



OCTOBER 13-16, 2022



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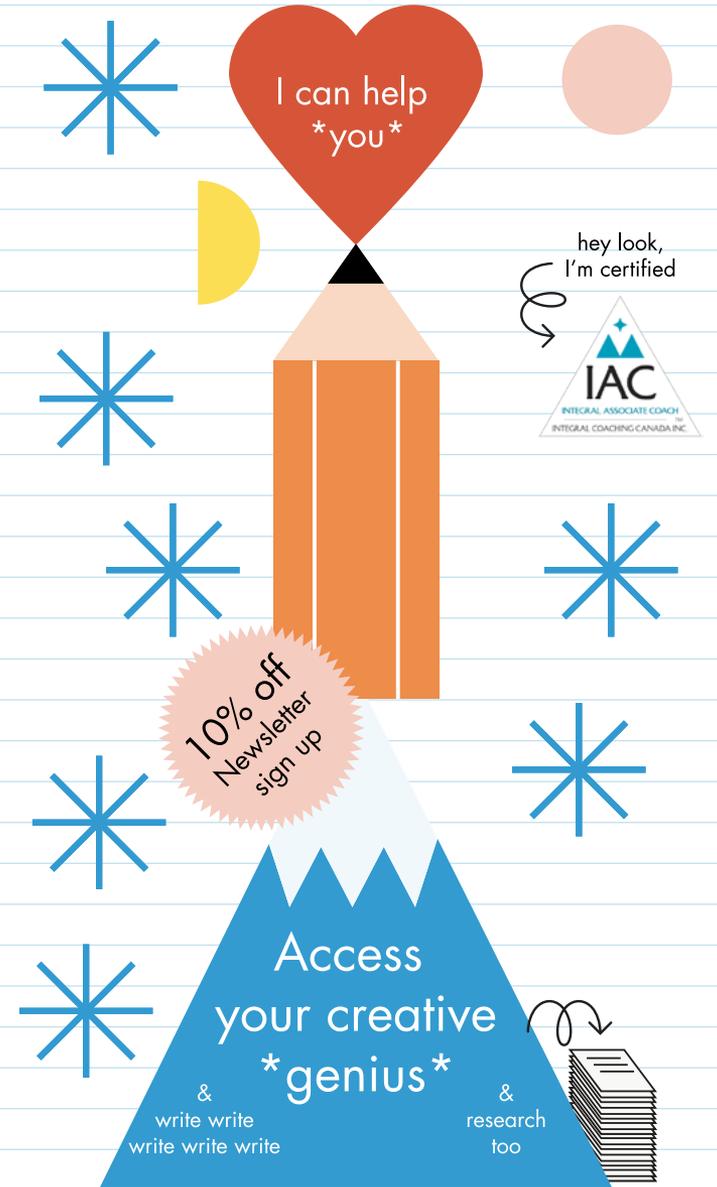
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WELCOME

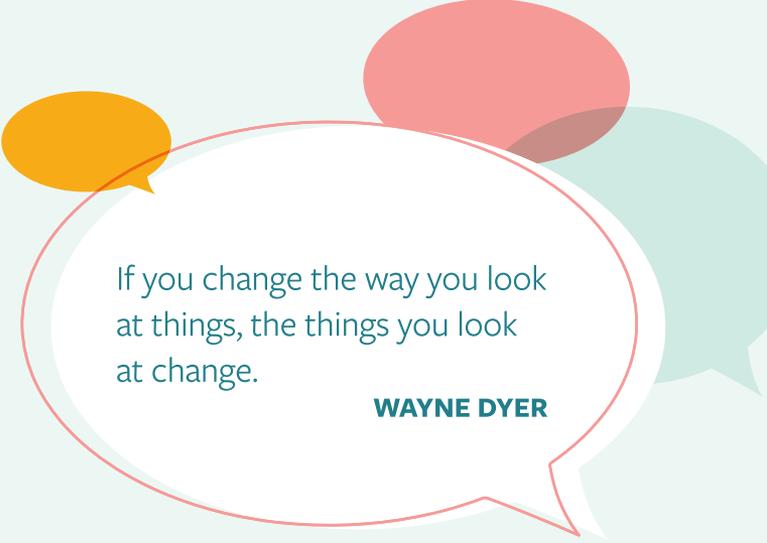
Welcome to the hybrid 2022 Whistler Writers Festival! We are very grateful to live, work and learn on the unceded, shared territories of the Skwxwú7mesh Nation (Squamish) and Liłwat7úl Nation (Lil'wat).

I am both excited and humbled to be the incoming festival artistic director. Founder Stella Harvey was a phenomenal mentor to me, and a welcoming host to all who made the festival a success: guest authors and presenters, publishers, volunteers, staff, sponsors, and our audiences.

The past two years have been extremely turbulent for everyone. The pandemic, combined with rising social movements, have personally given me greater insight into the critical role the literary arts play in positive social change.

Storytellers and their stories have the power to bring new ideas into the world; amplify underrepresented voices; challenge systemic injustices; combat misinformation; and join people together in meaningful conversations. This year our theme is **sharing stories together**. To keep our festival accessible and inclusive, almost all events will be offered in-person and via livestream, allowing participants and guest authors to join us in the way that works best for them.

On October 13, please join us at the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre for readings with **Canada's Best Independent Authors** featuring the books of the finalists of the **Whistler Independent Book Awards**. Afterwards, we are thrilled to



If you change the way you look at things, the things you look at change.

WAYNE DYER

present a brand-new event, **Sharing Traditions: An Evening of Oral Storytelling with Tsawaysia Spukwus** (Squamish Nation), **Tanina Williams** (Lil'wat Nation), and eight local storytellers.

Friday October 14th showcases our **Booklovers' Literary Salon**, featuring journalist and author **Marsha Lederman** and her memoir *Kiss the Red Stairs: The Holocaust, Once Removed*.

Following the salon is **The Literary Cabaret**, hosted by local scribe and musician **Stephen Vogler**. The night combines readings from some of Canada's best-loved authors and rising stars with live music from **West Coast Front**. This year's cabaret features guest authors **Amber Cowie, Joseph Dandurand, Norma Dunning, Gary Geddes, Tamar Glouberman, Hasan Namir, Mari-Lou Rowley,** and **Shyam Selvadurai**. The winners of the **Whistler Independent Book Awards** will be announced just before the Literary Cabaret.

If you're keen to elevate your writing skills and industry knowledge, take a creative writing or publishing workshop with **Brandon Barrett, Amber Cowie, Joseph Dandurand, Kilmeny Denny, Lynn Duncan, Ann Eriksson, Kagan Goh, Marsha Lederman, or Meryllyn Simonds**. Thursday's workshops will focus on independent publishing while Friday will feature a morning panel discussion with publishing industry professionals, and one-on-one pitching sessions with publishers and agents in the afternoon.

Our popular Saturday reading events are back, each featuring authors of different genres: **Poetry, Non-Fiction, Fiction**, and a **Mystery and Crime Writers** session.

On Saturday night, we welcome all to **Sharing Stories Together: A Festival Celebration & Fundraiser** to mingle, enjoy live music, share a tale, enjoy delicious appetizers, and raise a glass to celebrate how our community has come together to make the festival what it is today.

The festival's **Saturday Night Gala** features an illuminating conversation between moderator **Marsha Lederman** and authors **Méira Cook** (*The Full Catastrophe*) and **Iain Reid** (*We Spread*).

Moderator **Wayne Grady** will join us on Sunday October 16th for an insightful, wide-ranging conversation with authors **Cody Caetano, Lisa Moore, Heather O'Neill** and **Jamal Saeed** at our **Sunday Book Talk: Coffee and Conversation** reading event.

The best way to show your support for our guest authors is to buy their books. Once again, we're delighted to have pop-up stores **Armchair Books** and the **Whistler Independent Book Awards** onsite at the Fairmont Chateau Whistler.

Welcome to our 2022 festival. Let's share stories together.

Rebecca Wood Barrett

Artistic Director



ARMCHAIR BOOKS and
PENGUIN RANDOM HOUSE CANADA

welcome our authors to the

Whistler Writers Festival

OCTOBER 13-16, 2022

Cody Caetano

Shaena Lambert

Wayne Grady

Marsha Lederman

Guy Gavriel Kay

Shyam Selvadurai



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Penguin
Random House
Canada



Armchair
BOOKS

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

In 2022, the Whistler Writers Festival will again be presented as a hybrid of in-person and online events. Join us in Whistler, with sessions held at the Fairmont Chateau Whistler, Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre, Maury Young Arts Centre, and Whistler Public Library, or from the comfort of your home via livestream. Please review the program and website carefully to determine which options are available for each event. We wish to keep our audiences and presenters safe and healthy, so the delivery of events may change depending on provincial health orders. We look forward to sharing stories, together.

What does the Whistler Writers Festival cost?

This year we have different pricing options for in-person and online events. Ticket sales help our non-profit organization cover our minimum costs for guest author presentations, while keeping the events affordable and accessible. Some events are free, but you do need to RSVP so that we can meet venue capacity requirements or send you a livestream link if it is online. When buying a ticket, there is also an option to make a donation, which helps to support the literary programs we deliver to our community and beyond.

