

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 1 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Festival Guest Readings

Brandon Sanderson, D. J. McIntosh, Jacqueline Guest, Mark Leslie, Jack Whyte

For those who missed the Thursday evening readings at the Fish Creek Public Library.

Friday 1 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition

Clare C. Marshall (reader), Rhonda Parrish, Brian Hades, Susan Forest, Barb Galler-Smith, Randy McCharles (M)

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

Friday 1 PM – Victoria

Novel Marketing

Kate Larking

To sell books, you need to market your fiction. But you don't want to market if you come off like a smarmy used-car salesperson. What is the best way to market your fiction? Relationship and content marketing. When should you start building your fiction marketing platform? ASAP! Let's talk author branding, professional networking, and platform building.

Friday 1 PM – Yorkshire 1

YA Inspiration

Paula Johanson, Michell Plested, Susan Bohnet, Shawn L. Bird

Where writers get their inspiration for their YA stories – how to use stories from your own surroundings and techniques for idea generation.

Friday 1 PM – Yorkshire 2

Dialogue: Building Accents and Dialects

Minister Faust, Sandra Fitzpatrick, Axel Howerton, Nola Sarina

Whether they are from down the street, another country, or another planet, making your individual characters' voices distinct and consistent can be a real challenge when writing fiction. How does one go about suggesting a foreign language or cultural idiosyncrasy without becoming clichéd or bogging the story down?

Friday 1 PM – Yorkshire 3

We're All Mad Here!

Join Justyn Perry of Breathless Press for a look at their new limited edition hardcover book.

Friday 2 PM – Surrey

How to Write a Good Pitch and Query

Adrienne Kerr, Robert Runté, Hayden Trenholm, Ian Alexander Martin

You can write the greatest novel ever written, but you still need to get it into the hands of a publisher. Our panel tells you how.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 2 PM – Victoria

Mindsets, Mindfulness and Mind Muscles for Writers

Julie Wright, M.Sc

You have something important to say and you have the skills to say it well, but your own mind seems to be your worst enemy when it comes to realizing your full potential as a writer. You procrastinate, you hit seemingly insurmountable writer's blocks, and you hear self-defeating voices in your head telling you that you don't really have "IT"--that special something that makes a great writer great. In this workshop, you will learn about and practice how to develop the "mindsets" and "mind muscles" to overcome these internal obstacles to your success as a writer.

Friday 2 PM – Yorkshire 1

How to Get Your YA Book Published

Clare C. Marshall, Avery Olive, Shawn L. Bird, Danielle L. Jensen

Published authors talk about their journey to publishing, from what to put in a query that will get you noticed to how to select where to send your manuscript to whether or not they are working with an agent – everything you've ever wanted to know about getting published in the YA world.

Friday 2 PM – Yorkshire 2

Blogmance

Victoria Smith, Sarah Kades, Maureen Pyne, Lorraine Paton, Mahrie G Reid (M)

So you're a romance writer. What the heck do you put in your blog? One hundred and one best sex tips? This vs. that toy? Maybe. Maybe not. Romance authors talk about their blogs, what has made them successful and how they chose their sometimes-salacious topics. Blog readers explain what they like to read and how to catch and keep their attention.

Friday 2 PM – Yorkshire 3

Character Deathmatch

Hal J. Friesen, Eileen Bell, Billie Milholland, SG Wong

Join 4 authors for a sampler-version of the Lucha-Libre-inspired battle royale between characters! In this unique take on book readings, the audience will be given trading cards and the ability to vote on who they think would outsmart/outlast the other. With Luchadore masks, jeers and taunts, this session is guaranteed to excite.

Friday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Assessing Meaning in Literary Art

Minister Faust, Greg Bechtel, G.J.C. McKittrick

How important is accessibility in literary art? Some readers can pick up a Joyce novel or a Shakespeare play and appreciate it immediately; others find it difficult in a way they don't encounter when listening to a Leonard Cohen song. Does that say anything about the respective quality of the works? How do we assess the relative merits of any work relative to how much knowledge some works need us to have about theory, politics, religion, or the writer's own history?

Friday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Anthology Jam

Charles Prepolec, Ron Friedman

Anthology editors discuss the hows and whys of putting together short story anthologies, with special attention to upcoming anthologies. An excellent forum for aspiring contributors to check out upcoming opportunities.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 3 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Social Dimension of Reading

Mark Leslie, Robert Runté, Constantine Kaoukakis, Minister Faust

The popularity of Harry Potter, Twilight, and Hunger Games is due in part to their having reached the 'critical mass' of becoming a 'talked about book'. People often choose their reading to keep up with their peer group. How can authors compete against this social pressure, or reach critical mass themselves? How are changes in publishing changing the interactions between writers and readers? Can we create or tap into a community of readers? Should authors encourage or discourage fan fiction set in their universe, using their detective, or responding to their book? Can we tap into 'Canadian content' to encourage at least Canadian readers to prioritize our books?

Friday 3 PM – Surrey

Is Chick Lit Dead?

Victoria Smith, Jillian Long, Linda Kupecek, Jessica L. Jackson (M)

It's fair to say that chick lit hit a boom with shopaholics and loveable, weight-obsessed girls taking over both print and film. But has chick lit gone bust? Authors talk about reviving the genre with strong, sassy, independent characters that readers can aspire to. Agents and editors tell us what the trends are for chick lit, and what authors need to do to stand out.

Friday 3 PM – Victoria

Successful Self-Publishing

Jodi McIsaac

Writing is an art; publishing is a business. Successful self-publishing means not only doing it yourself, but doing it well. Come learn how to avoid common pitfalls, get your book really ready for publication, and find that ever-elusive audience without the support of a traditional publisher. Bring your questions!

Friday 3 PM – Yorkshire 1

YA Writing for Boys

DK Snape, Michell Plected, David Laderoute, Marty Chan

How it is different and why publishers want it.

Friday 3 PM – Yorkshire 2

Story Ideas From Concept to Completion

Ronald Hore, Sandra Wickham, James Van Pelt, Edward Willett

Authors discuss their process of coming up with a story idea and developing it to completion.

Friday 3 PM – Yorkshire 3

Fae

Rhonda Parrish, Laura VanArendonk Baugh, Adria Laycraft, Randy McCharles

Join the editor and attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Friday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Live Action Plotting

Anna Maria Bortolotto

Join Anna Maria Bortolotto as we explore plot is and the elements needed for a *satisfying* story as we create our very own group story. You, the participant, will shout out answers to questions-- "Give me a character name!", "What's our setting?", "What's our theme?", "What's the twist?"-- and we'll discuss which ones we like and why and use them as the building blocks of our story. Bring your imagination, curiosity, and willingness to explore the possibilities.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 2

From Zero To Comic Strip In Sixty Minutes

Steve Swanson

Have you ever wanted to make your own comic strip? Or were just curious to see how it's done? Then join this fun, fast, interactive workshop designed to give you all the tools you need to start your own. Get tips on character design, drawing, layout, dialogue, joke craft, and more. Pencils and paper provided.

Friday 4 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Alpha vs. Beta, Romance Heroes

Roxy Buroughs, Jessica L. Jackson, Sarah Kades, Laura VanArendonk Baugh, Mahrie G. Reid (M)

What do the terms Alpha Hero and Beta Hero mean? What are some well-known character examples of Alphas and Betas? What makes them sexy? How do you write a sexy Alpha without making him a jerk? How do you write a sexy Beta without making him a wimp?

