writing in Toronto, moderated by Deborah Dundas.

A. F. Moritz has written nineteen books of poetry. His work has received the Griffin Poetry Prize, the Guggenheim Fellowship, the Award in Literature of the American Academy of Arts and Letters, Poetry magazine’s Bess Hokin Prize, the Ingram Merrill Fellowship, the ReLit Award, the Raymond Souster Award, and three shortlistings for the Governor General’s Literary Award. His Griffin Poetry Prize–winning collection The Sentinel was a Globe and Mail Top 100 of the Year, and his ReLit Award–winning Night Street Repairs was named one of forty-three “books of the decade” by the Globe and Mail in 2010.

Devyani Saltzman is a Canadian writer and curator with a deep interest in relevant multidisciplinary programming at the intersection between art, ideas and social change. She is the Director of Public Programming at the AGO, working across all disciplines and was the 2014-18 Director of Literary Arts at the Banff Centre as well as the Founding Curator, Literary Programming, at Luminato. Her work has appeared in the Globe and Mail, National Post, The Atlantic and Tehelka, India’s weekly of arts and investigative journalism.

Kevin Hardcastle is a fiction writer from Simcoe County, Ontario. He studied writing at the University of Toronto and Cardiff University. He was a finalist for the 2012 Journey Prize, and his stories have been published widely in Canada and anthologized internationally. Hardcastle’s debut short story collection, Debris, won the Trillium Book Award and the ReLit Award for Short Fiction. His novel, In The Cage, was published to critical acclaim in 2017, and was recently published in translation in France and Germany.

The Missing Millionaire tells the gripping true story of the disappearance of millionaire theatre impresario Ambrose Small from Toronto in 1919, which fascinated the city for decades and remains one of our great unsolved mysteries. • McClelland & Stewart

Katie Daubs is a reporter at the Toronto Star. A graduate of Carleton University, she won a William Southam Journalism Fellowship in 2016 and has been nominated for three National Newspaper Awards. Born in Forest, Ontario, she lives in Toronto. This is her first book.
**THEY CALL ME GEORGE: THE UNTOLD STORY OF BLACK TRAIN PORTERS**

4:10PM – 4:30PM

Smartly dressed and smiling, Canada’s Black train porters were a familiar sight to the average passenger—yet their minority status rendered them politically invisible. Their struggle against the racist Dominion laid the groundwork for the multicultural nation we know today. Drawing on the experiences of these influential Black Canadians, this book demonstrates the power of individuals and minority groups in the fight for social justice and shows how a country can change for the better. • Biblioasis

**Cecil Foster** is a leading author, academic, journalist, and public intellectual whose work highlights Black Canadians’ fight for social justice and human dignity. In particular, Foster addresses issues of immigration in his critical discussions of the evolving discourse around who is a Canadian.

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**HOUSE DIVIDED: HOW THE MISSING MIDDLE CAN SOLVE TORONTO’S AFFORDABILITY CRISIS**

4:30PM – 5:00PM

A citizen’s guide to making the big city a place where we can afford to live. Housing is increasingly unattainable in successful global cities, and Toronto is no exception—in part because of zoning that protects "stable" residential neighborhoods with high property values. House Divided is a citizen’s guide for changing the way housing can work in big cities.

**Cheryll Case** is the founding principal of CP Planning, an urban planning firm that digs into addressing the urban conditions that affect access to housing, work, and play. She specializes in designing inclusive conversations that build relationships between the non-profit, private, and public sector.

**John Lorinc** is a Toronto journalist and editor. He reports on urban affairs, politics, business, technology, and local history for a range of media, including the Globe and Mail, the Toronto Star, Walrus, Maclean’s, and Spacing, where he is senior editor.
We publish writing by artists, activists, and academics on decolonization, economic dignity, feminisms, queerness, pedagogies, language, migration, and artists’ rights. A special feature of ArtsEverywhere.ca, *The Curse of Geography* is an artistic journalism series that explores geographic isolation and social justice.

**My Boyfriend is a Peacekeeper** by Amanda Nedham
Lush graphite illustrations alongside surreal letters to a lover offer one side of a correspondence from the edge of conflict.