Is there a festival pass this year?

We do not have a reading pass, or all access festival pass this year due to the complexities of hybrid programming.

Where can I buy my tickets?

On our website, WhistlerWritersFest.com or during the festival at our Welcome and Information Desk in the lobby of the Fairmont Chateau Whistler.

How do I attend?

If you are attending in-person, come to the venue and our volunteers will direct you to the event room. If you are attending online, you need internet access, a laptop, desktop computer or smart phone. Almost all events will be available via livestream, through the Zoom or YouTube format. We recommend downloading the [Zoom app](#) to your smart phone device well in advance. If you plan to attend using a laptop or computer, you can access your event via the Zoom link we will be providing you with, and don't need to download the Zoom app. We'll also send you reminders one and 48 hours before the online event.

What time zone are the events taking place?

All times noted in the program are **PDT – Pacific Daylight Time**, or **UTC - 7** (Coordinated Universal Time). Do you need to convert your Time Zone to Whistler, BC? [Click here](#)

Will I be able to ask questions during the live sessions?

Yes! Use the Q&A button on the Zoom toolbar at the bottom of your screen, or the chat section of YouTube. There will be a Q&A session at the end of each session, and our moderators will refer to them at that time.

Can the other attendees or panellists see me on Zoom?

If you are attending a reading event online the other participants will not be able to see you. If you are attending an online workshop, these are held in the Zoom Meeting format, and the other attendees will be able to see and hear you, but only if you turn your camera and mic on.

Are the festival venues wheelchair accessible?

Yes. All our venues are wheelchair accessible. If you require additional audio or visual supports, please contact us in advance at info@whistlerwritersfest.com

What happens if I miss a session?

We know life can get in the way, so we'll post the virtual sessions for replay within two weeks after the festival, so you won't miss a thing.

What if I cannot attend an in-person session?

The in-person tickets are non-refundable. If you were unable to attend, we can send you a video link within two weeks after the festival to watch the event.

How do I buy the authors' books that are appearing at the festival?

Our bookstore partner Armchair Books will have a pop-up store at all in-person events. Check out our program for all the guest authors' current books. If you live in the Sea to Sky Corridor, we encourage you to purchase your book from [Armchair Books](#) in Whistler or order online at www.whistlerbooks.com (local delivery to Squamish is free!). If you are joining us from afar, support the independent bookseller in your local area by visiting the [Canadian Independent Bookstore](#) Finder. Happy reading!

What are your COVID protocols?

Our in-person venues and events will comply with all current provincial health orders, and we will update our policies as needed to keep people safe and healthy. Check our website for the latest information.

Travelling from the USA or beyond?

Please ensure you have read, understood and complied with all [Canadian requirements](#) for American citizens, permanent residents and others travelling into Canada. **This includes mandatory completion of proof of vaccination documentation via the ArriveCAN app.** To help your travel go most smoothly, we recommend that you complete your ArriveCAN app documentation up to 3 days prior to arriving in Canada.

Who do I contact if I need help with my tickets or attending the festival?

Email info@whistlerwritersfest.com. We will be monitoring the email during the sessions.

COFFEE, WRITING & NETWORKING SUITE

Fairmont Chateau Whistler

Sponsored by: The Federation of BC Writers

Open Saturday Oct. 15, 9-5 & Sunday Oct. 16, 9-1

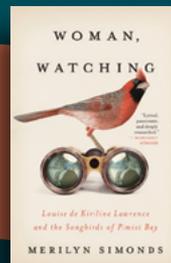


Back by popular demand! The Federation of BC Writers welcomes festival presenters and keen workshop participants to stop by for a chat and talk about all things writing! We hope you'll feel inspired by the festival and take advantage of the space to write, meet fellow writers, and connect with our team. Coffee, tea, and treats are on hand to kickstart that festival vibe.

Join us for a Writing Sprint with accompaniment from pianist Andrew Sims on Saturday from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and a Quiet Writing Sprint from 4-5 p.m. On Sunday the room will be open from 9 a.m. to noon for quiet writing and connecting.



CATCH US AT THE FESTIVAL!



**MERILYN
SIMONDS**

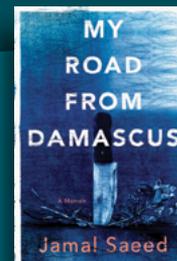


WOMAN, WATCHING



**JAMAL
SAEED**

**MY ROAD FROM
DAMASCUS**



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All-in-one online workshop package: \$60

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WORKSHOP 1:

Preparing Your Manuscript with Kilmeny Denny

9 – 9:45 a.m. PDT | Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre & Online

WORKSHOP 2:

Preparing to Publish with Lynn Duncan

10 – 11:45 a.m. PDT | Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre & Online

WORKSHOP 3:

Preparing to Promote with Kilmeny Denny & Lynn Duncan

2 – 4 p.m. PDT | Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre & Online

READING EVENT 1:

Opening Night Showcase:

Canada's Best Independent Authors of 2022

5 – 6:30 p.m. PDT | Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre & Online | FREE (RSVP)



READING EVENT 2:

Sharing Traditions: An Evening of Oral Storytelling

With Tsawaysia Spukwus and Tanina Williams

7 – 9 p.m. PDT | Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre \$22 | Online \$12

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 14

WORKSHOP 4:

Insights from Insiders:

Trade Publishing in Canada Today

10:30 – 11:45 a.m. PDT | Online only \$15



WORKSHOP 5:

Pitch your Book or Story Idea to a Trade Publishing Pro

1:30 – 4:30 p.m. PDT | Online only \$75 | Limited space available

READING EVENT 3:

The Booklovers' Literary Salon

With Marsha Lederman

4 – 5 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12



READING EVENT 4:

The Literary Cabaret:

We're Back, Live Baby!

7 – 9 p.m. PDT | Maury Young Arts Centre \$25 | Online \$12



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15

WORKSHOP 6:

Using Journalism Skills in Memoir Writing

With Marsha Lederman

9 - 10 a.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30 | Online \$12

READING EVENT 5:

Writers of Non-Fiction Panel

With Kagan Goh, Merylyn Simonds, Debra Thompson,
WIBA Winner

10 - 11:15 a.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12



WORKSHOP 7:

Poetry: Sharing our Gift

with Joseph Dandurand

10:30 - 11:30 a.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30 | Online \$12

READING EVENT 6:

Poetry: Deeper Conversations:

Loss, grief and finding our way home

With Gillian Jerome, Jónína Kirton, Sarah de Leeuw,
Tolu Oloruntoba

11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12

READING EVENT 7:

Thrills and Chills:

Mystery and Crime Writers Panel

With Charles Demers, Daniel Kalla, Anna Pitoniak,
Sandra SG Wong

1:15 - 2:30 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12



WORKSHOP 8:

Mastering the Art and Craft of Creative Writing through Narrative Poetry

With Kagan Goh

1 - 2:30 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30 | Online \$12

WORKSHOP 9:

Baring the Bones:

How to Make the Story Part of the Story with Merylyn Simonds

3 - 4 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30 | Online \$12

READING EVENT 8:

Writers of Fiction

With Guy Gavriel Kay, Chelene Knight, Shaena Lambert,
Zarqa Nawaz and the WIBA Winner

4 - 5:15 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12



READING EVENT 9:

Sharing Stories Together

A Festival Celebration & Fundraiser featuring Special
Guests

6 - 7:30 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$20

READING EVENT 10:

Saturday Night Gala

Marsha Lederman in Conversation with
Méira Cook and Iain Reid

8 - 9:30 p.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$25 | Online \$12



SUNDAY, OCTOBER 16

READING EVENT 11:

A Walk to Lost Lake and Back

With Jónína Kirton, Grant Lawrence, Tolu Oloruntoba and Marilyn Simonds

9 – 10 a.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30

Includes a warming hot chocolate and tasty treat.