Friday 4 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Fantasy Edition

Tony King (reader), Brandon Sanderson, Mark Leslie, Robert Runté, Susan MacGregor, Randy McCharles (M)

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

Friday 4 PM – Victoria

Using Plot Models To Pick Up The Pace

Shawn L. Bird

Pantsing or quilting works, but if you want to write efficiently, consider using a plot model. This workshop introduces participants to assorted plotting strategies like diagrams, Campbell's Hero's Journey, Sydners' Beat sheet, etc.

Friday 4 PM – Yorkshire 1

Creating Believable, Unique Young Adult Characters

Karen Bass, Edward Willett, Danielle L. Jensen, Avery Olive, David Laderoute

How to tap into characters that today's youth will find relevant and want to read about. Our panel of authors share how they built characters in their own stories, and discuss how they feel that building characters for young readers is the same or different from characters in other genres.

Friday 4 PM – Yorkshire 2

Odyssey and Clarion Long-term Workshops

Anna Bortolotto, Adria Laycraft, Sherry Peters, Patrick Swenson, Holly Schofield

Elumnia provide an informative hour on the relative merits of these 6-week writers' study sessions: how to get in, what to expect, the ups, the downs, and the opportunities.

Friday 4 PM – Yorkshire 3

Champagne Press Presents

J. Ellen Smith, Ronald Hore

Join the editor and attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Spark up Your Story – Adding Tension, Suspense & Intrigue

Jodie Renner

We all know that thrillers and other fast-paced popular fiction need lots of tension, conflict, suspense, and intrigue to grip readers and provide a riveting, satisfying reading experience. But so does any other compelling story that will create a buzz and take off in sales. No matter what genre you write, it's all about hooking your readers in, engaging them emotionally, and ensuring they keep eagerly turning the pages. Editor and author Jodie Renner presents a checklist of essential elements and effective techniques for ratcheting up the "wow" factor of any novel or short story.

Friday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 2

The Perfect Pitch Package - How to Write a Book Proposal Publishers will Notice

Jacqueline Guest

Your opus is finished. Now what? Getting past the Publisher's door is the first step. Join Jacqueline Guest, international award winning author, to learn how to put together a polished book proposal that will skip the slush pile and go directly to an acquisition editor's desk.

Friday 5 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Racial Perspectives in Genre Fiction

Wayne Arthurson, Minister Faust, Calvin Jim, Steve Swanson

Authors discuss the role of cultural, ethnic and racial perspectives in contemporary commercial fiction, be it themes or issues unique to minority voices, or how the wealth of diversity in our cultural consciousness adds to the fictional narrative.

Friday 5 PM – Surrey

Self-Publishing Group Ventures

Jessica L. Jackson, Mahrie G. Reid, Sherile Reilly, Dee VanDyk

Considering self-publishing for the first time can be terrifying – let's be honest. Good news – you don't have to go it alone. Talk to authors who have self-published as part of a group venture with stories set around a similar theme or setting. Find out how it worked, the good, the bad, and the steps to creating your own group (ad)venture.

Friday 5 PM – Victoria

Writing the Short Story

Nina Munteanu

Join internationally published short-story author Nina Munteanu as she explores with you the form and structure of the short story from premise, story-promise, setting and character to plot, theme and metaphor. Participants are encouraged to bring their works in progress for discussion. Nina's guidebook THE FICTION WRITER: GET PUBLISHED, WRITE NOW will be available for sale in conjunction with the workshop.

Friday 5 PM – Yorkshire 1

Is YA a Genre?

Kelley Armstrong, Avery Olive, Justyn Perry, Kimberly Gould, Karen Bass

Genre is a problematic classification system. While writers use genre to define content or style, publishers use it to define specific markets. YA is even more confusing as it includes an entire gambit of content, styles, and marketing genres. The same YA shelf may contain mainstream, SF, Mystery, and even Romance. Perhaps this is a good thing. YA authors discuss the pros and cons of this best example of ill-defined genres as well as how it differs from New Adult, Middle Grade, and other books often mislabeled as YA.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 5 PM – Yorkshire 2

Memoir – Life Is A Jigsaw Puzzle

Kay Johnston

Writing someone else's memoir is many differently shaped pieces together to create a whole picture. It can be a risky adventure! Learn- strategies to make your manuscript interesting, and not a resume; about the dangers getting lost in research; the importance of obtaining permission to use photographs, quotes and letters; and to tread carefully around family if you do not wish to be disowned! This workshop will provide you with practical strategies and tools you can use immediately. Hopefully you will have fun too.

Friday 5 PM – Yorkshire 3

Murder and Mayhem in the Wilds

R. J. Harlick

Introducing *Silver Totem of Shame*, the 6th Meg Harris mystery.

Friday 5 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Doctor Your Story

Randy McCharles

You've finished your manuscript and your gut tells you there are some story problems. Or you're halfway through and feel you're running out of runway. How do you get back on track? Your story may have some substantive problems that require a story doctor, someone to find the problems and suggest fixes. But before you seek a specialist, give self-diagnosis a whirl. This workshop takes a look at common story problems and offers solutions, whether you've completed the manuscript or not. Learn some of the things to watch out for and you will need less outside help in the future.

Friday 5 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Universe Theory

Ed Lukowich

Join Ed Lukowich, author of the SF novel *The Trillionist*, for an alternative to the Big Bang Theory.

Friday 6 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Exploring Archetypes in Hard-boiled and Noir Fiction

Janice MacDonald, S.G. Wong, Axel Howerton, Dave Gross

Our panel explores the traditional archetypes and gender roles in PI fiction - the femme fatale, the two-fisted anti-hero, the nefarious upscale villain. Do these roles continue to appear today? Or have some archetypes been flipped, or reimagined, and how?

Friday 6 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – YA Edition

David Laderoute (reader), Shirlee Smith Matheson, DK Snape, Justyn Perry, Stina Lindenblatt, Randy McCharles (M)

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

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Friday 6 PM – Victoria

Write to Fright: How to Write a Horror Novel

Craig DiLouie

Acclaimed horror novelist Craig DiLouie (SUFFER THE CHILDREN, Simon & Schuster) will take you on a tour of the horror genre--covering why horror is a popular genre, elements of a successful horror novel, plot structure, characterization, finding the right creature element, and creating suspense and chills. If you enjoy reading horror fiction or ever thought about breaking into this genre as a writer, this session is a must.

Friday 6 PM – Yorkshire 1

Writing Hot

Melodie Campbell, Nola Sarina, Tammy Lyn Carbol, Jessica Corra

What makes a story hot? Where are the boundaries between romance and erotica? Have they changed? Are they changing? Why do authors choose to write hot? How does hot writing impact plot and story line? How is writing hot used as a tool of the craft.

Friday 6 PM – Yorkshire 2

Criminal Heroes in SF/F

Kelley Armstrong, Ronald Hore, Minister Faust, Jodi McIsaac

The classic thief, war-toughened soldier, compromised wizard -- these are characters we have seen before. What makes them endure? How does the writer take them beyond trope? What other heroes have a shady past?

Friday 6 PM – Yorkshire 3

Shadows

Join E. C. Blake for the launch of his sequel to Masks.

