

WILD WRITERS

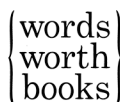
LITERARY FESTIVAL

GROUNDBREAKING WRITING THAT'S OUT THERE

November 1-3, 2019

Waterloo, Ontario

wildwriters.ca



WILD WRITERS LITERARY FESTIVAL PARTNERS

The New Quarterly: Canadian Writers and Writing (TNQ) is Waterloo region's award-winning national literary magazine. Many of the Wild Writers you will meet this weekend have long-standing relationships with *TNQ*. That's because cultural magazines play a crucial role in publishing: listening for distinctive voices, identifying the poets, fiction writers, and essayists who are stand-outs in Canada's literary landscape. With a *TNQ* subscription, you get to meet terrific writers early on and glean an insider's view of the literary imagination at work. *TNQ*: it's an education like no other. Charitable receipts for all donations. Visit us at TNQ.CA.

The Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA) is an institute for advanced research, education, and outreach on global governance. Founded in 2007, BSIA is an equal collaboration among the Centre for International Governance Innovation (CIGI), the University of Waterloo (UW), and Wilfrid Laurier University (Laurier). The facility is situated within the CIGI Campus in the heart of Waterloo. As part of its ongoing desire to connect with the local cultural community, the Balsillie School is pleased to open its architecturally stunning space to the Wild Writers Festival.

Words Worth Books has been Waterloo's signature independent bookstore since it opened on King Street in 1984. Words Worth shares and seeks to complement *The New Quarterly's* mandate to unearth the singularly fine voices in Canadian letters. For years, they've paid particular attention to literary magazines and small presses so as to know where our unique Canadian voices come from, and they continue to strive to make those voices available and accessible. Words Worth is the spine of author readings and Waterloo's "One Book, One Community" initiative.

DONORS

Because of our generous donors, we have been able to bring the Wild Writers Literary Festival to Kitchener-Waterloo for eight years. Their contributions gather the wild writers from our community and beyond. Their support gives writers a place to connect, celebrate, and grow. Thank you!

Carol Acton

Deborah Black

Henry Blumberg

Barb Carter

Alannah D'Ailly

Mary Dever

Pam Dillon

Marsha Faubert

Louisa Howerow

Kim Jernigan

Joan Lazarski

Chris Masterman

Pamela Mulloy

Catherine Muss

D. B. Scott

Alister Thomas

Elizabeth Thomas

Tom Wilhelm

Peter Woolstencroft

Support the Wild Writers Literary Festival today at wildwrites.ca/donate.

Every dollar helps.

Welcome to the Wild Writers Literary Festival.

I would like to begin by acknowledging that the festival takes place on the Haldimand Tract, land promised to the Haudenosaunee people of Six Nations, which includes six miles on each side of the Grand River. This is the traditional territory of the Neutral, Anishnaabeg, and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We gratefully acknowledge these Indigenous nations for their ongoing guardianship of this land. We agree to peaceably share in responsibility for stewardship of this land, its waters and all of its biodiversity.

At this year's festival, our eighth, we're excited to introduce you to new writers, and to bring back familiar faces. We'll have readings, conversations, panel discussions, and workshops that will stimulate both readers and writers alike. At *The New Quarterly*, our aim is to bring together a community of writers, showcasing their work in fiction, nonfiction, and poetry. We bring this same sense of community and curiosity to Wild Writers, where you can meet the writers, ask questions, see your creativity blossom.

This festival is the culmination of planning that began in January, with a committee that worked tirelessly to put together the program. I want to thank Lamees Al Ethari, Barb Carter, Carol Motuz, Catherine Muss, and Susan Scott for their creative input and logistical finesse. Thanks to Roxanne Hearn, our Volunteer Coordinator and Heather Lambert, Assistant Volunteer Coordinator. Thanks also to Kim Jernigan, who stocks the Green Room with food and coffee. We are indebted to our co-op interns Sani-e Agha, Katherine Claros-Arevalo, and Joyce Li who organize our bursary program, marketing efforts, and ticket processing, and Carolyn Pegg, our Office Administrator who takes care of finances. A special thanks to Emily Bednarz, Festival Manager, who continues to do a stellar job in making sure the operation runs smoothly.

We could not run our festival without our partners at Words Worth Books who help with programming and take care of book sales, as well as our partners at the Balsillie School of International Affairs who generously provide their venue for our Friday night reception and the workshops and panels on Saturday. A special thanks to our sponsors, donors, and volunteers without whom there would be no festival. To all of the writers, TNQ Board members, and to our audience members who come out to events with great energy and enthusiasm, thank you for making the Wild Writers Festival a highlight in the literary calendar.

Enjoy the conversations. Be inspired.



Pamela Mulloy
Editor, *The New Quarterly*
Creative Director, Wild Writers Literary Festival



LAMEES AL ETHARI immigrated to Canada with her husband and two boys in 2008. She holds a PhD in English Language and Literature from the University of Waterloo, where she has been teaching academic and creative writing since 2015. Her poetry has been published in *About Place Journal*, *The New Quarterly*, *The Malpais Review*, the anthology *Al Mutanabbi Street Starts Here*, and printed as broadsides. Her collection of poems titled *From the Wounded Banks of the Tigris* was published in 2018 and her memoir on the American invasion of Iraq, *Waiting for the Rain*, was published in 2019.



NOELLE ALLEN is the publisher of Wolsak and Wynn literary press based in Hamilton, Ontario. She has been the chair of gritLIT: Hamilton's Readers and Writers Festival and of the Literary Press Group, a national publishing organization. She also volunteers with the Hamilton Arts Council's Literary Awards and the Hamilton Review of Books. Photo Credit: Jeff Tessier



MAYA AMEYAW was born and raised in Toronto by a family of poets and visual artists. Her poetry has previously been published in the independent journals *Wake* (2014) and *From The Root* (2016). Her poetry and short stories have also appeared in two community arts anthologies, *A Place For Us* (2016) and *The Double World* (2017), which she helped to compile and curate with grants the Toronto Arts Council. She is currently working on her first novel. Maya is the peer support worker for InkWell Workshops.



