

Your Committee Volunteers

These people are the wonderful group who worked hard all year to bring you the best festival they could. Please take a little time to shake their hands.

The One to Blame (Chairman).....	Randy McCharles
Who We Begged for Money (Treasurer)	Cheryl Cottreau
The Person Who Organizes Our Agenda (Secretary).....	Michele Lisiecki
She Who Reached Out (Affiliates Liaisons).....	Val King
The Person Who Wrangles Authors (Guest Liaison)	Cliff Samuels
The Man Who Makes Things Beautiful (Artist).....	Steve Swanson
The People Most In Need of Rest (Programming)	Randy McCharles
	Susan Forest
	Suzy Vadori
	Sarah Kades
	Mahrie G. Reid
The One Who Arranged For Things to Purchase (Merchants' Corner)..	Randy McCharles
The Person Who Found Us A Place to Gather (Hotel Liaison)..	Randy McCharles
The People Who Managed Our Saturday Night	
Banquet.....	Randy McCharles
Mass Autograph Session.....	Kim Greyson
The Ladies Keeping Track of Everybody (Registration)	
Pre-festival	Sandy Fitzpatrick
At Festival.....	Kyra Lea
The People Who Kept You Informed	
Web Site.....	Gary Renshaw
News & Notes, E-Mail Monitor, Statistician	Randy McCharles
Program Book	Cliff Samuels
Restaurant and Area guide.....	Cliff Samuels
Promotions Distributor, Calgary Public Library Liaison.....	Stacey Kondla
Facebook.....	Ron Friedman
Twitter.....	Suzy Vadori
Media Relations.....	Tony King
The Person Who Cracked the Whip (Volunteer Wrangler).....	Kim Greyson
The Person Who Remembers Who We Were (Archivist).....	Chantel Gallant
The People Who Deal with Government - Grants	Catherine Saykaly-Stevens
	Siona Gunn-Graham and Susan Forest
Those We Have Insufficient Space to List.....	And Many Others



Congratulations to When Words Collide for Winning the
2014 Aurora Award for Best Fan Organizational
from the Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy Association

When Words Collide has been nominated again for the
2015 Aurora Award for Best Fan Organizational

For more information and to vote for this year's awards go to: www.prixaurorawards.ca

Chairman's Message

When Words Collide Chapter 5. Bigger hotel. Higher attendance. And once again sold out in June. We must be doing something right. Or you are. Thank you for coming out and making our festival a success. Something new we are trying this year is holding hospitality in the Boomtown Pub. Drop by the pub's private room and patio for a break during the festival and chat with other attendees.

Also a reminder that the Merchant's Corner is closed during Saturday's Mass Autograph Session. If you are looking to purchase books and get them signed, please do so before 5:30 PM Saturday. Above all, enjoy the festival!

Sponsors, Donations, And General Thank You to...

The following have donated to our efforts and deserve credit. If we have missed you, we apologize. It was not on purpose.



Calgary World Fantasy Society



The Sentry Box
Book and Games



The Imaginative Fiction Writers' Association (IFWA)



Dodge the Bullet Comics



TYCHE BOOKS
FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BOLD

Guests of Honour

We are very pleased to present our Guests of Honour. All of our guests will be at the evening Keynote Speeches on Friday.



Diana Gabaldon

Diana Gabaldon is the author of the award-winning, #1 New York Times bestselling *Outlander* novels, described by *Salon Magazine* as “the smartest historical sci-fi adventure-romance story ever written by a science Ph.D. with a background in scripting ‘*Scrooge McDuck*’ comics.”

Gabaldon’s popular writing style and memorable characters have been noticed by the Hollywood set as well. The *Outlander* books were picked up by Sony Television and produced by Ronald D. Moore and his production company, Tall Ships Productions. The final episodes of their first season were aired

last spring. A second season has been ordered for airing next year.

Diana Gabaldon and her husband, Doug Watkins, have three adult children (all intelligent, funny, and self-supporting), two fat dachshunds, and live mostly in Scottsdale, Arizona. **Website:** www.dianagabaldon.com

See Diana in: Festival Guest Readings, An Hour with Diana Gabaldon, Guest of Honour Keynotes , Mass Autographs, Live Action Slush – Historical, Historical License



Sally Harding

Sally Harding is a literary agent and co-owner of the Cooke Agency and Cooke International. She represents authors from all over the world, with more than half of her clients calling the US home or their primary publishing market. She is currently growing her list in the areas of smart, ground-breaking non-fiction; and mainstream and literary-leaning science fiction, fantasy, and crime. She also has a fondness for children’s books, especially middle-grade fiction. She is on the

board of the Vancouver Writers’ Fest www.writersfest.bc.ca, and is a member of the Association of Authors’ Representatives <http://aaronline.org>.

Websites: www.cookagency.ca and www.cookeinternational.com

See Sally in: How to Write a Good Pitch & Query, Pitch Session, Guest of Honour Keynotes , Live Action Slush – Science Fiction, Breaking In: The Query Letter & the Pitch, Mass Autographs, Publishers Panel: Novels, Live Action Slush - Urban Fantasy



Daniel Abraham

Once upon a time, there were three writers who were really only one. Well, two and a half writers. Or three writers that were one and a half. It's complicated.

Daniel Abraham, when he's himself, is a writer of epic fantasy with ten novels and a collection of short stories to his name. As MLN Hanover, he writes The Black Sun's Daughter urban fantasy series set in the contemporary world. And when he is James S. A. Corey, he writes in collaboration with Ty Franck to make the science fiction series The Expanse. Daniel has also adapted several of George RR Martin's works into graphic novels, including the New York Times bestselling adaptations of A Game of Thrones. He has published 23 novels and over 40 short stories. When he is not writing, he spends his time writing.

