



2023

THE 41st ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF THE WRITTEN ARTS



Rockwood Centre | Sechelt

August 17-20

www.writersfestival.ca

The Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts thanks our public sector funders whose support has been unwavering. We appreciate not only the financial contributions of the federal, provincial and municipal governments but also the staff who have been consistently generous with their assistance and counsel.

The **Government of Canada** supports the Festival through the **Department of Canadian Heritage, the Canada Council for the Arts** and **Service Canada (Canada Summer Jobs Program)**. The Department of Canadian Heritage provides operational funding through the Canada Art Presentation Fund as well as matching funds from the Canada Cultural Investment Fund – Endowment Incentives Component (EIC). The Festival is also a recipient of four-year core funding from the Canada Council for the Arts which gives us the stability of annual funding. The Canada Summer Jobs Program enables us to hire a summer assistant to help with festival production.

The **Province of British Columbia** supports the Festival through the **BC Arts Council** and the **Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport**. The BC Arts Council grants us annual operational funding, and this year we were also fortunate to receive funding from the Arts Infrastructure Program, allowing us to replace the old lighting system in the Pavilion. The BC Arts Council has also stepped up with additional Resilience Funding which has helped us weather the challenges of the past few years. And in 2023 we were grateful to receive a BC Fairs, Festivals and Events Fund grant administered through the Ministry of Tourism, Arts, Culture and Sport.

Last, but certainly not least, we acknowledge the **District of Sechelt** which supports the Festival with a multi-year Community Investment Program grant and provides the most beautiful home a Festival could possibly have, the Rockwood Centre. We thank Mayor and Council for their ongoing assistance and for their belief in the importance of arts and culture. We also acknowledge the District of Sechelt staff, a wonderful team of dedicated public servants whose contributions to the Festival and to this community deserve ongoing recognition.

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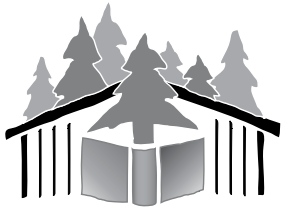


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We gratefully acknowledge that the Festival takes place in ch’atlich, on shíshálh swiya, the unceded traditional homelands of the shíshálh Nation. As we strive to be good allies through word and action, we respectfully remember that the shíshálh People have been sharing stories on this land for millennia.



Welcome to the 41st Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts

“We approach our lives on different trajectories, each of us spinning in our own separate, shining orbits. What gives this life its resonance is when those trajectories cross and we become engaged with each other, for as long or as fleetingly as we do.”

—Richard Wagamese, *Embers*

It’s Festival weekend, that magical time of year when we gather together in the Pavilion to laugh and cry, listen and learn. We meet up with old friends and make new ones. We stand shoulder to shoulder in the book tent, waiting to get our books signed by authors we admire. We enjoy the beautiful gardens and talk over the stories we just heard. We get lost in the music of the closing night concert. We find a unique resonance in each other’s company.

Over four decades, countless people encompassing many “orbits” brought the Festival of the Written Arts into being. There are our visionary founders, the dedicated Board of Directors, devoted volunteers, the staff who have worked tirelessly over the years, and the donors, sponsors and funders who believed wholeheartedly in the importance of a writer’s festival in Sechelt. Most importantly, there are the writers who, with true generosity of spirit, continue to engage us with their talent, experiences and stories—they are the reason why our trajectories have crossed here once more.

Whether this is your 41st Festival or your first, we are so glad you joined us.

We thank SD46 School Trustee **Ann Skelcher** for her service on the Board of Directors last year. We would also like to express our deep gratitude to Board President **John Lussier**, whose duties at this year’s Festival will be his last as President, though we hope he will stay on as a Director for a while longer! His dedication and support have been incredibly important, both behind the scenes at the Festival, and in the production of *Coastal Voices*, our anthology of student writing.

Thank you, John.

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Sunshine Coast ElderCollege Festival Preview Course participants

Marje Umezuki

Karen Weissenborn Design

ZG Stories

2023 Festival Volunteers

We can honestly say “we couldn’t do it without you” when it comes to our helpful and hardworking volunteers. Sincere thanks to all our volunteers, both past and present, for making the Festival of the Written Arts possible.

Sally Abraham
Maureen Ainslie
Louise Ames
Ian Archer
Karen Archer
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Sue Bailey
Bonny Bennet
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Dale MacDonald
Sally Markham
Lyall Markham
Grace Marshall
Carol Matthews
Garnette McCue
Leah McMullen
Debbie Mealia
June Meyer
Jan Meyers



*A few of our talented festival volunteers:
Back row, l to r: Verity Goodier, unknown, Patricia Bekke,
Alice Coleman, Judith Husted, Deanna Pilling
Kneeling, l to r: Nattanya Wardel, Penny Ulmer, Kathy
Archibald, Penny Allport*

Judith Miller
Susan Nelson
Anna Nobile
Boyd Norman
Viveca Ohm
Juliet O’Keefe
Jeanie Parker
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Deanna Pilling
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All proceeds will go to benefit the area of greatest need at Sechelt Hospital.

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- Dr. Chris Carlsten, MD, FRCPC
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- Dr. Pat Camp, PhD, PT
Associate Professor, UBC Department of Physical Therapy

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SECHELT HOSPITAL
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Sunshine Coast
CREDIT UNION

1 8:00 PM | Thursday, August 17
Adriana Barton
 with Simon Paradis



Photo: Dina Goldstein

Ever listen to the blues when you're feeling rather blue yourself? Writer and journalist Adriana Barton feels your pain. In her debut book, *Wired for Music: A Search for Health and Joy Through the Science of Sound*, she cites studies by neuroscientists that show sad songs can actually make us feel a bit better, a driving beat can keep us going and a soothing one can calm us. Music as a mood enhancer is not a new idea, but it's only recently that scientists have discovered how melody and rhythm stimulate core memory and emotion centres, lighting up our brain with dopamine as it travels down the same brain pathways as opioid drugs. Barton spent 14 years working as a health reporter for *The Globe and Mail*, so while *Wired for Music* is meticulously researched, covering historical approaches, contemporary medical studies and a visit to a remote village in Zimbabwe, the story she tells here has a highly personal backdrop. Barton began playing the cello when she was five years old and was on track for a classical music career, even meeting Yo-Yo Ma and playing his Stradivarius, until she stepped away from music for the good of her health. Blending science and memoir, insight and excellent writing, Barton examines our relationship with music on a deeper level, positing that music boosts human health, connects us to each other and adds meaning and joy to our lives. Barton will be collaborating with Sunshine Coast musician Simon Paradis in an informative, musical event.

Adriana Barton and Simon Paradis will be introduced by John Lussier, President of the Festival's Board of Directors.

IG PRIVATE WEALTH MANAGEMENT HOBSON & ASSOCIATES

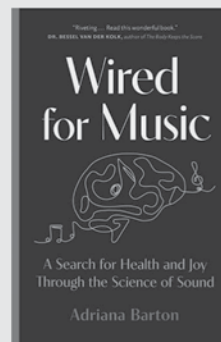
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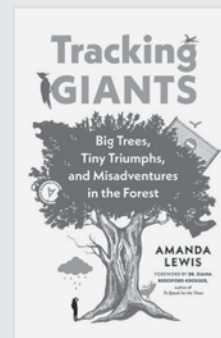
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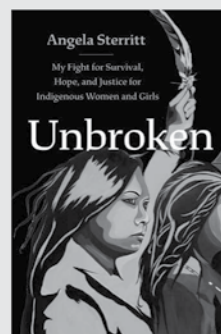
GREYSTONE BOOKS & AUTHORS AT THE 2023 FESTIVAL



Wired for Music
 by Adriana Barton



Tracking Giants
 by Amanda Lewis



Unbroken
 by Angela Sterritt

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Tales will abound as these women who work in so called non-traditional fields discuss the joys and challenges of pursuing their life's passion and the importance of being true to your calling.