WORKSHOP 10:

Writing Thrilling Fiction:

The Perfect Crime Needs the Perfect Plan

With Amber Cowie

9 – 10 a.m. PDT | Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$30 | Online \$12

READING EVENT 12:

Sunday Book Talk: Coffee and Conversation

Wayne Grady in Conversation with Cody Caetano,

Lisa Moore, Heather O'Neill and Jamal Saeed

11 a.m. – 12:15 p.m. PDT

Fairmont Chateau Whistler \$40 (includes coffee, tea and pastries) | Online \$12



WORKSHOP 11:

Wri(gh)t the World - A Creative Writing Workshop for Eco-engaged Middle Schoolers

With Ann Eriksson

11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. PDT | Whistler Public Library & Online

FREE (RSVP)



READING EVENT 13:

Finding Light through the Darkness: Nurturing Hope in Children's and YA Literature

With Ann Eriksson, Jen Ferguson, Jamal Saeed and the

WIBA Children's Book Winner

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. PDT | Whistler Public Library or Online | FREE (RSVP)



WORKSHOP 12:

Page to Stage: Using Improvisation to Generate Character

With Brandon Barrett

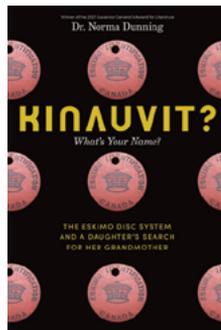
3 – 5 p.m. PDT | Whistler Public Library \$30 | Online \$12

New & Notable Authors

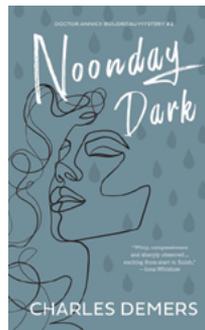
harbourpublishing.com • douglas-mcintyre.com • nightwoodeditions.com



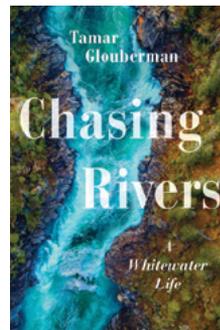
Grant Lawrence



Norma Dunning



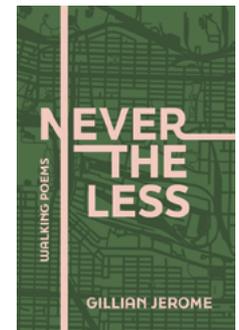
Charles Demers



Tamar Glouberman



Joseph Dandurand



Gillian Jerome

WHISTLER INDEPENDENT BOOK AWARDS

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For over 100 years, Canadian Authors Association has been providing professional development and networking opportunities for writers at all stages of their writing careers: aspiring, emerging, and professional. Canadian Authors Association is proud to partner with Vivalogue to administer the Whistler Independent Book Awards. Association members provide thoughtful peer reviews for all entries and judge shortlisted books as part of the finalist selection process. Join us and increase your participation in the vibrant Canadian literary scene. canadianauthors.org

 VIVALOGUE

Vivalogue was founded in 2010 to provide professional publishing support to authors interested in self-publishing. vivalogue.com

THE JUDGES

Fiction

AMBER COWIE was a Whistler Book Awards nominee, hit number one overall on Amazon, and was a top-100 bestselling Kindle book of 2018. Her latest book, *Last One Alive*, was released by Simon and Schuster Canada in May 2022. ambercowie.com

DARCIE FRIESEN HOSSACK's short story collection, *Mennonites Don't Dance*, was a runner-up for the 2011 Danuta Gleed Award, shortlisted for the 2011 Commonwealth Writers Prize and the 2012 OLA Forest of Reading Evergreen Award for Adult Fiction. The managing editor of WordCity Lit, she is currently at work on a novel, *Stillwater*.

Non-Fiction

JJ LEE's debut book, *The Measure of a Man: The Story of a Father, a Son, and a Suit*, was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award, the Charles Taylor Prize, the Hubert Evans Prize and the Hilary Weston Writer's Trust Prize. It was also longlisted for the 2018 Canada Reads competition. jj-lee.com

EVE LAZARUS is a reporter, author and true crime podcaster. Her passion for non-traditional history has led to nine books including *Vancouver Exposed*, *Murder by Milkshake*; *Blood, Sweat, and Fear*; *Cold Case Vancouver* and *Sensational Vancouver*. Eve's latest book, *Cold Case BC*, will be released in October. evelazarus.com

Children's

ARTHUR SLADE is the author of thirty-one novels for young readers including *The Hunchback Assignments*, which won the prestigious TD Canadian Children's Literature Award and *Dust*, winner of the Governor General's Award for Children's Literature. He lives in Saskatoon, Canada. arthurslade.com

SARA LEACH is a teacher-librarian and the award-winning author of nine books for children, including the acclaimed *Slug Days* trilogy. Her middle grade novel *Count Me In* has been translated into four languages, and won the Red Cedar Book Award. saraleach.com

FINALISTS 2022



Michael Carin (Fiction)

Churchill at Munich

Michael Carin is a graduate of McGill University and former Editor-in-Chief of Montreal Business Magazine. He is the author of six works of fiction and an impassioned non-fiction response to the Holocaust, *The Future Jew*. churchillatmunich.com



Laurie Carter (Non-fiction)

Emily Carr's BC (Book Two)

Laurie Carter is an author, editor, journalist and speaker whose favourite topic is anything to do with Emily Carr. Her many years of research into this unique individual have solidified her belief that Carr still has much to offer. lauriecarter.com



Georgia Hunter (Children's)

Tabhi

Georgia Hunter is an author and visual artist who holds a degree in Fine Arts from the University of British Columbia. Her sculptures are in collections in England, New York, Calgary and Vancouver. *Tabhi* is Georgia's fifth children's book. georgiahunterbooks.com



Rae Knightly (Children's)

Ben Archer and the World Beyond

Rae Knightly was born in Belgium and holds a BA in Translation. After living and working in Mexico, Scotland and Arizona, she settled in British Columbia with her family in 2011. Her middle grade science fiction series, *The Alien Skill*, has won multiple awards in the US and UK. raeknightly.com



William G. Lindsay (Fiction)

Rez Dog Blues & The Haiku: A Savage Life in Bits and Pieces

William G. Lindsay (Cree-Stoney) B.Ed. M.A. is a writer and researcher who worked for a quarter century as a college professor, university educator, associate director, director and senior director across Canada. [Learn more.](#)



H. Saint James (Non-fiction)

What Grows in the Space It Left Behind

H. Saint James was born in Kingston, and spent her early years moving across Canada and England, before settling on the outskirts of Ottawa. Her son and animals are the joys of her life today. *What Grows in the Space It Left Behind* is her first book. hsaintjamesauthor.com



George Sombrowski (Fiction)

What Narcissus Saw

Gordon Sombrowski writes short stories and is currently working on a novel. When not writing, he helps guide a number of businesses and volunteers with arts, culture, heritage and the LGBTQ2S+ communities in Calgary and Fernie. gordonsombrowski.ca



Shannon Terrell (Non-fiction)

The Guest House: Stories of a Nervous Mind

Shannon Terrell is a personal finance writer and spokesperson. She graduated from the University of Toronto Mississauga with a Bachelor of Arts in Professional Writing and Communications and released her first work of creative nonfiction, *The Guest House*, in 2019. shannonterrell.com



Barbara Wade Rose (Children's)

Marabel or, The Great Exception

Barbara Wade Rose authored a biography of filmmaker Budge Crawley and a true story, *The Priest, the Witch & the Poltergeist*. She has written for numerous publications and won the Magazines Canada Gold Award and the Science in Society Journalism Award. barbarawaderose.com



Submit Your Book

The Whistler Independent Book Awards (WIBAs) are open to Canadian authors who have self-published a fiction, non-fiction or children's book in the last five years. They are the only juried awards of this kind.

Submissions for the 2023 awards will open on March 1 April 30, 2023. independentbookawards.ca

EVENT 50



COLLECTED NOTES
ON WRITING

*Celebrate with
us!*

EVENT celebrates 50 years with the *Collected Notes on Writing* anthology, featuring more than 70 personal essays with insights into the joys & struggles of the writer's life and process, written by notable Canadian writers, including Jane Urquhart, David Bergen, André Alexis, Madeleine Thien, Eden Robinson, Jen Sookfong Lee, Zoe Whittall, Joy Kogawa, Souvankham Thammavongsa, Joshua Whitehead, & many others.

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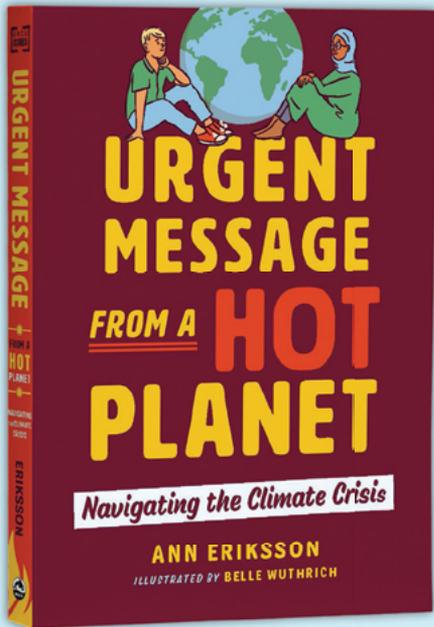
EVENT Magazine's 35th Annual

NON-FICTION CONTEST

Non-Fiction Contest winners feature in every volume since 1989 and have received recognition from the **Canadian Magazine Awards, National Magazine Awards and Best Canadian Essays**. All entries considered for publication. Entry fee of \$34.95 includes a one-year subscription. We encourage writers from diverse backgrounds and experience levels to submit their work.

INCREASED CASH PRIZES
DEADLINE:
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15**
\$1,500 • \$1,000 • \$500

EVENTMAGAZINE.CA



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"I ENCOURAGE ANY INTERESTED YOUTH-
AND THEIR PARENTS-TO READ THIS BOOK.

**ULTIMATELY, IT IS A
TOOLBOX FOR HOPE."**

*-Elizabeth May,
MP, and former leader of
the Green Party of Canada*



BY BIOLOGIST

ANN ERIKSSON

Don't miss Ann at the festival!



