

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Friday 1 PM - Foothills 2

Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition

Jack Whyte (reader), Nancy Bell, Hayden Trenholm (M), Susan MacGregor, Colleen Anderson

Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from short story editors.

Friday 1 PM - Suite 536

Should Genre Be Taught Academically?

Heather Osborne (M), Bart Beaty, Paula Johanson

Should courses on mystery, romance, SF&F, or children's literature be taught at the university level? And if so, how? Are they useful to a writer? Does academic study lead to better writing? What kinds of academic courses on genre are available? Have they been well-taught before? What are teachers' successful strategies?

Friday 1 PM - Suite 537

New and Hot Romances

Justyn Perry (Breathless Press) (M)

Enthusiasts discuss current and upcoming books.

Friday 2 PM - Foothills 2

Writer as Editor - Revising Your Own Work

Steven Owad, Susan MacGregor, Neil Godbout, Virginia O'Dine (M)

Increasingly, the onus is on the author to turn in manuscripts that require minimal editing. This panel discusses tips and pointers on becoming your own best editor.

Friday 2 PM - Suite 536

The Role of the Academic Library in relation to Genre Fiction

John Wright, Director - Arts and Culture; Helen Clarke, Associate Vice-Provost Collections

The special collections of many university libraries include speculative fiction, mystery, and romance. Helen Clarke and John Wright of the University of Calgary discuss the intrinsic value of such collections and the role they play in research, learning, preservation, and the continuation of narrative.

Friday 2 PM - Suite 537

New and Hot in Middle Grade and Young Adult Fiction

Deb Marshall (M), Sean Cummings, Tawny Stokes, Justyn Perry

Enthusiasts discuss current and upcoming books.

Friday 3 PM - Foothills 2

Brave New World of Publishing

CaRWA: Vivi Anna, Steena Holmes, DL Snow, Louise Behiel

The industry has changed and there are more choices for authors than ever before, come find out what those options are from authors who have done it all and been very successful.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Friday 3 PM - Suite 536

Morality and Politics in Genre Fiction

Hayden Trenholm

Every genre writer deals with moral issues: crime and justice, the ethics of scientific progress, the nature of love. How do you take a moral stance without seeming preachy? How do you explore politics -- in the broad sense of the social arrangements we create so we can live together -- without being ham-handed? Are writers who claim to be morally neutral simply reflecting the status quo or is it possible to be amoral and apolitical in writing?

Friday 3 PM - Suite 537

Building Enduring Characters: Playing in the Victorian Sandbox

Charles Prepolec, Jeff Campbell

Using the current popularity of Sherlock Holmes as a prime example, this panel will broadly discuss and explore elements in character building that have contributed to the enduring popularity of 19th century literary characters into the present day, with sidelights on pop culture media adaptations and working with licensed or public domain characters in new fiction.

Friday 4 PM - Foothills 2

Mastering Point of View

Robert J Sawyer

Learn the strengths and weakness of first-person and third-person narration, and how to avoid point-of-view pitfalls. Most beginning writers have a hard time choosing the appropriate point of view for their stories—and an even harder time sticking to it. Printed fiction can be more powerful than film, TV, or stage plays because it allows us to get inside the head of our viewpoint character—to actually become someone in the story. But a poor choice of point-of-view character can leave the reader uninvolved, and violations of the limited perspective provided by a specific point of view can rip the reader right out of the story.

Friday 4 PM - Suite 536

Self-Publishing Made Easier?

Derek Donais (M), Krista Ball, Aviva Bell

It is easier than ever today to be your own publisher both in print and eBook format and many authors, even established ones, are considering this path. The pros and cons are anything but clear. Authors who have investigated this path and followed it or turned it down discuss their findings.

Friday 4 PM - Suite 537

Critical Thinking

Neil Godbout, Hayden Trenholm

With independent reading on the decline, so too is critical thinking among today's youth, a conclusion borne out by declining high school and university achievement. What role do good books play in enticing youth to think for themselves? Do authors, especially YA authors, consciously plot their stories to stir up docile minds? What books can be recommended to get readers thinking?

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Friday 5 PM - Foothills 2

Beyond The Bedroom - There's More to Romance Than Sex

ARWA: Billie Milholland, Sharon Wildwind, Sarah Kades, Jude Wilner

Whatever your genre, romantic relationships can be an integral component to your story and characters. Find out how to include romance in your writing, and not just smokin' hot sex.

Friday 5 PM - Suite 536

Are Creative Writing Programs Elephant Factories?

Heather Osborne (M), Sherry Peters

"Having a creative writer teach writing is like having an elephant teach biology". True or false? Do creative writing programs only produce creative writing teachers, not creative writers? Is it worth it to get an academic degree in creative writing?