**Observer Data From Block 135 to 145 and 160 Rye Crescent** by Rosa Aiello
A surveillance entity observes and documents a single suburban residential block for 24 hours. A poetic exploration of privacy, voyeurism, and artificial intelligence.

**A Flash of Silver-Green: Stories of The Nature of Cities**
D Maddox, C Walker, and M Lovejoy, eds.
Introduction by Ursula K. Heise
Short stories set in 2099 that explore the city’s relationship to nature through science fiction, magic realism, and fantasy.
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Deborah Dundas is the Books Editor at the Toronto Star, and has been a journalist and reviewer at the Star and other publications for more than 20 years.


Susan G. Cole is a writer, editor and activist. She is the author of two books on violence against women, and is the editor of *Outspoken*, scenes and monologues from Canadian lesbian plays PlaywrightsCanada Press (2009). Her play, the comedy *A Fertile Imagination*, was nominated for two Dora Awards in Toronto. She lives with her partner in Toronto, where she is a cultural commentator and Books Editor at NOW Magazine.

**HOSTS**

**SPONSOR**

VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO

10:00AM – 10:30AM MOURNING ANTHOLOGY PANEL

Grief casts a shadow not only over life, but the possibility of grief’s very process. To communicate one’s mourning is to fall into all the paradoxes that surround loss, writing, and language. Can we write about loved ones lost, and how do we navigate the ethics not only of what we write, but how we write? When should we choose writing over silence? What language is left for the task? This book is a collective exploration of these questions through the forms of poetry, prose, and translation. • ART METROPOLE

Carl Abrahamsen, Akash Bansal, Benjamin de Boer, Jaclyn Bruneau, Adam Cavanaugh, Daniella Sanader and Fan Wu gathered in the summer of 2017 to collectively think and feel around the question of how to write the processes of mourning & grief. We launched our book *Mourning Anthology* in 2019.

10:30AM – 11:00AM TEEN READS: COMPLICATED LOVE

Star-crossed lovers, overcoming hurdles such as physical and temporal distance, familial pressure, cultural expectations, and personal boundaries. S.K. Ali and Tanaz Bhathena have crafted these beautiful trials of love and invite you to sit with them. Moderated by Melanie Florence.
LOVE FROM A TO Z
From William C. Morris Award Finalist S.K. Ali comes an unforgettable romance that is part The Sun Is Also a Star mixed with Anna and the French Kiss, following two Muslim teens who meet during a spring break trip. • SIMON & SCHUSTER

S. K. Ali is the author of YA novels, Love from A to Z, and the 2018 Morris award finalist, Saints and Misfits. She has a degree in Creative Writing and has written about Muslim life for various media, including the Toronto Star and NBC News. She lives in Toronto with her family.

THE BEAUTY OF THE MOMENT
New girl Susan is sharp and driven, and strives to meet her parents’ expectations. Bad boy Malcolm has had a reputation since he was fifteen. Susan hasn’t told anyone, but she wants to be an artist. Malcolm doesn’t know what he wants…until he meets her. Love is messy and families are messier, but in spite of their burdens, Susan and Malcolm fall for each other. The ways they drift apart and come back together are testimonies to family, culture, and being true to who you are. • PENGUIN TEEN

Tanaz Bhathena was born in India and raised in Saudi Arabia and Canada. Her acclaimed novel A Girl Like That was nominated for the White Pine Award and was named a Best Book of 2018 by numerous outlets. Her short stories have appeared in various journals including Blackbird, Witness and Room.

EMOTIONAL LANDSCAPES  
11:00AM – 11:30AM

Andrew Forbes and K.D. Miller bring us suites of short stories, sharing the same lonely tone, exploring later age, interpersonal justices and injustices, art, nature, and the rest.