OUR PROGRAMS

WHISTLER INDEPENDENT BOOK AWARDS

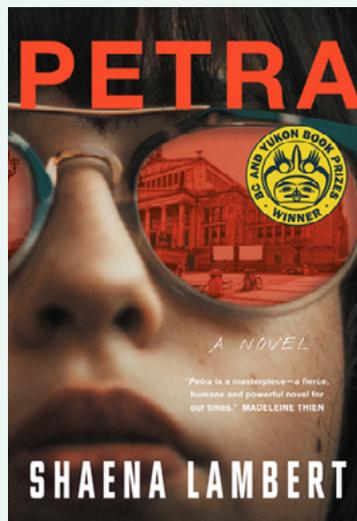
The Whistler Independent Book Awards (WIBA) are the only juried competition open exclusively to self-published Canadian authors, honouring the best in indie publishing. Every entry receives a valuable professional evaluation from the Award Selection Committee. The rigorous judging process means each finalist and winner represents the best in professional-quality publishing. The WIBAs are a partnership between Vivalogue Publishing and the Whistler Writers Festival.

AUTHORS IN THE SCHOOLS

This year we are thrilled to welcome authors Ann Eriksson (*Urgent Message from a Hot Planet: Navigating the Climate Crisis*), Jen Ferguson (*Summer of Bitter and Sweet*), and Jamal Saeed (*Yara's Spring*), who will give presentations to students in Sea to Sky schools from Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, and Mount Currie, and schools throughout British Columbia. Over 1500 students from Grade 5 to Grade 12 participate in the program each year. We are grateful for the generous support of Armchair Books, B.C. Arts Council, Whistler Blackcomb Foundation, Whistler Community Foundation, The Province of British Columbia, Libby McKeever, Rotary Club of Whistler, Rotary Club of Whistler Millennium, Whistler Public Library and The Whistler Writing Society.

Sponsored by: **Armchair Books, B.C. Arts Council, Whistler Blackcomb Foundation, Whistler Community Foundation, The Province of British Columbia, Libby McKeever, Rotary Club of Whistler, Rotary Club of Whistler Millennium, Whistler Public Library and The Whistler Writing Society.**





WHISTLER WRITER IN RESIDENCE PROGRAM WITH SHAENA LAMBERT

We are thrilled to welcome award-winning writer Shaena Lambert (*Petra*, *Oh, My Darling*, *Radiance*, and *The Falling Woman*) as the mentor author for the Whistler Writer in Residence program. Shaena will work one-on-one with local writers to develop their writing projects, and hold group lectures on various aspects of the writing craft at the Artists' Cabin on Alta Lake during September and October.

Sponsored by: **The Resort Municipality of Whistler's Community Enrichment Program**

IBPOC SCHOLARSHIP

The scholarship is for writers or storytellers who are Indigenous, Black or a person of colour (IBPoC) and offers the successful applicant a choice of participation in the Whistler Writer in Residence program, and/or an all-access pass to the 2022 Whistler Writers Festival.

ANNOUNCING THE LITERARY ARTS LEGACY FUND

Storytellers entertain, inspire, and enlighten us. In 2022 we established the Literary Arts Legacy Fund endowment campaign, with a goal to raise \$1 million to ensure the longevity of the Festival and The Whistler Writing Society's programs. Our organization has supported diverse, emerging writers, and connected authors to avid readers since 2001. Your donation to the Literary Arts Legacy Fund is eligible for matching funds from the Department of Canadian Heritage. A gift today is an investment that will provide a reliable, annual source of funds to help us continue to bring new ideas, voices, and change to the world.

Please contact Rebecca at writers@whistlerwritersfest.com to make a donation, or click on the DONATE button at www.whistlerwritersfest.com. The Whistler Writing Society is Registered Charity 83076 2472 RR0001

ANCIENT STORIES YOUTHFUL VOICES

Visit Whistler's authentic Indigenous experience



Listen to the hand drum
welcome songs, watch an
inspiring short film, participate
in guided or self-guided tours,
and connect with our
two distinct Nations, the
Skwxwú7mesh and Lilwat7úl,
as we share our cultural
knowledge.



Skwxwú7mesh Lilwat7úl

SQUAMISH LÍLWAT CULTURAL CENTRE

FIRST NATIONS MUSEUM + TOURS + GIFT SHOP + CAFÉ

Huy Chexw, Kúkwstumckacw!

We raise our hands to the Whistler Writer's Festival for their continued support of Indigenous authors. We look forward to welcoming festival guests, speakers and supporters to our thriving cultural centre to tour, shop and dine Indigenous in Whistler's Upper Village.

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GUEST

Speakers



GUEST SPEAKERS



LESLIE ANTHONY is a Whistler-based writer, editor, biologist, and occasional filmmaker. A former editor at *Powder*, *Bike* and *SKIER* magazines, he continues his residence on the masthead of numerous ski and outdoor

publications globally. At home, Anthony oversees award-winning *Mountain Life Annual*, pens a weekly column in *Pique Newsmagazine*, and writes broadly on travel, adventure, science, and the environment in magazines like *Canadian Geographic*. Author of two previously acclaimed titles, *Snakebit* and *White Planet*, his latest book is *The Aliens Among Us: How invasive species are transforming the planet—and ourselves*.

READING EVENT 5



BRANDON BARRETT is a performer, theatre producer, improv instructor and playwright. The co-founder of sold-out sketch show Comedy Quickies, part of the Whistler Writers Festival, he has written or co-written three

feature-length plays. He is also an award-winning journalist and features editor for Whistler's *Pique Newsmagazine* and was the 2018 recipient of the John Collison Memorial Award for Investigative Journalism and won gold at both the 2021 and 2022 B.C. and Yukon Community NewsMedia Association Awards for best feature article over 10,000 circulation, and environmental initiative, respectively.

WORKSHOP 12



CODY CAETANO's debut memoir, *Half-Bads in White Regalia*, was released in May 2022 through Penguin Canada's Hamish Hamilton imprint. Excerpts of the book received the 2020 Indigenous Voices Award for Best Unpublished Prose. His writing

has appeared in *The Walrus*, *Beatroute*, *PRISM International*, *BAD NUDES*, *Hart House Review*, and his chapbook, *Pleasure Dome Poems (Knife/Fork/Book)* was released in 2019. Cody is an off-reserve member of Pinaymootang First Nation. His mother's family is from the Manitoba Interlake and his father's family emigrated to Canada from the Azores in the 1960s. He lives in Toronto with his partner and two cats.

READING EVENT 12



MÉIRA COOK is the award-winning author of the novels *Once More With Feeling*; *The House on Sugarbush Road*, which won the McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award; and *Nightwatching*, which won the Margaret Laurence Award for Fiction. She has also

published five poetry collections, most recently *Monologue Dogs*, which was shortlisted for the 2016 Lansdowne Prize for Poetry and for the 2016 McNally Robinson Book of the Year Award. She has won the CBC Poetry Prize and the inaugural Walrus Poetry Prize.

READING EVENT 10



AMBER COWIE, author of *Last One Alive*, is a novelist living in a small town on the west coast of British Columbia. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Salon*, *The Globe and Mail*, *CrimeReads*, and *Scary Mommy*. Her first novel, *Rapid Falls*, was a Whistler

Independent Book Awards nominee. She is a member of several writing groups and holds an undergraduate degree from the University of Victoria. She is a mother of two and reader of many books. She likes skiing, running, and inventing stories that make her internet search history unnerving.

READING EVENT 4 & 7 | WORKSHOP 10



JENNIFER CROLL is the editorial director at Greystone Books in Vancouver, Canada, where she acquires and edits adult non-fiction books. She works in the areas Greystone specializes in—nature, the environment, social issues, science, health, and memoir.

WORKSHOP 5



JOSEPH DANDURAND is a member of the Kwantlen First Nation and director of the Kwantlen Cultural Centre. His 2020 book of poetry, *The East Side of It All* (Nightwood Editions), was shortlisted for the Griffin Poetry Prize. In 2021,

Dandurand received the BC Lieutenant Governor's Award for Literary Excellence. In Dandurand's most recent offering, *The Punishment* (Nightwood Editions, 2022), his storyteller's voice wrangles trauma, grief, forgiveness, and love.

READING EVENT 4 | WORKSHOP 7



SARAH DE LEEUW spent her formative years and most of her adult life in northern British Columbia. She is an award-winning writer and researcher who, as a Canada Research Chair, now works in a faculty of medicine where she uses

the arts to humanize healthcare. Her most recent work of poetry, *Lot*, was published in 2022 by Caitlin Press. *Lot* considers the ways in which words and languages form and embolden coloniality and create unequal imaginings and power in a place. Through structure, form, and sound, these poems insist on the possibilities of poetry to create better worlds, to utter something anew.

READING EVENT 6



CHARLES DEMERS is an author, comedian, actor, playwright, screenwriter, and political activist. He is one of the most frequently returning stars of CBC Radio's hit comedy *The Debaters*. His collection of essays, *Vancouver Special*, was

shortlisted for the Hubert Evans Non-fiction Prize. He is the author of *The Horrors* (Douglas & McIntyre), *Property Values* (Arsenal Pulp Press) and *Primary Obsessions* (Douglas & McIntyre). The latter is Demers' first novel in the Dr. Annick Boudreau Mystery Series, for which he draws upon his own long-time experience with Cognitive Behavioural Therapy. *Noonday Dark* (Douglas & McIntyre) is the second book in the series. Demers lives in Vancouver, BC.