Friday 5 PM - Suite 537

A Quick Comment About Flash Fiction

Rona Altrows (M), Kimberly Gould, Ron Friedman, Amber Hayward

Call it sudden fiction, microfiction, micro-story, short short, or postcard fiction, writers of <1000 word prose discuss the challenges and the appeal extreme brevity.

Friday 6 PM - Foothills 2

Humour in Fiction

Tim Reynolds (M), Dave Gross, Dave Duncan, Sarah Kades

A man walks into a bar... Be it comic relief, a quirky character, comedy, or outright satire, humour is gold when it works and death when it fails. Panellists with diverse approaches to applying humour to their prose discuss their aims and methods.

Friday 6 PM - Suite 536

Hank Hargreaves Interview

Robert Runte, Hank Hargreaves

Robert Runte interviews Hank Hargreaves, author of *North by 2000*, the first short story collection ever marketed as Canadian SF.

Friday 6 PM - Suite 537

In Places Between Short Story Contest Judging

Renee Bennett (M)

Judges rank the top 5 entries. Winners announced, prizes awarded.

Friday 7 PM (2 hours) - Foothills 2

Guest of Honour Keynote Talks

Kevin J. Anderson, Kelley Armstrong, Anthony Bidulka, Vanessa Cardui, Adrienne Kerr, Rebecca Moesta, Randy McCharles (M)

Following a brief welcome by the festival chairman, each of this year's guests will speak on a topic of their choice.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Friday 9 PM - Foothills 2

Always the Bad Guy!

Susan Calder, Betty Cross, Dave Gross (M), Steven Owad

Bullies, jerks, criminals, villains, monsters, and dark gods. How do different genres portray the villain? What statements do they attempt to make about the human condition? And does the bad guy always have to be a guy?

Friday 9 PM – Fifth Floor Suites

Evening Socials

All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in on the socials hosted by various friends of the festival.

- *SF Canada & OnSpec Magazine honours the Aurora Award nominees (Suite 535)*
- *CaRWA (Calgary Association of Romance Writers of America) PJ Party (Suite 536) [may start as early as 8 PM!]*
- *Bundoran Press, Breathless Press, & the 10th Circle Project (Suite 537)*
- *IFWA (Imaginative Fiction Writers Association) Friday night readings. This year's theme: Widgets of Death! (Room TBA)*

Friday 10 PM - Foothills 2

Filk Circle

Jane Garthson (M)

Bang a drum. Strum a guitar. Sing a song. Join one of Canada's top filkers for this longtime SF&F convention tradition.

Saturday 10 AM - Foothills 1

Live Action Slush

Edward Willett (reader), Adrienne Kerr, Brian Hades (M), Diane Walton, Tina Moreau

Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from expert publishers and authors.

Saturday 10 AM - Foothills 2

Dead Men Still Talking

Detective Sweet

Detective Sweet is back with additional forensic evidence.

Saturday 10 AM - Brentwood

The Benefits and Drawbacks of Writing Quickly

Candice Robinson, Josiah Rose, Danni Menard, Tim Mitchell

Using NaNoWriMo as an example, does reaching "The End" as fast as possible really result in a sloppy product? Or does the fast pace of writing a novel in a month train writers to meet schedules set by agents and editors? Can the wild abandon of NaNoWriMo have a place in the serious world of publishing?

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 10 AM - Charleswood

Everybody Has a Story: A Conversation About What a Fiction Writer Might Gain from A Poet

Bob Stallworthy (M), Micheline Maylor, Chase Baird, Elona Malterre

Poetry is poetry, fiction is fiction, isn't it? How can these two genres meet? Where might they cross each other? Where might there be bridges between the two? What can a fiction writer possibly learn from a poet? This panel of poets and fiction writers, sometimes both in one person, will discuss, argue, look under, over and behind the writing of poetry and fiction to find places where the bridges might be, where the two genres come together or at least touch.

Saturday 10 AM – Collingwood (sign-up required)

Successful Blogging/ Platform Building for Writers

Angela Ackerman

Angela Ackerman, co-writer of the award-winning blog and writing resource The Bookshelf Muse, instructs how to start a blog & web presence from the ground up.

Saturday 10 AM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Dave Duncan

Join popular Canadian author Dave Duncan for a casual discussion.

Saturday 10 AM – Suite 537

Reading

Rhiannon Held, "Silver" (new urban fantasy novel from TOR)

Alison Lohans, "Crossings" (new YA SF novel)

Derryl Murphy, (upcoming short fiction)

Saturday 11 AM - Foothills 1

Conflict & Tension

Anthony Bidulka, Rhiannon Held, Susan MacGregor (M), Barb Geiger

The well-known agent, Donald Maass says, "Tension on every page!" What are the best techniques for creating the kind of page-turning suspense that translates into commercial success? Must characters be in continual conflict? How can information be revealed in ways that keep the reader from being confused without "info-dumping" blocks of boring exposition? How much mystery is needed?