Working as an outdoor guide, Tamar Glouberman has been to places like the Galapagos, Zambia and Peru, and in many of North America's remotest regions. *Chasing Rivers: A Whitewater Life* is part travel adventure, part memoir as Glouberman shares her love of water and wilderness but also delves into the emotional and psychological challenges of being a guide, especially when things go sideways. Praised for her powerful, honest writing, Glouberman writes of her adventures with deep understanding of the wilderness she thrives in, but also with profound awareness of the dangers she faces daily.



photo Tamar Glouberman

Hilary Peach is an artist, writer, welding inspector and Boiler Safety Officer. Her memoir, *Thick Skin: Field Notes from a Sister in the Brotherhood*, follows Peach's 20 years working as a transient welder from the shipyards and pulp mills of BC to the massive power generating plants of the Eastern Seaboard. Usually the only woman on the job site, Peach deals with a lot of sexism in addition to difficult working and living conditions. But her love for her trade, and her excellent, often humorous writing, make this an engaging and fascinating read.



photo Mark Mustet

This event will be moderated by poet, author, teacher and carpenter, Kate Braid. Her most recent book is *Hammer and Nails: Notes of a Journeywoman*.

This event will be introduced by Bryan Mortensen, Executive Director of the Federation of BC Writers.

Learn more about the **Federation of BC Writers (FBCW)**! Bryan Mortensen will be offering free information sessions about the organization during Festival weekend. At the FBCW you can connect with other writers, hone your skills, showcase your work, and get support on your journey toward publication.

- Saturday, August 19: 11:45 am – 12:45 pm
- Sunday, August 20: 11:45 am – 12:45 pm

Both sessions will take place in Rockwood Lodge's Art Space (Basement)



Hilary Peach worked as a welder for 20 years in the male dominated, heavy construction trade of boilermaking. This is her story.



"This is a wonderful book — not just funny but a rare, insider's look at the life of a travelling welder — the good, the bad, the ugly, and always, the fascinating."
— Kate Braid, author of *Hammer & Nail: Notes of a Journeywoman*

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3 10:30 AM | Friday, August 18
Carrie Mac



Carrie Mac is a sought-after writing mentor, having worked with students at Humber College, SFU's Writer's Studio and UBC's School of Writing, where she earned her MFA. She is the author of several award-winning novels for young adults with her debut novel, *The Beckoners*, winning the Crime Writers of Canada Excellence Award and a Stellar Book Award, while *The Gryphon Project* won the 2010 Sheila A. Egoff Children's Literature Prize. Known for her frank writing and depictions of contemporary teen life, her books have been banned, censored and challenged. Yet her powerful and honest writing of difficult situations continues to captivate audiences of all ages with Mac unafraid to write what she knows. Her stories grapple with mental illness and the distinct beauty and adversity of young adult life and draw on her experience as a storyteller, mother and paramedic. Her latest work, the literary novel *Last Winter*, examines the impact of an avalanche on a small BC town. Young Ruby is struggling in school, her mom is in crisis, and she is a survivor of the avalanche that kills almost all of her schoolmates and her father. *Last Winter* has received much praise since being released this January and immediately became a national bestseller. Called "epically unforgettable" and "deeply raw...insightful and unsparing," Mac has once again proven she is a writer of great depth and talent.

Carrie Mac will be introduced by Festival Director Laura Maddalozzo.

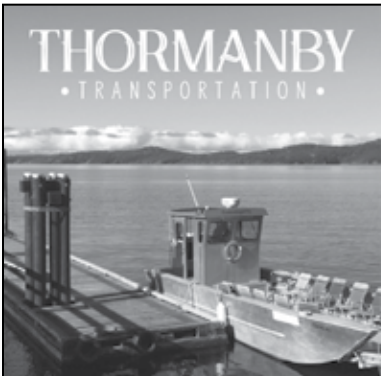
4 1:00 PM | Friday, August 18
John Vaillant



photo John Snail

Author and journalist John Vaillant is a master storyteller whether he's writing fiction or nonfiction. His first book, *The Golden Spruce*, a nonfiction telling of a 300-year-old sacred tree and the man who cut it down, won the Governor General's Literary Award and the Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. His second nonfiction book, *The Tiger: A True Story of Vengeance and Survival*, about a large Amur cat in eastern Russia that hunts down his poacher and becomes a man-eater, took home the National Award for Canadian Nonfiction and the prestigious Windham-Campbell Literature Prize. His debut novel, *The Jaguar's Children*, about a group of Mexican migrants abandoned in the US desert, was a finalist for the Atwood Gibson Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and an International Dublin Literary Award. His newest book, *Fire Weather: The Making of a Beast*, sees Vaillant return to his nonfiction roots with the telling of the events surrounding the massive fire that ate Fort McMurray. This wildfire equivalent of Hurricane Katrina left behind billions of dollars in damages and the lives of thousands of people in ruins. With his uncanny ability to weave together disparate parts of the same story and make science jargon intelligible to everyday readers, *Fire Weather* is a compelling read not only of the disaster itself, but of what it means as our planet becomes increasingly hot. Praised for his "punchy and cinematic" prose, *Kirkus Reviews* hailed *Fire Weather* as "A timely, well-written work of climate change reportage."

John Vaillant will be introduced by Dwight Davison, Assistant Fire Chief of the Sechelt Fire Department.



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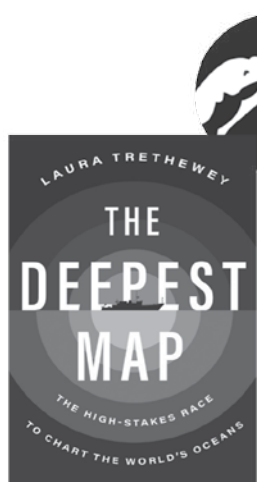




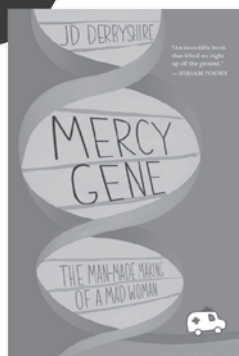
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5 2:30 PM | Friday, August 18
JD Derbyshire



Photo Ben Laird

JD Derbyshire is a performer, playwright, theatre maker, director, inclusive educator and comedian. Their unique and unconventional view on life, coupled with their direct style, has them tackling taboo subjects like mental illness, psychiatric assessment and treatment, hallucination, alcoholism, queerness and pharmaceuticals with great humour and compassion. Author of over 20 plays, Derbyshire's works have been produced locally and internationally, appearing at such festivals as the 2010 Cultural Olympiad in Vancouver, Summerworks, and the International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival. Their most recent play, the one-person interactive show *Certified*, turns the audience into a mental health review board who must determine the character's sanity by the end of the show. Based on Derbyshire's own experiences with the mental health system, *Certified* has garnered rave reviews and won two Jessie Richardson Awards, for Outstanding Original Script and for Critics Choice Innovation Award. Inspired by the themes in *Certified*, Derbyshire has written a debut novel, the fictionalized autobiography, *Mercy Gene: The Man-Made Making of a Madwoman*. Told through lists, recollections, poetry, daydreams and fictional appearances by Miriam Toews and Margot Kidder, *Mercy Gene* gives us Derbyshire at the height of their storytelling powers, bringing brutal honesty and tender humour to issues of mental health, institutionalization, queerness, and trauma. "It's essential reading for anyone wanting to know what the agony of psychic pain is really like," said the real Miriam Toews. "But it's also very funny."

JD Derbyshire will be introduced by Victoria Maxwell, an award-winning mental health speaker, performer and wellness warrior.



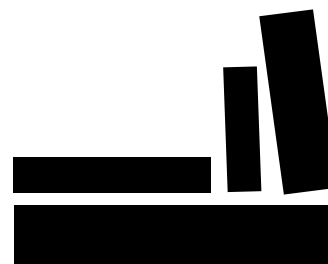
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Join us for this short fiction showcase highlighting the exceptional writing of two very talented writers.