Website: <http://www.danielabraham.com/>

See Daniel in: [Festival Guest Readings](#), [Script Writing For Graphic Novels And Comics](#), [Guest of Honour Keynotes](#), [Crossing Genres](#), [Live Action Slush – Science Fiction](#), [An Hour with Daniel Abraham](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Science Fiction and the Future](#)



CJ Carmichael

Hard to imagine a more glamorous life than being an accountant. Still, CJ Carmichael gave up the thrills of income tax forms and double entry book-keeping when she sold her first book in 1998. She's now written more than 40 novels--2 of which have been nominated by Romance Writers of America for their prestigious RITA award.

When not writing, CJ loves to be out hiking, cross-country skiing or biking around Calgary, where she lives, or Flathead Lake, Montana, where she has a cottage. Her partner Mike shares these interests with her. They also love to play cribbage and Scrabble. If a glass of wine is on the table, so much the better!

Website: <http://cjcarmichael.com/>

See CJ in: [Festival Guest Readings](#), [Building Your Readership](#), [Guest of Honour Keynotes](#), [Writing the Series](#), [Live Action Slush - Romance](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Tule Publishing Presents](#), [Hybrid Publishing](#)



Faith Hunter

New York Times bestselling author Faith Hunter writes dark urban fantasy and paranormal urban thrillers.

Her long-running, bestselling, Skinwalker series features Jane Yellowrock, a hunter of rogue-vampires. Her Rogue Mage novels, a dark, urban fantasy series features Thorn St. Croix, a stone mage in a post-apocalyptic, alternate reality. She has a new paranormal crime solving series featuring Nell Nicholson Ingram, who can siphon away the magic of others, to be released in late 2015.

Under the pen name Gwen Hunter, she has written action adventure, mysteries, thrillers, women's fiction, a medical thriller series, and even historical religious fiction. As Gwen, she is a winner of the WH Smith Literary Award for Fresh Talent in 1995 in the UK, and won a Romantic Times Reviewers Choice Award in 2008. Under all her pen names, she has over 30 books in print in 29 countries.

Faith Hunter writes full-time, and is a workaholic with a passion for jewelry making, white-water kayaking, travel, all which appear in and are used in her novels. She gave up cooking for lent one year and the oven stayed turned off for so long that it refused to come back on and had to be replaced, but she is having a hankering for homemade bread, and is considering getting back to baking in her remodeled kitchen. Occasionally, she remembers to sleep. The jewelry she makes and wears is often given as promo items to fans who come to her signings, and is used as prizes in contests. She and her husband love to RV, traveling with their rescued Pomeranians to whitewater rivers all over the Southeast. (The poms don't whitewater. The pampered dogs stay in the RV in lazy, air-conditioned comfort!)

Faith is a founding member of MagicalWords, a writing forum at www.magicalwords.net geared to helping writers of fantasy and other genres.

For more, including a list of her books, see www.faithhunter.net , www.gwenhunter.com and www.magicalwords.net. To keep with her, join her fan pages at Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/official.faith.hunter>

See Faith in: Festival Guest Readings, Guest of Honour Keynotes, Switching Genres, On Writing, Your 20 Second Opportunity, Mass Autographs, Women in Urban Fantasy, Live Action Slush - Urban Fantasy, Live Action Slush – Mystery




Brandon Mull

Brandon Mull is the #1 New York Times bestselling author of the Fablehaven and Beyonders series. Sky Raiders, the first in Brandon's new Five Kingdoms series, debuted in 2014 as his tenth New York Times bestseller. Brandon also served as the architect for Scholastic's Spirit Animals series, outlining the seven books, and writing the first. His novels are published in over 30 languages.

The Chronicles of Narnia helped Brandon develop his love of reading, the Lord of the Rings showed him how deeply imagined a fantasy world could be, and the Harry Potter series proved to him that a novel with young main characters could delight readers young and old if it is smart and inventive. Brandon currently lives in Utah with his wife and four kids.

Website: <http://brandonmull.com/site/>

See Brandon in: [Festival Guest Readings](#), [Publishing Middle Grade/YA](#), [Guest of Honour Keynotes](#), [An Hour with Brandon Mull](#), [Sequels and Trilogies, 1-2-3](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [The Business of Being a YA Writer](#), [Tween and Teen Dialogue](#), [Live Action Slush – YA](#)



**CALGARY
PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

Calgary Public Library
<http://www.calgarypubliclibrary.com/>

Our Values
Intellectual freedom * Openness and inclusion * Excellence
Creativity and innovation * Collaboration * Curiosity * Sustainability *

Our Mission
Inspiring life stories

Our Vision
The vibrant heart of a great city

Our Promise
To serve with passion, respect, and integrity * To take responsibility for our actions
To be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us

Panellists and Presenters

Panellists and readers, we have them! Seriously, what would our little get-together be without these fine people? I know I don't want to find out. So, to give credit where credit is due, here are all those who help to educate and entertain along with what else they will be doing this weekend.

Elena Aitken

Elena Aitken is the USA Today Bestselling Author of more than twenty-five romance novels including the bestselling Castle Mountain Lodge and The Springs series. A true romantic at heart, Elena's books feature strong women and the equally tough men who rise to the challenge of creating a deserving "happily ever after." From sweet to spicy and everything in between, Elena's books will make you believe in love. Connect with Elena at www.elenaaitken.com

[From Sweet to Spicy](#), [How to Sex Up Your Story](#)

Timothy Anderson

[What Won't You Write?](#), [Memoir as Saleable Art](#)

ARWA

[Supportive Critique Groups Exist](#)

Madison Avery

[Mass Autographs](#)