READING EVENT 7 & 8



KILMENY DENNY is based in the UK and draws upon more than twenty-five years' experience in print and digital media to provide editing, design and website service to self-published authors through Vivalogue Publishing. She was

formerly the Assistant Editor at Radio Times and the Editor of the BBC Worldwide Radio Times Guide to Films (seven editions).

WORKSHOP 1 & 3



In 2010, **LYNN DUNCAN** founded Vivalogue Publishing to help self-published authors achieve creative and financial success. As part of its commitment to the self-publishing community, Vivalogue founded and continues to administer

The Whistler Independent Book Awards, sponsored by The Writers' Union of Canada. Lynn and Kilmeny established their own trade-publishing company, Tidewater Press, in 2017.

WORKSHOP 2 & 3



NORMA DUNNING is an Inuk writer, professor, and grandmother. Her book *Tainna (the unseen ones)* received the Governor General's award for literary fiction (2021). Her first collection of short stories *Annie Muktuk and Other Stories* received

the Danuta Gleed Award and several more. *Kinauvit?* is Dunning's first work of non-fiction and will be released in October 2022. Her second collection of poetry *Akia (the other side)* was released in July 2022. Norma Dunning lives in Edmonton, AB.

READING EVENT 4



ANN ERIKSSON is a biologist and the author of five adult novels and three non-fiction ecological literacy books for younger readers. Her most recent publication is *Urgent Message from a Hot Planet: Navigating the Climate Crisis*, an Orca Issues title. An

avid environmentalist, Ann works for SeaChange Marine Conservation Society restoring eelgrass ecosystems and is a founding director of the Thetis Island Nature Conservancy. Ann lives surrounded by nature on Thetis Island with her husband, poet Gary Geddes.

READING EVENT 13 | WORKSHOP 11 | AITS



KATHERINE FAWCETT is a Squamish-based author/playwright/teacher who lives a full life in a small town with a little dog and a big appetite. Her latest book, *The Swan Suit* (Douglas & McIntyre, 2020) was a finalist for the ReLit award, as was

The Little Washer of Sorrows, her first fiction release (Thistle-down, 2015). Her newest play, *Blustery Ever After*, a sequel to last year's sold-out show *Once Upon a Cold Snap*, will be staged in November/December 2022 in Squamish. Fawcett has taught creative writing at SFU's The Writers' Studio and plays violin with the Sea to Sky String Orchestra.

WORKSHOP 4

whistlerwritersfest.com



JEN FERGUSON is Michif/Métis and white, an activist, an intersectional feminist, an auntie, and an accomplice armed with a PhD in English and creative writing. Her favorite ice-cream flavor is mint chocolate chip. Jen's *The Summer of*

Bitter and Sweet is a complex and emotionally resonant book about a Métis girl living on the Canadian prairies. This debut YA novel serves up a powerful story about rage, secrets, and all the spectrums that make up a person—and the sweetness that can still live alongside the bitterest truth.

READING EVENT 13 | AITS



GARY GEDDES has written and edited more than fifty books of poetry, fiction, drama, non-fiction, criticism, translation, and anthologies and won a dozen national and international literary awards, including the Commonwealth Poetry

Prize (Americas Region), the Lt.-Governor's Award for Literary Excellence, and the Gabriela Mistral Prize from the government of Chile, awarded simultaneously to Octavio Paz, Vaclav Havel, Ernesto Cardenal, Rafael Alberti and Mario Benedetti. His work has been translated into six languages. His latest works are *The Ventriloquist: Poetic Narratives from the Womb of War* (Rock's Mills Press) and *The Oysters I Bring to Banquets* (Guernica Editions).

READING EVENT 4



JIM GIFFORD is Editorial Director, Non-Fiction, for HarperCollins Canada. He acquires and edits high-profile non-fiction works by a wide range of authors and has published a number of award-winning and bestselling titles. Recent

successes include Tara Westover's *Educated*, Maxwell Smart's *The Boy in the Woods*, Mark Sakamoto's *Forgiveness*, Max Eisen's *By Chance Alone*, and Albert Woodfox's *Solitary*, finalist for the National Book Award and the Pulitzer. He is actively acquiring in the areas of memoir, popular science, popular culture, true crime, and history.

WORKSHOP 4



TAMAR GLOUBERMAN has spent much of her life working as an outdoor guide. That career has given her opportunities to work and travel in exotic places such as the Galapagos, Zambia, and Peru, but she is most grateful that it has allowed her to

enjoy many adventures in remote areas of North America, among wild rivers and grizzly bears. When she is not off exploring the wilderness, she lives in beautiful Whistler, BC. Tamar is a graduate of the Creative Writing MFA program at UBC. The adventure memoir, *Chasing Rivers: A Whitewater Life* is her first book.

READING EVENT 4



KAGAN GOH is a Vancouver-based Chinese Canadian multidisciplinary artist: award-winning filmmaker, published author, spoken word poet, playwright, actor, mental health advocate and activist. He was

diagnosed with manic depression at the age of twenty-three, in 1993. Kagan has been invited to perform at readings, festivals and on radio, and has published in numerous anthologies, periodicals, and magazines. In 2012, Select Books in Singapore published his poetic memoir, *Who Let in the Sky?* focused upon his relationship with his esteemed father. In Kagan Goh's follow-up memoir, *Surviving Samsara* (Caitlin Press, 2021), he recounts his struggles with manic depression, and breaking the silence around mental illness.

READING EVENT 5 | WORKSHOP 8



WAYNE GRADY is the author of 16 books of non-fiction and 3 novels. He is also an award-winning translator: his translation of Antonine Maillet's *On the Eighth Day* won the Governor General's Award in 1989. His novel *Emancipation Day*

won the Amazon.ca First Novel Award in 2013, and his most recent novel, *The Good Father*, was published in 2021. His book about the pandemic, *Pandexicon: How the Language of the Pandemic Defined Our New Cultural Reality*, will be published by Greystone Books in spring 2023.

READING EVENT 12



STELLA HARVEY is a fiction writer whose short stories have appeared in *The Literary Leanings Anthology*, *The New Orphic Review*, *Emerge Magazine* and *The Dalhousie Review*. Her non-fiction has appeared in *Pique Newsmagazine*, *The Question* and the *Globe and Mail*. Signature Editions published her first novel, *Nicolai's Daughters*, in 2012 and Psychogios Publications of Athens published the Greek translation in 2015. *The Brink of Freedom* was published in October 2015. *Finding Callidora* is Stella's third novel.

READING EVENT 3



SARAH HOWDEN is an editor at Orca Book Publishers. Her focus is picture books, first chapter books and middle grade fiction. She especially likes slightly offbeat points of view, humour with heart, and writing that has a strong narrative voice. She's looking for manuscripts that feel fresh, original, and authentic—and if your work reflects your often-unheard perspective, all the better. Sarah is also a writer of children's books, including *Cone Cat* and *The Tunnel*. She lives in Toronto, Ontario, with her family and their two rambunctious cats.

WORKSHOP 4 & 5



GILLIAN JEROME is a mother, writer, teacher who lives on the unceded land of the x̱w̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱əm (Musqueam), Sḵw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish) and Seḻíḻw̱iṯuḻh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. Her first book of poems, *Red Nest* (Nightwood Editions, 2009), was nominated for the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize and won the 2010 ReLit Award for Poetry. She co-edited an oral history project, *Hope in Shadows: Stories and Photographs from Vancouver's Downtown Eastside* (Arsenal Pulp Press, 2008), which won the 2008 City of Vancouver Book Award. Having taught literature at UBC for two decades, she is turning her attention toward teaching language arts to Vancouver teenagers. *Nevertheless* is her most recent poetry collection.

READING EVENT 6



VICI JOHNSTONE acquired Caitlin Press in 2008, and publishes work to reflect the diverse cultures, histories and concerns of BC while bridging the gap between the urban and the rural. Caitlin Press is committed to its feminist origins, publishing bold works by and about BC women. After winning the 2015 Jim Douglas Award, Caitlin Press launched Dagger Editions, publishing literary fiction, non-fiction, and poetry by and about queer women (and those who identify as queer women). Caitlin Press publishes culturally significant fiction, non-fiction, and poetry, and on occasion children's or young adult titles.

WORKSHOP 4 & 5



KELLY JOSEPH (she/her) is a senior editor at McClelland & Stewart, an imprint at Penguin Random House Canada. Since joining M&S in late 2016, she has worked with many of the imprint's authors, including Todd Babiak, Lorna Crozier, Krista Foss, Anna Maxymiw, Kurt Palka, and Peter Robinson, on a variety of titles ranging from literary fiction to memoir to mystery novels. In addition, Kelly is responsible for the administration of M&S's poetry program.

WORKSHOP 4 & 5



DANIEL KALLA was born, raised, and still resides in Vancouver. He is an ER Physician in a major teaching hospital as well as the bestselling author of thirteen novels, which have been translated into eleven languages to date, five of which have been optioned for film and/or TV. His latest novel *The Darkness in the Light*, is a Scandinavian-noir style thriller set in the Arctic. Daniel received his MD from UBC, where he is now a clinical associate professor. He is the proud father of two girls and a poorly behaved, but very lovable mutt, Milo.