Saturday 11 AM - Foothills 2

Writers At The Improv

IFWA, Hayden Trenholm, Edward Willett

A short fiction game show where the audience directs the authors. A fun time to be had for all.

Saturday 11 AM - Brentwood

A Taste of the Aurora Nominees

Cliff Samuels, 2012 Aurora Nominees

Meet some of this year's Aurora Award nominees for an informal roundtable discussion of their recent contributions in the literary community.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 11 AM - Charleswood

Songwriting with Vanessa

Vanessa Cardui

How to go about songwriting, whether for pleasure, film, or theatre. Festival guest Vanessa Cardui, lead singer of the popular local band Heroincredible, gives tips and insights into the creative process.

Saturday 11 AM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Historical Research for Writers

Tereasa Maillie

Approaches and methodology of conducting research. Where to look, evaluation of source, topic appropriation, etc.

Saturday 11 AM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Kelley Armstrong

Join festival guest Kelley Armstrong for a casual discussion.

Saturday 11 AM – Suite 537

Reading

Steven Owad, "Hard Currency" (new Crime novel)

Ron Hore, "The Dark Lady" (new High Fantasy novel)

Saturday 11 AM – Edgemont

Books Signing - Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta

Saturday 12 PM - Foothills 1

An Hour With Kelley Armstrong

Kelley Armstrong

New York Times bestselling author, Kelley Armstrong, shares samples of her work and answers questions from the audience.

Saturday 12 PM - Foothills 2

Telling a Book by its Cover?

Dan O'Driscoll, Kent Pollard, Chadwick Ginther (M), Justyn Perry, Stephanie Johanson

Does a good cover really sell the book? Does a bad cover reduce sales? What is bad, anyway? Book collectors discuss the impact of cover art on potential readers.

Saturday 12 PM - Brentwood

How to Give A Compelling Author Reading

Robert J Sawyer

Not just a best selling author, Robert J Sawyer is a renown public speaker, traveling the world to deliver keynotes and talks as well as performing inspiring readings. In this talk, Rob shares with us many of the small things he does to prepare for and deliver an inspired reading.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 12 PM - Charleswood

The Psychology of Criminals and Villains - Creating A Really Good Bad Guy

Susan MacGregor, Neil Godbout, Gary Renshaw (M), Ryan McFadden

Readers enjoy a well drawn villain, sometimes more than a well drawn hero. What is it that makes bad guys, bad, and why do readers enjoy them so much?

Saturday 12 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Pitch Sessions

Adrienne Kerr, Brian Hades, CZP (ChiZine Publications), J. Ellen Smith, Carrie Mumford

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 12 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta

Join festival guests Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta for a casual discussion.

Saturday 12 PM – Suite 537

Tyche Books Book Launch

editors: *Margaret Curelas, Tina Moreau;*

authors: *Krista D. Ball, Kevin Cockle, Billie Milholland, Edward Willett*

Saturday 1 PM - Foothills 1

Murder & Mayhem - Canadian Style

Anthony Bidulka, Stephen Legault, Jayne Barnard

Anthony Bidulka, Stephen Legault, & Jayne Barnard discuss the state of Canadian mystery fiction and what makes Canadian Mystery unique.

Saturday 1 PM - Foothills 2

Greatest Unsolved Mysteries in Astrophysics

Larry McNish

Larry McNish of the Royal Astronomical Society of Canada shares with us everything we don't know about the universe around us.

Saturday 1 PM - Brentwood

Genre vs Setting

Dave Gross (M), Rhiannon Held, Nicole Luiken

Are Science Fiction, Fantasy, Western, and Horror settings or genres? What about Romance, Mystery and Adventure? For example: you can have a romance or a mystery in an SF setting, but can you have it the other way around?

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 1 PM - Charleswood

The Words Don't Have to Hurt: Taking the Ouch Out of Reading Poetry

Richard Harrison, Nancy Bell (M), Sandra Kasturi, Colleen Anderson

Ask anybody how much poetry they read. The answer is likely to be, "Poetry! I don't read poetry!" Ask them why they don't read poetry and the answer is: "Poetry is hard"; "Poetry is irrelevant"; "I don't understand poetry". How did we, as a population get to the place where we think poetry has to be difficult to understand, irrelevant, and so difficult that is too hard to bother with? This interactive panel will explore some of the ways we come to believe that all poetry is too difficult to bother with. It will attempt to dispel some of the common myths about poetry. It will introduce the audience to poetry with the hope of showing that poetry can be a part of the everyday world.