Corinna Chong won the 2021 CBC Short Story Prize for “Kids in Kindergarten.” Her first book, the novel *Belinda’s Rings*, is the story of biracial Grace grappling with adolescence while her mother goes through a spectacular mid-life crisis. It was praised as an “evocative read” with *Quill & Quire* proclaiming, “Chong’s future in CanLit is assured.” Her latest work, *The Whole Animal*, is her refreshingly original debut collection of compelling and beautifully written short fiction. Tackling subjects of identity, belonging, and autonomy, the stories feature relatable, flawed characters and explore our fascination with bodies both human and animal.



photo Andrew Pulvermacher

Former Coaster Andrea Routley makes her return with her latest work, *This Unlikely Soil*. A strong sense of place is vital to the five linked novellas in this collection as bears, trees, crabs and fungi have a role to play in the lives of unique characters that go hiking, count bats and deal with barking dogs and willow roots in the septic tank. The title story was a finalist for the *Malahat Review* Novella Prize and Routley has been praised for her stories that are “complex little worlds, rich and full of detail,” revealing the sometimes tragic consequences of miscommunication. Routley’s first collection, *Jane and The Whales*, was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award.



Megan Cole is a journalist and writer and the director of programming and communications for the BC and Yukon Book Prizes.

This event will be introduced by Heather Evans-Cullen, Library Director of the Gibsons & District Public Library.



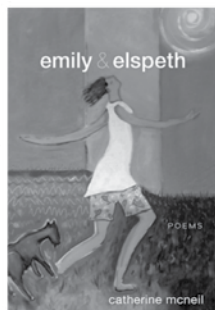
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Angela Sterritt is an award-winning investigative journalist and author from the Gitanmaax community of the Gitksan Nation on her dad's side and from Bell Island Newfoundland on her mom's side. For almost 20 years she has honed her skills as a multi-platform reporter, working in print, television and radio. She earned a Canadian Screen Award for Best Local Reporter and was part of the CBC Aboriginal Team that won an Investigative Award from Canadian Journalists for Free Expression for their coverage of missing and murdered Indigenous women in BC. She has worked with the CBC since 2003 and is the host of the six-part podcast *Land Back* that uncovers land theft in Canada and examines how Indigenous people are reclaiming their territories. In 2020, she was named one of *Vancouver Magazine's* Power 50, a yearly list of the most influential Vancouverites. Intent on telling the stories of Indigenous peoples "the right way," Sterritt has published her first book, *Unbroken: My Fight for Survival, Hope, and Justice for Indigenous Women and Girls*. Blending her own story of living on the streets of Vancouver's Downtown Eastside with the stories of missing and murdered Indigenous women in Vancouver and Northern BC, Sterritt chronicles the physical and psychological toll colonialism and racism has taken on the lives of Indigenous women while also demonstrating the strength of their spirit. Told with courage and compassion and offering insights into how we got here and how we can make things better, Sterritt has once again proven herself to be "a formidable storyteller and a passionate advocate."

Angela Sterritt will be introduced by Candace Campo, a member of the shíshálh Nation and owner-operator of Talaysay Tours.



photo Farah Nash

Get involved with your local literary scene with our events calendar.

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In the spirit of community Talaysay Tours would like to thank all of our community volunteers for your time and efforts to make Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts a special event once again as we gather to experience and celebrate storytelling. Our lives are forever richer.



?ulnumulh chalap syíyáyá
Family & Friends, we all thank you all!



Lynn Pakulak

ENDOWMENT



Lynn joined the Festival Board in 1991 and served on the Executive as Secretary and Vice-President until 2009. Lynn died in 2013 with Alzheimer's disease. In a fitting tribute, her husband Len, himself a devoted Festival volunteer, established the Lynn Pakulak Endowment Fund in 2014. Both Len's initial donation and subsequent donations were matched by the Department of Canadian Heritage and the full amount is being managed by the Sunshine Coast Foundation. All earnings generated by the fund are used to support an annual Festival event. Lynn Pakulak will always be remembered and will always be part of the Festival family.

8 8:30 PM | Friday, August 18
Bob McDonald



photo: Jennifer Hanley

Whether it's dinosaurs, nuclear fission or the inner workings of the human brain, Bob McDonald has been informing and enlightening us on the discoveries and innovations of all things science for almost 50 years. Most of us will recognize his silky voice as the host of *Quirks and Quarks*, one of CBC's most popular radio programs. Since he became host in 1992 the show has won countless awards including multiple Science in Society Journalism Awards, several New York Festivals Radio Awards, two Walter Sullivan Awards for Excellence in Science Journalism, a Sandford Fleming medal, and a Kavli Science Journalism Award. In 2011 McDonald was appointed an Officer of the Order of Canada "for his contributions, as a journalist and educator, to the public understanding of science." Prior to becoming a radio host, McDonald hosted and produced *Wonderstruck*, a Gemini Award-winning science program for children that inspired two books, *Wonderstruck* and *Wonderstruck II*. McDonald is also the author of *Canadian Spacewalkers: Hadfield, MacLean and Williams Remember the Ultimate High Adventure* and *Measuring the Earth with a Stick: Science as I've Seen It*, a series of personal essays that *Quill & Quire* called "riveting" as it reveals his passion for science. His most recent book is *The Future is Now: Solving the Climate Crisis with Today's Technologies*. Rather than depressing us further, McDonald examines the usual alternative energy solutions we've heard of, but introduces us to new ones as well, demonstrating that it's not too late to save the planet—and ourselves.

Bob McDonald will be introduced by Kathy Mulder, Lynn Pakulak's daughter.

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Lynn Pakulak

ENDOWMENT FUND

9 9:00 AM | Saturday, August 19
Jack Knox

Popular *Times Colonist* columnist Jack Knox has had us laughing at ourselves for over 25 years. His entertaining insights into Vancouver Island's inhabitants and their lifestyles—among a plethora of other topics—have been a great source of delight to readers and critics alike. His first two books, *Hard Knox: Musings from the Edge of Canada* and *Opportunity Knox: Twenty Years of Award-Losing Humour Writing*, were both based on his columns and both were nominated for the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. In his third book, *On the Rocks with Jack Knox: Islanders I Will Never Forget*, Knox celebrates ordinary people with extraordinary stories to tell. Folks like Alban Michael, the last person to speak Nuchatlaht, or Victoria's Rudi Hoenson who survived both a Japanese labour camp and the atomic bomb at Nagasaki. Praised for his witty, wry, heart-warming and hilarious writing, Knox has become a bestselling author. His latest book, *Fortune Knox Once*, has already become another bestseller. Knox brings his sharp yet compassionate and comedic wit to all his subjects. Whether he's writing about being fed up with constant earthquake warnings, lamenting our exuberant use of profanity, the sexiness of our Canadian accent or writing to Prince Harry, he's sure to bring a smile to your face at the very least, if not have you belly-laughing out loud. And no need to worry about encountering pandemic stories. "Covid 19 is like the Trump era," he writes, "impossible to ignore but we're all tired of talking about it."