LANDS & FORESTS
“These stories are elemental, wise, and beautiful.”—Alexander MacLeod, Scotiabank Giller Prize-nominated author of Light Lifting
The stories in Lands and Forests survey the emotional landscapes of women and men whose lives, though rooted deeply in the land and their small communities, are still rocked by great cultural change. These are raw, honest character studies reminiscent of the work of Alexander MacLeod and Lisa Moore, but with a style and energy all their own. • INVISIBLE PUBLISHING

Andrew Forbes was the 2019 Margaret Laurence Fellow at Trent University. His story collection What You Need was shortlisted for the 2016 Trillium Book Award. The Utility of Boredom: Baseball Essays is currently in its fourth printing. Lands and Forests is his third book.
**VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO**

**LATE BREAKING**

Inspired by the work of Alex Colville, the linked stories in K.D. Miller’s *Late Breaking* form a suite of portraits that evoke the paintings’ looming atmospheres and uncanny stillness while traveling deeply into their subjects’ vividly imagined lives. Throughout, the collection bears witness to the vulnerability of the elder heart, revealing that love, sex, and heartbreak are not only the domain of the young, and deftly rendering the conflicts that divide us and the ties that bind. • Biblioasis

K.D. Miller’s last book *All Saints*, was shortlisted for the 2014 Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize and longlisted for the 2014 Frank O’Connor Award. She lives and writes in Toronto.

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**11:30AM – 12:15PM**

**#WOTS30 ANNIVERSARY SERIES**

**BUILDING LITERARY COMMUNITIES**

Join four poet/community organizers as they discuss ways in which they encourage community involvement, reciprocity, recognition and relationship building. Part of The Word On The Street’s 30th Anniversary Series. Moderated by Khashayar Mohammadi.

**Khashayar Mohammadi** is an Iranian-born writer/translator based in Toronto. He is the Host of knife I fork I book’s Chapbook club and the author of Chapbooks 'Moe's Skin’ with ZED PRESS (2018) and 'Dear Kestrel' with knife I fork I book (2019). His poems have also appeared in *Poetry is Dead*, *Bad nudes*, *Half a Grapefruit Magazine* and elsewhere. He is currently working on a full length poetry manuscript.

**rob mclennan** lives in Ottawa, where he is home full-time with the two wee girls he shares with Christine McNair. His most recent poetry titles include *A halt, which is empty* (Mansfield Press, 2019) and *Life sentence*, (Spuyten Duyvil, 2019). His chapbook press, above/ground, recently celebrated twenty-six years.

**Bänoo Zan** is an immigrant poet and poetry curator with over 180 published pieces and three books, including *Songs of Exile* (2016) and *Letters to My Father* (2017). She is the founder of Shab-e She’r (Poetry Night), Toronto’s most diverse and brave poetry reading and open mic series (inception 2012).

**Kirby**’s earlier chapbooks include *Simple Enough*, *Cock & Soul*, *Bob’s boy*, *The world is fucked and sometimes beautiful*, and *SHE’S HAVING A DORIS DAY* (Knife | Fork | Book, 2017). They also appear in *Matrix Magazine*, *National Poetry Month.ca*, *Dusie*, *Canthius*, *Carousel*, and *The Rusty Toque* (Pushcart Nominee). Their full-length debut, *THIS IS WHERE I GET OFF* is newly out from Permanent Sleep Press. Kirby is the owner/publisher of Knife | Fork | Book.
SONNET’S SHAKESPEARE
In a defiant act of literary patricide and a feat of painstaking poetic labour, Sonnet L’Abbé, a young, half-douglia (mixed South Asian and Black) poet, works with Shakespeare’s sonnets as a space she will inhabit, as a place of power she will occupy. Letter by letter, she sits her own language down into the white spaces of Shakespeare’s poems, until she overwhelms the original text and effectively erases Shakespeare’s voice by subsuming his words into hers. In each of the 154 dense new poems of Sonnet’s Shakespeare sits one “aggrocultured” Shakespearean sonnet—displaced, spoken over, but never entirely silenced. • McCLELLAND & STEWART

Sonnet L’Abbé is the author of two previous poetry books, A Strange Relief and Killarnoe, and Anima Canadensis, which won the bpNichol Chapbook Award. She won the Bronwen Wallace Memorial Award and was the guest editor of Best Canadian Poetry in English. Her work has been internationally published and anthologized.