Saturday 1 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Blue Pencil Café

Robert J Sawyer, Dave Duncan, Edward Willett, Robert Runte, Virginia O'Dine, Karl Johanson

Bring in the first page or two of your manuscript and receive comments and advice.

Saturday 1 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Vanessa Cardui

Join festival guest Vanessa Cardui for a casual discussion.

Saturday 1 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Susan MacGregor, "The Tattooed Witch" (current Paranormal Romance novel)

Rona Altrows, "Rapid Eye Movement" (YA novel in progress)

Saturday 2 PM - Foothills 1

Thriving in a Changing Market

Adrienne Kerr

Adrienne Kerr, Commissioning Editor of Penguin Canada, addresses the rise of e-books.

Saturday 2 PM - Foothills 2

Show, Don't Tell: Writing Nonverbal Emotion

Angela Ackerman (author of The Emotion Thesaurus: A Writer's Guide To Character Expression)

We have all heard of 'show, don't tell' but what does this really mean when it comes to emotion? This presentation looks at the nonverbal component of describing a character's feelings, and how body language, thoughts and visceral reactions can create a deeper emotional experience for readers.

Saturday 2 PM - Brentwood

100 Years of Planetary Romance

Kevin J. Anderson, Rebecca Moesta, J.Y.T. Kennedy (M)

In 1912, Edgar Rice Burroughs made popular the burgeoning sub-genre "Planetary Romance" with "A Princess of Mars" where Earthman John Carter goes to Mars to rescue Martian Princess Dejah Thoris. Popular works such as Frank Herbert's Dune and George Lucas' Star Wars followed. More recently we have had James Cameron's Avatar and the film reinvention of Burroughs' work "John Carter". How has "Planetary Romance" adapted through the past 100 years to our cultural and scientific advancements?

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 2 PM - Charleswood

Urban Fantasy VS Paranormal Romance

Kelley Armstrong, Sherry Peters, Neil Godbout (M), Rhiannon Held

Panelists discuss the differences between these two similar yet dissimilar sub-genres.

Saturday 2 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

The Five-Step Revision Process

Steven Owad

Crime writer Steven Owad walks us through his method of revising/editing novels.

Saturday 2 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Anthony Bidulka

Join festival guest Anthony Bidulka for a casual discussion.

Saturday 2 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Stephen Legault, TBA (Mystery)

Patrick Swenson, "The Ultra Thin Man" (SF thriller)

Saturday 2 PM – Edgemont

CD Signing – Vanessa Cardui

Drop by for a chat with Vanessa and get your music CDs signed.

Saturday 3 PM - Foothills 1

An Hour With Rebecca Moesta

Rebecca Moesta

Festival guest, Rebecca Moesta, shares samples of her YA publications and other projects, and answers questions from the audience.

Saturday 3 PM - Foothills 2

Canadian Magazine Publishing

Stephanie Johanson, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

Publishers of Canadian short story magazines discuss the state of today's market and what opportunities exist for short story writers.

Saturday 3 PM - Brentwood

How To Write a Good Pitch and Query

Robert Runte (M), Sean Cummings, Justyn Perry, Paula Johanson

Back by popular demand. Learn about the 3 different pitches, what they are and when to give them. And what to put or not put into a query letter.

Saturday 3 PM - Charleswood

What is Filk?

Jane Garthson (M), Richard & Colleen Eggertson, Randy McCharles

More than just SF & F themed folk music, participants and aficionados discuss their interest in speculative poetry, music, and community.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 3 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Delectable Dialogue

Susan Calder

Susan Calder of the Alexandra Writers' Centre offers craft advice to spice up your dialogue.

Saturday 3 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Robert J Sawyer

Join best-selling SF author Robert J Sawyer for a casual discussion.

Saturday 3 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Nicole Luiken, "Dreamline" (YA paranormal novel) & "Gate to Kandrieth" (fantasy romance novel)

J.Y.T. Kennedy, (fantasy sampling)

Cat McDonald, TBA

Saturday 3 PM – Edgemont

Books Signing – Kelley Armstrong, Anthony Bidulka, Stephan Legault

Saturday 4 PM - Foothills 1

The Popcorn Theory of Success

Kevin J Anderson

50 published novels later... Kevin J Anderson recounts the long road from aspiring author to bestselling author and how he handled all the potholes and opportunities along the way.