DAVID BEZMOZGIS is an award-winning writer and filmmaker. He is the author of *Natasha and Other Stories*, *The Free World*, and *The Betrayers*. He has been twice nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize and the Governor General's Literary Award, and his debut story collection, *Natasha and Other Stories*, won the Toronto Book Award and the Commonwealth Writer's Prize for First Book, and *Immigrant City: Stories* was nominated for the Toronto Book Award. He is the Director of the Humber School for Writers. Born in Riga, Latvia, David lives in Toronto. Photo Credit: David Franco



MARILYN BIDERMAN entered the Transatlantic Agency after working at her own literary agency and consultancy practice, where she helped launch the careers of debut and prize-winning authors. She has worked at McClelland & Stewart as VP, Director, Rights and Contracts, and handled the international rights for authors including Leonard Cohen, Alistair MacLeod, and Madeleine Thien. Marilyn is a member of the Law Society of Ontario and holds a BA in English Literature from the University of Toronto. She is especially proud of her work with the St. John Ambulance Dog Therapy program.



MICHAEL CRUMMEY'S first novel, *River Thieves*, was a finalist for the 2001 Scotiabank Giller Prize, and his second novel, *The Wreckage*, was a finalist for the Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Prize. His third novel, *Galore*, won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize (Canada and the Caribbean) and was a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award. His last novel, *Sweetland*, was also a finalist for the Governor General's Literary Award. He lives in St. John's, Newfoundland. Photo Credit: Mo Pho



FRANCINE CUNNINGHAM is an award-winning Indigenous writer, artist and educator originally from Calgary, AB but who currently resides in Vancouver, BC. She is a graduate of the UBC Creative Writing MFA program, and a recent winner of The Indigenous Voices Award in the 2019 Unpublished Prose Category and of The Hnatyshyn Foundation's REVEAL Indigenous Art Award. Her fiction has appeared in *Grain Magazine* as the 2018 Short Prose Award winner, on *The Malahat Review's* Far Horizon's Prose shortlist, *Joyland Magazine*, *The Puritan Magazine* and more. Her debut book of poetry is titled *ON/Me* (Caitlin Press).



GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE is an internationally-renowned poet and scholar whose books—including his highly-esteemed poetry collections *Execution Poems* and *Whydah Falls*—have won him many honours, including the Portia White Prize (1998), the Governor General's Literary Award (2001), the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Achievement Award (2004), and the Pierre Elliott Trudeau Fellowship Prize (2005). Born in Windsor, Nova Scotia, Clarke presently resides in Toronto where he is E.J. Pratt Professor of Canadian Literature at the University of Toronto. George served as Canada's seventh Parliamentary Poet Laureate (2016–17).



CAROLINA ECHEVERRIA is a visual artist, a CBC commentator, the founder and artistic director of Native-Immigrant arts collective, and the Artistic Director of Métèque gallery and art hub in Montreal. An excerpt from her memoir appears in *Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers* (Caitlin Press 2019), and her artwork adorns the cover. The title of her unsettling memoir-in-progress is *Native Immigrant: A Personal Journey into Our Home and Native Land*.



Originally from Treaty 1 territory (Landmark, MB), **SARAH ENS** is currently a writer and editor based in Treaty 6 territory (Saskatoon, SK). Her poetry has appeared in literary journals such as *Prairie Fire*, *Arc Poetry Magazine*, and *Poetry Is Dead*. This year's winner of *The New Quarterly's* Edna Staebler Personal Essay Contest, she also placed 2nd in Contemporary Verse 2's 2019 2-Day Poem Contest. In 2018, she won 1st place in *Room Magazine's* Short Forms Contest. Sarah is a current MFA in Writing candidate at the University of Saskatchewan. Her debut poetry collection, *The World Is Mostly Sky*, is forthcoming with Turnstone Press in Spring 2020.



EUFEMIA FANTETTI'S debut, *A Recipe for Disaster & Other Unlikely Tales of Love*, was runner-up for the 2013 Danuta Gleed Literary Award and winner of the 2014 Bressani Literary Prize. A graduate of the University of Guelph's MFA in Creative Writing, she is a three-time winner of *Accenti Magazine's* annual competition. Her work appears in *Event*, *The New Quarterly*, *The Globe and Mail* and the recently released anthology *Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers* (Caitlin Press 2019). She teaches writing at Humber College and edits for the *Humber Literary Review*. *My Father, Fortune-tellers and Me: A Memoir* is her latest book, from Mother Tongue Publishing.



PAOLA FERRANTE'S debut poetry collection, *What to Wear When Surviving A Lion Attack*, was published Spring 2019 by Mansfield Press. Her work has appeared, or is forthcoming, in *The Puritan*, *The New Quarterly*, *Grain*, *The Fiddlehead*, *CV2*, *Room*, *Joyland* and elsewhere. She won *Room's* 2018 prize for Fiction, *The New Quarterly's* 2019 Peter Hinchcliffe Award and her poetry has been nominated for The Best of the Net. She is currently working on a collection of short fiction and is the Poetry Editor at *Minola Review*. She resides in Toronto, Canada.



KATHY FRIEDMAN has appeared in *Grain*, *Geist*, *Room*, *Poetry Is Dead*, *The New Quarterly*, *PRISM international*, *This Magazine*, *Humber Literary Review*, and *Canadian Notes & Queries*. A finalist for the Bronwen Wallace Award for Emerging Writers, she has also been runner-up for the Peter Hinchcliffe Fiction Award and *PRISM International's* short fiction contest. Kathy has an MFA in creative writing from the University of Guelph. She teaches creative writing in the University of Guelph's Open Education program and is the artistic director of InkWell Workshops, which runs free creative writing workshops for adults with mental health and addictions issues.