MAD LONG EMOTION
Desire and dieffenbachias: new poems from the award-winning author of Otter. Mad Long Emotion wants to talk flora to fauna like you. Loosestrife shoos away humans and green carnations flirt with handsome men. Numerous species, both spiny and spineless, prove as invasive as desire: from Great Lake lampreys to hydraulic triceratops, we’re all just looking for love. • COACH HOUSE BOOKS

Ben Ladouceur is the author of nine chapbooks and the collection Otter, which was named a best book of 2015 by the National Post, nominated for a Lambda Literary Award, and awarded the 2016 Gerald Lampert Memorial Prize. In 2018, he received the Dayne Ogilvie Prize. He lives in Ottawa.

HEFT
Here is a poet small in stature, unwilling to abandon to silence small histories, small life forms, and the small courages and beauties of the ordinary hour. In these rigorous, intimate, and luminous poems, the spirit of the everyday and the spirit of witness bind fiercely to one another. heft is a ledger of tenderness, survival, and risk. • McCLELLAND & STEWART

Doyali Islam’s poems have been published in Kenyon Review Online, The Fiddlehead, and The Best Canadian Poetry in English, and have won several national contests and prizes. Doyali serves as the poetry editor of Arc Poetry Magazine. heft is her second collection of poetry.
Magazines Canada presents four leading digital magazine publishers to discuss their perspectives on news and entertainment in the Age of Disinformation. How do digital publishers navigate the demands of immediacy and responsibility? How do responsible digital publishers identify what’s authentic and what’s misinformation or disinformation? What strategies do they use to assess credibility of sources and content? What are the unique strengths of publishing online only? Who is doing it right and what can Canadian digital publishers learn from these examples? Join an all-star panel from across Canada discussing the passion and professionalism of digital mags! Moderated by Craig Silverman. Featuring Rehana Begg, Drew Brown, Camille Dundas, and Andrew Yates.

Craig Silverman is an award-winning journalist and author and one of the world’s leading experts on online misinformation, fake news, and content verification. He is the media editor of BuzzFeed News, where he leads a global beat covering platforms, online misinformation, and media manipulation.

Rehana Begg is the editor of CanadianManufacturing.com at Annex Business Media. Rehana has 20 years of editorial experience across B2B and B2C publications. She holds two master’s degrees, which she puts to the test daily scouring the Canadian landscape for industrial and manufacturing news that impact business decisions.

Drew Brown is the editor of The Newfoundland and Labrador Independent. He grew up in Grand Falls-Windsor, NL. He has been a regular columnist for VICE Canada since 2015, and his work has appeared in CBC, Newfoundland Quarterly, The Deep, The Overcast, and The Guardian.

Camille Dundas is the co-founder and editor-in-chief of Canada’s leading Black Canadian online magazine, ByBlacks.com. She has won two national ethnic media press awards and a commendation from Prime Minister Justin Trudeau. Camille spent 10 years as a TV news reporter and producer, working on shows for CTV and CBC.

Andrew Yates is the managing editor of news at HuffPost Canada. He first started working in digital news and current affairs as a producer at the National Post Online in 2000. Prior to HuffPost, Andrew was senior producer of social media and community engagement at CBC News.
VIBRANT VOICES OF ONTARIO

THE FELLOWSHIP  2:00PM – 2:30PM

A middle-aged Caribbean writer searches for purpose in mid-life after the death of her father, the departure of her children, and a failed marriage. In her last throw of the dice, she applies for a one-year fellowship at a mid-sized university in Cambridge, MA. It’s exclusive to female scholars, artists, and writers who want a second chance to return to their professional lives—specifically lives interrupted by motherhood. • Cormorant Books

Rachel Manley is an author and poet, best known for her memoir, Drumblair: Memories of a Jamaican Childhood (winner of the Governor General’s Literary Award for Nonfiction), which was inspired by life with her grandfather, Norman Washington Manley, founder of Jamaica’s first national party.

PLAYWRIGHT SPOTLIGHT  2:30PM – 3:00PM

Canadian playwrights Amanda Parris and Nick Green tableau the unhelpful and unnecessary intervention of police, experiences of marginalization, attempts at difficult love, and involvement in political movements in these compelling dramatic texts.