READING EVENT 7



GUY GAVRIEL KAY is the author of fifteen novels and a book of poetry. His most recent book is *All the Seas of the World*. Translations of his fiction exceed thirty languages and his books have appeared on bestseller lists in many countries. Kay has been nominated for and has won numerous literary awards and is the recipient of the International Goliardos Prize for his contributions to the literature of the fantastic. In 2014, he was named to the Order of Canada, the country's highest civilian honour.

READING EVENT 8



JÓNÍNA KIRTÓN is a Red River Métis/Icelandic poet. Her first collection of poetry, *page as bone ~ ink as blood*, was published with Talonbooks in 2015. Two years later she brought us her second collection, *An Honest Woman*, again with Talonbooks. The book was a finalist in the Dorothy Livesay Poetry Prize. She was sixty-one when she received the 2016 Vancouver's Mayor's Arts Award for an Emerging Artist in the Literary Arts category. Jónína's third book, *Standing in a River of Time*, was released in the Spring of 2022, again with Talonbooks.

READING EVENT 6 & 11



CHELENE KNIGHT is the author of a poetry collection, *Braided Skin*. Her memoir, *Dear Current Occupant*, won the 2018 Vancouver Book Award, and was longlisted for the George Ryga Award for Social Awareness in Literature. Her essays have appeared in multiple Canadian and American literary journals and newspapers. She has worked as a professor of poetry at the University of Toronto and Chelene founded her literary studio, Breathing Space Creative, through which she launched The Forever Writers Club, which fosters creative sustainability. Chelene works as a literary agent with the Transatlantic Agency and is currently writing a commissioned book on Black self-love & joy (HarperCollins Canada). Her first novel is *Junie* (Book*hug Press).

READING EVENT 8



SHAENA LAMBERT is the author of four novels; *Petra*, *Oh, My Darling*, *Radiance*, and *The Falling Woman*. Her work has been nominated for the Writers' Trust Fiction Prize, the Ethel Wilson Award, the Evergreen Award, and the Frank O'Connor Award for the Short Story. Her recent novel, *Petra*, was inspired by German activist Petra Kelly who transformed environmental politics, only to find herself caught in a triangle of love, jealousy and murder. *Petra* won the 2021 Ethel Wilson Award, for best work of fiction in BC and the Yukon and was a CBC best book of the year.

READING EVENT 8



DORETTA LAU started watching horror movies at age nine and sketch comedy at eleven, which was probably why she ended up completing an MFA in Writing at Columbia University. She is the author of the short story collection

How Does a Single Blade of Grass Thank the Sun? and a forthcoming novel about a dysfunctional workplace struggling to open a theme park that celebrates death. At Greystone Books, she is an Acquisitions Associate, focusing on non-fiction books by BIPOC writers on nature and the environment, travel and adventure, sports, social issues, science, and health. Visit dorettalau.com and greystonebooks.com

WORKSHOP 4



GRANT LAWRENCE is the author of four best-selling books for adults: *Return to Solitude*, *Adventures in Solitude*, *The Lonely End of the Rink*, and *Dirty Windshields*. Grant's newest book, *Return to Solitude*, is his long-awaited sequel to

Adventures in Solitude. *Bailey the Bat and the Tangled Moose*, his first children's picture book, was released in 2021. Grant Lawrence is the first author in the history of the BC Book Prizes to win the Bill Duthie Booksellers Choice twice. Grant is the host of CBC's Music Top 20, lead singer of The Smugglers, a Canadian Screen Award winner, and a local newspaper columnist

READING EVENT 11



SARA LEACH is the author of nine books for children, including *Duck Days* which concludes the acclaimed *Slug Days* trilogy. Her middle grade novel, *Count Me In*, has been translated into four languages, and won the Red Cedar Book Award. Sara

is a frequent presenter at elementary schools and public libraries across North America. She lives in Whistler, BC, where she works as a teacher-librarian and plays on the trails.

READING EVENT 13



MARSHA LEDERMAN is an award-winning journalist and bestselling author and the child of Holocaust survivors. Her debut book, the memoir *Kiss the Red Stairs: The Holocaust, Once Removed*, was published in May by McClelland &

Stewart. She is the Western Arts Correspondent for The Globe and Mail. Born and raised in Toronto, Marsha has lived in Vancouver since 2007. Prior to the Globe, Marsha worked at CBC Radio in a number of positions, including National Arts Reporter. Previously, she worked in commercial radio in Ontario, as a reporter, news anchor and talk show host. She is a graduate of Toronto Metropolitan University (formerly Ryerson) and York University.

READING EVENT 3 & 10 | WORKSHOP 6



RACHEL LETOFSKY joined Cooke McDermid in 2010 and specializes in children's literature (middle-grade and YA, fiction and non-fiction), narrative driven non-fiction, and literary, commercial, contemporary and historical fiction for adults. As an

agent, her clients include National and International bestsellers, nominees, and winners for awards such as the Kirkus Prize, Scotiabank Giller Prize, Governor General's Awards, Writer's Trust Awards, Trillium Awards, Rogers Writers' Trust Awards, and many others. Rachel is drawn to works with a whimsical nature or a grounded, gritty edge in equal measure, though in either instance, unforgettable characters and original concepts are a must. She is on Twitter at [@rachelletofsky](https://twitter.com/rachelletofsky)

WORKSHOP 5



MARY MACDONALD is a poet and writer with a Ph.D. from UBC. She has written poetry for ballet, public art, and libretto. Her work has appeared in *Room Magazine* and *Pique Newsmagazine*. Her chapbook, *Going In Now*, was published in 2014 by NIB

Publishing. She is a member of the Whistler writers' The Vicious Circle, sits on the board of the Whistler Writers Festival, and serves as curator and moderator for the poetry division of the festival. *The Crooked Thing* is her short story collection, released fall 2020 by Caitlin Press.

READING EVENT 6



JULIA MCDOWELL is Editor at Collins, HarperCollins Canada. She acquires, commissions, and edits practical non-fiction titles and select fiction. Recent successes include *The Circus Train* by Amita Parikh, a *Globe and Mail* bestseller and *In My Dreams*

I Hold a Knife by Ashley Winstead. Julia has a BSc from Victoria College at the University of Toronto and she has also been a guest lecturer at the Columbia Publishing Course in New York, where she got her publishing certificate. She lives in Toronto.

WORKSHOP 5



HAZEL MILLAR is the Co-Publisher at Book*hug Press, an independent literary press based in Toronto. She is the Past Chair of the Board of the Literary Press Group of Canada and sits on several publishing-related boards and advisory committees. She lives in Toronto with her husband, Jay Millar, aka, the other half of Book*hug Press, their two sons, and a cool calico cat named Tess.

WORKSHOP 4 & 5



LISA MOORE is the acclaimed author of the novels *Caught*, *February*, and *Alligator*; the story collections *Open and Something for Everyone*; and the young-adult novel *Flannery*. Her books have won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize and CBC's Canada Reads, been

finalists for the Writers' Trust Fiction Prize and the Scotiabank Giller Prize and been longlisted for the Man Booker Prize. Moore is also the co-librettist, along with Laura Kaminsky, of the opera *February*, based on her novel of the same name. Her latest novel is *This is How We Love*. She lives in St. John's, Newfoundland.

READING EVENT 12



HASAN NAMIR's *God in Pink* won the Lambda Literary Award for Best Gay Fiction and was named one of the Top 100 Books of 2015 by The Globe and Mail. His work was featured on Huffington Post, Shaw TV, Airbnb, in the film *God in Pink: A*

Documentary, and on several television talk shows. Other works include *War/Torn* (Book*hug), *The Name I Call Myself* (Arsenal Pulp) and *Umbilical Cord* (Book*hug). Hasan is the 2022 LGBTQ2s+ guest curator for Word Vancouver. He lives on the unceded territories of the Kwantlen, Katzie, Semiahmoo and Tsawwassen First Nations, with his husband and child.

READING EVENT 4



ZARQA NAWAZ created the internationally renowned CBC comedy series, *Little Mosque on the Prairie*, the world's first sitcom about a Muslim community living in the west. The show premiered to the highest ratings CBC had in over 20 years and won a Gemini. In 2014, she published her comedic memoir *Laughing All the Way to the Mosque*, which was a *The Globe and Mail* bestseller as well as being shortlisted for the Stephen Leacock Award for Humour. In 2022, she published her first novel, *Jameela Green Ruins Everything* and created a self-titled web series, ZARQA which is streaming on CBC Gem.

READING EVENT 8



HEATHER O'NEILL is a novelist, short-story writer and essayist. Her most recent bestselling novel, *The Lonely Hearts Hotel*, won the Paragraphe Hugh MacLennan Prize for Fiction and was longlisted for the Women's Prize for Fiction and CBC's

Canada Reads. Her previous work *Lullabies for Little Criminals*, *The Girl Who Was Saturday Night* and *Daydreams of Angels*, has been shortlisted for the Governor General's Literary Award for Fiction, the Orange Prize for Fiction, and the Scotiabank Giller Prize two years in a row. She has won CBC's *Canada Reads* and the Danuta Gleed Award. Born and raised in Montreal, O'Neill lives there with her daughter.