Friday 6 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Reading for Writers

Gary W Renshaw

These days it isn't enough to have written an award-winning novel. People expect to hear you read excerpts from it in a way that compels them to buy the book. This workshop will touch on Voice Acting, Scene Analysis, Gestures, Character Voices, Timing, Rehearsal and Terror. Each participant is expected to bring one paragraph (their own work or someone else's) of about 100 words to read aloud during the workshop.

Friday 6 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Ask an Editor

Andrea Howe

Is it better to have some exposition or get right to the crux of the story? How can I express telepathic dialogue in a way that won't upset or confuse my readers? Do I absolutely have to use the serial/Oxford comma? What's the best way to show my character has an accent? Will a prologue really get my manuscript thrown in the trash? Sit down with copy and content editor Andrea Howe. Bring your questions and we will discuss what the rules are and when it's OK to break them.

Friday 7 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Guest of Honour Keynotes (2 Hours)

Brandon Sanderson, D. J. McIntosh, Jacqueline Guest, Mark Leslie, Jack Whyte, Randy McCharles (M)

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

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 7 PM – Victoria

Open Mic (2 Hours)

Vanessa Cardui (host)

If you perform poetry, play an instrument, sing, or otherwise perform, step up to the mic. Val King has a karaoke machine with a huge selection of instrumental tracks. If you prefer to bring your own music, the sound system includes a ¼" jack for an MP3 player. And if you don't perform, sit back and enjoy the performers.

Friday 7 PM – Yorkshire 1

Kill the Parents

Nicole Luiken, Justyn Perry, Karen Bass, Shawn L. Bird, Jim Sellers

Believable ways to give kids and teens the freedom in fiction to explore the world without parental guidance, and why this is important to their journey.

Friday 7 PM – Yorkshire 2

What is Speculative Fiction?

Kelley Armstrong, S. G. Wong, Rhonda Parrish, Ronald Hore, Greg Bechtel

It may not be what you think it is. Most dictionaries define spec-fic in fuzzy terms such as 'the more fantastical genres', while various authors who may or may not write spec-fic have differing opinions. Our panel of 'more fantastical genre' authors discusses this conundrum and tries to come to terms with this perplexing term.

Friday 7 PM – Yorkshire 3

Friday Night Readings

IFWA hosts an hour+ of themed short fiction readings in advance of their evening social. This year's theme is: *The Night Before the Day After*.

Friday 8 PM – Yorkshire 1

ARWA Book Social

Join ARWA (Alberta Romance Writers Association) in celebrating this year's new publications by local authors.

Friday 8 PM – Late – Room 254

Steampunk Arts and Science & Tyche Books Social*

Hang out with Tyche Books and the Steampunkers.

Friday 9 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Laughing at Love

Tim Reynolds, Sarah Kades, Melodie Campbell, Linda Kupecek

Our annual humour panel takes a look at using humour to develop relationships between your characters, be they romantic, BFFs, love-hate. I understand there may even be some stand-up comedy.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Friday 9 PM – Surrey

The Gentleman Detective

Sharon Wildwind

Say "gentleman detective" and people immediately think of Dorothy Sayers' Lord Peter Wimsey, but he wasn't the only blueblood who took up crime detection. Join us for a discussion of Lord Peter Wimsey, Ngaio Marsh's Roderick Alleyn, and Margery Allingham's Albert Campion. What was the sub-genre of the gentleman detective all about? What conventions did it contribute to the mystery field? Is it still alive and well, or so rooted in the past that it couldn't possibly exist today?

Friday 9 PM – Victoria

Paul Muad'Dib Atreides: Half Harry Potter, Half Osama bin Laden

Minister Faust

To the young reader, Paul Atreides is an exciting boy action hero who fights the adults to win the universe. To the student of history, Paul is no hero, but a creature and manipulator of realpolitik. What do the 1916-1918 Arab Revolt and the Chinese Cultural Revolution have to tell us about the real story of Frank Herbert's Dune?

Friday 9 PM – Late – Yorkshire 1

ARWA Evening Social*

Hang out with ARWA (Alberta Romance Writers Association).

Friday 9 PM – Late – Yorkshire 3

IFWA Evening Social*

Hang out with IFWA (Imaginative Fiction Writers Association).

*All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in between 9 PM and midnight and mingle at our socials hosted by various friends of the festival.

Saturday 10 AM – Clarence

Romance: A Staple of any Writing Wardrobe

Stina Lindenblatt, Brenda Sinclair, Amy Jo Fleming, Jill C. Flanagan, Moira Stelmack (M)

Romance is the black dress (or pants!) of genre writing. It goes with everything and makes any story stronger. Join various CaRWA authors, who write in all kinds of sub-genres, as they engage in a robust discussion about how a good romance creates emotion, tension, and purpose to any well-told story. Bring your story plots and problems and leave with solutions, because sometimes love really is the answer.

Saturday 10 AM – Phaeton

eBooks From the Ground Up

Tod McCoy

Publisher Tod McCoy walks us through the world of eBooks including the methods and options of converting print to electrons.

Saturday 10 AM – Surrey

Blending SF and Fantasy

Nina Munteanu, Greg Bechtel, Ian Alexander Martin, Stacy Dooks

The world of Science Fiction is one extended from the principles of known science; the Fantasy world is based in unknowable magic. There was a time when never the twain could meet, but writers love to break down this barrier. Can they? Should they? Are there examples where this hybrid has worked? Are there spectacular failures?

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 10 AM – Victoria

Dead Men Again (2 Hours)

Detective Sweet

Detective Sweet returns with a photogenic walk through real crime stories.

Saturday 10 AM – Yorkshire 1

Writing in a Youthful Voice

Shirlee Smith Matheson, Avery Olive, Danielle L. Jensen, Susan Bohnet

Many authors wanting to get into writing for youths wrongly assume that it will be easy to just use simpler words. But writing for young people requires a certain skill. Hear the tips and tricks of writing for this popular age group from those who've done it many times!

Saturday 10 AM – Yorkshire 2

What Value a Critique?

Ronald Hore, Dave Gross, Rhonda Parrish, Steve Swanson, Holly Schofield, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

Providing or receiving a manuscript critique takes time. Time that could be spent writing. And a received critique may contain comments you don't want to hear. Are manuscript critiques worth the trouble? Some writers swear by them. Others won't go near them. This panel discusses what makes a critique valuable and what to watch out for so that critiques don't lose their value.

Saturday 10 AM – Yorkshire 3

Putting Flesh on the Bones

Tim Reynolds

Give your characters four dimensions. Interactive. Bring a character you're having trouble with and we'll see what we can do to help.

Saturday 10 AM – Lincolnshire 1

The Conflict Of Writing Conflicts

Ron Friedman

Or "Conflicts - Eliminating the BS Factor." Conflict has stood at the heart of storytelling since the dawn of Humankind. Learn how the latest discoveries in brain science and human behaviour can help you grow three dimensional characters and complex societies that confront each other in a believable manner. Eliminate the BS factor. Make your conflicts shine.

Saturday 10 AM – Lincolnshire 2

The Comic Book War

Join festival guest Jacqueline Guest for an introduction to her new YA book set in Calgary during WWII.

Saturday 11 AM – Clarence

An Hour With Mark Leslie

Join festival guest Mark Leslie for a Q&A discussion of the rapidly evolving world of publishing, from eBooks, to self-publishing, to the role of Kobo Canada.