Saturday 4 PM - Foothills 2

The Aurora: What's Really Happening

Dr. David Knudsen

Outside of the scientific literature, the aurora is almost universally described as the result of charged particles in the solar wind being captured by earth's magnetic field and directed toward the magnetic poles. This description is hopelessly out of date. For example, it's now known that the electrons that bombard our upper atmosphere and cause the aurora are a thousand times more energetic than electrons in the solar wind, pointing to a naturally-occurring particle accelerator close to earth. What's more, auroral electrons don't necessarily even originate in the solar wind. This talk will bring you up to date on your understanding of the aurora, and demonstrate that the real explanation of the aurora - and the remaining mysteries - are much more exciting than you thought.

Saturday 4 PM - Brentwood

Raising the Stakes

Kelley Armstrong, Rhiannon Held, Hayden Trenholm (M)

Writers of various genres face off over what constitutes putting their characters through the ringer.

Saturday 4 PM - Charleswood

Poetry Open Mic

Poets are invited to share the mic, reading from their work. Everyone is invited to sit down and enjoy a buffet of poetry authors and styles.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 4 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Idea Spark Session

Tim Reynolds

Stand Up Comic Tim Reynolds leads an interactive workshop in turning the world around us into fresh story ideas.

Saturday 4 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Adrienne Kerr

Join Commissioning Editor of Penguin Canada, Adrienne Kerr, for a casual discussion.

Saturday 4 PM – Suite 537

Five Rivers Chapmanry Book Launch

Michell Plested, Mik Murdock, "Boy Superhero" (YA novel)

J.W. Schnarr, "Things Falling Apart" (collection short horror fiction)

Susan Forest, "Immunity to Strange Tales" (collection short speculative fiction)

H.A. Hargreaves, "Growing Up Bronx" and "North by 2000+" (short fiction collections)

Ann Marston, Clodbearer's Shadow, Book 1 The Rune Blades of Celi

Saturday 6 PM - Foothills 1 & 2

Aurora Awards Banquet

Pre-purchased banquet ticket required.

Saturday 7 PM - Foothills 1 & 2

Aurora Awards Ceremony

Kelley Armstrong (MC)

The awards ceremony is open to all festival attendees and the public.

Saturday 7 PM - Brentwood

How to Build a Multi-Author Book Series Without Killing Each Other

CaRWA: Vivi Anna, Amy Jo Fleming, Trip Williams, Roxy Boroughs, Brenda Collins (M)

32 authors came together and survived creating a 32 book connected series. How was it done?

Saturday 7 PM - Charleswood

Literary vs Genre Writing: A Red Herring?

AWCS: Faye Reinberg Holt, Dan St Yves, Susan Calder, Sarah Johnson, Bob Laws (M)

Once considered opposite ends of the spectrum, do these branches of prose now have more in common than they do differences?

Saturday 7 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Haiku Poetry Workshop

Joanne Morcom, Patricia Benedict

Learn to become expert in this popular Japanese poetic form in just 1 hour.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 8 PM - Foothills 1 (2 hours)

Vanessa Cardui & Friends Concert

Enjoy a taste of original music with a Celtic flare written and performed by festival guest Vanessa Cardui and friends.

Saturday 8 PM - Brentwood

Im A Writier

Kelley Armstrong, Derek Donais (M), Robert Runte, Jefferson Smith

The World Wide Web has allowed anyone with a keyboard to post their thoughts online, including their prose and poetry. Many essential writing flaws are showing up, especially among young writers, with the effect of making poor writing acceptable and even expected. What can we do to encourage aspiring young (and sometimes not so young) writers to strive for excellence?

Saturday 8 PM - Charleswood

Saturday Night Live Action Slush

SNL Players

Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from expert editors and authors.

Saturday 8 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

The Seven Sentence Short Story

Edward Willett

How many workshops have you attended where you had a complete short story at the end of the hour? The Seven-Sentence Story, invented by science fiction writer/teacher James van Pelt, is a concise, fun exercise in plotting. In just seven sentences, you'll introduce a character and a problem, complicate the situation, and resolve it...exactly what you need to do in your full-length stories. Aurora Award-winning SF/fantasy writer Edward Willett facilitates.

Saturday 9 PM - Brentwood

Sex in Fiction

Kimberly Gould, Justyn Perry (M), Colleen Anderson, Barb Geiger

Still not sure if you want to take that leap into the bedroom? Know you do, but have no idea where to start? Graphic sex scenes, romantic sex scenes and young reader friendly scenes share many things in common. Knowing which is the best fit for your story is the first step. The second is learning how to craft that scene. Both will be addressed in this panel.

Saturday 9 PM - Charleswood

Wilderness Survival for Writers

Kathy Calvert, Susan Forest (M)

If you've never had to start a fire at -20 or build an igloo, how do you know the details of wilderness survival? Can you march an army while foraging and cover 20 miles a day? What shape will your hero be in after crossing the mountains?

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 9 PM – Fifth Floor Suites

Evening Socials

All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in on the socials hosted by various friends of the festival.