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE GAME

In the 1970s Beverly walks into an office of Black activists, wanting to join the Movement, and has to prove she’s committed enough to fight. Some forty years later, in the Hip Hop Generation, Nicole reunites with her ex-boyfriend on a basketball court, when a police officer stops them. In this striking debut, Amanda Parris turns the spotlight on the Black women who organize communities, support their incarcerated loved ones, and battle institutions, living each day by a ride-or-die philosophy. • Playwrights Canada Press

By day, Amanda Parris is a TV and radio host and writes a weekly column for CBC Arts. By night, she writes stories for the stage and screen. She is the co-founder of the award-winning alternative education organization Lost Lyrics and worked with the Remix Project and the Manifesto Festival.

BODY POLITIC

In 1971 Phillip was starting something big. Something that would make history. Now he’s an aging journalist trying to make sense of Grindr. Phillip was a founding member of The Body Politic, a gay-liberation newspaper based in Toronto. As he recounts memories of censorship battles, police raids, historic rallies, and the onset of HIV/AIDS during an intimate encounter with a younger man, their generational differences shine a light on the massive shifts in queer identity and politics. • Playwrights Canada Press
**HEAT WAVE**

It's July 1936 and Toronto is under a record-breaking heat wave. Charlotte Frayne is the junior associate in a two-person private investigation firm, owned by T. Gilmore. An anti-Semitic hate letter is delivered to Gilmore, who up to now has not acknowledged his religion. At the same time Hilliard Taylor, a veteran of the First World War, requests the firm’s assistance in uncovering what he believes is systematic embezzlement of the Paradise Café, which he owns and operates with three other men, all of whom were prisoners of war. These two events, seemingly unrelated, come together in a novel that brings to life characters who are as real to the reader as those of the Detective Murdoch series. • **Cormorant Books**

**MURDER IN THE CITY OF LIBERTY**

Hamish DeLuca and Reggie Van Buren’s latest case arrives when Errol Parker, the leading base stealer in the Boston farm leagues, hires Hamish and Reggie to investigate what the Boston police shove off as a series of harmless pranks. Errol believes these are hate crimes linked to the outbreak of war in Europe, and he’s afraid for his life. Hamish and Reggie quickly find themselves in the midst of an escalating series of crimes that seem to link Boston to Hamish’s hometown of Toronto. • **HarperCollins Canada**

**Maureen Jennings** immigrated to Canada from the UK as a teenager. She is the author of the *Murdoch Mysteries* series which has been adapted into a TV series. The series is going into its thirteenth season. Before becoming a full-time writer, Maureen was a psychotherapist. She currently lives in Toronto with her husband Iden Ford and their dog, Murdoch.

**Rachel McMillan** lives in Toronto and is the author of the Herringford and Watts mysteries and the Van Buren and DeLuca mysteries; praised for bringing an authentic 1930’s Boston world to life while normalizing the fictional conversation around mental illness. Her first work of non-fiction will be published in 2020.
WHAT GOES AROUND 3:30PM – 4:00PM

What do a corpse, a painter, two smugglers, a ghost, a talkative bird, a fashion show and a bank robbery have in common? Set in present-day Central America, a parrot witnesses a crime, while friendly spirits direct their fellow characters in criminal pursuits, in romantic liaisons, and in business endeavours, allowing them to right some of the wrongs of history through actions reminiscent of legendary Robin Hood. *What Goes Around* is a gripping tale rich with magic realism and redemption. • Inanna Publications

What Goes Around is **Ruth Clarke**’s first full-length novel. She has published several non-fiction works, and previously worked in publishing and the arts. Her short stories and articles have appeared in anthologies, newspapers and magazines. She divides her time between Canada and Latin America.

RISING FROM THE ASHES: LOSS AND TRANSFORMATION 4:00PM – 5:00PM

Does experiencing loss make us better writers? Does a cathartic re-imagination of grief and anger unleash unexpected creativity? Four authors share their journeys through loss that led to transformation, inspired and informed their creativity. **Anubha Mehta**, **Elizabeth Greene**, **Merle Nudelman**, and **Logathasan Tharmathurai** share their journeys through loss that led to transformation, inspired and informed their creativity. Hosted by **Michael Douglas**, (Mississauga Art Council). Moderated by **Ceta Ramkhalawansingh** (The Word On The Street Canada)