Saturday 11 AM – Phaeton

Editing Explained

Caralee Hubbel, Donna-Lee Wybert, Michelle Lomborg, Virginia Durksen

Copy edit? Line edit? Story edit? Book coach? Proper editing goes well beyond searching for typos. Experts from CAFE (Calgary Association of Freelance Editors) discuss and answer audience questions regarding what happens between writing the first draft and reading that published novel, short story, or journal article.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 11 AM – Surrey

The Short Story, a Stepping Stone to Novel Writing

Susan MacGregor, Rhonda Parrish, James Van Pelt, Ronald Hore

Many beginning writers are encouraged to write short stories before tackling the novel form. Our panel discusses this advice. Why do it? Is it necessary? Does it work for everyone? What about those novelists who have never written a short story?

Saturday 11 AM – Yorkshire 1

Using Humour in YA Writing

Michell Plested, Marty Chan, Susan Bohnet, Sherry Peters

From graphic novels to short stories to novels, authors discuss how they use humour to reach their young audience.

Saturday 11 AM – Yorkshire 2

Tech Tools for Writers

Robert J. Sawyer, Andrea Howe, Susan Forest, Angela Ackerman

Our panel discusses some of their favourite software tools for writing, as well as managing outlines, characters, plotting, and back-story, and also creating maps and simple illustrations.

Saturday 11 AM – Yorkshire 3

Science Books for Youth

Join L. E. Carmichael, Marie Powell, and Paula Johanson.

Saturday 11 AM – Lincolnshire 1

Engage Your Readers With Deep Point Of View

Jodie Renner

Learn practical techniques for bringing your characters and story to life and effectively drawing the reader in to your story world by using deep point of view, or close third-person POV.

Saturday 11 AM – Lincolnshire 2

Children's Book Jam

Shirlee Smith Matheson, Shawn L. Bird, Angel Berry

Children's writers get together to exchange ideas on Children's publishing.

Saturday 12 PM – Clarence

Have Pen; Will Travel: Survival 101 for a Writer!

Jacqueline Guest

Join Jacqueline Guest for a frank discussion on trending genres, Canadian publishers looking for manuscripts, doing an end run on the American market without an agent, whether or not an 'advance' is a great deal, and many other tricky topics that can make or break your career as an author.

Saturday 12 PM – Phaeton

Seeking Diversity Among Us

S. G. Wong, Halli Lilburn, Calvin Jim, Susan Forest

The current publishing environment is showing an increasing awareness of diverse cultures, races and experiences. Join our panel of authors and editors as they discuss the importance of having inclusionary fiction and the challenges and rewards that follow.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 12 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Science Fiction Edition

Edward Willett (reader), James Van Pelt, Robert Runté, Hayden Trenholm, Patrick Swenson, Randy McCharles (M)

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

Saturday 12 PM – Victoria

Story Construction & Storyboarding

Nina Munteanu

Join internationally published author Nina Munteanu as she guides you through the steps of constructing the foundation of “story” from the smallest building block—the scene and sequel—into world-building that will reflect your idea, premise and theme. In this dynamic workshop, we will explore the components and properties of “story” then apply what we’ve learned to create-in-class a live story using storyboarding tools. Participants will be expected to provide input into the storyboarding process. Nina’s guidebook *THE FICTION WRITER: GET PUBLISHED, WRITE NOW* will be available for sale in conjunction with the workshop.

Saturday 12 PM – Yorkshire 1

Prim and Proper: Online Etiquette

Justyn Perry, Nola Sarina, Greg Bechtel, Angela Ackerman

How to properly have an online presence without angering your readers/fans. What you should and should not do online in terms of writing reviews, posting on Facebook, Goodreads, Twitter, Pinterest, Google+, etc. With Amazon now censoring reviews and the Goodreads review attacks on authors, how do you respond properly to these “reviews” or do you? And how to avoid “haters”.

Saturday 12 PM – Yorkshire 2

The More We Get Together: Collective Publishing for Success

C.J. Carmichael & Roxy Boroughs & Brenda Collins, Serge & Moira Stelmack as S. M. Stelmack, Dara-Lee Snow as D.L. Snow & Daire St. Denis, Amy Jo Fleming (M)

Who said writing had to be a solitary pursuit? Working together, authors can climb to new creative and financial heights that would be so much harder and lonelier on their own. See how three different teams applied their individual strengths, avoided common pitfalls and went on to achieve their collective goals.

Saturday 12 PM – Yorkshire 3

Mabel the Lovelorn Dwarf

Join Sherry Peters for the launch of her debut YA Fantasy novel.

Saturday 12 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Getting Away with Murder: A Crash Course in Mystery Writing

Janice MacDonald

Join Janice MacDonald, award-winning writer and creator of the acclaimed Randy Craig Mysteries (Turnstone Press) for an exploration of the tantalizing formula behind the most popular form of writing. Learn how to tweak the recipe to make it truly yours. You'll emerge from your entertaining and invigorating session with the profile of a detective, some thoughts about the particular setting you wish to claim for your own, and maybe even a couple of useful clues.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 12 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Writing About Fighting

Sandra Wickham

Join martial artist and author Sandra Wickham for tips, dos and don'ts and practical demonstrations to learn how to write an effective and believable fight scene. What details are important and how the writer can use them successfully. Learn how to describe the physical actions and emotional reactions so the reader can clearly visualize and engage with your fight scene.

Saturday 1 PM – Clarence

An Hour With Jack Whyte

Join festival guest Jack Whyte for a Q&A discussion of his current and past historical epics.

Saturday 1 PM – Phaeton

Teaching Canadian Fiction

Robert Runté, Janice MacDonald, Jim Sellers, Greg Bechtel

Because they're Canadian, our authors tend to write about themes and adopt the tropes to which Canadian readers can directly relate. How can teachers take advantage of this rich body of Canadian content that resonates with students' lived experiences to encourage reluctant readers, develop students' analytical skills, and deepen student's awareness and enjoyment of Canadian authors?

Saturday 1 PM – Surrey

RPG Storytelling

Brandon Sanderson, Chadwick Ginther, Ron Bender, Dave Gross

RPGs or Role-Playing Games make up a huge chunk of the gaming industry. Part of what makes them so popular is the rich storytelling that players experience as they solve problems and learn secrets through the game. Our panel of RPG storytellers and players discuss what draws them to the gaming life.

Saturday 1 PM – Victoria

Free the Muse, Beat the Block

Shawn L. Bird

This interactive workshop explores some strategies to get yourself writing. Try some tools for generating ideas, finding characters, unlocking creativity, and finding voice.

Saturday 1 PM – Yorkshire 1

How to Write an Effective Sequel or Series for YA

Clare C. Marshall, Nicole Luiken, DK Snape, Danielle L. Jensen

How to make that sequel or series in your head a reality. Should you give everything away in the first book? Does the middle book of a trilogy have to be a "bridge"? Our panel of writers share their experiences publishing sequels or series books.

Saturday 1 PM – Yorkshire 2

How To Adapt Your Story For The Stage

Caroline Russell-King, Trevor Rueger, Hayden Trenholm, Edward Willett, Tereasa Maillie

You've written a story that you think would make a good stage play. This panel discusses how to translate your story from text on paper to actors moving and speaking on a stage.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 1 PM – Yorkshire 3

Edge Press Presents - Novels

Brian Hades, Ella Beaumont, Randy McCharles

Edge Press host two separate events to introduce new books and anthologies. Join the editors and many attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Saturday 1 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Journaling as a Path to Your Inner Creative Self

Cheryl Cottreau

Journaling can be used to clear the noise and reflect on your life journey. Juila Cameron (The Artist's Way) suggests it is like taking out the trash. Beyond the garbage dumping, there is a possibility to find your Inner Voice that has so much to tell you if you only knew the questions to ask. We are going to spend some time discovering an aspect of ourselves that has all the answers. Come prepared to write.