ELIZABETH HAY is the author of the #1 nationally bestselling novel *Alone in the Classroom*, the Scotiabank Giller Prize-winning novel *Late Nights On Air*, as well as four other highly acclaimed works of fiction, *His Whole Life*, *A Student of Weather*, *Garbo Laughs*, and *Small Change*. *All Things Consoled*, her first book of non-fiction, is shortlisted for the RBC Taylor Prize and the winner of the 2018 Hilary Weston Writers' Trust Prize for Nonfiction. Formerly a radio broadcaster, she spent a number of years in Mexico and New York City before returning to Canada. She lives in Ottawa. Photo Credit: Mark Fried



PHILIP HUYNH was born in Vancouver to parents who had fled Vietnam during the civil war. His stories have been published in the *Malahat Review*, *The New Quarterly*, *Event*, and the *Journey Prize Anthology* and cited in *The Best American Stories*. He is the winner of the Open Season Award from the *Malahat Review*, a *Glenna Luschei Prairie Schooner Award*, and the *Asian Canadian Writers' Workshop Emerging Writers Award*. His first story collection, *The Forbidden Purple City*, was published this year with *Goose Lane Editions*. A practicing lawyer, Philip lives in Richmond, BC.



SHENIZ JANMOHAMED (MFA) is a firm believer in fostering community through collaboration, compassion and creativity. In her own practice, she strives to embody words through performance, land art and writing in the ghazal form. A poet, educator and land artist, Sheniz has performed her work in venues across the world, including the Jaipur Literature Festival, Alliance Française de Nairobi and the Aga Khan Museum. Sheniz is also the author of two poetry collections: *Bleeding Light* (Mawenzi House, 2010) and *Firesmoke* (Mawenzi House, 2014) and is currently working on her third collection of ghazals.



HELEN KNOTT is a Dane Zaa, Nehiyaw, and mixed Euro-descent woman living in Fort St. John, British Columbia. In 2016, Helen was one of sixteen global change makers featured by the Nobel Women's Initiative for being committed to end gender-based violence. Helen was selected as a 2019 RBC Taylor Prize Emerging Author. The memoir, *In My Own Moccasins* (University of Regina Press 2019), is her first book.



AMANDA LEDUC is a disabled author with cerebral palsy whose work has been shortlisted for the CBC Short Story Prize, the CBC Creative Nonfiction Prize, the *Malahat Review's* Constance Rooke Creative Nonfiction Prize, and the Thomas Morton Fiction Prize. Her first novel, *The Miracles of Ordinary Men*, was shortlisted for the ReLit Award. Her new novel, *The Centaur's Wife*, is forthcoming from Random House Canada. Amanda lives and works in Hamilton, Ontario, where she serves as the Communications and Development Coordinator for The Festival of Literary Diversity. Her first full-length work of nonfiction, *Disfigured: On Fairy Tales, Disability, and Making Space*, is forthcoming with Coach House Books in February 2020.



NADJA LUBIW-HAZARD is a writer and a veterinarian. Her short fiction has been published in *Room*, *Understorey*, *The Dalhousie Review*, *The New Quarterly* and more; her first novel, *The Nap-Away Motel*, was published by Palimpsest Press in May 2019. She is currently working on several picture books about animals, and a second novel, *Her Name Was Friday*. A life-long animal-lover and long-time vegan, her writing often explores themes related to the natural world. Nadja works at the Toronto Humane Society and lives with her wife, their two daughters, a black pug, and an old orange tabby cat.



HAZEL MILLAR is the Co-publisher at Book*hug, an award-winning independent literary press based in Toronto. An avid reader, Hazel is rarely without a book. She is the current Chair of the Board of the Literary Press Group of Canada, and she also sits on several other publishing advisory boards and committees. She lives in Toronto with her husband, Jay Millar (a.k.a. the other half of Book*hug Press), their two sons, and a very cool calico cat named Tess.

2019 WILD WRITERS



K.D. MILLER'S stories and essays have appeared in Canadian literary magazines, have been collected in Oberon's *Best Canadian Stories* and *The Journey Prize Anthology*, and have been broadcast by the CBC. She has published four collections of stories: *A Litany in Time of Plague*, *Give Me Your Answer*, *The Other Voice* and *All Saints*; an essay collection, *Holy Writ*; and a novel, *Brown Dwarf*. In 2014, *All Saints* was short-listed for the 2014 Rogers Writers Trust Award and named as one of the year's best by *The Globe and Mail*. Her latest story collection, *Late Breaking*, was inspired by the paintings of Alex Colville and published by Biblioasis in 2018. It was named one of the best of 2018 by *The Globe and Mail*, short-listed for the Trillium award, long-listed for the Toronto book award and long-listed for the Giller prize.



Jamaican-Canadian author **PAMELA MORDECAI** writes stories and poems for adults and children. She has authored/co-authored numerous textbooks and edited/co-edited groundbreaking anthologies of Caribbean writing, especially the writing of women. She has published six books of poetry, most recently *Subversive Sonnets* (TSAR, 2012) and *de book of Mary: A Performance Poem* (Mawenzi House, 2015). Her debut novel, *Red Jacket* was shortlisted for the 2015 Rogers Writers' Trust Fiction Award. *de Man: A Performance Poem*, a verse play in Jamaican Creole about the crucifixion of Jesus, has been performed across Canada and in the Caribbean. Photo Credit: David Mordecai



PAMELA MULLOY is the editor of *The New Quarterly* and the creative director of the Wild Writers Literary Festival. She is also a writer with short fiction published in the UK and Canada. Her debut novel *The Deserters* was published by Véhicule Press in 2018. Photo Credit: Ayelet Tsabari.



VINH NGUYEN specializes in refugee, immigrant, and diasporic literature and culture. He held a SSHRC Vanier Canada Graduate Scholarship, a Sir James Lougheed Award of Distinction, and a Harry Lyman Hooker Fellowship, among other honors. He is the 2017 recipient of the John C. Polanyi Prize in Literature. His writing can be found or are forthcoming in *Social Text*, *MELUS*, *ARIEL*, *Canadian Literature*, *Life Writing*, and *Canadian Review of American Studies*.