Jack Knox will be introduced by Festival Director Sean Eckford

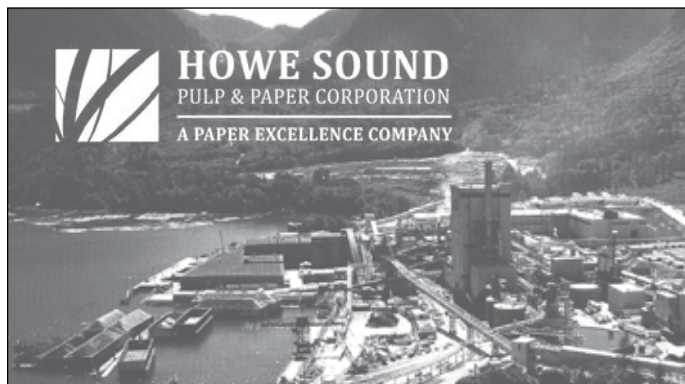
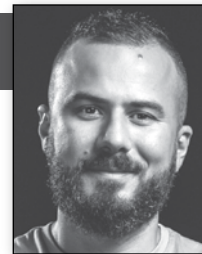


photo Erin Gaezer

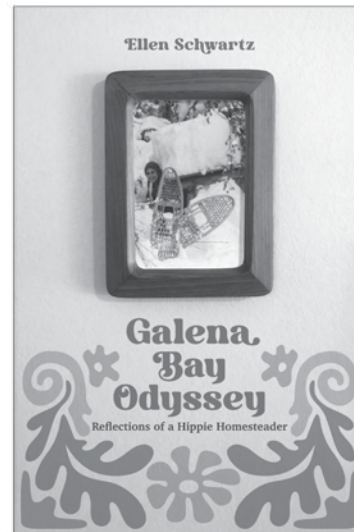
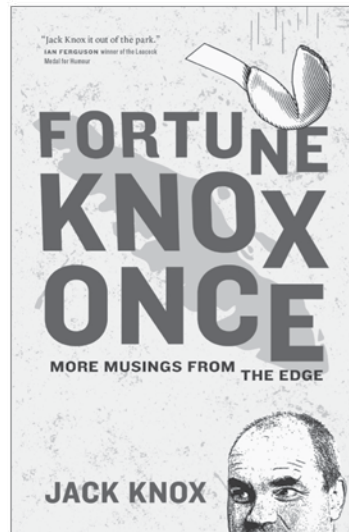
10 10:30 AM | Saturday, August 19
Danny Ramadan

Danny Ramadan is an award-winning Syrian-Canadian author, public speaker and advocate for LGBTQ+ refugees. His debut novel, *The Clothesline Swing*, is a story of war and love, as the narrator tries to keep his dying partner alive by telling him the fables of their youth. The book was named a Best Book of the Year by *The Globe and Mail*, won an Independent Book Publishers Gold Medal, a Fred Kerner Book Award and was nominated for a Lambda Literary Award, with the Lambda jury calling it "a beautiful, cultural artifact that gives a rare insight into the world of gay men and women hidden in the Middle East." His book for children, *Salma the Syrian Chef*, sees young, newly immigrated Salma track down the ingredients to her mother's favourite dish to cheer her up. It was the winner of several awards including the Nautilus Book Award, the Middle East Book Award and named to many Best Book lists. His newest work, *The Foghorn Echoes*, is a novel about two young men torn apart by war and cultural taboos. While Hassam struggles to adapt to his new life as a refugee in Canada, Wassim is living on the fringes of society in an abandoned house in Damascus. *The Foghorn Echoes* won a Lambda Literary Award for Gay Fiction and is shortlisted for the 2023 Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize. It has been hailed as "powerful and compassionate" with Ramadan earning praise for creating a world of "immense sensory and emotional precision."

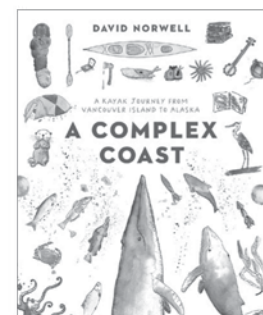
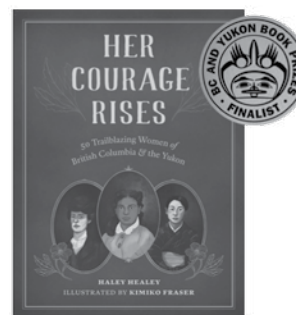
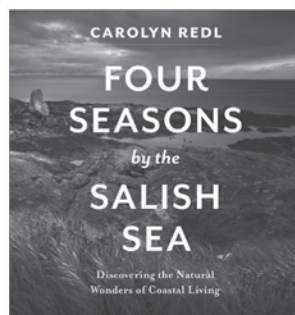
Danny Ramadan will be introduced by Jean Bennett, former President of the Festival Board of Directors.



BC WRITERS FOR BC READERS



Don't miss Jack Knox (event #9) and Ellen Schwartz (event #16)
for unique tales and lots of laughter!



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11 1:00 PM | Saturday, August 19
Tara McGuire
 in conversation with Andrea Woo



photo Jane Thomson

Tara McGuire is a former radio morning show host turned writer and voice-over actor. She is a graduate of both the MFA program at UBC and The Writer's Studio at SFU. Her essays and poetry have been published in various journals including *The Globe and Mail*, *Geist*, and *The Tyee*, as well as being broadcast on CBC. *Holden After and Before: A Love Letter for a Son Lost to Overdose* is her first full-length book. Holden was only 21 when he died of an accidental opioid overdose, leaving McGuire with an enormous sense of grief and emptiness and endless questions about what had happened and why. *Holden After and Before* is her attempt to make sense of not only Holden's death, but his life as well. McGuire employs techniques of memoir and fiction to bring us her son's story, weaving together the memories of those who knew him with fictional sections where she imagines what life might have been like if he hadn't died. A deeply personal book, McGuire is not afraid to examine her role in Holden's life—and death—even if that means staring down uncomfortable truths. McGuire's love for her son and her need for closure has given us this extraordinary, sometimes heart-breaking story told in prose that is both vivid and raw and that shines a light on the tragedy that is our ongoing opioid crisis.

Andrea Woo is an award-winning *Globe and Mail* journalist covering a wide range of health issues including Canada's toxic drug crisis.

This event will be introduced by Cynara Geissler, Director of Marketing and Publicity, Arsenal Pulp Press.

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 Corinna Chong

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**HOLDEN AFTER
AND BEFORE**
 Tara McGuire

A stunning memoir that traces the life path of the author's son Holden, a graffiti artist who died of an accidental opioid overdose at the age of twenty-one.

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Together on one stage are three of BC's finest award-winning poets.

Jen Currin is the author of five collections of poetry and one of short fiction. Their works have been nominated for numerous awards, including the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize, a Lambda Literary Award and the ReLit Award. *The Inquisition Yours*, their third poetry collection, was the winner of the Audre Lorde Award. Their latest work, *Trinity Street*, praised for its "vociferous intelligence" and "musical sense of wordplay," touches on issues of climate change amidst a gentrifying neighbourhood.



photo Sarah Race

Conor Kerr is a Métis/Ukrainian writer and a member of the Métis Nation of Alberta. A writer of many talents, his debut collection of fiction, *Avenue of Champions*, won the ReLit Award while his debut poetry collection, *An Explosion of Feathers*, was named one of "45 Canadian poetry collections to watch out for" by CBC Books. His newest work, *Old Gods*, meditates on the prairie grasslands, its inhabitants, both human and animal, and the interconnectedness between us all.



photo Hal Neen Productions

Award-winning and acclaimed poet Cecily Nicholson is the author of four poetry collections. Her second book, *From the Poplars*, took home the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize, while her third, *Wayside Sang*, won a Governor General's Literary Award. Her most recent work, *Harrowings*, employs farming imagery to explore Black identity, culture, history and engagement with agriculture and "the land." The poems in *Harrowings* have been praised as a "mastery of contrast in their forms, their language and the emotions they evoke" and the book has been nominated for the 2023 Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize.



photo Jai Clarke

This event will be introduced by Silas White, Mayor of Gibsons and President of Nightwood Editions.

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Two of the Coast's finest thinkers and writers engage with each other and their works.