Saturday 1 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Marketing and Self-Promotion

Mark Leslie, R. J. Harlick, Jean Maxwell, Eileen Bell, Billie Milholland

With thousands of books being published everyday, how do writers find their readers? Writers share their experiences with marketing and self-promotion. What has worked for them? What hasn't? What resources are available? What are some tips and tricks for getting your name and your book in front of readers who are looking for a book just like yours?

Saturday 2 PM – Clarence

D. J. McIntosh Interview

Tony King interviews bestselling mystery author D. J. McIntosh. Live!

Saturday 2 PM – Phaeton

Why Paranormal/Urban Fantasy Is So Popular

Margarita Gakis, Melodie Campbell, Aspen deLainey, Sandra Wickham, Chadwick Ginther

Urban Fantasy has grown large enough to be its own major genre. Indeed, many publishers have created imprints just for Paranormal or Urban Fantasy. What is it about these subgenres that are so attractive to today's psyche?

Saturday 2 PM – Surrey

Motivated Characters

Ronald Hore, Angela Ackerman, R. J. Harlick, Dwayne Clayden

Authors discuss the importance of fictional characters being real people with good reason for what they do or don't do.

Saturday 2 PM – Victoria

Business Planning For Creative People

Sandra Fitzpatrick

Failing to plan is planning to fail. Learn about the critical parts of a business plan so that you can succeed! Checklists and monthly to-do items will make your life easier and can lead to increased income and fewer headaches come tax time. This presentation is for writers, artists and other creative folks.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 2 PM – Yorkshire 1

What's Hot & New in YA Fiction

Stacey Kondla

Whether you write YA fiction or love reading it – there are a LOT of great new books. This hour highlights some of the newest, hottest amazing reads that came out in 2013/2014. Join us for writing inspiration or to compile a list of must-reads for yourself and/or your kids!

Saturday 2 PM – Yorkshire 2

Top 10 Mistakes New Playwrights Make

Caroline Russell-King, Trevor Rueger, G.J.C. McKittrick, Tereasa Maillie

Thinking of writing for the stage? This panel discusses common newbie mistakes and how to avoid them.

Saturday 2 PM – Yorkshire 3

Capone's Chicago

Enter an alternate reality where Al Capone becomes the Mayor of Chicago and science runs amok.

Saturday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Social Media Wit

ZEDS

Take your use of Twitter to the next level by applying your sense of humour to 140 characters and take advantage of Twitter networking and promotion of you and your writing. Participants are encouraged to come armed with a Twitter account and a mobile device for some hands-on practice.

Saturday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 2

The Death Factor: Why Are So Many People Fascinated by Death?

Mark Leslie, Minister Faust, Craig DiLouie, Steve Swanson

Why are people fascinated with mayhem and murder? Is there a limit on what can be described without crossing certain boundaries? What keeps readers turning those pages when the subject matter is so graphic?

Saturday 3 PM – Clarence

An Hour With Brandon Sanderson

Join festival guest Brandon Sanderson for a Q&A discussion of his bestselling fantasy novels, including his work on Robert Jordan's *The Wheel of Time*.

Saturday 3 PM – Phaeton

More Than Words. The Role Of Book Design In The Creation Of A Literary Work Of Art

Winston Pei, Nina Munteanu

Don't judge a book by its cover? Reading on a tablet is the same as curling up with a hardcover book? From clay tablets to the latest iGadget, the technology of reading has been evolving ever since the invention of the written word. What does the physical (or not-so-physical) embodiment of literature contribute to the reading experience? What role does the "body language" of the "book" play in written communications?

Saturday 3 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Historical Edition

Jack Whyte (reader), D. J. McIntosh, Susan MacGregor, Adrienne Kerr, Barb Galler-Smith, Randy McCharles (M)

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

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 3 PM – Victoria

Military Evolution and Revolution

David Laderoute

As soon as man began to walk upright, he started to fight--for territory, for resources and, later, for ideas. As time went on, he refined that ability to fight, developing ever more sophisticated technologies and systems to wage war. This session will focus on the key changes to armies through time, from the adoption of the stirrup to the deployment of drones, showing that the trend has been to make the battlefield larger and "emptier". At least half of the session will be devoted to Q&A, so that participants can tailor what they take away to their own needs.

Saturday 3 PM – Yorkshire 1

Hi Lo Books

Jacqueline Guest, Shirlee Smith Matheson, Shawn L. Bird, Kim Greyson

High Interest/Low Vocabulary books are written to engage reluctant readers whose literacy skills are below grade level. With short sentences, chapters and page counts, these books have lots of action and emotion, hot topics and angst, but with a language level that does not intimidate or frustrate. Middle Grade and YA books are all at a Grade level of 2 to 4.5. Authors discuss what is happening with this trend.

Saturday 3 PM – Yorkshire 2

Playwriting: Artist Cells

Caroline Russell-King, Trevor Rueger

How to use the buddy system for success with creating and marketing stage plays.

Saturday 3 PM – Yorkshire 3

I, Death

Festival editor guest, Mark Leslie, is also an author with numerous short fiction publications. Today he launches his first long fiction horror novel: *I, Death*.

Saturday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 1

A Cheat Code for Creating Conflict

Marty Chan

Playwright and author draws from his theatre experience to reveal a simple primer that writers of any genre can use to inject conflict into their stories. A combo platter of personal anecdotes and interactive exercises make for a fun-filled and informative workshop that frees writers to explore character without losing sight of the plot.

Saturday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 2

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 4 PM – Victoria

Get It Written! The Craft of Plotting your Novel

Melodie Campbell

Using the three act structure, Melodie Campbell walks through the practical work of figuring out story structure: how to open and close, the inciting moment, climax, the finale structure, etc. Ensure that you aren't missing a plot element and that you actually have enough material for a novel.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 4 PM – Yorkshire 1

YA and the Tough Stuff

Kimberly Gould, David Laderoute, Aviva Bel'Harold, Michell Plested

How much of a place do hard subjects have in YA fiction? Things like death, addiction, homelessness and sexual abuse? To what extent should we try to include these difficult and painful things in our fiction? How much is too much?

Saturday 4 PM – Yorkshire 2

Beta Readers: An Author's Best Friends

DK Snape, Andrea Howe, Angela Ackerman, Jodi McIsaac

Most authors have difficulty seeing the forest through the trees. In other words, it is difficult to look at your own manuscript with fresh eyes. Enter the Beta Reader. Authors discuss the importance of having good beta readers, what they contribute to the final manuscript, and what to look for when seeking beta readers.

Saturday 4 PM – Yorkshire 3

Tyche Books Presents

Margaret Curelas, Ryah Deines, Al Onia, Eileen Bell, Krista Ball, Christopher Hoare

Tyche Books introduce new books for 2014. Join the editors and attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Saturday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Action Scenes

Jack Whyte

Join festival guest Jack Whyte for an up close look at how to write action scenes that engage the reader.

Saturday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Illustrators Jam

Dan O'Driscoll, Aaron Kite, Steve Swanson

Book illustrators get together to exchange ideas on art and the business of art.