KATHY PAGE is the author of ten previous books, most recently *Dear Evelyn* (2018), which won the Rogers Writers' Trust of Canada's Fiction Prize. Other works include *Paradise & Elsewhere* (2014) and *The Two of Us* (2016), both nominated for the Scotiabank Giller Prize. Born in the UK, she moved to Salt Spring Island with her family in 2001, and now divides her time between writing and teaching at Vancouver Island University. Photo Credit: Billie Woods



MICHELLE PARISE is an award-winning journalist, writer and performer. She's worked for the CBC for twenty-three years, in everything from children's television, national radio news, music programming and documentary making. In 2017, she adapted her unpublished memoir, *Alone: A Love Story*, into an international hit podcast for CBC. In May 2020, the book that became a podcast will be a book again, published by Dundurn Press. Photo Credit: Justin Morris



CASEY PLETT is the author of the novel *Little Fish* (Arsenal Pulp Press) and the short story collection *A Safe Girl to Love* (Topside Press), and co-editor of the anthology *Meanwhile, Elsewhere: Science Fiction and Fantasy from Transgender Writers* (Topside Press). She wrote a column on transitioning for *McSweeney's Internet Tendency* and her essays and reviews have appeared in *The New York Times*, *Maclean's*, *The Walrus*, *Plenitude*, *the Winnipeg Free Press*, and other publications. She is the winner of a Lambda Literary Award for Best Transgender Fiction and received an Honour of Distinction from The Writers' Trust of Canada's Dayne Ogilvie Prize for LGBTQ Emerging Writers. She lives in Windsor, Ontario. Photo Credit: Sybil Lamb



STUART ROSS is a writer, editor, writing teacher, and publisher living in Cobourg, Ontario. He sold his chapbooks on the streets of Toronto in the 1980s, and is now the prize-winning author of twenty books of poetry, fiction, and essays, including *Motel of the Opposable Thumbs* (Anvil Press, 2019), *A Sparrow Came Down Resplendent* (winner of the Canadian Jewish Literary Award for Poetry; Wolsak and Wynn, 2016) and *Pockets* (ECW Press, 2017). His novel *Snowball, Dragonfly, Jew* won the Mona Elaine Adilman Prize for Jewish Fiction, and his story collection *Buying Cigarettes for the Dog* won the ReLit Prize for Short Fiction. Stuart has led workshops across the country and has taught at Inkwell for two years.



HEIDI REIMER'S short stories and essays have appeared in *Chatelaine*, *The New Quarterly*, *Little Fiction*, *Literary Mama*, *Stealing Time*, and *Hip Mama*, and in the anthologies *Outcrops: Northeastern Ontario Short Stories*, *The M Word: Conversations About Motherhood*, and *Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers*. Heidi lives and works in Toronto. She is currently at work on a novel.



SUSAN SCOTT is the editor of *Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers* (Caitlin Press 2019) and the author of *Temple in a Teapot*. A deep interest in the interplay of the edgy, the iffy, and the sublime, and in championing neglected voices, informs her editorial instincts. She serves as *The New Quarterly's* lead nonfiction editor, retreat director, associate director of the Wild Writers Festival, and on the board of the Region of Waterloo Arts Fund. Her next book, *Sainted Dirt*, is a reckoning with land, language, family, and imperfect teaware.



LEANNE TOSHIKO SIMPSON is a Japanese-Canadian writer from Scarborough. Diagnosed with bipolar disorder at 17, she writes about navigating the mental health system, and was featured as an ambassador for Bell Let's Talk. You can find her work in *Contemporary Verse 2*, *Room* magazine and *Unpublished City II*. In 2016, she was named Scarborough's Emerging Writer, and this year, she was longlisted for the Journey Prize. Leanne recently completed her MFA at the University of Guelph and teaches creative writing at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) and InkWell Workshops.



SARAH TOLMIE is a medievalist trained at the University of Toronto and Cambridge and is associate professor of English at the University of Waterloo. Her poetry collection, *The Art of Dying* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2018) was shortlisted for the 2019 Griffin Poetry Prize and her 120-sonnet sequence *Trio* (McGill-Queen's University Press, 2015) was shortlisted for the 2016 Pat Lowther Memorial Award. She has also published a chapbook, *Sonnet in a Blue Dress and Other Poems* (Baseline Press, 2014), two novels with Aqueduct Press, *The Little Animals* (2019) and *The Stone Boatmen* (2014), as well as two short fiction collections, *Two Travelers* (2016) and *NoFood* (2014).



AYELET TSABARI was born in Israel to a large family of Yemeni descent. She is the author of the memoir in essays *The Art of Leaving*, finalist for the Writer's Trust Hilary Weston Prize and winner of the Jewish Literary Award for memoir. Her first book, *The Best Place on Earth*, won the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature and the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, and was long listed to the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. The book was a *New York Times* Book Review Editors' Choice, a *Kirkus Review* Best Book of 2016, and has been published internationally. Recently, Ayelet's work appeared in *Body and Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers*, edited by Susan Scott. Photo Credit: Jonathan Bloom