PEACOCK IN THE SNOW

*Peacock in the Snow* is a genre-bending page-turner about the power of love, sacrifice and the human spirit to hope, strive and succeed despite impossible circumstances. In her adventurous journey from East to West, the protagonist Maya, reveals the allure and decadence of the Eastern elite and the bounty and hardship of the West. This is a story of a young family who migrates ‘not fleeing persecution or poverty, but redefining themselves in Canada after having lost the privileges they enjoyed in their home country’, reviews Toronto All-Lit-Up. It’s a saga of three generations of women across continents and cultures who find redemption through their imperfect lives. • Inanna

A SEASON AMONG PSYCHICS
Judith feels, at fifty, that her life is irremediably stalled. She is not doing well at work, her son, seems certain to fail ninth-grade English, her love for the elusive Brian is unrequited. When Judith meets Rosetta Kempffer at a psychic fair, she doesn’t imagine that anything could change a life that seems so hopelessly stuck. Rosetta suggests that Judith take a course from her in psychic healing, and although Judith is skeptical, she signs up. Judith learns techniques of healing, the truth of ‘things not seen with the bodily vision’ and the profound connection between teaching and healing.

*Inanna*


THE SEEKER ASCENDS
The poems in The Seeker Ascends trace the emotional and spiritual journey of a woman whose beloved son dies after an arduous battle with cancer. As the poet/mother climbs out of grief’s darkness, she reclaims her life’s purpose. Confronting her losses, she heals. Inspired by art and nature, she transcends the past and discovers possibility in the now.

*Inanna*

Merle Nudelman is an educator, lawyer, and author of five books of poetry including *Borrowed Light* which won the 2004 Canadian Jewish Book Award for Poetry and *The Seeker Ascends* (Inanna Publications, 2018). Merle’s poems have been widely published and anthologized. Her essays on poetic inquiry appear in academic publications.

THE SADNESS OF GEOGRAPHY
Born to a wealthy family, Logathasan Tharmathurai and his family lost everything during the long brutal Sri Lankan Civil War. So in January 1985, following a deeply traumatic encounter with a group of Sinhalese soldiers, Das left his home at the age of 18 and set out on a terrifying journey to build a new life for himself and his family abroad. *The Sadness of Geography* is a moving story of innocence lost, the persecution of an entire people, and the universal quest for a better life.

*Dundurn*

Logathasan Tharmathurai (Das) is a writer and information systems professional. He decided to write his memoir thirty-two years after leaving Sri Lanka. Das lives in Toronto, Ontario.
Buddhadeb Basu, a well acclaimed novelist from India writes fiction and non-fiction. His books, namely “Journey to the Celestial City”, “16 Techniques for Spiritual Happiness” and “May all Beings Benefit”; all are available on Amazon.com, Amazon.ca and Amazon.in.

He may be contacted at +91-9099932821, author@bdbasu.com & buddhasweet@gmail.com. His personal blog is wwwbdbasu.com
Visit guelphcreativewritingmfa.com for more on faculty, grads, and our program.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: DECEMBER 9, 2019

COLLEGE OF ARTS
SCHOOL OF ENGLISH AND THEATRE STUDIES
MASTER OF FINE ARTS IN CREATIVE WRITING

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HOSTS

David Bezmozgis, a writer and filmmaker, is the Director of the Humber School for Writers. David has written and directed two feature films, Victoria Day and Natasha, each nominated in the writing category at the Canadian Screen Awards. He is the author of Natasha and Other Stories, The Free World and The Betrayers. In 2010, he was one of the New Yorker’s 20 Under 40. His newest story collection, Immigrant City, was published in spring 2019.

Toronto writer Alissa York is a professor at the Humber School for Writers. Her internationally acclaimed novels include Effigy (short-listed for the Scotiabank Giller Prize), Fauna and The Naturalist. Stories from her short fiction collection, Any Given Power, have won the Journey Prize and the Bronwen Wallace Award.

THE SENTENCE, WHAT BOOKS ARE MADE OF

11:15AM – 12:00PM

Adam Foulds is a poet and novelist from London, England, now living in Toronto. He has been the recipient of many literary awards, including the European Union Prize For Literature. His 2009 novel, The Quickening Maze, was shortlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Dream Sequence is his fourth novel.