Saturday 5:30 – 6:30 PM – Surrey

Festival Banquet

Pre-purchased banquet tickets are required for this culinary delight.

Saturday 6:30 – 7:30 PM – Surrey

Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Variety Show

This after-banquet entertainment is open to all festival members. Banquet tickets are not required. Extra seating will be available.

Saturday 7 PM – Victoria

Flowers For Algernon: Craft of the Highest Order

Minister Faust

In addition to being enormously moving, the masterpiece by the late Daniel Keyes is an exemplar of SF writing at its best. Explore Keyes's structure, motifs, psychological realism, and mysticism to witness little more than 200 pages of brilliance.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Saturday 7 PM – Yorkshire 1

What's the Next Big Trend in YA?

Avery Olive, Justyn Perry, Sarah Katyi

A discussion on what recent trends have been and what we think we'll see in the future – and why it's never a good idea to chase trends.

Saturday 7 PM – Yorkshire 2

Gripping About Grammar

Andrea Howe, Constantine Kaoukakis, Ian Alexander Martin, Nola Sarina

Who VS That. Who VS Whom. The apostrophe goes where? And what does *subjunctive* mean, anyway? Bring your grammar questions for our Grammar Gurus to debate, debunk, and decipher. Be prepared to take notes.

Saturday 7 PM – Yorkshire 3

Javenny

Join Bundoran Press and author Al Onia for the launch of SF thriller Javenny.

Saturday 7 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Writer's Speed Mingle

Write Club

Speed dating for writers - only instead of looking for a love relationship, you're looking for critique partners or new people to add to your network. A short questionnaire gets you started. Expect 5 minute blocks of time as you rotate around the room. Bring your business cards and an eye for opportunity.

Saturday 8 PM – Clarence-Phaeton

Autograph Session

Our Festival Guests are joined by 50+ authors

Drop by between 8 PM – 9 PM to meet the authors and get your books signed. This session is open to the public, so tell your friends.

Saturday 8 PM - Late – Victoria

Karaoke Lounge*

Drop by to sing a song or two or just to enjoy the music.

Saturday 9 PM - Late – Surrey

Chocolate Social*

Stick around after the autographs for chocolate and chatting.

Saturday 9 PM – Late – Yorkshire 3

CWC Evening Social*

Hang out with CWC (Calgary Crime Writers).

*All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in between 9 PM and midnight and mingle at our socials hosted by various friends of the festival.

Sunday 10 AM – Clarence

Representation Of Women In Current Works

Margarita Gakis, Nina Munteanu, Sarah Katyi

Have times changed? Are current fiction writers looking at women through different lenses than the writers of ten, twenty, thirty years ago? This panel looks at how women are portrayed in current fiction and asks the question: Is change still needed?

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 10 AM – Phaeton

World Creation - Climate and Geology

DK Snape, Ronald Hore, Barb Galler-Smith

Our panel discusses the foundation of creating a Fantasy or Science Fiction landscape.

Sunday 10 AM – Surrey

The Publishers Panel: Novels

Robert Runté, Hayden Trenholm, Patrick Swenson, Brian Hades, Ian Alexander Martin

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 10 AM – Victoria

Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – Reliving the Horror

Dwayne Clayden

Paramedic Dwayne Clayden offers a grisly look at real life physical trauma and the difficulties that follow. You were expected to suck it up? Dwayne discusses the memories, smells, and tastes that are stored deep inside, and what brings them back.

Sunday 10 AM – Yorkshire 1

Fantasy for All Ages

David Laderoute, Danielle L. Jensen, Karen Bass, Aaron Kite

What is it that appeals to youth about the fantastic? Authors discuss how they use the written word to create fresh new worlds young people can imagine themselves in.

Sunday 10 AM – Yorkshire 2

For Love of the Craft

Mahrie G. Reid, Lorraine Paton, Roxy Boroughs, Jessica L. Jackson (M)

The craft of writing is an anchor for some and a compass for others. What is the craft of writing? How has it changed? Where is it going? Where do writers learn their craft? Listen as writers share their relationship with the craft.

Sunday 10 AM – Yorkshire 3

In Places Between Sampler

Come to this pre-session reading to hear a sample of each of the short stories in line for first place in the Robin Herrington Memorial Short Story Contest.

Sunday 10 AM – Lincolnshire 1

The Joy of Novel Outlining

Randy McCharles

Nothing can improve productivity more than an outline. Many writers, however, consider outlining a painful process that destroys creativity. It needn't be. This workshop looks at how to make outlining as fun and creative as writing that first draft.

Sunday 10 AM – Lincolnshire 2

Art Journaling: Self-discovery for you and your characters

Halli Lilburn

Add color to your words and text to your art. Learn how using mixed media can enhance your personality and bring your characters to life. Come away with a creative page for your art journal. Materials provided. Please bring a clipboard to use as a writing surface.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 11 AM – Clarence

Poison

Dwayne Clayden, Aaron Kite

From traditional herbs to modern medicine, poisons of various varieties have played a role in many a mystery novel. Our panel discusses some of the more novel uses of poisons in various works such as Umberto Eco's *The Name of the Rose*.

Sunday 11 AM – Phaeton

Beta Readers, Critique Partners and More

Lorraine Paton, Kate Larking, Elisa O'Day, Roxy Boroughs

One of the most important things a writer can do is get feedback on their work, but how do you do that? Writers share their experiences about working with beta readers, critique partners and more. What are some tips and tricks? Who should you ask? How do you deal with positive and negative comments? What should you expect from readers? Is there an ideal number of readers?

Sunday 11 AM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Romance Edition

Leya Wolfgang (reader), Kaleen Harding, Justyn Perry, Naomi Davis, Jean Maxwell, Randy McCharles (M)

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

Sunday 11 AM – Victoria

Japanese Folklore and Mythology

Laura VanArendonk Baugh

Folklore is a rich mine of ideas and inspiration. This presentation looks at Japanese mythology and its most popular stories you didn't know you knew, and then we'll discuss briefly some of Japan's fascinating folklore which informs stories and still entertains today, with media examples. Do you know the difference between an ayakashi and a bakemono? The characteristics of a kitsune (fox shapeshifter) or how to escape a kappa (a super-strong water predator)? Join us for this fun and inspirational session!

Sunday 11 AM – Yorkshire 1

Does Anyone Read Short Fiction?

Mark Leslie, Barb Galler-Smith, Jeff Campbell, Stacy Dooks

It has been joked that the only people who read short fiction are writers, so that they know what markets to submit to. Yet dozens of new anthologies, collections, and short fiction magazines appear every month. Our panel discusses the appeal of reading short fiction and who those readers may be.

Sunday 11 AM – Yorkshire 2

Have You Heard a Good Book Lately?

Nina Munteanu, Dawn Harvey Ryah Deines

Industry experts discuss the popularity of audio books, who is the market, and why some books are never released in audio format. Join an author, a voice artist and an audio book publisher for their perspectives on the creation of the audio book and where this exciting format is going in our growing hybrid industry.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 11 AM – Yorkshire 3

In Places Between Short Story Contest

Robert Runté, Rona Altrows, Sarah Kades, Susan Calder, Renee Bennett (M)

This year, with a new format, In Places Between features stories from across the genres. With entries and judges from the genres of science fiction, mystery, romance and literary writing, the competition for first place money takes on a new twist. Come root for your favourite story, and your favourite author.