- *IFWA (Imaginative Fiction Writers Association) honours the Aurora Award winners (Suite 535)*
- *AWCS (Alexandra Writers' Centre Society) (Suite 536)*
- *Edge Publications (Suite 537)*
- *ChiZine Publications Fall Launch Party: Come celebrate with CZP authors and fans! Booze, books & babes! (Room TBA)*
- *Calgary Steampunk Assemblage (Room TBA)*

Saturday 10 PM - Foothills 1

Open Mic / Filk

host: Vanessa Cardui

After the concert the fun doesn't stop! Bring your own instrument or music on an iPod and sing a song. A Cappella is OK too.

Sunday 9 AM – Brentwood (2 hours)

Convention AGM

Clint Budd (Chair)

Convention members choose the site for next year's Aurora Awards and discuss related business.

Sunday 10 AM - Foothills 1

Romance and Sex Through the Ages

CaRWA: Michelle Beattie, Alyssa Palmer, Jade Buchanan; Kelley Armstrong

An exploration of how romance and sex in literature changed over different periods in history.

Sunday 10 AM - Foothills 2

Exploring the Dark Side of the Universe

Dr. David Hobill

A review of some of the hidden and darker corners of our Universe, from Black Holes and Black Strings to Dark Matter and the enigmatic Dark Energy. The discussion will present the theoretical foundations behind such ideas and the observational evidence that indicate that they might really exist.

Sunday 10 AM - Charleswood

eBooks!

Adrienne Kerr, Justyn Perry, Tina Moreau (M), Ryan McFadden, Patrick Swenson

Arguably the biggest publishing phenomena today. How does it affect the publishing industry, readers, authors, and, ultimately, society?

Sunday 10 AM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

The Story About Your Story - What to Say at Signings and Interviews

Aviva Bell

How to talk about your writing in a way that will engage your audience and promote sales.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 10 AM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Anthony Bidulka

Join festival guest Anthony Bidulka for a casual discussion.

Sunday 10 AM – Suite 537

Reading

Sean Cummings, "Potergeeks" (upcoming YA Urban Fantasy novel)

Jefferson Smith, "Strange Places" (current YA novel)

Sunday 10 AM – Edgemont

Books Signing - Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta

Sunday 11 AM - Foothills 1

Edge Publications Book Launch

Brian Hades

Come get a taste of EDGE's new releases, with readings by Dave Duncan (Wildcatter), Lynda Williams (Healer's Sword), Timothy Reynolds, J.Y.T. Kennedy (Danse Macabre), and Chadwick Ginther, Sandra Kasturi, Randy McCharles & Adria Laycraft (Tesseract 16).

Sunday 11 AM - Foothills 2

Fatal Pharmacology

Dwayne Clayden

Drugs have been the murder weapon of choice for assassins throughout time. It wasn't until the late 1700's and into the 1800's that ways of detecting the poison became known. Since then the cat and mouse game of developing/discovering new drugs/poisons has been challenged by those finding ways to detect the poison. Is there such a thing as an undetectable poison? Can the patient's own medications be used? We will discuss these and other 'murder' possibilities in this session.

Sunday 11 AM - Brentwood

Things I Wish Some Pro Had Told Me When I Was Just Starting Out

Kevin J. Anderson, Rebecca Moesta

Kevin J. Anderson & Rebecca Moesta offer advise to new authors on how to be a professional and how to manage your career.

Sunday 11 AM - Charleswood

Social Media: Self Promotion Do's & Don't

Carrie Mumford, Catherine Saykaly-Stevens, Angela Ackerman (M), Kimberly Gould

The internet age has given authors a whole new tool box to promote not only their fiction, but their author brand as well. Trouble is, the toolbox came without a manual. Writers who make effective use of Blogs, twitter, Facebook, etc. share their secrets.

Sunday 11 AM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Pitch Sessions

Virginia O'Dine, Nancy Bell, Robert Runte, Justyn Perry, Tina Moreau

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Sunday 11 AM – Suite 536

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Reading

Barb Galler-Smith, ""Scum of the Universe: Maggie and Doris in Space" (wip space opera)
Paula Johanson, Lady Gaga biography

Sunday 11 AM – Suite 537

Reading

Dave Gross, "Queen of Thorns" (upcoming high fantasy novel)
Betty Cross, recent "Mistress of the Topaz" (steampunk novel)

Sunday 12 PM - Foothills 1

Live Action Slush

J.Y.T. Kennedy (reader), *Virginia O'Dine* (M), *Robert J Sawyer*, *Robert Runte*, *Barb Galler-Smith*, *J. Ellen Smith*

Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from expert publishers and authors.