A former language arts teacher with a PhD in English, Pamela Mordecai writes poetry and fiction. Her poetry for children is widely anthologized and used in language arts curricula internationally. Her debut novel, RED JACKET, was shortlisted for the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Award. She is most famously, Zoey’s grandma.

HOW NOT TO GET PUBLISHED

12:15PM – 1:00PM

Janice Zawerbny has been an editor for more than twenty years in Canadian publishing. She has edited numerous critically acclaimed and bestselling books of fiction and non-fiction. She is an editing instructor at Ryerson University, and a senior editor at HarperCollins Canada.

Léonicka Valcius is an Assistant Agent at Transatlantic Agency, representing commercial and genre fiction for adults and children. For more of her work visit www.leonicka.com.

WRITING BOOKS KIDS LOVE

1:15PM – 2:00PM

Semarch Al-Hillal is the Publisher at Groundwood Books, an independent Canadian publisher based in Toronto. Last year Groundwood celebrated 40 years of publishing beautiful, thought-provoking books for children of all ages. Prior to joining Groundwood, she was with Kids Can Press for eighteen years.
Naseem Hrab has worked in children’s publishing for over ten years. She’s an author, the Associate Publisher, Creative at Kids Can Press and a former librarian.

2:15PM – 3:00PM  
WRITING FOR INTERACTIVE AND VIRTUAL REALITY STORY TELLING

David Oppenheim is a producer at the National Film Board of Canada where he is currently producing a number of creative non-fiction film, interactive, and immersive (VR) projects. Recent credits include Draw Me Close (Tribeca Storyscapes, Venice Film Festival) and The Space We Hold (Peabody-Facebook Futures of Media Award).

Jessica Duffin Wolfe teaches immersive storytelling at Humber College, where she is a Professor in the Faculty of Media & Creative Arts. Her current creative work spans VR, writing, and programming, and grows from her varied background in literary scholarship, design, film, and journalism.

3:15PM – 4:00PM  
WRITING ABOUT YOURSELF: NONFICTION AND MEMOIR

Diane Schoemperlen is the author of 14 books, including This Is Not My Life: A Memoir of Love, Prison, and Other Complications, shortlisted for the 2017 RBC Taylor Prize. In 2018, she was awarded the Molson Prize in Arts by the Canada Council. Diane has lived in Kingston for over 30 years.

Don Gillmor is the author of three novels, Kanata, Mount Pleasant, and Long Change. He is also the author of nine books for children and four works of non-fiction. His most recent book is To the River. His work has appeared in Rolling Stone, Walrus, and the Globe and Mail.

4:15PM – 5:00PM  
FIRST PAGE CHALLENGE


Douglas Richmond is an editor at House of Anansi Press, where he works on a diverse list of bestselling and award-winning titles ranging from literary and upmarket commercial fiction to memoir, pop culture, and cookbooks. Previously, he held editorial positions at HarperCollins Canada and University of Toronto Press.
ASSOCIATION OF ENGLISH-LANGUAGE PUBLISHERS OF QUEBEC
AELAQ represents the best of English-language publishing from your neighbours in Quebec. From bold translations of Francophone literature to award-winning LGBTQ titles to cutting-edge poetry to playful children’s books—discover stories not found anywhere else. Come say bonjour-hi!

BLUE MAX STORIES INC.
Young Sidney Turner immigrates to Canada dreaming of owning a farm. Sioux visions alter life for him and his descendants in the cauldron of world wars and Vietnam. Readers take a spellbinding journey through the character’s romances and adventures.

CANADA’S HISTORY
Discover Canada’s History – the award-winning magazine that features entertaining and insightful stories that celebrate Canada’s remarkable past. Canada’s diverse and remarkable history comes alive through boldly-illustrated stories, historic maps and photos. Also publisher of Kayak: Canada’s History Magazine for Kids.

DR. LARRY J. FALLS
Evidence of the connection between sex and religion can be found in fertility cults in all nations of the past. Dr. Larry Falls takes a comprehensive look at how sexual practices were originally considered a religion before Christianity.

FRONTIER COLLEGE
Frontier College is Canada’s original literacy organization, established in 1899 on the belief that literacy is a right. Each year, we recruit and train 2,500+ volunteer tutors who work with over 30,000 children, youth, and adults to improve their literacy skills.