Jayne Barnard

Jayne Barnard, best known among Steampunks as Madame Saffron Hemlock, the mind behind Parasol Dueling, is the author of many short crime stories set in this and alternate universes. Accolades include a Debut Dagger (UK) and Arthur Award (Canadian) finalist, a Bony Pete, and a Saskatchewan Writers Guild award, as well as local and regional fiction prizes. Her Steampunk crime caper, The Evil Eye of Africa, comes out in August 2015 from Tyche Books. Look for more about Jayne's work at Jayne Barnard Author. <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Jayne-Barnard-Author/466822683406124>

[Giving a Great Reading](#), [Mystery Shorts](#), [Tyche Books Presents](#), [AB Negative](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Not Your Grandmother's Mystery](#)

Karen Bass

Karen Bass is a YA writer from northwest Alberta, with four novels traditionally published. GRAFFITI KNIGHT, won the Canadian Library Association YA Book Award, the Alberta Literary's R. Ross Annett Award for Children's Literature, and the CAA Exporting Alberta Award. Her most recent novel is Uncertain Soldier. www.karenbass.ca

[Cross-cultural YA](#)

Ella Beaumont

Ella Beaumont is the Acquisitions Editor at EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing and is partly to blame for the company's recent expansion into the terra incognita of e-book first publishing. The new EDGE-Lite program celebrated its first release this past June. Over the last two years, Ella has been running a weekly writing productivity group known as Write Club that is open to all writers at all skill levels. She

Did You Know, WWC 2015 Members are From:

Alberta 83.5% * British Columbia 4.8%
Manitoba 1.5% * Ontario 2.1%
Saskatchewan 4.0% * Quebec 0.5% * Nova Scotia 0.2%
Yukon 0.2% * United States 3.0% * New Zealand 0.2%

claims that her motivation for organising Write Club is purely selfish as she feels she writes better in a room filled with the sound of clicking keys.

calgarywritelclub.weebly.com/about.html

[Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition](#), [Writer's Speed Mingle](#), [Editing Tricks](#), [Pitch Session](#), [Back Cover Blues](#), [Live Action Slush - High Fantasy](#), [To Blog or Not to Blog](#), [Edge Press Presents](#)

Samantha Beiko

Samantha Beiko has worked in the Canadian publishing industry for the past five years in various capacities, first in marketing and publicity, and now in editorial and layout design. She has had the opportunity to acquire and edit some remarkable books, including co-editing *Imaginarium 2013: The Best Canadian Speculative Writing* with Sandra Kasturi for ChiZine Publications. Samantha is currently the Managing Editor for ChiZine Publications' main line, as well as the Managing Editor on their emerging graphic novel line, ChiGraphic. In addition to her corporate work, Samantha freelances full time with independent clients for editorial, book design, and publishing consulting.

Samantha is also an author, and her first book, the YA fantasy novel *The Lake and the Library*, was nominated for the 2014 Aurora Award for Best YA Novel, and the 2014 Eileen Sykes McTavish Best First Book award. She currently resides in Winnipeg, Manitoba, and is working to broaden the speculative fiction community there through her writing and publishing work. She co-hosts the Aurora-nominated Canadian speculative reading series, ChiSeries Winnipeg, with fellow author Chadwick Ginther, and travels Canada widely to speak at conferences and host workshops about the Canadian publishing industry.

[Pitch Session](#), [Graphic Novels - ChiZine](#), [Blue Pencil](#)

Aviva Bel'Harold

Calgary, Alberta author Aviva Bel'Harold is currently celebrating the release of her latest novel *Blood Matters* (published by EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing). She has a loyal, ever growing following, and spreads her time between raising a family, 6 puppies, writing, signing books, talking to kids at schools, and being featured as a guest speaker for a variety of groups. www.avivabelharold.ca,

[Are Vampires and Zombies Dead?](#), [Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens](#), [Random Readings](#), [The Business of Being a YA Writer](#), [What Won't You Write?](#), [Fear as a Tool in Middle Grade or YA Writing](#), [Edge Press Presents](#)

Christa Bedwin

[Editing Explained](#), [Science of Readability](#)

Christa has 18 years of experience in editing and writing with fiction, education, engineering, academia, business, industry, science, and government. She teaches technical writing seminars to engineers, scientists, and business people worldwide, has edited hundreds of scientific and engineering articles and reports, written and edited hundreds of educational pieces with textbook publishing teams, written novels, and edited autobiographies, fiction novels, marketing materials, and more.

E.C. Bell

E.C. Bell (also known as Eileen Bell) has had short fiction published in magazines and several anthologies, including the double Aurora Award winning *Women of the Apocalypse* and the Aurora winning *Bourbon and Eggnog*. Her first novel, *Seeing the Light*, (Tyche Books) was released in November, 2014. When she's not writing, she's in Edmonton, Alberta, living a fine life in her round house (that is in a perpetual state of renovation) with her husband, her two dogs and her goldfish.

[Giving a Great Reading](#), [Tyche Books Presents](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Writing a Mystery Series](#)

Patricia Benedict

[Poetry with a Funny Bone](#), [he Great Four Haiku Poets](#)

Ron Bender

Ron Bender is a native Calgarian, with past experience as an international business consultant. Currently, he is working with a local MAKER group. Ron has thirty-seven years of RPG experience. He runs and designs games that focus on that forum as a tool for interactive storytelling. His longest campaign ran for seven consecutive years. Using RPG experience as a framework, Ron began writing novels. His completed works include; two historical fantasies and three cyberpunk novels. Ron likes to relax by chatting over the occasional pint of beer, tracking trends and advanced technologies, and researching obscure time periods.

[Cyberpunk and Social Order](#)

Shawn L. Bird

Shawn L. Bird is a high school English teacher and librarian, an author, and a poet in the beautiful Shuswap region of British Columbia. She is also a Graduate student in the Faculty of Education at University of British Columbia exploring passion-based learning. She has published the YA novel series *Grace Awakening* and several books of poetry. She posts a new poem daily at www.shawnbird.com blog. She is represented by literary agent Amy Tompkins of Transatlantic Agency.