Sunday 12 PM - Foothills 2

Children's Books: Giving Kids the Tools to Succeed

Tammy Johnston and *Janice Blaine*

Tammy Johnston and Janice Blaine take us behind the scenes of Financial Foundations, a series of beautifully illustrated books designed to teach kids about money, ask intelligent questions, and make healthy, well balanced decisions in all areas of their lives. Whether you are an author or artist interested in Children's Books or a parent with young children, this presentation will have something for you.

Sunday 12 PM - Brentwood

Turning Agent Woes into Agent Wows

Susan MacGregor (M), *Sean Cummings*, *Alison Lohans*

Published authors discuss what they look for in an agent, citing positive and negative experiences.

Sunday 12 PM - Charleswood

The Matrix meets Pomp and Circumstance - Developing Ideas

Kelley Armstrong, *Ron Hore*, *Edward Willett* (M), *Mike Plested*

Panellists discuss how they take the idea for a 5 second pitch and develop it into a short story, novel, or even a series of novels. Plots and subplots. Characters and Setting. Unexpected twists. Reaching the finish line.

Sunday 12 PM - Collingwood

Fan Fund Administration. The Good The Bad and The Ugly

Debra Yeung (2012 C.U.F.F. winner), *Kent Pollard* (2011 C.U.F.F. winner), *Paul Carreau*

The Canadian Unity Fan Fund was conceived in 1981 as a means to better acquaint Eastern and Western Canadian fans with each other by sending delegates to conventions in other cities. Solely through the support of fandom, C.U.F.F. delegates are nominated and voted for by interested fans across Canada. Join us in a frank discussion about the Canadian Unity Fan Fund and see if we spill the dirt about Fan Funds World-wide.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 12 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Adrienne Kerr

Join Commissioning Editor of Penguin Canada, Adrienne Kerr, for a casual discussion.

Sunday 12 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Karen Dudley, upcoming "Food For the Gods" (historical fantasy)

Chadwick Ginther, "Thunder Road" (urban fantasy)

Sunday 12 PM – Edgemont

CD Signing – Vanessa Cardui

Drop by for a chat with Vanessa and get your music CDs signed.

Sunday 1 PM - Foothills 1

Jack Whyte - Reading & Q&A

Sunday 1 PM - Foothills 2

How Science Fiction has Influenced Science and Technology

Jason Donev

Which came first, the chicken or the egg? In the world of Science Fiction and technology which came first, the communicator or the cell phone? How does Sci-Fi colour the perception of technology, and where do we go from here? Professor of Physics, Jason Donev, from the U of C will attempt to shed some light on the matter.

Sunday 1 PM - Brentwood

Modern Folklore

Vanessa Cardui, Dave Duncan, J.Y.T. Kennedy (M), Derryl Murphy

As it evolves over time, folklore gives rise to re-interpretations which, from the point of view of scholars interested in history and authenticity, are mis-interpretations. Panellists look at the history of folklore, focusing on the tension between the appeal of what is authentically original and the aspirations of later versions.

Sunday 1 PM - Charleswood

Fighting Fear and Rejection

Susan Calder, Aviva Bell, Adria Laycraft (M), Billie Milholland, Ann Marston

Some authors have a wall of rejections slips. Others don't let their parents or their spouse read their work. No matter how well we write, we will have our critics. Panellists discuss the psychology of receiving criticism and what we can do to fight against it and win.

Sunday 1 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

How to Write a Comic Interactive Murder Mystery

Leslie Carmichael, Roxy Boroughs

Leslie & Roxy discuss the nuts and bolts of this popular dinner theatre genre and collaborate with the audience to create a short comic play.

Sunday 1 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta

Join festival guests Kevin J Anderson & Rebecca Moesta for a casual discussion.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 1 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Bob Stallworthy, (poetry sampling)

Susan Forest, recent short fiction "To Go Home To Leal" (Beneath Ceaseless Skies)

Colleen Anderson, TBA

Sunday 1 PM – Edgemont

Books Signing – Kelley Armstrong, Anthony Bidulka

Sunday 2 PM - Foothills 1

Robert J Sawyer - Reading & Q&A

Sunday 2 PM - Foothills 2

Critique Partners - Help or Hindrance?

Rona Altrows (M), *Barb Galler-Smith*, *Ron Hore*, *Tim Reynolds*

Some writers swear by critique groups. Other simply swear. What should you look for in a critique partner? When is a critique no longer helpful? Writers who have figured out how to make the critique process work for them rather than against, share their experiences.

Sunday 2 PM - Brentwood

Eleven Tips to Increase Your Writing Productivity

Kevin J. Anderson

Kevin J. Anderson is among the most prolific authors of our time. What is his secret? Actually, there are 11 of them.