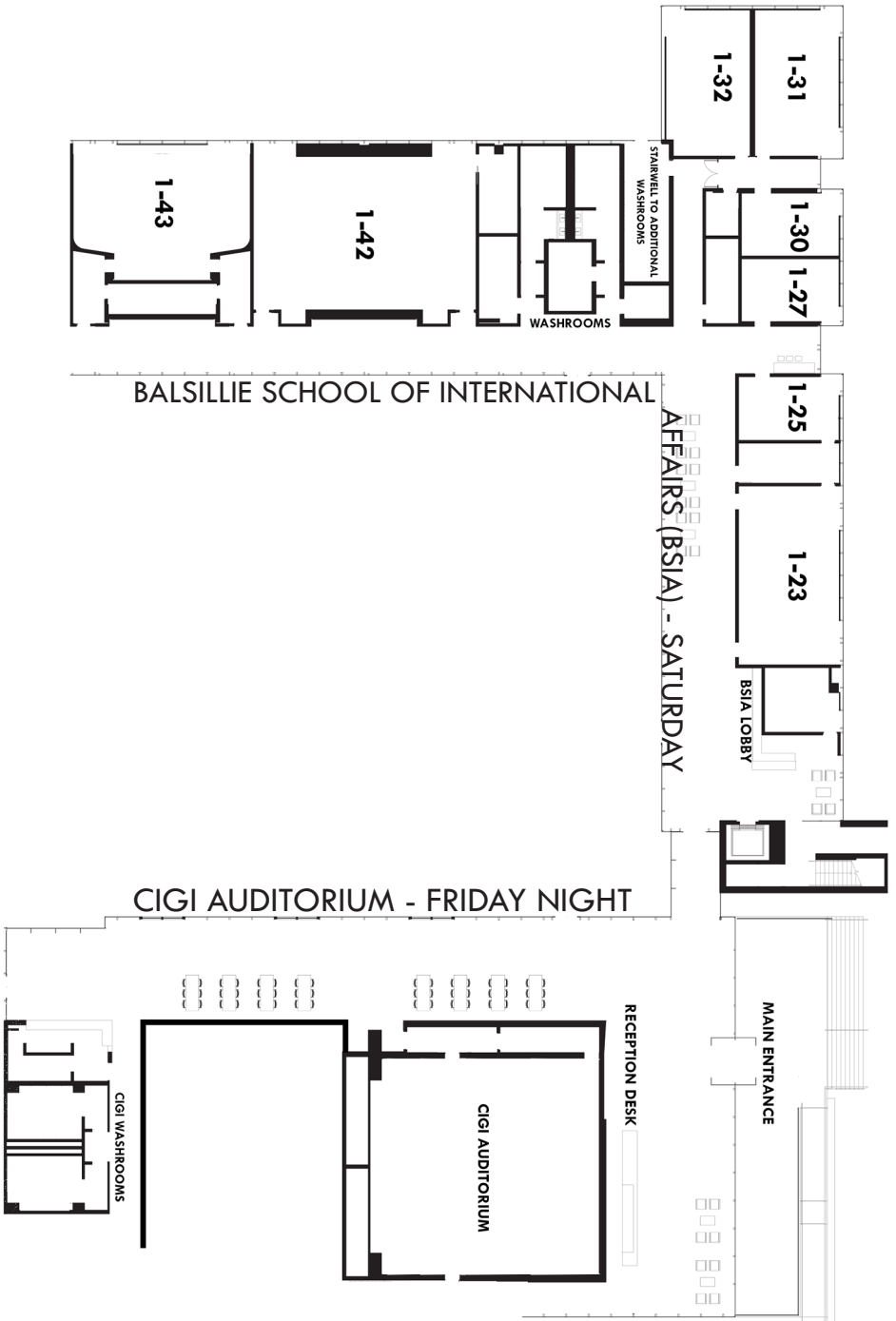


JESSICA WESTHEAD's fiction has been shortlisted for the CBC Literary Awards, selected for the Journey Prize anthology, and nominated for a National Magazine Award. Her short stories have appeared in major literary journals in Canada, the US and the UK, including *Hazlitt*, *Maisonneuve*, *Indiana Review* and Hamish Hamilton's *Five Dials*. She is the author of the novel *Pulpy and Midge* and the critically acclaimed short story collections *Things Not to Do* and *And Also Sharks*, which was a *Globe and Mail* Top 100 Book, a Kobo's Best eBook of the Year and a finalist for the Danuta Gleed Literary Award. Westhead is a creative writing instructor at the Chang School of Continuing Education at Ryerson University. Photo Credit: Derek Wuenschirs



TERENCE YOUNG lives in Victoria, BC, where he has recently retired from teaching English and creative writing at St. Michaels University School. His poems and stories have appeared in literary periodicals across Canada. Most recently, the poem "Tender Is The Night" was the winner of the Nick Blatchford Occasional Verse Contest, sponsored by *The New Quarterly*. It is from a forthcoming collection called *Smithereens* (Harbour, 2021).

CAMPUS MAP



2019 WILD WRITERS LITERARY FESTIVAL

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

AT-A-GLANCE



9:30am – 12:30pm

Youth Writing Masterclass
with FRANCINE CUNNINGHAM

BSIA 1-31 • \$45

9:30am – 10:50am

Facing Your Fear of Poetry with SARAH TOLMIE	Three of These Things Belong Together: The Publishing Panel with NOELLE ALLEN, MARILYN BIDERMAN, HAZEL MILLAR, PAMELA MULLOY & SUSAN SCOTT	Different Worlds and Different Bodies with AMANDA LEDUC
BSIA 1-43 • \$25	BSIA 1-42 • Free	BSIA 1-23 • \$25

11:10am – 12:30pm

Poetry and Healing: In Conversation with GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE	Character Reinvention in Fiction Writing with PHILIP HUYNH, NADJA LUBIW-HAZARD, CASEY PLETT, CLAIRE TACON & JESSICA WESTHEAD	Writing Beyond Trauma with HELEN KNOTT
BSIA 1-43 • \$15	BSIA 1-42 • Free	BSIA 1-23 • \$25

12:30pm – 1:30pm

EVO BOXED LUNCHES (Reserved in Advance)

Reception Desk • BSIA Lobby

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

1:00PM • "Book Signing Nook" • BSIA Lobby

1:30pm – 4:30pm

Poetry Masterclass

with GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

BSIA 1-31 • \$45

1:30pm – 2:50pm

Home and Away: A Roundtable Conversation with LAMEES AL ETHARI, HELEN KNOTT, VINH NGUYEN & AYELET TSABARI	How to Promote Yourself with CASEY PLETT	Self-Care for Writers 101 with MAYA AMEYAW, EUFEMIA FANTETTI, STUART ROSS, LEANNE TOSHIKO SIMPSON & KATHY FRIEDMAN
BSIA 1-42 • Free	BSIA 1-43 • \$25	BSIA 1-23 • \$15