Sunday 11 AM – Lincolnshire 1

Tanka Delight

Joanne Morcom & Patricia Benedict

In this workshop you'll discover the joy of reading and writing the short, lyrical poem called a tanka.

Sunday 11 AM – Lincolnshire 2

The Heroine's Journey

Diana Cranstoun

We hear about the hero's journey, so is the heroine's journey the exact same, but the he is a she? 'Fraid not. While there are many similarities (and if you don't know them, make sure to be here), women have situations unique unto their sex, allowing for fascinating journeys in fiction.

Sunday 12 PM – Clarence

Murder Most Fair

Janice MacDonald, R. J. Harlick, Susan Calder, Linda Kupecek, Mahrie G. Reid, Melodie Campbell

There is more to mystery than the Who-Done-It. Our panel explores mystery elements that go beyond solving murders.

Sunday 12 PM – Phaeton

Fear as a Tool in Literature

David Laderoute, Jim Sellers, Minister Faust, Craig DiLouie

Since the days of Grimm's Fairytales of old, readers have always been drawn to the darker side, with scary stories. In this panel, authors share how to weave the "Fear Factor" into story to keep readers turning pages and their hearts pounding.

Sunday 12 PM – Surrey

Author/Editor Relationship at Penguin Canada

Adrienne Kerr, D. J McIntosh, Robert J. Sawyer, Jack Whyte, E.C. Blake

Three bestselling authors and their editor walk into a bar... Listen in as some of the brightest stars in Canadian publishing discuss the laughter and tears of bringing bestselling books to our bookshelves.

Sunday 12 PM – Victoria

A Game of Gods: Mythological Mayhem in the Fantasy Novel

Constantine Kaoukakis, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

Today, there are a myriad of novels with mythological mayhem and monsters. The gods of the ancient world still inhabit our collective consciousness. They are as popular today as they were millennia ago. Their modern incarnations exist in Rick Riordan's world of modern demigods like Percy Jackson. Why is there still a need to keep these magical entities alive in contemporary fantasy? How do authors alter them to fit them into our world? Perhaps as Shakespeare put it, "Playthings are we to the Gods: they kill us for their sport?" (King Lear) The gods influence our literature as they do our destiny.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 12 PM – Yorkshire 1

Querying Your YA Novel

Jacqueline Guest, Shawn L. Bird, Danielle L. Jensen, Jessica Corra

Bring your query letter and a panel of experienced authors will discuss and make suggestions to help you write a query that will get noticed!

Sunday 12 PM – Yorkshire 2

Writing Groups

Dee VanDyk, Jessica L. Jackson, Makenzi Fisk, Roxy Buroughs

Join a panel of writers representing formal associations, critique groups and informal writers' circles to find out why they insist that it's better to work together. We'll discuss everything from group encouragement, skill sharing, critique, and more. And the end you will know for yourself if it's better to go it alone or not. We vote for not.

Sunday 12 PM – Yorkshire 3

The Tattooed Seer

Join Susan MacGregor for the launch of her sequel to the *Tattooed Witch*.

Sunday 12 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Turn The Joke Of Your Life Into Writing

ZEDS

You know your life is a joke, but you're not quite sure how to craft it into the witty, snarky or just plain amusing personal essays that fill the books and blogs of your favourite writers. Learn techniques for finding the humour in struggle and "humour editing" the work you already have.

Sunday 12 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Smell it, Don't Tell it! Writing for the Senses with Jean Maxwell

Jean Maxwell

How do readers truly enter your story? A good question with five good answers: Taste, touch, sight, smell, sound. Learn to hook your readers by engaging all the senses in this fun (dare we say sensual?) workshop!

Sunday 1 PM – Clarence

In Love With the Past: Historical Fiction

D.J. McIntosh, Jack Whyte, Adrienne Kerr

From ancient times, to the Victorian era, to the roaring 20's, readers love stories set in the past. Is it merely an escape from today's fast paced stresses, a longing for simpler times? Or is there something about our past that speaks to us?

Sunday 1 PM – Phaeton

Romance Writing, Unplugged

Lorraine Paton, Roxy Buroughs, Sarah Kades, Jean Maxwell, Jessica L. Jackson (M)

Ever wish you would have known then, what you know now about the romance industry? What would you tell a beginning romance writer? Why do we choose to write romance? Where is the romance industry now, and where is it heading? An open Q&A about the romance writing world.

Sunday 1 PM – Surrey

Brandon Sanderson on The Writing Process (2 Hours)

Brandon Sanderson

Join festival guest Brandon Sanderson for a serious look at the writer's craft, how he manages to write epic fantasy at a breakneck pace, and a boatload of creative writing tips.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 1 PM – Victoria

The Travelling Writer

Garry Ryan

Author Garry Ryan discusses how traveling to Cuba, Mexico and San Diego has provided interesting opportunities for character development and adventure for a mystery series.

Sunday 1 PM – Yorkshire 1

Cracking the Code

Clare C Marshall, Avery Olive, Aviva Bel'Harold

This panel examines what techniques YA blockbusters such as Twilight, Hunger Games, and Divergent have in common, and how to emulate them in your writing, or not.

Sunday 1 PM – Yorkshire 2

The Publisher's Panel: Short Fiction

Mark Leslie, Brian Hades, Kelsey Attard, Diane Walton, Jeff Campbell

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

Sunday 1 PM – Yorkshire 3

Demon Gate

Join Marty Chan as he reads from and answers questions about list latest YA Steampunk publication.

Sunday 1 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Creating Loglines

Gary Renshaw

Loglines are one or two sentence descriptions of your story, novel or script that answer the question, "Tell me about your work." This workshop begins by exploring how a logline needs to be structured, and continues with the participants creating their own loglines. Each participant must have a project for which they wish to create a logline as well as writing materials.

Sunday 1 PM – Lincolnshire 2

Songwriting with Vanessa

Vanessa Cardui

How to go about songwriting, whether for pleasure, film, or theatre. Singer/songwriter Vanessa Cardui gives tips and insights into the creative process.

Sunday 2 PM – Clarence

Gender Perspectives in Detective Fiction

Janice MacDonald, S.G. Wong, Axel Howerton, Wayne Arthurson

Male vs. female PIs? Are they interchangeable? Or do they solve problems and handle events differently? Does the author's gender impact how their detectives behave? Our panel looks at classic as well as current PIs and their authors.

Sunday 2 PM – Phaeton

Thoughts on the eBook Revolution

Mark Leslie, Tod McCoy, Ian Alexander Martin, Jodi McIsaac

The popularization of eReaders, such as the Kobo and Kindle reader, has changed the way books are read and has caused major upheavals in the publishing industry. This panel looks at some of the ramifications for readers, authors, and publishers, with special attention to issues that remain in flux.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 2 PM – Victoria

The Marketing Marriage: Creative Social Media Solutions To Help Your Self-Published Book Get Noticed

Angela Ackerman

Struggling to be heard over the white noise of "buy my book!" promotion? Angela Ackerman discusses how to create online events that will help you stand out and engage your readership.

Sunday 2 PM – Yorkshire 1

Broken and Beautiful: The Tormented Story

Nina Munteanu, Nola Sarina, Minister Faust, Barbara Geiger

Love: the deeper it hurts, the more it sells. Is it only for the romance genre? Does it hold true for YA and other genres? Join a panel discussion of editors and writers on the type of relationships that could torture your hero or heroine and leave your readers loving it.