J. Edward Chamberlin is a Professor Emeritus in English and Comparative Literature at the University of Toronto and an Officer of the Order of Canada. He has written a dozen books on a wide range of historical, cultural and literary topics including islands, the power of language and Oscar Wilde. *Horse: How the Horse Has Shaped Civilizations* is a bestseller and *If This Is Your Land, Where Are Your Stories? Finding Common Ground* was nominated for the Charles Taylor Prize. In his latest work, *Storylines: How Words Shape Our World*, Chamberlin turns his insightful eye to examining the stories we've told ourselves throughout history including children's tales, literary works and pop songs.



photo Meg Chamberlin

A skilled poet, novelist and essayist, Theresa Kishkan is the author of 17 books earning numerous awards including a Pushcart Prize and a Relit Award. Her book of poetry, *Morning Glory*, won the bp Nichol Chapbook Award; her novel, *A Man in a Distant Field*, was shortlisted for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize; and her memoir, *Mnemonic: A Book of Trees*, was nominated for the Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize as was her book of essays, *Phantom Limb*, which won the CNFC Readers' Choice Award. Her latest work, *Blue*



photo Alexandra Bolduc

Portugal and Other Essays, covers such topics as aging, history, memory and Kishkan's passion for dyeing fabric. *Quill & Quire* praised *Blue Portugal* for its "vivid colour, rich taste, and robust experience."

J. Edward "Ted" Chamberlin and Theresa Kishkan will be introduced by Anna Comfort O'Keeffe, Publisher of Douglas & McIntyre and a Festival Director.



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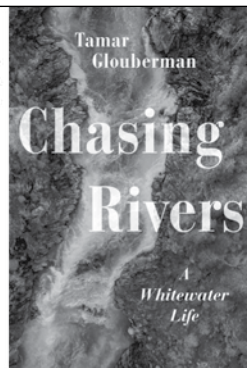
remarkable reads

from Douglas & McIntyre

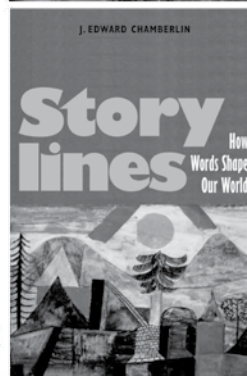
CHASING RIVERS
A Whitewater Life

Tamar Glouberman

From a talented new voice in adventure writing, this page-turner transports readers through wild rapids and breathtaking canyons.

STORYLINES
How Words Shape Our World
J. Edward Chamberlin

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Jody Wilson-Raybould

Tom Rachman

Bob McDonald

Carrie Mac

John Vaillant

Danny Ramadan



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14

7:00 PM | Saturday, August 19

Tom Rachman



Fiction writer Tom Rachman got his storytelling start studying cinema at the University of Toronto before earning a graduate degree at Columbia University's Journalism School. He worked as a foreign correspondent for the Associated Press in various locations including New Delhi, Sri Lanka and Rome, as an editor at the *International Herald Tribune* in Paris and is now a contributing columnist for *The Globe and Mail*. His bestselling debut novel, *The Imperfectionists*, about a group of journalists working for a dying English-language newspaper in Rome, won the Canadian Authors Award for Fiction and has been translated into 25 languages. His second novel, *The Rise & Fall of Great Powers*, topped many "best book" lists, with the *Vancouver Sun* praising Rachman for his "intriguing characters, compelling storyline and laser-sharp insights into humanity." His collection of stories, *Basket of Deplorables*, was shortlisted for the Edge Hill Short Story Prize and his novel *The Italian Teacher*, about a son living in the shadow of his famous painter-father, was shortlisted for the Costa Book Award for best novel. His latest work, *The Imposters*, tells the story of novelist Dora as she pushes to finish her latest work while fearing her mind is slipping. She writes stories from the perspectives of real people from her past—her missing brother, her estranged daughter, her last friend—as she struggles to bring meaning to her life. Rachman's talents as an ironic and precise storyteller with a flair for inventiveness and compassion are on full display in this "novel in stories."

Tom Rachman will be introduced by Anne Carr, community organizer and long-time supporter of the Festival.

Julie Beckett

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15

8:30 PM | Saturday, August 19
The Rockwood Lecture : The Honourable
Jody Wilson-Raybould
PC, OBC, KC



photo Dean Keljan

Jody Wilson-Raybould is a descendant of the Musgamagw Tsawataineuk and Laich-Kwil-Tach peoples, which are part of the Kwakwaka'wakw, also known as the Kwak'waka-speaking peoples. She is a graduate of the UBC Allard School of Law, a former provincial crown prosecutor, served three terms as an elected Commissioner of the BC Treaty Commission and was the BC Regional Chief of the Assembly of First Nations. In 2015, she was elected to Canada's Parliament and made history when she became the first Indigenous person to serve as Minister of Justice and Attorney General of Canada. Wilson-Raybould is also the author of three books: *From Where I Stand: Rebuilding Indigenous Nations for a Stronger Canada*; the best-selling "*Indian*" in the Cabinet: *Speaking Truth to Power*, which was a finalist for both The Writers' Trust Balsillie Prize for Public Policy and the Shaughnessy Cohen Prize for Political Writing; and her most recent, the national bestseller *True Reconciliation: How to Be a Force For Change*, a finalist for the 2023 Hubert Evans Non-Fiction Prize. In *True Reconciliation*, Wilson-Raybould outlines how everyone—Indigenous and non-Indigenous individuals, communities, governments and organizations—can help to advance reconciliation by applying three core practices: Learn, Understand and Act.

It is our privilege to have the Honourable Jody Wilson-Raybould deliver the Rockwood Lecture. She will be welcomed and introduced by the hiwus (chief) yalxwemult Lenora Joe of the shishálh Nation.



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These authors have ventured off the beaten track to bring us their remarkable stories.

Amanda Lewis was a managing editor at Penguin Random House, regularly editing bestsellers that won major awards. Leaving her urban life in Toronto to search out the champion trees of BC, her quest sent her to remote islands and dense forests with a pandemic, climate change and old growth logging making tree tracking that much more complicated. In *Tracking Giants: Big Trees, Tiny Triumphs, and Misadventures in the Forest*, Lewis shares her stories of the pursuit of champions and offers us unexpected insights into our relationship with forests.



photo Sydney Woodward

What's a nice girl from the suburbs doing in a place called Galena Bay? Why, hippie homesteading of course! In *Galena Bay Odyssey*, Ellen Schwartz chronicles her journey from urbanite to logger, cabin builder, chicken farmer, gardener and woodstove cook. Along with exploring her own motives, she examines the idealism of those who went "back to the land" in the 1960s and 1970s and what living on the land has shown her about pursuing a mindful life.



A teacher of art and culture to elementary students for 15 years, Caroll Simpson moved off-grid to run a successful fishing lodge accessible only by boat. *Alone in the Great Unknown* is Simpson's story of perseverance, endurance and joy as she makes a home for herself in remote Babine Lake. It's when her home—and that of her forest-dwelling companions—comes under attack that Simpson shows her true mettle, becoming a pivotal figure in protecting an amazing section of wilderness for all of us.



This event will be introduced by Howard White, CM, OBC, Publisher of Harbour Publishing and President of Douglas & McIntyre.

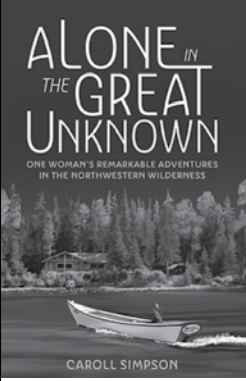
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Alone in The Great Unknown, by Caroll Simpson, is one of these works.



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Janie Chang writes historical fiction that has deep connections to her own family history. Her debut novel, *Three Souls*, was inspired by her grandmother's story and takes place during the Chinese civil war. *Three Souls* was praised for its complex characters and brilliant writing, earning nominations for the Ethel Wilson Fiction Prize and the International Dublin Literary Award. Her next book, *Dragon Springs Road*, was called "a remarkable read, brimming with magic and the grit of realism" by *Quill & Quire*. It became a *Globe and Mail* bestseller and earned her another International Dublin Literary Award nomination. *The Library of Legends* is based on her father's experiences as a student during the Japanese invasion of China. It too was a *Globe and Mail* bestseller and a finalist for an Evergreen Award. Her most recent novel, *The Porcelain Moon*, takes place during World War I and brings to light the little known fact that 140,000 Chinese men were brought to Europe as non-combatant labour in order to free up men for the front lines. Praised for its beautiful writing, complex characters and blistering pace, the story revolves around Pauline (Baoling), who is running away from an arranged marriage, and Camille, who is trapped in an abusive relationship. The two women meet when Pauline leaves Paris to search for her cousin who is working as an interpreter for the Chinese Labour Corps. Combining little known history with cinematic storytelling, Chang undoubtedly has another bestseller on her hands.