[YA Inspiration](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Inspiring YA Books and Authors](#)

Janice Blaine

Janice Blaine is a professional commercial artist working out of Calgary. Throughout her career, she has worked on a wide variety of projects, ranging from pre-production animation to design & illustration of children's books. Her illustrations have appeared on the covers of numerous magazines and books. Her cover illustration for Neo-opsis issue #20 was nominated for an Aurora Award in 2012, and she is co-editor and illustrator of the *Urban Green Man* short fiction anthology. She currently works as the Production Manager at EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing. She also does freelance illustration and design work. Her portfolio may be viewed at www.paintersblock.com

[Illustrators' Jam](#)

Susan Bohnet

Susan Bohnet has an Associate Degree in Arts and Letters with a major in psychology from Ricks College, and a Bachelor of Science degree with a major in Human Resource Development from Brigham Young University. She lives in Alberta with her husband, five children, and a cute (but rather naughty) Yorkshire terrier. She has written a newspaper column called Family Frenzy for 19 years and has had two short stories published. Her first novel, *My Life as a Troll*, was published by Five Rivers Publishing in 2014 and she is looking forward to the release of her second novel, a collaboration with K. L. Webster titled *Lethal Influence*, which is being published by Edge in the near future.

You can follow Susan through her website at www.susanbohnet.com, on twitter, or through her Facebook page *My Life as a Troll*.

[Hold That Thought](#), [Random Readings](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Fear as a Tool in Middle Grade or YA Writing](#)

Kate Boorman

Kate A. Boorman was born in Nepal, grew up in the small town of Rimbey, and now lives in Edmonton where she writes and wrangles her family. Kate has an MA in Dramatic Critical Theory and has been writing for fun and profit for the past ten years. She is the author of the WINTERKILL trilogy (Abrams/Amulet), a young adult alternate history series set on the spooky prairies of North America. WINTERKILL was named a Best Bet YA by the Ontario Library Association, and it is currently a finalist in the Alberta Readers' Choice Awards. Its sequel, DARKTHAW, releases this October. Visit Kate at www.kateaboorman.com

[Genres for Youth?](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Fear as a Tool in Middle Grade or YA Writing](#)

Anna Maria Bortolotto

Anna Maria Bortolotto enjoys sharing stories, and isn't too particular about which genre(s) they decide they want to be in since she believes that no story has a home in only a single one. She is a graduate of the Odyssey Writing Workshop (Class of 2013); a previous winner, pre-judge, and final judge in the Robyn Herrington Memorial Short Story Contest--In Places Between; is a member of IFWA, ARWA, RWA and related writing sub-groups; and is a long time supporter of When Words Collide and its predecessors.

Alpha and Beta Readers

Robert Bose

AB Negative

Michele Bossley

How to Avoid the Clichés of YA Books

Rebecca Bradley

Real Life Mysteries, Random Readings, Mass Autographs, The Past Is a Terrible Place

Brian Brennan

Memoir or Autobiography?

Michelle Browne

Michelle Browne is a sci fi/fantasy writer and cross-genre editor from Calgary, AB. She has a cat and a partner-in-crime. Her days revolve around freelance editing, jewelry, phuquerie, and nightmares. She is currently working on the next books in her series, other people's manuscripts, and drinking as much tea as humanly possible.

Blue Pencil

Scott Burtness

Scott Burtness' first novel, Wisconsin Vamp, was released in early 2014. The sequel, Northwoods Wolfman, was released in July 2015. The third book in the Monsters in the Midwest series is due for release in mid-2016. His work can also be found in the upcoming Scarecrow anthology from World Weaver Press. Scott lives in Minnesota with his wonderful wife and their boxer-pitt mix in a house that's just the right size for the three of them. To learn more about Scott, follow him on Twitter (@SWBauthor), find him on Goodreads (www.goodreads.com/SWBauthor) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/SWBauthor).

Are Vampires and Zombies Dead?, The Blind Leading the Blind to the End of the Double-Rainbow, Corvidae & Scarecrow, Hold That Thought, Mass Autographs, Northwoods Wolfman

Susan Calder

Susan Calder is the author of Deadly Fall (TouchWood Editions), a murder mystery novel set in Calgary. Her short stories have won contests and been published in numerous magazines. She teaches fiction writing courses at the Alexandra Writers Centre Society and is the Prairie Region Vice President for the Crime Writers of Canada. In her non-writing time, Susan loves travel and hiking. www.susancalder.com.

How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story, AB Negative, Thriller VS Traditional Mysteries

Jeff R. Campbell

Jeff R. Campbell is the co-editor of the Gaslight anthologies (Gaslight Grimoire, Gaslight Grotesque & Gaslight Arcanum) and has a number of short stories and radio dramas published. His next project is the Professor Challenger: New Worlds, Lost Places anthology co-edited with Charles Prepolec.

[The History of Modern Publishing](#)

Tammy Lyn Carbol

Tammy Lyn Carbol has been a member of Alberta Romance Writers Association (ARWA) since 2000. In her spare time she is a belly dance teacher and performer.

www.tammylyncarbol.com

[Sexy Starts](#), [How to Start Writing Sex Scenes](#), [Common Sex Scene Mistakes](#)

Vanessa Cardui

Vanessa Cardui is a lifelong poet and songwriter, as well as a performer, recording artist, and producer. She has been active in the Calgary music scene since 2004 and has contributed to a number of local projects. Vanessa's own original rock band, Heroicredible, has performed to great acclaim at several well-attended science-fiction and fantasy conventions, including the Calgary Comic and Entertainment Expo in 2011.

Vanessa has written hundreds of songs in a variety of genres, including rock, folk, filk, and choral music, and has a special love of historical and mythological subject matter.