3:10pm – 4:30pm

How to Turn the Written Word into Podcast Magic with MICHELLE PARISE	Shaming or Celebrating? Challenging Norms in Personal Nonfiction with CAROLINA ECHEVERRIA, SHENIZ JANMOHAMED, AMANDA LEDUC, HEIDI REIMER & SUSAN SCOTT	Creating Character with KATHY PAGE
BSIA 1-23 • \$25	BSIA 1-42 • Free	BSIA 1-43 • \$25

4:30pm – 5:00pm

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

"Book Signing Nook" • BSIA Lobby

IF YOU...

Love to read or write

Value supporting arts in the region and across Canada

Want to share your skills and knowledge with a charitable organization

Enjoy getting involved—and aren't afraid to get your hands dirty

Help discover more of Canada's Wild Writers.

Join *The New Quarterly's* Board of Directors!

Visit tnq.ca/on-board
for more information

thenewquarterly

CANADIAN WRITERS & WRITING

OPENING SHOWCASE
“PARENTAL GUIDANCE ADVISED”
WITH ELIZABETH HAY & KATHY PAGE
MODERATED BY EUFEMIA FANTETTI

7:00pm - 9:00pm • CIGI Campus Auditorium • \$15 admission at the door



ELIZABETH HAY



KATHY PAGE



EUFEMIA FANTETTI

Parents make for great source material. Award-winning writers Elizabeth Hay and Kathy Page know this all too well. Kathy Page’s *Dear Evelyn* grew from her father’s war-time love letters to her mother. Elizabeth Hay’s *All Things Consolled* details the decline of her ferociously independent elderly parents.

Source material isn’t the only thing that links these writers. Both earned Writers’ Trust Prizes in November, 2018—Kathy Page for fiction, Elizabeth Hay for nonfiction. Almost exactly one year later, Kathy Page and Elizabeth Hay unite onstage to reflect on their process and tackle tough questions. Why do we return to stories about our parents? Why do these stories continue to draw such attention and acclaim?

Featuring readings from the winners of *The New Quarterly’s* annual writing contests:

TERENCE YOUNG Nick Blatchford Occasional Verse Contest winner for “Tender is the Night”

SARAH ENS Edna Staebler Personal Essay Contest winner for “Entangled”

PAOLA FERRANTE Peter Hinchcliffe Short Fiction Award winner for “The Underside of a Wing”

**THE OPENING SHOWCASE IS MADE POSSIBLE THROUGH CONTRIBUTIONS BY
AMANDA KNAPP WEALTH MANAGEMENT OF RBC DOMINION SECURITIES**



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

9:30AM-12:30PM

YOUTH WRITING MASTERCLASS WITH FRANCINE CUNNINGHAM

BSIA 1-31 • \$45

Led by award-winning Indigenous writer Francine Cunningham, this masterclass will help you learn to connect with your memories to create a visceral piece of writing that springs alive with sensory details. We will then be using our writing to create personal zines that showcase the words we have carefully crafted. Francine has over ten years experience teaching writing, visual art, and zine making. If you feel inspired please bring any art making supplies to enhance your zine with some visual art. For writers aged 13-18.

9:30AM-10:50AM

THREE OF THESE THINGS BELONG TOGETHER: THE PUBLISHING PANEL

WITH NOELLE ALLEN, MARILYN BIDERMAN, HAZEL MILLAR,
PAMELA MULLOY & SUSAN SCOTT

BSIA 1-42 • FREE

The sing-song title says it all: some groupings are a perfect fit. The publishing panel celebrates agents, small magazines, and small presses: why and how they belong together, and why understanding their linked roles and relationships is vital if you want to publish, or deepen your connection to publishing. Ideal for writers, editors, agents, and anyone who wonders about the rhythm and rhyme of literary fortunes. Moderated by Susan Scott.

FACING YOUR FEAR OF POETRY WITH SARAH TOLMIE

BSIA 1-43 • \$25

Poems put people off. They are considered precious. Students often dread writing poems because they fear they missed some set of mysterious rules that determine success or failure. This workshop will introduce writers and teachers of poetry to interactive exercises—the weirder, the better—that can help people get over their fear of poetry. Come prepared to move around and consider alternate ways of generating poetic material. Poetry is what occurs after something happens. Introduced by Barb Carter.

DIFFERENT WORLDS AND DIFFERENT BODIES WITH AMANDA LEDUC

BSIA 1-23 • \$25

From Tiny Tim to the Seven Dwarves, disability in literature all too often falls into ableist tropes that continue to perpetuate disabled exclusion. How, then, do we look to expand disability representation in literature? How can we work toward representing the vast richness of disability experience on the page in thoughtful, inclusive ways? Join writer Amanda Leduc on a part-history adventure, part-brainstorming discussion, all-round fabulous workshop on how to increase disability representation in your work in ways that centre and respect the disabled experience.

CHARACTER REINVENTION IN FICTION WRITING WITH PHILIP HUYNH, NADJA LUBIW-HAZARD, CASEY PLETT, CLAIRE TACON & JESSICA WESTHEAD

BSIA 1-42 • FREE

These authors grapple with issues that challenge the inhabitants of their story in unique and unforeseen ways—family secrets, anxiety, displacement, abandonment, addiction, grief, the struggle for identity. Through discussions and readings from their work, we learn how these authors navigate complex realities and find ways for their characters to reinvent themselves in the process. Moderated by Claire Tacon.