Janie Chang will be introduced by Teresa Eckford, an avid reader and long-time staff member at the Sechelt Public Library.

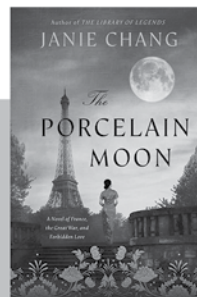


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Ian Ferguson &
 Will Ferguson



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These authors have created complex, captivating worlds with their debut novels.

Jessica Johns is a nehiyaw author with English-Irish ancestry and a member of Sucker Creek First Nation in Treaty 8 territory in Northern Alberta. Her poetry, fiction and nonfiction have been published in numerous journals and magazines. Her debut novel, *Bad Cree*, sees young Mackenzie struggling as her dreams begin bleeding into her waking life. She awakes holding objects from her dreams, crows are following her and she is getting texts from her dead sister. Called “A powerful exploration of generational trauma and an artful, affecting debut” by *Kirkus Reviews*, *Bad Cree* has been thrilling readers and critics alike.



photo Madison Kerr

The Marie Steel Memorial Endowment

Marie Steel was a long-serving volunteer and dedicated supporter of the Festival. In 2008, her nephews, Douglas, David and Richard Bebb, made a \$25,000 donation to the Sunshine Coast Community Foundation to establish the Marie Steel Memorial Endowment to honour her memory and to acknowledge her love of the Festival. The initial donation was partially matched by the BC Arts Renaissance Fund and the federal Department of Canadian Heritage. The fund has continued to grow through subsequent donations from the family and the Sunshine Coast Foundation (Barron Enhancement Fund) along with matching funds from the Department of Canadian Heritage.

We are extremely grateful to Marie Steel’s family for their generous gifts and to the Sunshine Coast Foundation for their administration and enhancement of the fund. The earnings support the annual New Voices event, established in 2009, and provide a platform for writers of first books.

In *Finding Edward*, Sheila Murray takes on a journey of discovery as Cyril pursues Edward’s story, unearthing Black history in Canada along the way. Newly immigrated to Toronto, Cyril is finding his new home challenging when he happens upon the story of a white mother from the 1920s forced to give up her mixed race baby for adoption.

Well-researched and beautifully written, Murray’s debut novel has been praised for its “descriptive and energizing prose.” *Finding Edward* was a finalist for the Governor General’s Literary Award for Fiction and named one of the best works of Canadian fiction in 2022 by CBC Books.

Megan Cole is a journalist and writer and the director of programming and communications for the BC and Yukon Book Prizes.

The New Voices event will be introduced by Franca Bebb, a family member of Marie Steel and a devoted Festival supporter.



photo Ken Stralton

THE
MARIE STEEL
MEMORIAL ENDOWMENT

19 2:30 PM | Sunday, August 20
Laura Trethewey

Laura Trethewey is a graduate of UBC's School of Creative Writing and now works as an ocean journalist. She was the editor of the magazines *Broken Pencil* and *Boulderpavement* as well as the senior writer and editor for Ocean.org, the Vancouver Aquarium's multimedia storytelling website. Her first book, *The Imperilled Ocean: Human Stories from a Changing Sea*, is a collection of essays detailing the relationships of seven different individuals with the ocean. Stories include that of Pete Romano, a Hollywood cinematographer who films the "ocean" for movies inside a 233,000-gallon tank in an LA warehouse; the tragic stories of two refugees, one from Ghana, the other from Syria, both trying to cross the ocean to a better life; the miracle of Fraser River sturgeons who have survived several mass extinctions; and her personal story working as a volunteer with Ocean Legacy to clean up BC's shoreline only to encounter an overwhelming amount of plastic. Her new book, *The Deepest Map*, chronicles the effort to map the world's ocean floor by 2030. With the oceans covering 70% of our planet, scientists, investors, militaries and private explorers are all competing to create an accurate reading of this massive area no one has ever seen before. The consequences could lead to a better understanding of the last unknown place on earth—the deep sea—or to further environmental degradation as this uncharted area becomes commercialized. With *The Deepest Map* Trethewey adds to the important conversation of how our oceans contribute to the world's well-being.

Laura Trethewey will be introduced by Dr. Michael Jackson, Executive Director of the Loon Foundation and co-founder of PODS.



photo Stuart Leatt

20 4:00 PM | Sunday, August 20
Ian Ferguson and Will Ferguson

From the brothers who schooled us in *How to Be a Canadian* comes a new co-written mystery, *I Only Read Murder*. Ian and Will Ferguson's new crime fighting heroine, Miranda Abbott, reprises her detective TV role as Pastor Fran—in real life—when a theatre actor is murdered in front of the audience. Full of eccentric characters and laugh-out-loud funny scenes, nothing is as it seems in small-town Happy Rock, and Miranda has a lot at stake in solving this case that has already proven to be life-changing. Ian Ferguson is an author, educator and playwright with an extensive career in the film and television industry, having written, directed and produced *Gone South: How Canada Invented Hollywood*. He is the author of *The Survival Guide to BC*, a satire on everything British Columbian, the bestselling satire, *Trudeau on Trudeau: The Deep Thoughts of Canada's 23rd Prime Minister*, and *Village of Small Houses*, winner of the Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. Will Ferguson is a three-time winner of the Stephen Leacock Medal for his books *Happiness*, *Beauty Tips from Moose Jaw* and *Beyond Belfast*. His award-winning novels include *The Finder* which earned the Arthur Ellis Award for Crime Fiction, while *419* picked up a Libris Award and the Giller Prize. Together, they penned the bestselling *How to Be a Canadian: Even If You Already Are One* which won a CBA Libris Award for Non-Fiction Book of the Year.

Ian and Will Ferguson will be introduced by Leianne Emery, Library Director of the Sechelt Public Library.



photo David Bruce



photo Terumi Ferguson



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PEN Empty Chair

PEN Canada is a nonpartisan organization of writers and readers that works to defend freedom of expression as a basic human right at home and abroad. The Empty Chair campaign raises awareness about writers around the world who have been silenced for exercising their right to freedom of expression. The Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts is displaying an empty chair that represents a writer who does not have the right to speak publicly, openly and freely. We do this to remind ourselves of the freedoms we have and to honour the people who defend these freedoms.



This year, the empty chair beside the stage represents Narges Mohammadi, a prominent Iranian activist, writer and journalist who has faced multiple arrests and arbitrary imprisonments during the past 10 years. She was imprisoned at Evin Prison in Tehran in 2015 and received a 16-year sentence in 2016 for “taking part in assembly and collusion against national security” and “spreading propaganda against the state.” In 2020, she was charged with “spreading propaganda against the system” and “assembly and collusion with intent to take action against national security.” In 2021, she was sentenced to 30 months in prison and 80 lashes. In 2022, she was arrested while attending a memorial service for Ebrahim Ketabdars who had been killed at a protest in Karaj. She is now facing a total of 10 years imprisonment, 150 lashes, and a 12 million Iranian Rial (\$376 CA) fine. Mohammadi also suffers from a neurological disorder that can result in seizures, partial paralysis, and a pulmonary embolism.

If you would like to support PEN Canada's advocacy on behalf of Narges Mohammadi, please sign the petition at the information booth and visit www.pencanada.ca.