HOUSE OF ANANSI PRESS AND GROUNDWOOD BOOKS
House of Anansi Press specializes in finding and developing Canadian writers of literary fiction, poetry, and nonfiction. Groundwood Books works with highly acclaimed authors and illustrators to create diverse books that are loved by children around the world.

INANNA PUBLICATIONS & EDUCATION INC.
Inanna Publications reflect the depth, breadth and diversity of women’s experiences across Canada and around the world—smart books for people who want to read and think about real women’s lives. Visit our booth, meet some of our fabulous authors.

JABUKA GAMES
The word’s on the street! JABUKA is the best word game ever! Make and take words in ways you’ve never seen with a magically morphing, rotating letter alphabet! “M twists to W or E! It’s totally twisted fun!
LUBA LESYCHYN – MYSTERY WRITER
What would you do if you worked at a reputable international museum and art works listed as still missing since WWII began showing up on your doorstep? Find out in the urban Toronto art theft thriller, *Theft Between the Rains*.

MARK JULIEN
Mark Julien’s debut *Justin Case and the Closet Monster* was named one of the best LGBTQ graphic novels of 2018 by *The Advocate* magazine. Two deeply closeted men struggle to accept themselves. In a parallel dimension the Closet Monsters bring hope.

ONE LIT PLACE
Creative, academic, and business writers find support, education, and connection at our full-service writers’ center. Online courses & workshops, editing & coaching, and a vibrant online community give you the tools you need to write- from anywhere, at any time.

PROJECT BOOKMARK CANADA
Please visit our booth! Help us celebrate the authors and communities with Bookmark monuments on the Canadian Literary Trail. Find out more about the 29 bookmarks (and counting!) and how they are providing a greater understanding of this country through its varied and diverse nation of storytellers. It’s our 10th anniversary year of the first Bookmark our Founder, writer Miranda Hill, launched in 2009. The CanLit Trail has been building strong ever since. Join us!

REMARX PUBLISHING
ReMarx Publishing offers titles that explain our world in ways that can inspire and equip a new generation to fight for their rights and, most important, win them. Read. Share. Organize. remarxpub.com

SHERRY LECLERC
Sherry Leclerc is a writer of young adult and adult speculative fiction novels. Her first published works are her Seers Series fantasy-adventure novels. If you like fearless warriors, breathtaking landscapes, and impossible odds, then you’ll love this epic fantasy series.

STORYTELLER LAURIE
Laurie Campbell, aka Storyteller Laurie, is an illustrator and writer of animal stories for children. She has self-published 12 books. Former librarian now painter, avid nature photographer and traveller. Her photography and travels provide inspiration for her books.

THIS THING BETWEEN US – BEN STELLINO
Inspired by the best-selling novel *The Bridges of Madison County* by Robert Waller, this thing between us reveals how that once-in-a-lifetime unbridled love penetrates the soul and remains imprinted there forever. Journeying by way of poetic verse and photography, author Ben Stellino captures the splendor of love’s many shades. www.thisthingbetweenus.com
TORONTO LIFE

Toronto Life is for people who care about the country’s most vibrant city, and want to get the most out of it. Through in-depth reporting and quality writing, Toronto Life offers an essential and entertaining guide to life in Toronto.

TORONTO PUBLIC LIBRARY WORKERS UNION

The Toronto Public Library Workers Union (TPLWU) Local 4948 represents 2,100 men and women who work for the Toronto Public Library system. The Library and its’ workers promote and enrich the democratic, cultural, educational and economic life of our diverse and evolving city. Great people make great libraries. Great libraries make great cities.

WENDY HEWLETT – AUTHOR

Wendy Hewlett writes crime fiction with strong female protagonists. The Taylor Sinclair Series—Saving Grace, Unfinished Business, and Runed—is set in Muskoka and Toronto and features the elite Toronto Police Sex Crimes Unit. Visit wendyhewlett.com for more info.

YEAR OF THE SLUT

Heartbroken and horny in New York City, Dana, a virgin once removed, embarks on an erotic adventure of sexual discovery while looking for love...ultimately finding her power and confidence.
## Arts/Educational Organizations

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