POETRY AND HEALING: IN CONVERSATION WITH GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

BSIA 1-43 • \$15

When was your last villanelle vaccination? Did you try applying an ointment of ode? Poetry's immediacy—its rhythm, its viscous concision—can cut to the bone. But it can also suture our wounds and soothe our pain. Uncover the mysterious healing properties of poetry with special guest George Elliott Clarke. Featuring a discussion of the poetic works of Pamela Mordecai. Moderated by Lamees Al Ethari. Please note: Pamela Mordecai is unable to attend this event and sends her sincere regrets.

WRITING BEYOND TRAUMA WITH HELEN KNOTT

BSIA 1-23 • \$25

There are stories that are inside of us that need to be told in order for us to clear space for new narratives. How do we break into telling these new stories and how, if at all, is this associated with our own healing journeys? Explore the bridge between present narratives and past narratives and all the muddied waters underneath it. Introduced by Susan Scott.



The School

The Balsillie School of International Affairs (BSIA) is a collaborative partnership between two universities and a public policy think tank. *No other graduate school is structured in this way.* The unique integration of each institution's culture gives BSIA an unmatched ability to connect today's experts with tomorrow's leaders in critical debate and analysis.



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

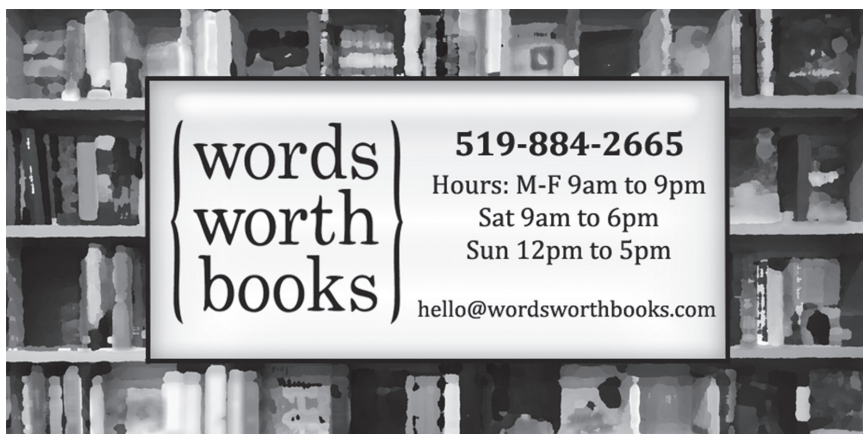
12:30PM-1:30PM

GOURMET BOXED LUNCHES BY EVO KITCHEN

Boxed lunches will be available for pickup at the Reception Desk (BSIA Lobby) at 12:30PM. Pre-order is required. All boxed lunch materials are **100% recyclable**. Please bring your boxed lunch waste to our **greening volunteer team for sorting!**

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

Writers from morning events will gather around the “Book Signing Nook” in the BSIA Lobby for a casual book signing session at **1:00PM**. To get your book signed: kindly introduce yourself, be mindful of others waiting, and be respectful of writers’ personal space.



1:30PM-4:30PM

POETRY MASTERCLASS WITH GEORGE ELLIOTT CLARKE

BSIA 1-31 • \$45

George Elliott Clarke believes that poetic mastery consists in having command of too-often-overlooked or taken-for-granted basics: Vocabulary/Diction (incl. English “roots” and “routes”), Rhythm/Meter, and Forms/Constraints. He will offer a series of exercises (developed over 36 years of praxis), both of his own invention or borrowed—with acknowledgment—from others, all introduced with a discussion of the underlying theory, and all intended to help the participating writer or poet, at whatever stage of creative “mastery,” to range further, stretch, advance. Clarke has offered courses in Creative Writing at Duke University and the University of Toronto, and has also taught at Banff and at Green College (UBC) and in writing workshops from coast to coast. He promises participants increased excellence in craft and a charged atmosphere of due humility before the Muse(s) and irreverent humour for all (mere) mortals.

HOME AND AWAY: A ROUNDTABLE CONVERSATION WITH LAMEES AL ETHARI, HELEN KNOTT, VINH NGUYEN & AYELET TSABARI

BSIA 1-42 • FREE

How do displaced writers locate themselves in their writing? Refugee, immigrant, and Indigenous writers have pushed the boundaries of language to express their experiences. But they're also challenging expectations of what it means to be a displaced writer in Canada. Join this intimate roundtable conversation to traverse these topics and more. Moderated by Lamees Al Ethari.

HOW TO PROMOTE YOURSELF WITH CASEY PLETT

BSIA 1-43 • \$25

Casey Plett has seen the world of Canadian writing from different angles. As reviewer, essayist, and fiction writer (most recently the Amazon First Novel Award-winning *Little Fish*), she shares her own work through reading, interviews and social media. As a former bookseller with McNally Robinson and publicist with Biblioasis, she has also learned the most effective and far-reaching ways for books to get noticed, loved, and sold. In "How to Promote Yourself" Plett draws on her expertise as both writer and industry professional to illuminate the waters of book promotion and sales, as well to share advice on how all authors—established, emerging, and self-published—can publicize their work, bring it to readers, and even keep their mental health in check at the same time.

SELF-CARE FOR WRITERS 101 WITH MAYA AMEYAW, EUFEMIA FANTETTI, STUART ROSS, LEANNE TOSHIKO SIMPSON & KATHY FRIEDMAN

BSIA 1-23 • \$15

Mental health and wellness concerns can be particularly acute in the writing community, as writers navigate creative and professional highs and lows. This roundtable discussion focuses on how writers can build strong self-care practices, boundaries, and support systems. It will also touch on the risks involved in writing about mental illness, including what it means to go public with our stories and the challenges of writing about traumatic personal histories.

The discussion will be led by special guests from InkWell Workshops. InkWell runs free creative-writing workshops for people with mental health and addictions issues facilitated by award-winning writers with lived experience.