<http://vanessacardui.ca/>



[Songwriting with Vanessa](#), [Open Mic](#)

Kristi Charish

Kristi is the author of OWL AND THE JAPANESE CIRCUS (Simon and Schuster Canada/Pocket Books), an urban fantasy about a modern-day "Indiana Jane" who reluctantly navigates the hidden supernatural world. She writes what she loves; adventure heavy stories featuring strong, savvy female protagonists, pop culture, and the occasional RPG fantasy game thrown in the mix. The second installment in the Owl series, OWL AND THE CITY OF ANGELS, is scheduled for release Oct 5th 2015. THE VOODOO KILLINGS, book 1 in her second urban fantasy series, KINCAID STRANGE (Random House Canada), about a voodoo practitioner living in Seattle, is scheduled for release mid 2016. Kristi is also a co-host for the popular Adventures in Sci-Fi Publishing Podcast and also has a PhD in Zoology from the University of British Columbia.

Website: <http://www.kristicharish.com>

[How to Avoid the Clichés of YA Books](#), [Where Story and Science Meet](#), [Where is the Love?](#), [Sequels and Trilogies, 1-2-3](#), [Blue Pencil](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Women in Urban Fantasy](#), [Live Action Slush - Urban Fantasy](#), [Cross-cultural YA](#)



Calgary Association of Romance Writers (CaRWA)
<http://www.calgaryrwa.com/>
The purpose of the Calgary Association of the Romance Writers of America® is to help members become published and establish and build careers in romantic fiction. We provide continuing support for members both individually and in the romance publishing industry. We also promote excellence in romantic fiction. To this end, we offer meetings, workshops, conferences, a newsletter and email list to help each of us achieve our personal writing goals. Our door is always open, so if you wish to become acquainted with the CaRWA members, please join us for one of our regular monthly meetings.

Angie Chiang

Angie is a PhD candidate and sessional instructor in the department of Communication, Media and Film at the University of Calgary. Her research and teaching interests include all things pop culture particularly television consumption in the 'post-television' era. Additionally, she is a freelancer working for various industries in film, television, and interactive in communications and marketing.

[Transmedia](#)

Dwayne Clayden

Dwayne Clayden is a Paramedic with over 37 years in Emergency Services. A former police officer, Tactical Paramedic, and EMS Chief, he is an international speaker at EMS conferences and has published four textbooks for paramedics. He is a popular speaker at Calgary crime-writing events. Dwayne's first novel manuscript, *Crisis Point*, was a finalist for the 2015 Crime Writers of Canada's Unhanged Arthur Award. His short story, *Hell Hath no Fury* is published in the anthology *AB Negative*. He is a member of the Alberta Writers Guild, Calgary Crime Writers and Crime Writers of Canada.

[Things TV and Movies Gets Wrong in Medical or Police Procedurals](#), [How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story](#), [AB Negative](#), [Thriller VS Traditional Mysteries](#), [Your Novel is Lacking Tension](#), [Did That Really Happen?](#) , [Murder - Ancient and Contemporary](#)

David B. Coe

David B. Coe/D.B. Jackson is the award winning author of more than eighteen novels and many short stories. As David B. Coe (www.DavidBCoe.com) he has written the Crawford award-winning *LonTobyn Chronicle*, the *Winds of the Forelands* quintet, the *Blood of the Southlands* trilogy, and the novelization of Ridley Scott's *ROBIN HOOD*. *SPELL BLIND*, released last January, is the first volume of the *Case Files of Justis Fearsson*. The second volume, *HIS FATHER'S EYES*, has just been released.

Writing as D.B. Jackson (www.dbjackson-author.com), he is the author of the *Theftaker Chronicles* — *THIEFTAKER*, *THIEVES' QUARRY*, *A PLUNDER OF SOULS*, and *DEAD MAN'S REACH*, which has also just been released. David is part of the *Magical Words* group blog (magicalwords.net), and co-author of *How To Write Magical Words: A Writer's Companion*. His books have been translated into more than a dozen languages.

[Festival Guest Readings](#), [From Stage to Page](#), [On Writing](#), [Live Action Slush](#) – [Historical](#), [Historical License](#), [Live Action Slush - High Fantasy](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [20 Second Opportunity](#)

Jessica Corra

Jessica is an American writer and editor living in Canada with her Scottish husband. She is a former acquisitions editor for Samhain Publishing, and her work is represented by The Bradford Agency. Jessica is a huge fan of cats and snowflakes.

[Blue Pencil](#), [Diversity is Real](#), [Editing As Re-Vision](#), [Common Sex Scene Mistakes](#)

Cheryl Cottreau

Cheryl Cottreau is a "writer and a poet and a mystic and a muse". She published her first work *Whisper of a Vision* in May 2013 and is working on two other books at this time. She has been journaling since she first had her first "little red book" when she was ten. She feels that journaling has been one of her greatest tools in her path of self-discovery. She blogs regularly on her website www.cherylcottreau.com.

[Raw Poetry](#)

Diana Cranstoun

Scottish born Diana Cranstoun has made Calgary her home for the last 25 years. A past president of the Alberta Romance Writers' Association (ARWA) she has had

several short stories broadcast on CBC Radio and two feature-length movie scripts optioned. <http://dianacranstoun.com>

The Virgin's Promise, Explained, Theme, Identified

Karen Crosby

Karen has loved language from an early age, drawn to how it is paradoxically precise and fluid. She'll tell you that English is full of potential and poetry and power—and yes, it matters where the apostrophes and commas go! She graduated with a BA with Distinction in 1992 and moved to Japan, where she worked as a teacher, created ESL courses, supervised English content in a bilingual magazine, edited bilingual novels, consulted, and wrote a weekly newspaper column. She founded Documedic Editing Solutions, now Editarians, in 2002. Since that time she has assisted hundreds of clients, honing their documents such that they convey powerfully and precisely—and perhaps even poetically—what was intended. She looks forward to collaborating with clients for years to come.