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21 7:30 PM | Sunday, August 20
Tom and Kalissa Landa
with Steve Mitchell



To close out our festival, we're very pleased to present Tom and Kalissa Landa with their friend and musical collaborator Steve Mitchell. Tom and Kalissa are perhaps best known for their work with the Celtic, folk and bluegrass band, The Paperboys. Originally from Mexico, Tom founded the band in Vancouver in 1992 and has described The Paperboys' sound as high energy music that is like a “Guinness with a tequila chaser while listening to an Americana Jukebox.” The Paperboys released nine albums, won two Western Canadian Music Awards and a Juno. In 2006, Tom founded Locarno to explore the music of his Latin roots, mixing Cuban, Mexican and pop music with his high energy style. Kalissa joined the bands in 2009 and the two have become a musical power couple. A very entertaining and energetic fiddle player, Kalissa made BC music history when, at 12, she became the youngest person to win the title of BC Provincial Fiddle Champion. When the pandemic hit, they started playing their music online to help keep everyone's spirits up. The Slipper Sessions saw the pair at home in their slippers playing acoustic and duo versions of their songs that included fan favourites, but they created some new tunes as well. Now they are taking the intimate feel of their Slipper Sessions on the road. Prepare to be amazed by the talent of these virtuoso musicians who will play a mix of Celtic, folk, roots and Latin music. Oh, and be prepared to get up and dance!

The closing event will be introduced by Marisa Alps, the Festival's Artistic and Executive Director.



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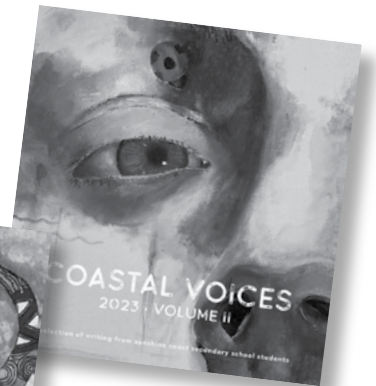
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Celebration of Authors, Books and Community (CABC)



photo Michael Gurney

Cover art by Alexis Glover,
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designs the anthology.

Celebration of Authors, Books and Community (CABC) is a joint initiative of School District 46 – Sunshine Coast and the Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts that brings writers into Sunshine Coast classrooms to talk about books and writing and encourage students to express themselves through both the written and spoken word.

Over the past school year, we facilitated virtual (and a few in-person) visits to classrooms with outstanding writers who shared insights and inspiration with K-7 students: **Kuljinder Kaur Brar, Kallie George, Monique Gray Smith, Faith Erin Hicks, Julia Kyi, Tanya Lloyd Kyi, Gabrielle Prince, Leona Prince, Teoni Spathelfer and Kevin Sylvester.** Over the course of Family Literacy Week in January, the authors engaged with a total of 120 classes, shared their stories and insights about writing and storytelling, and reminded students that their stories are unique and important.

Each year we publish *Coastal Voices*, an adjudicated anthology of writing by Sunshine Coast students. This year we received over 800 submissions by students from every school in School District 46. There were so many excellent pieces to choose from we published two volumes: the first showcases work by elementary students, the second features writers from secondary schools. The achievement of these young writers was celebrated with a joyous launch in the Pavilion in June. CABC and *Coastal Voices* are made possible through the support of the Gwen

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the sunshine coast's favourite magazine
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Information Page

The Tent

The tent is home to **Talewind Books**, our wonderful independent bookseller. You can purchase the authors' books here and have them signed after their events.

Food and Beverages

If you're looking for a bite to eat onsite, the **Strait Coffee** booth, located in front of the Rockwood Lodge, is serving a selection of sandwiches, baked goods and coffee and tea. **Jam Jar** will be set up between the Lodge and the Tent from Friday to Sunday, serving delicious Lebanese food.

The Festival's **Beverage Booth**, also located on the upper level between the Lodge and the Tent, has a variety of non-alcoholic and alcoholic refreshments for sale. We are now accepting payment by credit and debit cards as well as cash. You are welcome to take beverages into the Pavilion (with the exception of glass bottles!) but please remember to take your cups with you when you leave.



Contests & Raffles

Contests are back again! The contest board will be set up at the Information Booth and you will find buckets for contest entries located throughout the site. Special thanks to **Maureen McBeath**, whose enthusiastic efforts make these contests possible each year. And keep a lookout for friendly volunteers selling **raffle tickets** (\$1.00 per ticket or 6 for \$5.00) over the weekend. All proceeds go to our Legacy of Literacy Endowment.

Audience Survey

Your feedback is important to us. Please pick up a print copy of the audience survey at the information booth or visit www.writersfestival.ca to fill out an electronic version. Thank you!

Information Booth

This is where you can ask for directions, look at the bus or ferry schedule, pick up a program or audience survey, and find the contest board!

Lost and Found

If you forget an item in the Pavilion it will be held there until the end of the day. All unclaimed items plus anything found elsewhere on the Festival site end up in the Festival office.

Green Initiatives

Zero Waste has been a core value of the Festival since 2010. Please help us reduce waste by bringing your own water bottles, drink containers and coffee cups. You can refill your water bottles in the washrooms or from water jugs at the Beverage Booth.

Recycling stations have a variety of clearly labelled receptacles. We appreciate you taking a minute to separate waste accordingly.

Washrooms

There are two non-wheelchair-accessible washrooms at the rear of the Festival office building and two washrooms, one fully accessible, located in the Rockwood Lodge.

There are three portable toilets (including one accessible unit) located along Shorncliffe Avenue.

All washrooms are gender neutral.



THE VANCOUVER INSTITUTE

108th Anniversary

**FREE Saturday Evening Lectures at the University of B.C.
Fall Program 2023**

September 30

Ms. Leslie Weir
Librarian and Archivist of Canada.

**Collections 24/7:
Connecting Canadians to Their Stories**

October 7 No lecture - Thanksgiving

October 14

Professor William (Bill) Murray
Greek History, University of South Florida.

**Naval Conflict and the First Punic War:
Discoveries from the Debris Field**

October 21

Professor Thomas Davidoff
Sauder School of Business, UBC.
Is the Missing Middle Missing for Good Reason?

October 28

Professor Tricia Logan
Interim Academic Director, Indian Residential
School History and Dialogue Centre
**Residential Schools: Survivor Truths, Access
to Records, and the Post-TRC Era**

November 4

Mr. Harold Munro
Editor-in-Chief, Vancouver Sun and Province
Local Journalism and a Healthy Democracy

November 11 No lecture - Remembrance Day

November 18

Professor Kevin Leyton-Brown
Computer Science, UBC.
Understanding Artificial Intelligence

November 25

Professor Anthony Shelton
Former Director,
UBC Museum of Anthropology.
**The UBC Museum of Anthropology:
A Collection Fit for the Nation(s)**

December 2

Professor Jan Zwicky
Department of Philosophy, University of Victoria
**Thinking as Politics:
The Moral Dimensions of Poetry**

All lectures are held at 8:15 p.m. in Lecture Hall No. 2 of the Instructional Resources Centre at UBC

Admission to lectures is free and the public is invited to attend

Visit our website: <http://Vancouverinstitute.ca>

Or find us on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TheVancouverInstitute>

PLEASE CLIP FOR FUTURE REFERENCE



Announcing a New Endowment!

Moyna Krusell
(1944-2023)

Moyna was known for her generosity as well as her ready laugh and warm smile. Although financial constraints prevented her from attending university, she was an avid reader and lifelong learner with a boundless curiosity about the world. She was also an inspiration to the young people in her life, encouraging them to read and love literature. To honour her passion and spirit, her husband Rick Bennett, with the assistance of family and friends, has created the **Moyna Krusell Memorial Endowment**, the proceeds of which will support the work of Celebration of Authors, Books and Community and the Festival's literacy outreach in the community. Please see the next page for information about how to donate to the Moyna Krusell Memorial Endowment.

All of our endowment funds are held and managed by the Sunshine Coast Foundation.