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW • SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 2

3:10PM-4:30PM

SHAMING OR CELEBRATING? CHALLENGING NORMS IN PERSONAL NONFICTION WITH CAROLINA ECHEVERRIA, SHENIZ JANMOHAMED, AMANDA LEDUC, HEIDI REIMER & SUSAN SCOTT

BSIA 1-42 • FREE

It's hard to write deeply personal nonfiction, harder still to get it published. Yet there is a crying need, we know, to confront what is hidden and taboo. What to do in the face of standoff? Are there strategies we can all adopt, conversations we can each initiate—and with whom? Join us in celebrating how one wildly unpopular topic (spiritual memoir) could become a beloved book (*Body & Soul* from Caitlin Press) that breaks down barriers for others—and possibly, for you. Moderated by Susan Scott.

CREATING CHARACTER WITH KATHY PAGE

BSIA 1-43 • \$15

Character is where the story begins, but where do characters come from? What makes a compelling protagonist? How do you develop your characters, bring them to life on the page, and understand what their stories are? Kathy Page, author of *Dear Evelyn* and *Alphabet*, and known for compelling and convincing characterization, will share some of her approach to character development and take participants through an in-class exercise. Please bring pen and paper. Introduced by Pamela Mulloy.

HOW TO TURN THE WRITTEN WORD INTO PODCAST MAGIC WITH MICHELLE PARISE

BSIA 1-23 • \$25

Want to know tips and tricks for lifting your words off the page and into the ears of millions*? Find out how to write for the most intimate medium with award-winning journalist, writer and performer Michelle Parise, who adapted her memoir, *Alone: A Love Story* into a hit international podcast. In this workshop, she will share her process, thoughts on craft, and get you to think about writing with your ears.

*millions not guaranteed

4:30PM-5:00PM

AUTHOR BOOK SIGNING

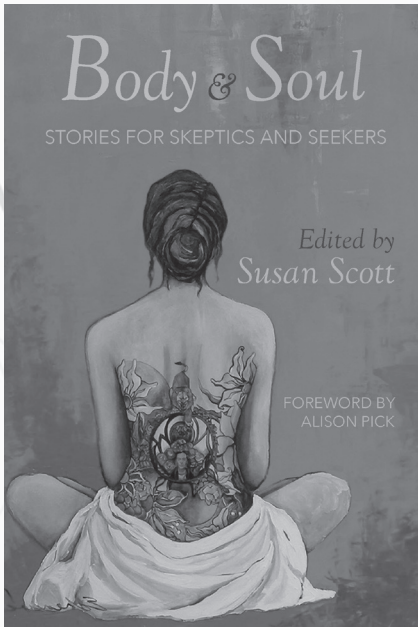
Writers from afternoon events will gather around the “Book Signing Nook” in the BSIA Lobby for a casual book signing session. To get your book signed: kindly introduce yourself, be mindful of others waiting, and be respectful of writers’ personal space.

“Lit with honesty and insight, these essays show us how our spirit and intellect are intricately connected—and that they are allies, not adversaries. This book is a revelation.”

Sarah Selecky, author of *Radiant Shimmering Light*

“Like a good meal, these stories stay with the reader long after they are finished.”

Mary Ann Moore, *Herizons*



Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers is a spiritual journey through experiences that can be liberating but also awkward and sometimes even dangerous, because women are so often excluded from conversations about spirituality. Liberation comes with breaking that age-old code of silence to talk about the messiness of faith, practice, religion and ceremony, to confess our sublimely unconventional modes of spiritual yearning. The writers in this volume, including **Sharon Bala, Carleigh Baker, Eufemia Fantetti, Sue Goyette, K.D. Miller, Zarqa Nawaz, Alison Pick, Sigal Samuel, Ayelet Tsabari, Betsy Warland** and others, many from marginalized or

misunderstood communities, are speaking out so that others will speak up. Enough of fear. Enough of hiding out, tongue-tied. It's time for joy, humanity and frankness. It's time to step up and lead—not by running after answers, but by asking caring, daring questions. **It's time for body and soul.**

Hear the story behind *Body & Soul* at our free Wild Writers panel **Shaming or Celebrating? Challenging Norms in Personal Nonfiction**. Featuring contributing writers Carolina Echeverria, Sheniz Janmohamed, Amanda Leduc, Heidi Reimer, and editor Susan Scott.


CAITLIN PRESS

Body & Soul: Stories for Skeptics and Seekers was published by Caitlin Press in 2019. Founded in 1977, Caitlin Press publishes fiction, non-fiction, and poetry that reflects the diverse cultures and histories of British Columbia, bridging the gap between the urban and the rural. In 2016, Caitlin Press launched Dagger Editions, publishing literary fiction, non-fiction, and poetry by and about queer women (those who identify as queer women, including trans women or trans men, or anyone who includes this in their personal history).

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CANADIAN WRITERS & WRITING

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THE LITERARY BRUNCH

WITH DAVID BEZMOZGIS, MICHAEL CRUMMEY & K.D. MILLER
MODERATED BY SHARRON SMITH

9:30AM - 12:00pm • Rhapsody Barrel Bar • 179 King Street West, Kitchener



DAVID BEZMOZGIS



MICHAEL CRUMMEY



K.D. MILLER

Join us for a refreshing Sunday morning with award-winning authors David Bezmozgis, Michael Crummey, and K.D. Miller who will discuss their latest work, writing process, and lives as a writers. Intimate, casual, engaging – an ideal way to spend a Sunday morning.

Hosted at Rhapsody Barrel Bar, Kitchener. Doors open and coffee is served at 9:30AM. Brunch is served piping hot at **10:15AM sharp**. Mimosas and dessert served at 11:00AM.



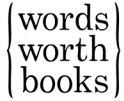
Moderator **Sharron Smith**, formerly the Manager of Bibliographic Services at the Kitchener Public Library and past chair of the One Book, One Community program, is an award-winning librarian and published author with more than 25 years experience helping readers' find their next great read. Currently on faculty at the University of Western Ontario, she's passionate about reading and an active advocate of Canadian literature.

THE WILD WRITERS LITERARY BRUNCH IS MADE POSSIBLE
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