Editing Explained

M.L.D. Curelas

Corvidae & Scarecrow, Tyche Books Presents, Blue Pencil

Naomi Davis

Naomi Davis is an agent with Inklings Literary Agency, and has a background in writing, editing, and customer service. Her alter-ego, Nola Sarina, is a published author of dark fantasy, paranormal romance, and erotica. Naomi currently represents a handful of select clients and is passionate about working with authors to shape their voice and platform to their fullest potential. In fiction, Naomi is interested in Romance of any variety including Paranormal, fresh Urban Fantasy, general Fantasy, New Adult, and light Sci-Fi, as well as upper Young Adult stories in those categories.

Pitch Session, Keeping it Real, YA and the Tough Stuff, Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens

Doug Dear

Writing a Mystery Series

B. C. Deeks

B.C. Deeks writes heart warming mysteries laced with a bit of romance, a little family and, often a wink of magic, including The Holly & The Ivy (Frost Family & Friends series) and Witch in the Wind (Bandit Creek Sweet series). She has published articles in industry trade publications, such as Writers Market, and is an award-winning technical writer, all under the name Brenda M. Collins.

Born and raised in Newfoundland, an island off the east coast of Canada, Brenda now lives in Alberta, Canada. For upcoming titles, visit www.bcdeeks.com.

Business Planning in the Digital Age for Authors, Anatomy of Mysteries

WORDfest

Wordfest

<http://www.wordfest.com/>

WordFest supports vibrant and healthy communities by providing accessible and engaging programming that shares the power of story. WordFest is a not-for-profit organization that brings readers and writers together through the power of story. WordFest hosts year-round literary events in Calgary, Banff and Bow Valley featuring the world's best writers. [Over 700 writers](#) have been presented at these events over the past 17 years, including Margaret Atwood, Douglas Coupland, John Irving, Chuck Palahniuk, Richard Ford, Alexander McCall Smith and David Suzuki.

Ryah Deines

Ryah Deines works for Tyche Books where she has complete control over Tyche's audio book line, including hiring the narrators, editing the raw audio, and getting the product ready for sale either on CD or through Audible.com. Ryah thinks the best thing in life is to be curled up on a couch with a good book to read, and a purring kitty on her lap. While this Aurora Award nominee gets many opportunities to do just that, it is just never enough to satisfy her voracious reading appetite

[Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book](#)

Craig Dilouie

Craig DiLouie is the author of nine novels, including *Suffer the Children*, *Crash Dive*, *The Alchemists*, *The Retreat*, *The Infection*, *The Killing Floor*, *Tooth and Nail*, *The Great Planet Robbery*, and *Paranoia*. He blogs about writing and the horror genre regularly at www.craigdilouie.com.

[Are Vampires and Zombies Dead?](#) , [Writer's Toolkit](#), [Social Media Best Practices](#)

Lois Donovan

[Fiction Writing: Behind the Scenes](#)

Candas Jane Dorsey

[Thematic Literature](#), [Where'd the Plot Go?](#) , [What Won't You Write?](#) , [Character and the Inner Life](#), [Memoir as Saleable Art](#)

Adam Dreece

In 2014, Adam Dreece ended 25 years of writing short stories for himself. He put aside a memoir covering his conquering terrible scar pain and being hit with severe asthma, and started in a new direction. His debut novel, "Along Came a Wolf" launched his Calgary Herald and Amazon bestselling series, *The Yellow Hoods*, and was quickly followed up with book 2 in the series, *Breadcrumb Trail* that has been called "a powerhouse of young adult fiction." Visit Adam at: adamdreece.com,

[How To Give A Successful Book Signing At Chapters/Indigo](#), [Genres for Youth?](#), [YA and the Tough Stuff](#), [Meet Adam Dreece](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Tween and Teen Dialogue](#), [Inspiring YA Books and Authors](#)

Zoey Duncan


Zoey Duncan is an author, journalist, roller derby athlete, speaker and joke-writer.

In 2015, Zoey published her first book. *The Department: A Surgeon's Memories... Before I Forget* was co-written with Dr. Norman Schachar and tells his funny stories of the Department of Surgery at the University of Calgary. Zoey's also a writing and humour coach with ZEDS. She gets her clients out of the writing dead zone they fall into when going it alone, saving them time and sanity. Her laughter to tears ratio in the office is very good.

[Speaking / Reading skills](#)

Caterina Edwards

Caterina Edwards is the award-winning author of six books, each in a different genre. Her last one, *Finding Rosa*, was a memoir and her new one, *The Sicilian Wife*, is a literary



Writers' Guild of Alberta
<http://www.writersguild.ab.ca/>
The Writers Guild of Alberta, with a membership of 1000, is a provincial arts service organization that represents both professional and emerging writers in Alberta. Our mission is to inspire, connect, support, encourage and promote writers and writing, to safeguard the freedom to write and to read, and to advocate for the well-being of writers.

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noir. She was born in England and grew up primarily in Calgary. She has been a writer in residence at the University of Alberta and Grant MacEwan University and has taught creative writing for almost every post-secondary institution in Edmonton, where she lives. Her first novel was translated into French and her memoir into Italian.

The Essentiality of Place to Mystery Fiction, Crossing Genres, Mystery in a Foreign Location, Random Readings, Mass Autographs, How to Break it to Your Relatives, Memoir as Saleable Art

Megan Fennell

Corvidae & Scarecrow

Ryan Ferrier

Script Writing For Graphic Novels And Comics

Makenzi Fisk

Makenzi Fisk grew up in a small town in Northwestern Ontario. She spent much of her youth outdoors, surrounded by the rugged landscape of the Canadian Shield. Moving west, she became a police officer with patrol, communications and forensic experience before transitioning to graphic design. She now works for herself.