We thank the following publishers for their donations of books:

Anvil Press
Arsenal Pulp Press
Caitlin Press
Cormorant Books
Douglas & McIntyre
Goose Lane Editions
Greystone Books
Harbour Publishing
HarperCollins Canada
Heritage House
House of Anansi
Nightwood Editions
Penguin Random House Canada
Talonbooks
University of Alberta Press

Donations

(Received July 20, 2022 - June 30, 2023)

Roll of Honour

Mary & Cecil Gordon Family Fund,
held at Vancouver Foundation

Readers Circle

Kit Artus

Janie Chang

Jane Darling

Lubin Family Fund,
*held at Nicola Wealth
Private Giving Foundation*

Linda and Keith Maxwell

Milner Family Fund,
facilitated by the Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation

Nicholas Simons

John and Gail Watson

Book Club

Silvia Bergersen

Mary Jane Davidson

Judy Finch

Richard Harrison

Leslie Hurtig

Bonnie and Michael Klein

Susan Ogul & Lonnie Propas

Susan Sutherland

Nancy Webber

Legacy of Literacy Donors

Anonymous

Rosemary Bates Terry

Rick Bennett & Moyna Krusell

Laura Benson

Sahra Hailey

Wendy Hunt & Chris Staples

Connie Johnston,
in loving memory of her mother Lucy

Darlene Kry

Laura and John Maddalozzo

Kathy Mulder

Our Story:

The Legacy of Literacy Endowment Campaign

We launched the Legacy of Literacy Endowment Campaign in 2017 to increase our endowment funds to \$1,000,000 by 2022, our 40th Anniversary. We reached our goal almost two years ahead of time, thanks to the work of the Fund Development Committee, who planned and carried out the endowment campaign, and over 180 generous donors (and counting!) who believe in the Festival and the work it does, and want to see it continue to thrive and evolve.

The Festival has been supported by the annual earnings from the following endowment funds: **Gwen Bennett Endowment Fund, Legacy of Literacy Endowment Fund, Lynn Pakulak Endowment Fund, Marie Steel Memorial Endowment Fund** and the **Schell Family Endowment Fund**.

The Government of Canada, through the Department of Canadian Heritage, has supported the Legacy of Literacy Endowment Campaign since 2009 with matching funds that total over \$367,000.

How do we spend the endowment earnings?

- Ongoing support for **Celebration of Authors, Books and Community (CABC)** and the publication of the *Coastal Voices* anthology of student writing
- Distribution of complimentary tickets through public libraries and social service agencies to ensure that finances are not a barrier to attending the Festival
- Ensuring that the Festival continues to present new and emerging voices
- Providing support for escalating costs relating to travel and accommodation for Festival writers
- Improving accessibility
- Special community outreach programming throughout the year
- Ongoing maintenance of our beloved (but aging) Festival Pavilion

Endowment revenue also serves to protect the Festival in the event of unexpected funding cutbacks or revenue shortfalls and ensures the long-term financial sustainability of the organization.

Please Support the Festival

Your ongoing support is vital to our operations, to our capacity to continue bringing exceptional writers to the Festival stage, and to meet increasing costs.

How to donate

Please specify if you'd like your donation to go to general operations or a specific endowment.

In person

at the Festival office, 5511 Shorncliffe Avenue, Sechelt
(cash, cheque, Visa, MasterCard, debit)

By telephone

at 604-885-9631 or 1-800-565-9631
(Visa or MasterCard)

By mail

to Sunshine Coast Festival of the Written Arts
Box 2299, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0
(cheque or money order)

Online

by clicking the Donate Now button on the home page of our website

www.writersfestival.ca



Thank you!

2023 Festival Planner

Thursday, August 17

1. 8:00 pm **Adriana Barton**
with **Simon Paradis**

Friday, August 18

2. 9:00 am **Tamar Glouberman** and
Hilary Peach with **Kate Braid**
3. 10:30 am **Carrie Mac**
4. 1:00 pm **John Vaillant**
5. 2:30 pm **JD Derbyshire**
6. 4:00 pm **Corinna Chong** and
Andrea Routley
with **Megan Cole**
7. 7:00 pm **Angela Sterritt**
8. 8:30 pm **Bob McDonald**

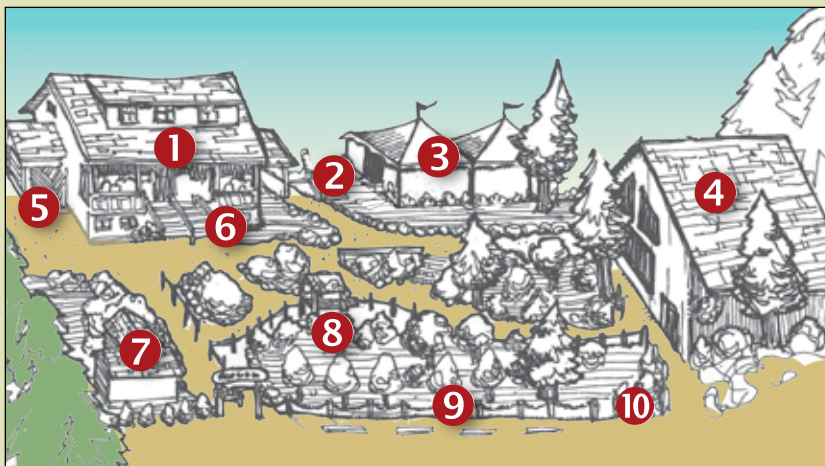
Saturday, August 19

9. 9:00 am **Jack Knox**
10. 10:30 am **Danny Ramadan**
11. 1:00 pm **Tara McGuire** in conversation
with **Andrea Woo**
12. 2:30 pm **Jen Currin, Conor Kerr** and
Cecily Nicholson
13. 4:00 pm **J. Edward Chamberlin** and
Theresa Kishkan
14. 7:00 pm **Tom Rachman**
15. 8:30 pm **Honourable**
Jody Wilson-Raybould
The Rockwood Lecture

Sunday, August 20

16. 9:00 am Off the Beaten Track:
Amanda Lewis
Ellen Schwartz and
Caroll Simpson
17. 10:30 am **Janie Chang**
18. 1:00 pm New Voices: **Jessica Johns**
and **Sheila Murray**
with **Megan Cole**
19. 2:30 pm **Laura Trethewey**
20. 4:00 pm **Ian Ferguson** and
Will Ferguson
21. 7:30 pm **Tom and Kalissa Landa,**
with **Steve Mitchell**

Rockwood Centre



- 1 **Rockwood Lodge**
Gender neutral washrooms,
accessible for wheelchairs with a
30" wheel base (via side entrance)
- 2 **Beverage Booth and
Jam Jar**
Wine, beer, cider, pop, juice
and food booth with lunch and
dinner options
- 3 **The Tent**
Bookstore and author signings
- 4 **Festival Pavilion**
Location for all Festival events
- 5 **Art Space Entrance**
- 6 **Strait Coffee**
Coffee, tea, baked goods and
sandwiches
- 7 **Festival Office**
Ticket sales, gender neutral wash-
rooms (not wheelchair accessible),
lost and found
- 8 **Information Booth**
Festival and tourist information,
raffle ticket sales, contest board
- 9 **Pick Up and Drop Off**
Parking spots reserved for vehicles
displaying disabled parking tag
- 10 **Portable Toilets**
Includes one wheelchair accessible
unit. Paved accessible path to the
lower entrance to the Festival
Pavilion
- All ticketed events take place in the Festival Pavilion
 - For security purposes, the Pavilion will be cleared after each performance
 - Use of cameras and video recorders is not permitted in the Pavilion
 - Please turn off mobile phones and pagers during events
 - Please, no dogs on the Festival site (with the exception of service dogs)

We hope to see you next year!

August 15-18, 2024

Festival of the Written Arts

Box 2299, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0

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email: info@writersfestival.ca | www.writersfestival.ca