READING EVENT 12



TOLU, OLORUNTOBA is the author of the Anstruther Press chapbook *Manubrium*. His poetry has appeared in *Pleiades*, *Columbia Journal*, *Entropy*, and other publications. His short fiction appeared in translation in *Dansk PEN Magazine*. He founded

Klorofyl, a magazine of literary and graphic art, and practiced medicine before his current work managing projects for health authorities in British Columbia. After a somewhat itinerant life in Nigeria and the United States, he emigrated to the Greater Vancouver Area, where he lives with his family. His latest works are the 2022 Griffin Poetry Prize winning collection *The Junta of Happenstance*, and *Each One a Furnace*.

READING EVENT 6 & 11



ANNA PITONIAK is the author of *The Futures*, *Necessary People*, and most recently, *Our American Friend*. She graduated from Yale, where she majored in English and was an editor at the *Yale Daily News*. She worked for many years in book publishing,

most recently as a Senior Editor at Random House. Anna grew up in Whistler, British Columbia, and now lives in New York City.

READING EVENT 7



IAIN REID is the author of four previous books, including his New York Times bestselling debut novel *I'm Thinking of Ending Things*, which has been translated into more than twenty languages. Oscar winner Charlie Kaufman wrote and directed

the film adaptation for Netflix. His second novel, *Foe*, is being adapted for film, starring Saoirse Ronan, with Reid co-writing the screenplay. His latest novel is *We Spread*. Reid lives in Ontario, Canada. Follow him on Twitter @Reid_Iain.

READING EVENT 10



MARI-LOU ROWLEY has published ten collections of poetry. Her most recent, *Catastrophe Theories*, reflects her interdisciplinary approach in its mash-up of science, dream imagery, the human condition and nature appreciation. Her collection, *Unus*

Mundus (Anvil Press), received second prize in the J.V. Hicks Long Manuscript award. She published *Transforium* (JackPine Press) in collaboration with visual artist Tammy Lu. *Suicide Psalms* (Anvil Press) was nominated for best poetry in the 2008 Sask Book Awards. *CosmoSonnets* (JackPine Press) was a collaboration with visual artist Robert McNealy.

READING EVENT 4



JAMAL SAEED arrived as a refugee in Canada in 2016. In his native Syria, his writing pushed both social and political norms. For this, and his opposition to the al-Assad regimes, he was imprisoned for a total of twelve years; held without formal

charge or judicial process. *My Road from Damascus* offers a tapestry of Saeed's whole life and looks squarely at the brutality of prison, at beauty and poetry, hope and love. His middle-grade novel, *Yara's Spring*, written with Sharon E. McKay, explores a girl's coming of age in the midst of the Arab Spring.

READING EVENT 12 & 13 | AITS



SHYAM SELVADURAI's *Funny Boy*, won the W.H. Smith/ Books in Canada First Novel Award and the Lambda Literary Award in the US. He is the author of *Cinnamon Gardens*, *Swimming in the Monsoon Sea*, and *The Hungry Ghosts*. His work has

been translated into 9 languages and published worldwide. *Funny Boy* was made into a film, for which Shyam co-wrote the screenplay, and for which he won the Canadian Screen Award and the New York Cinema Independent Award for Best Adapted Screenplay. Shyam's new novel *Mansions of the Moon* is a historical novel about the Buddha's wife.

READING EVENT 4



MERILYN SIMONDS is the author of 20 books, including the non-fiction classic *The Convict Lover*, *Gutenberg's Fingerprint*, and the novel *The Holding*, a New York Times Review of Books "Editor's Choice." The founding artistic director of the

Kingston WritersFest, Simonds is an influential champion of writers and writing. She lives with writer and translator Wayne Grady and divides her time between Kingston, Ontario, and San Miguel de Allende, Mexico. Her latest book is an innovative memoir/ biography, *Woman, Watching: Louise de Kiriline Lawrence and the Songbirds of Pimisi Bay*, released in May, 2022.

READING EVENT 5 & 11 | WORKSHOP 9



STEPHANIE SINCLAIR is a Cree, Ojibwe and German/Jewish settler. She represents literary and upmarket fiction and nonfiction that provokes conversation and strives to challenge the way we think, feel and live. Her list is curated with

political leanings, and proudly includes writers of award-winning fiction and nonfiction including Journey Prize winner Sharon Bala, Griffin Prize winner Billy Ray Belcourt, Joshua Whitehead, Lee Maracle and Harriet Alida Lye. Writers on her roster have been nominated for the Governor General's Award, Scotiabank Giller Prize, Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction, LAMBDA Awards, The Toronto Book Award and many others. Stephanie is actively seeking creative nonfiction, memoir, nonfiction hybrids and literary and upmarket fiction.

WORKSHOP 4



TSAWAYSIA SPUKWUS (ALICE GUSS) was born and raised in Squamish, BC. She is mother to three children, grandma of two girls. Tsawaysia has over twenty years experience in education; including five years on Vancouver's Downtown

Eastside. She is a Cultural Ambassador, Knowledge Keeper, and Facilitator of various mediums including: drum making, wool and cedar weaving, traditional medicine and plant walks. Tsawaysia is masterful at bringing innovative learning opportunities to all people through workshops, drumming, singing, storytelling and getting people dancing. She has made drums for; the Vancouver Canucks and Whitecaps, and several Olympic games (in Beijing and Tokyo her drums represented the heartbeat of Canada).

READING EVENT 2



The band **WEST COAST FRONT** accompanies the Literary Cabaret, and is made up of musical director Geeta Das (trumpet, saxophone, flute), Rosalind Steel (piano and electric piano), Rajan Das (upright and electric bass), and Dean Feser (percussion).



DR. DEBRA THOMPSON is an Associate Professor of Political Science and Canada Research Chair in Racial Inequality in Democratic Societies at McGill University. She is a leading scholar of the comparative politics of race, and her research and teaching focuses on the relationships among race, the state, and inequality in democratic societies, including Canada and the United States. Her most recent book is *The Long Road Home: On Blackness and Belonging* (Scribner Canada, 2022).

READING EVENT 5



STEPHEN VOGLER, long time Whistlerite and West Coaster, is an author, playwright, and musician. He has published three books including *Only in Whistler: Tales of a Mountain Town* (Harbour Publishing, 2009), and has written and presented for CBC Radio's Ideas and other network programs. Stephen plays and writes songs with his band, West Coast Front, whose most recent EP, *Corn Chips & Bourbon*, was released in early 2022. The band will be hosting the Literary Cabaret at this year's Whistler Writers Festival.

READING EVENT 4



TANINA WILLIAMS is Owner/Operator of amawilc, a business that teaches Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being with a focus on Truth and Reconciliation. Tanina teaches through storytelling, wool weaving, carving, cedar crafting, and leather work to build relationships. amawilc is one of the 5 Top Finalists of the 2022 BC Small Business Impact Awards. <https://amawilc.com>

READING EVENT 2



SANDRA SG WONG writes fiction across genres. She is a finalist for the Crime Writers of Canada Awards of Excellence and a nominee for the Whistler Independent Book Awards. She holds an honours BA in English literature and speaks four languages at varying levels of proficiency, though she usually only courses in one of them. Sandra lives in Edmonton, Alberta, and is too often tweeting from @S_G_Wong or tweaking www.sgwong.com instead of writing.

READING EVENT 7

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY BOOK TALK

WITH AUTHOR LISA MOORE



Welcome Hasan Namir and Chelene Knight to the Whistler Writers Festival!



Umbilical Cord
by Hasan Namir

Lambda Literary and Stonewall Book Award-winner Hasan Namir shares a joyful collection about parenting, fatherhood, and hope.