In her stories, Makenzi draws on her knowledge of policing and technology, as well as her love of the outdoors. She creates vivid worlds where crime and intuition blend, where competent women are main characters.

Currently Makenzi is working on the third book in her mystery-thriller Intuition Series. She is an ARWA member. Website: makenzifisk.com

Research

Sandra Fitzpatrick

Sandra Fitzpatrick is bilingual in financial and English. She's been helping artists, writers, actors and other Creative People with their taxes, both Cdn and US since 2006. Many have not known the deductions available as self-employed people and she does several seminars each year to bring this information and more on the basics of financial planning to them. New this year is "Financial Sh*t for Creative People."

She has been writing fantasy and science fiction for over ten years and is a long time member of IFWA. A collection of Whimsical Tales is coming out this fall under Lee F. Patrick.

Art is My Business, Taxes for Creative Folk

Pat Flewelling

Tyche Books Presents, Mass Autographs

Susan Forest

Three-time Prix Aurora Award finalist and winner of The Galaxy Project, juried by Robert Silverberg, David Drake and Barry Malzberg, Susan Forest is a writer of science fiction, fantasy and horror, and a fiction editor for Edge Press. You can find her stories in Analog, Asimov's, OnSpec, Blood and Water, Beneath Ceaseless Skies, Tesseract, AE Science Fiction Review, and The Urban Green Man, or in her collection, Immunity to Strange Tales (Five Rivers Press). www.speculative-fiction.ca.

Crafting Magical Worlds with Extra Credits' Mario Theory, Eco-Fiction, Editing Explained, Mass Autographs, Alpha and Beta Readers, Live Action Slush – YA

David Fortier

Alpha vs Beta

Ron S. Friedman

Ron S. Friedman's short stories have appeared in Galaxy's Edge (edited by Mike Resnick), Daily Science Fiction, Not Just Rockets And Robots, Age Of Certainty, and received Honorable Mentions in Writers of the Future Contest in 2011, 2013, 2014 and 2015. Ron is co-editing Enigma Front anthology, release date – August 2015.

Winner of the 2013 Aurora Awards – Fan Related category, Ron appeared as a panellist at When Words Collide, Con-version, Calgary Comic & Entertainment Expo and VCON. Ron is on the board of directors of the Canadian Science-Fiction and Fantasy Association, When Words Collide festival, and he is a member of SFCanada and IFWA.

Where Story and Science Meet, The Etiquette of your Literary Elevator Pitch, Messing With History, Publishers Panel: Short Fiction

Barb Galler-Smith

Barb Galler-Smith loves short stories with an emotional punch. She's a Fiction Editor at On Spec: The Canadian Magazine of the Fantastic, a long-time member of Edmonton's largest speculative fiction writers group, The Cult of Pain, and with Ann Marston co-founded a critique group for emerging speculative fiction writers lovingly called "The Scruffies". She has written historical fantasy, science fiction, contemporary romantic comedy, and horror. She has also committed Costuming at various WorldCon Masquerades and won ribbons.

Live Action Slush, Early Bird Edition, Sleuthmagazine, Editing Tricks, Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?, Mass Autographs, Live Action Slush – Historical, Historical License, Messing With History

Barbara Geiger

Due to circumstances beyond her control, Barbara was born and raised in the desert of speculative fiction wasteland of northern Alberta by non-writing folk. She ran away and joined the Cult of Pain writing group in Edmonton, the Imaginative Fiction Writers Association in Calgary, and now writes solo in Lethbridge. Her short stories earned her an Honourable Mention in the Year's Best Fantasy and Horror the same year she sold her first vampire erotica, and she's been dabbling in selkies, Fae Lords, sex demons and troll hearts. When she is not mucking about in smut that pays the bills, she writes epic fantasy and makes the occasional foray into science fiction and horror.

Alpha vs Beta, Writing Advice on YouTube

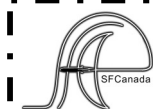
Jack Giesen

Art is My Business, What Artists Need to Know

Chadwick Ginter

Chadwick Ginter is the Prix Aurora nominated author of Thunder Road and Tombstone Blues (Ravenstone Books), the first two books in a fantasy trilogy in which the larger-than-life personalities and monsters of Norse mythology lurk hidden in Manitoba. His short fiction has appeared recently in On Spec, Tesseracts 16: Parnassus Unbound and Fungi. Alongside fellow Manitoba author Samantha Beiko (The Lake and the Library), Chadwick co-chairs and hosts the Winnipeg Chiaroscuro Reading Series, a series devoted to bringing quarterly readings from Canadian speculative fiction authors. Chadwick lives and writes in Winnipeg.

Mass Autographs, Setting - More Than Just Window Dressing



SF Canada

<http://www.sfcanada.ca/>

SF Canada is a bilingual association of Canadian writers, artists and other professionals working in the fields of Science Fiction, Fantasy, Horror and Speculative fiction.

Nowick Gray

Nowick Gray's historical mystery of the Arctic, *Hunter's Daughter*, was released by Five Rivers in March 2015. His writing spans genres ranging from magic realism and speculative fiction to creative nonfiction. Nowick's stories and essays have appeared in a wide variety of periodicals and anthologies, including *Cream City Review*, *Xizquil*, *Fugue*, *The Animist*, *Elephant Journal*, *Probe Post*, *NeWest Review*, *Inside Essays 2*, and *CVII*. He was a featured author for Wattpad's Memoir Month (June 2014). Based in Victoria, BC, Nowick also works as a professional freelance copyeditor. <http://nowickgray.com>

[Editing Tricks](#), [Mystery in a Foreign Location](#), [Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?](#), [Random Readings](#), [Cyberpunk and Social Order](#)

Kim Greyson

[Inspiring YA Books and Authors](#)

Dave Gross

[Tie-In Fiction Demystified](#), [Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?](#), [Blue Pencil](#)

Jacqueline Guest

International award winning author of seventeen novels, Jacqueline Guest has stood on an iceberg, flown a kite in a hurricane and worn bedroom slippers in Parliament all in the name of research. Topics for her fast paced books range from deadly video games to helpful ghosts and everything in between!