Sunday 2 PM - Charleswood

Music is Poetry?/Poetry is Music?

Vannesa Cardui, *Dymphny Dronyk*, *Kris Demeanor*, *Vivian Hansen*

Ask many people if they read, listen to, like poetry and they will say, "NO!". Ask those same people if they listen to, like music (song) and they will inevitably say, "YES!". Are they really "dissing" poetry when they listen to song? After all, the word Sonnet means "little song".

Maybe they like poetry and don't realize it. This panel will cover, among other things, how the sonnet (and other forms of formal poetry) might be the bridge between poetry and song, the possibility that poetry is song, not all poetry is song, not all song is poetry (or at least good poetry) and more.

Sunday 2 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

What Kings Ate the Wizards Drank: A Writer's Guide to Food and Drink

Krista Ball

Krista Ball busts some common myths about feeding troops, seasonal eating, and how food was prepared. A crash course in pre-industrialization cuisine.

Sunday 2 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Jack Whyte

Join historical fiction author Jack Whyte for a casual discussion.

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 2 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Hayden Trenholm, "In the Shadow of Versailles" (unpublished mystery novel)

Edward Willett, "Masks" (upcoming DAW YA Fantasy novel)

Sunday 3 PM - Foothills 1

The Publishers Panel

Adrienne Kerr, Tina Moreau, Robert Runte (M), Patrick Swenson, J. Ellen Smith, Justyn Perry

Publishers and editors discuss industry trends, their working relationship with authors and agents, the impact of ePublishing on their business, and other questions raised from the audience.

Sunday 3 PM - Foothills 2

How Words and Pictures Come Together

Love Shines Books: Dr. Allan, Benn Snider

Two of Calgary's successful illustrators discuss the elements of bringing together art and text in children's picture books.

Sunday 3 PM - Brentwood

Aurora and Sunburst: English Canada's SF/Fantasy Awards - Past, Present and Future

Clint Budd (Aurora), Cliff Samuels (Aurora), Diane Walton (Sunburst)

The Aurora Awards and its predecessors have been with us for almost as long as the internet. The Sunburst has been with us since 2001. Awards administrators discuss the significance of these awards as well as their origins, highlights, and plans going forward.

Sunday 3 PM - Charleswood

YA - Anything Goes!

Neil Godbout (M), Nicole Luiken, Alison Lohans, Tawny Stokes, Sean Cummings

Language, sex, and violence are no longer the forbidden fruit they once were. Why have editors and publishers chosen to untame YA? Is this good or bad for today's young reader?

Sunday 3 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Cover Art Styles

Dan O'Driscoll

Artist Dan O'Driscoll leads an interactive discussion of various art styles and the messages they send when used as book covers.

Sunday 3 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Vanessa Cardui

Join festival guest Vanessa Cardui for a casual discussion.

Sunday 3 PM – Suite 537

Reading

Aviva Bell, "Blood Matters" (unpublished Mystery novel)

Nancy Bell, "Christmas Storm" (recent Romance novel or excerpts from a YA series)

When Words Collide 2012 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 4 PM - Foothills 1

Kevin J Anderson - Reading & Q&A

Sunday 4 PM - Foothills 2

How to Use Amazon as a Marketing Tool

Craig DiLouie

Amazon.com provides numerous ways to help authors sell their books... if you know how to take advantage of them.

Sunday 4 PM - Brentwood

The Canadian Voice in SF & F

Karl Johanson, Diane Walton, J.Y.T. Kennedy, Derryl Murphy, Robert Runte (M)

From Margaret Atwood to Robert Charles Wilson, avid readers discuss acclaimed Canadian authors and their contributions to the canon of notable Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy.

Sunday 4 PM - Charleswood

A Taste of Early Writing

Vanessa Cardui, Edward Willett (M), Susan Forest, Ann Marston

Established authors treat us to sample of their earliest publications and comment on their experiences as new authors.

Sunday 4 PM - Collingwood (sign-up required)

Blue Pencil Café

Adrienne Kerr, Nancy Bell, Carrie Mumford, Alison Lohans

Bring in the first page or two of your manuscript and receive comments and advice.

Sunday 4 PM – Suite 536 (sign-up required)

Kaffee Klatsch – Kelley Armstrong

Join festival guest Kelley Armstrong for a casual discussion.

Sunday 4 PM – Suite 537

10th Circle Project - Halfway to Hell

Eileen Bell, Ryan McFaddon, Billie Mulholland, Randy McCharles

Authors read noirish samples from the project.

Sunday 7 PM – Fifth Floor Suites

Evening Socials

All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in on the socials hosted by various friends of the festival.

- *When Words Collide Dead Dog Social (Suite 535)*
- *Open mic/filk (Suite 537)*