Junie
by Chelene Knight

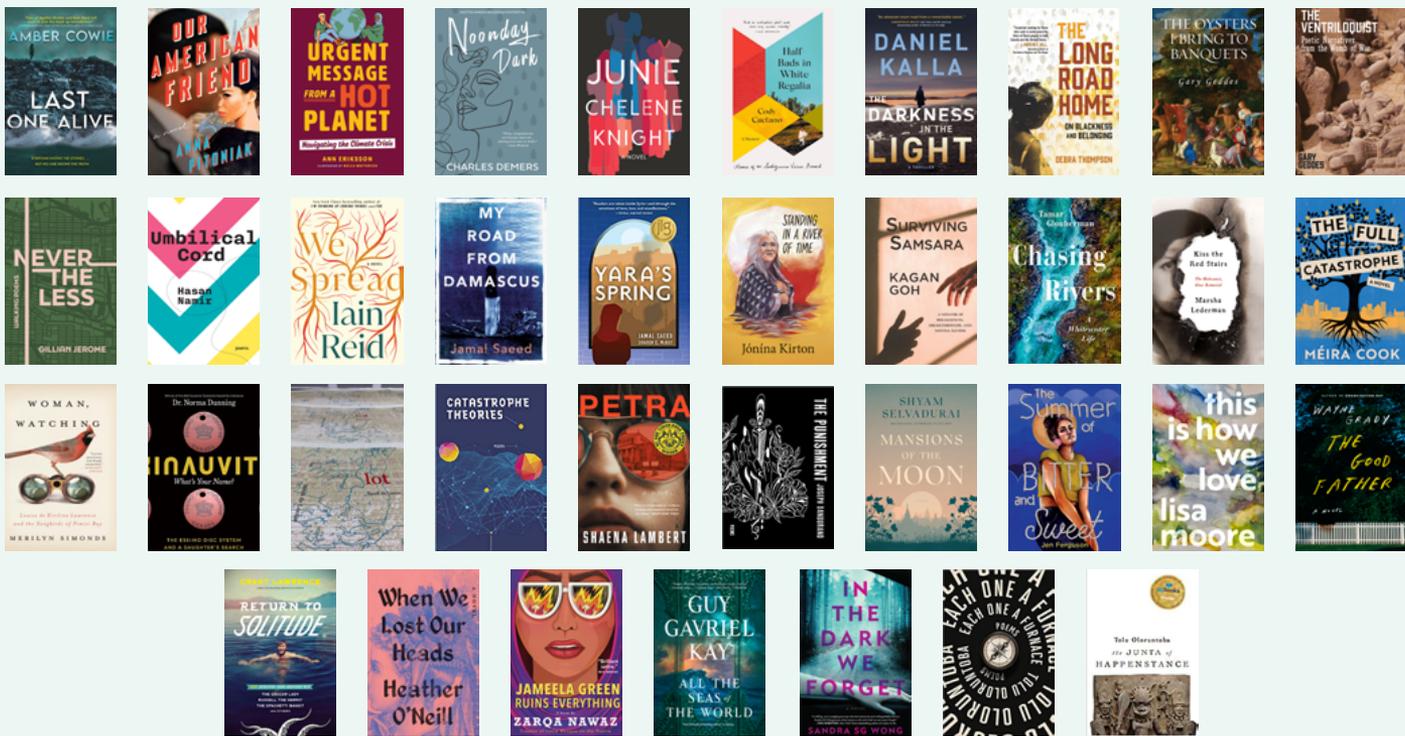
A riveting exploration of mother-daughter relationships and the dynamic vitality of Vancouver's former Hogan's Alley neighbourhood.

B* Learn more at bookhugpress.ca

@bookhugpress



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FEATURED BOOKS

Welcome to the Whistler Writers Festival Booklist! We encourage you to buy or pre-order your books in advance of the hybrid festival. If you are coming in-person, you'll be able to buy all of the books from the Armchair Books and the Whistler Independent Book Awards pop-up stores onsite.

For online orders:

[Visit Armchair Books](#)

[Visit the Canadian Independent Bookstore Finder](#)

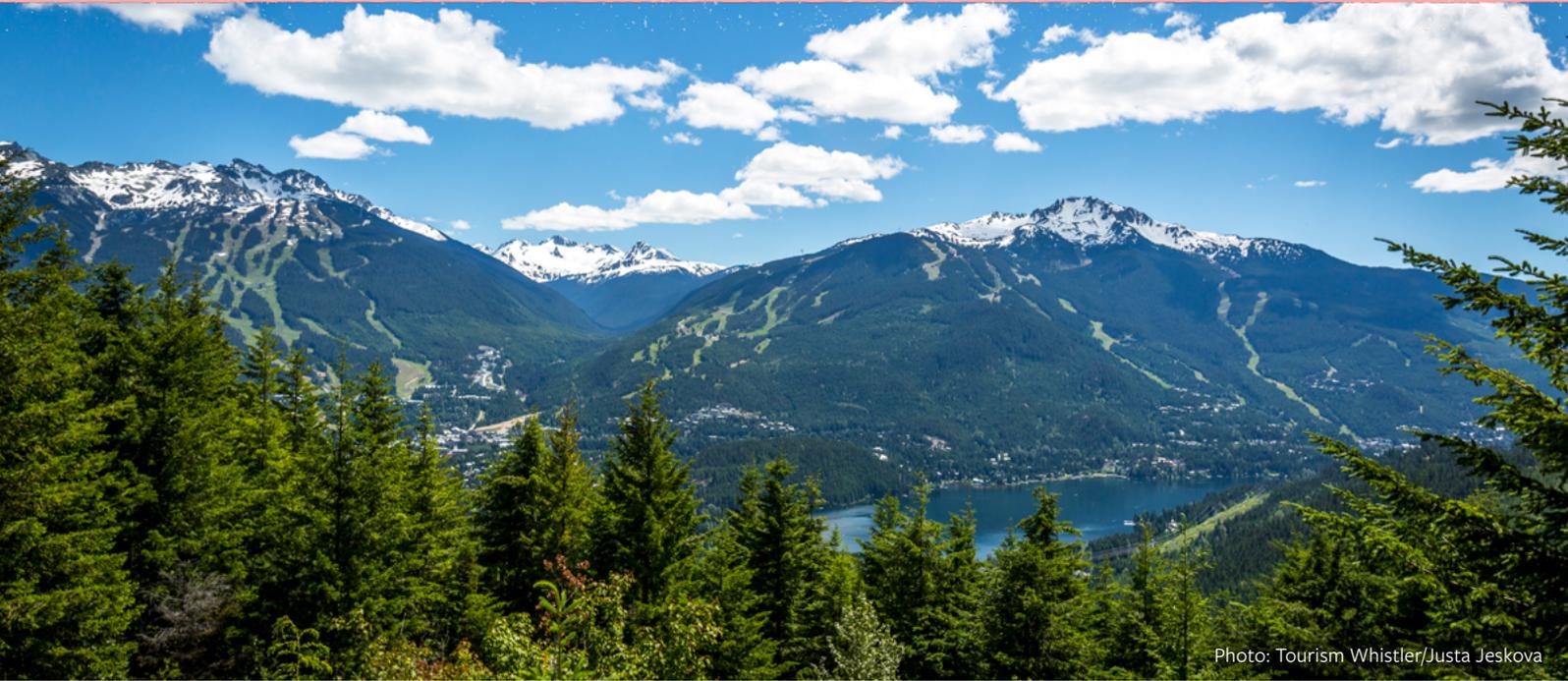


Photo: Tourism Whistler/Justa Jeskova

VISITING WHISTLER

Whistler is open for business and welcomes visitors for a safe, respectful experience – now and during the festival. Come stroll the Valley Trail along the lakes or go for a hike or bike in the fresh air of the mountains.

Stay at our partner hotel the [Fairmont Chateau Whistler](#) or shop at one of our many sponsors' businesses to help support our local economy.

We highly recommended these activities:

Visit the [Audain Art Museum](#) to take a transformative visual journey of West Coast Art from the late 18th century to the present.

Take an hourly guided tour with a Cultural Ambassador at the [Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre](#).

Hike the trails of Lost Lake, only minutes from Whistler Village or rent a mountain bike from the [Cross Country Connection](#) located at the Lost Lake PassivHaus.

Relax for a few hours with a good book at the [Scandinave Spa](#), a 5-minute drive north of Whistler Village.

What if it rains? Pick up a new book from [Armchair Books](#) and cozy up in the [Fairmont Chateau Whistler](#), the [Whistler Public Library](#) or one of Whistler's fabulous local coffee shops.

SFU CONTINUING STUDIES

THE WRITER'S STUDIO

Work with a mentor in a supportive community

Mentors for 2023 will include:



Joanne Arnott



Claudia Casper



Leanne Dunic



JJ Lee

**Join our 10-month online program
starting January 2023**

Apply by October 31

sfu.ca/creative-writing

THANK YOU

The Whistler Writing Society would like to thank its sponsors for their generosity.
Without their continued enthusiasm and support, this festival would not be possible.

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Libby McKeever



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DONATIONS

Thanks so much for supporting the Whistler Writers Festival, Writer in Residence Program, Authors in the Schools Program, and other literary programming in the Sea to Sky corridor. Any donation you make goes directly into current and future literary programming initiatives. A charitable receipt will be issued for any donation of \$25 or more.

whistlerwritersfest.com/donate

PLANNED GIVING

Please consider making a planned gift to The Whistler Writing Society such as:

A BEQUEST IN YOUR WILL A simple way to make a lasting gift to the community is to include a charitable bequest in your Will. We can establish a personal Fund that becomes your personal legacy of giving.

A GIFT OF SECURITIES By giving eligible appreciated stocks to The Whistler Writing Society, you can avoid capital gains taxes that would otherwise arise from the sale of the stock. Donors also receive a tax receipt for their donation.

GIFTS OF LIFE INSURANCE The assignment of ownership of an existing life insurance policy will be accepted by the charity. A tax receipt will be issued for the cash surrender value of the value at the time of donation. The payment of annual premiums is also a gift that generates an official receipt for income tax purposes.

Please contact Rebecca Wood Barrett at rwoodbarrett@gmail.com to arrange a planned gift.

Thanks for Making a Difference.

Contact us at Writers@WhistlerWritersFest.com for more information on supporting the 2023 Whistler Writers Festival through sponsorship or advertising opportunities in the program guide.