Sunday 2 PM – Yorkshire 2

Writers at the Improv

IFWA, Edward Willett, Hayden Trenholm

Attend this hilarious panel where teams of writers use audience suggestions to create a speculative fiction story. The results can--and have--been out of this world.

Sunday 2 PM – Yorkshire 3

Five River Presents

Robert Runté, Susan Bohnet, Aaron Kite, Ann Marston, Michell Plested, Susan MacGregor

Five Rivers Press launches new books for summer 2014. Join the editors and attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Sunday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Write Now!

Marie Powell

Worried about writers' block? Looking for ideas and approaches for your next writing project? Or just want a short mental break in a busy conference weekend? Join Marie Powell (<http://www.mepowell.com>) for 50 minutes of fun with freewriting exercises and writing prompts. Bring your favourite journal and pen, and take away a handout to use on your own.

Sunday 2 PM – Lincolnshire 2

20 Minute Word Sprint

Write Club

Has the festival inspired you to write? Start now by joining 1 of 2 Word Sprint sessions (1st or 2nd half of the hour). Bring your laptop or paper & pencil and spend 20 minutes capturing some of that inspiration.

Sunday 3 PM – Clarence

Boomer Lit – An Overlooked Market – Romance, Mystery, and More

Brenda Collins, Ilonka Halsband, Susan Calder, Eileen Bell, Mahrie G. Reid (M)

Boomers created the YA market when they swept through their teens. Today there are over 83 million baby boomers in North America. Here comes Boomer Lit. Boomers have time to read and money to buy books, but what do they want? Are they seeking protagonists who are boomers and problems relevant to boomers? Do they want action, sex, mystery? Join us for a lively discussion and revelations about this growing market.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 3 PM – Phaeton

An Hour With Robert J. Sawyer

Rob sold his first story in 1980, his first novel in 1990, and has been a full-time freelance writer for 31 years now. Join him as he looks back at lessons learned from decades in publishing and looks ahead to the future of how writers might continue to make a living in the decades to come.

Sunday 3 PM – Surrey

Live Action Slush – Mystery Edition

Susan Forest (reader) (M), D. J. McIntosh, Clare C. Marshall, S. G. Wong, Wayne Arthurson
Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from our editors.

Sunday 3 PM – Victoria

Marketing Your Book

Jodi McIsaac

Congrats! Your book is being published! But now what? Whether you're self-publishing or working with a traditional publishing house, being able to market your own work is more important than ever. With marketing budgets going down and the competition going up, authors of all stripes need to have the skills and confidence to market their own books. Come learn some simple steps that will help your book get noticed.

Sunday 3 PM – Yorkshire 1

The Business of Being a YA Writer

Jacqueline Guest, Shirlee Smith Matheson, Michell Plested, Marty Chan, Edward Willett

How book signings, writing for hire, school visits, and extra projects can make your dream of being a full time writer a reality.

Sunday 3 PM – Yorkshire 2

The Nuts and Bolts of Organizing and Keeping a Series

Aspen deLainey, R. J. Harlick, Andrea Howe, Dwayne Clayden

How do series writers keep their worlds consistent and fresh? What does it take to write a series versus a stand-alone novel? How do you keep the characters from getting stale?

Sunday 3 PM – Yorkshire 3

Edge Press Presents - Anthologies

Brian Hades, Ella Beaumont, Randy McCharles

Edge Press host two separate events to introduce new books and anthologies. Join the editors and many attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Sunday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Poetry Open Mic

Patricia Benedict, Joanne Morcom, Cheryl Cottreau, Vanessa Cardui

Spoken word poets perform.

Sunday 3 PM – Lincolnshire 2

After Petroleum

Jean Maxwell, Stacy Dooks, Ron Friedman, Howie Erickson

What will civilization look like as petroleum & other fossil fuels become more scarce & expensive? What are the practical energy alternatives? Will there be sufficient affordable alternatives to go around? Are there power requirements that don't lend themselves well to alternative energy, such as jet airplanes? Will the future be utopian, dystopian, or just different?

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 4 PM – Clarence

Death Throes

Janice MacDonald, Dwayne Clayden, Craig DiLouie, Axel Howerton, Melodie Campbell

Death scenes in fiction can grip the reader or, when the details don't ring true, pull them out of the story. This panel discusses how to get the details right, or at least make them convincing whether one dies slowly, quickly, or painfully when shot, stabbed, bludgeoned, or electrocuted. Special attention is given to bleeding and blood splatter.

Sunday 4 PM – Phaeton

Eco-Fiction

Nina Munteanu, Adria Laycraft, Susan Forest

Authors discuss the growing awareness of environmental issues and the need for more literature that concerns itself with humanity's relationship with our environment and environmental consequences.

Sunday 4 PM – Surrey

How to Build a Consistent and Original Magic System

Brandon Sanderson, S. G. Wong, Sandra Fitzpatrick, Edward Willett, Nola Sarina

What are the important elements to a convincing magic system for your fictional world? How can magic help or hinder the development of your story?

Sunday 4 PM – Victoria

The B.A.N.K. Code for Bridging Personalities

Rowena Cua

We all recognize that we naturally click with some people while clashing with others. Often, our differences lead to broken relationships and missed opportunities. The B.A.N.K. personality system reveals an individual's personality code in 90 seconds or less, and teaches how anyone can easily and immediately speak a language that resonates with that code. Whatever our role in the community of literary and commercial fiction, we can benefit from a skill set that enables confident and authentic interactions with our colleagues in this business.

Sunday 4 PM – Yorkshire 1

Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens

Jacqueline Guest, DK Snape, Kimberly Gould

You can find just about anything in a YA book these days. Nudity, excessive violence, coarse language. In the film industry, these warnings require Adult or Restricted Adult ratings. Do they belong in YA? Writers of YA discuss.

Sunday 4 PM – Yorkshire 2

Trends in Romance

Justyn Perry, Roxy Boroughs, Victoria Smith, Jessica L. Jackson (M)

Romance story lines can range in heat level from sweet (aka no sex) to erotica... and everything in between. What does that mean for writers? Is there room for everyone? What is happening in the market right now? After the Fifty Shades of Grey "bubble", is the market swinging over to sweet or is erotica still selling well? What heat levels are publishers / readers interested in?

Sunday 4 PM – Yorkshire 3

Your Novel, a Movie?

Carol Mulholland

You may have dreamed of adapting your own (or someone else's) work for TV or the big screen, but before you start, consider the pitfalls and problems of adaptation.

When Words Collide 2014 – Program Descriptions

Sunday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 1

Poetry 101: How do I Write a Poem?

Samantha Baldwin, Cheryl Cottreau

Never written a poem before? Willing to write a novel, but afraid to tackle a poem? Come to this session to listen to poets describe their processes for beginning a poem.

Sunday 4 PM – Lincolnshire 2

On (Writing) Vacation

Randy McCharles, Patrick Swenson, James Van Pelt, Chadwick Ginther

Writing retreats, with their focused time and space, can inspire and rejuvenate authors and are as accessible as you want them to be. Panellists discuss their experiences and the rewards reaped from attending writing retreats.

Sunday 7 PM - Late

When Words Collide Dead Dog Social*

General hang Out (Yorkshire 3)

Magic the Gathering with Brandon Sanderson (Yorkshire 2)

Filk (Yorkshire 3)

*All registered When Words Collide members are welcome to drop in between 7 PM and midnight and mingle at our socials hosted by various friends of the festival.