[Tween and Teen Dialogue](#), [Cross-cultural YA](#), [Live Action Slush – YA](#)

Janet Gurtler

Janet Gurtler currently has six YA books published by Sourcebooks, including bestselling and Rita Award Finalist novel, *I'M NOT HER* and her 2015 release, *THE TRUTH ABOUT US*. Janet Gurtler's young adult books have been chosen as JUNIOR LIBRARY GUILD SELECTION and as BEST BOOKS FOR TEENS from the Canadian Children's Book Center. Foreign rights for four of her books were recently sold to Turkey.

Janet was also published by Capstone Press in 2015, with a six book series called *The Mermaid Kingdom*. Janet lives and writes from her home in Okotoks Alberta. Find out more about Janet at www.janet-gurtler.com.

[Creating Believable, Unique Young Adult Characters](#), [Keeping it Real](#), [YA and the Tough Stuff](#), [Write For Hire Workshop](#)

Sharon Hamilton

[Make Your Own Website with WordPress](#), [Random Readings](#)

Vivian Hansen

Vivian Hansen was born June 29, 1957 to Danish immigrants. Her nonfiction and poetry have encountered women's issues, the western landscape, work and immigration. She is the co-founder of the Calgary Women's Writing Project. She has taught poetry and life writing with the Alexandra Writers' Centre in Calgary. She facilitates workshops in poetry and life writing for the aged and disabled.

[What Can a Genre Writer Learn From a Poet?](#), [Memoir or Autobiography?](#)

Dave Harold

[So You Have a Writer in the Family](#)

* **PLEASE NOTE:** Programming in the **Parkland Room** will be **recorded** for future broadcast. If you missed a panel in that room, please check out our podcast site at <http://whenwordscollide.libsyn.com/> sometime after our little festival to hear it.

Richard Harrison

Author of 6 books of poetry, co-author of *Secret Identity Reader*, essays on superheroes, and the co-editor of the essay collection *Now is the Winter: Thinking About Hockey*, Richard Harrison is a citizen of three literary worlds -- or rather of the literary lands that cross the boundaries of pop culture and high art, of creativity and criticism. Richard teaches English and Creative Writing at Mount Royal University, and has spoken at the San Diego Comic-Con as well as the Hockey Hall of Fame and Calgary's WordFest. This is his fourth visit to When Words Collide.

[Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?](#) , [Workshop as Writing Community](#)

Savanna Harvey

Savanna has been a Booktuber for almost two years. A graduate of the University of Alberta, she not only participates in the Youtube book community, but studies it in the context of reading culture and performance studies. Her channel, *The Pretentious English Major* (www.youtube.com/pretentioussem), focuses mainly on literary fiction and graphic novels, theatre performance, dramatic text (with preference to Edmonton/Alberta), and a series of discussion videos entitled "Educate Yourself". Beyond Booktube, Savanna is a writer, playwright, academic, dramaturge, and of course, a (pleasantly) raging bibliophile.

[What is Booktube?](#)

Amber Hayward

Amber Hayward is the author of a trilogy of speculative fiction novels, the *Children of the Panther* series, released by Edge Press. Her short fiction and poetry have appeared in Canadian and international periodicals including *Daily Science Fiction* and *On Spec*. In 2011, she wrote a flash fiction piece each day for a year and posted them on her website, www.amberhayward.ca. Many of the stories were mysteries. Amber is presently working on the second novel of a mystery series. She is one of the owners of the Black Cat Guest Ranch near Jasper, Alberta and teaches writing workshops there and in the nearby community of Hinton.

[How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story](#)

Michelle Heumann

[Editing Explained](#)

Christopher Hoare

[Tyche Books Presents, Mass Autographs](#)

Steena Holmes

[Where is the Love?](#) , [Does Size Matter?](#)

Faye Reineberg Holt

A Calgarian and author of 12 books plus many stories and essays, Faye has also co-authored a travel book and edited a literary magazine plus three other books--including a biography for a self-publishing client. As well, she frequently offers feedback on manuscripts-in-progress. Happy to share her extensive experience in writing and publishing, she has facilitated many writing workshops and, currently, she teaches an online life writing course for Mount Royal University Continuing Education. She has



Alexandra Writers' Centre
<http://www.alexandrawriters.org/>
Come and Visit a Place for All Writers! Our mandate is to enhance the creative writing experience through learning, community and support.

blogged and rethought blogging and social media, but she is always serious about researching true stories from western Canada's past. www.wordsandhistory.ca

[Editing Tricks](#), [Memoir or Autobiography?](#), [To Blog or Not to Blog](#)

R.J. Hore

After winning a Canadian Authors national contest with a ghostly tale, he connected with Champagne Books to complete The Dark Lady high fantasy trilogy, now joined by The Queen's Pawn trilogy. The fantasy detective genre is represented by a series of six novellas: The Housetrapp Chronicles. His latest novel, blending modern with Dark Age, Alex in Wonderland, arrived this spring.

In his spare time he reviews genre novels for an on-line magazine and is a member of several writing groups. Ron lives in Winnipeg with his understanding wife and a demanding cat. On rare occasions he escapes to his sailboat on Lake Winnipeg.

Follow Ron at: www.ronaldhore.com and www.facebook.com/RonaldJHore

[Genres for Youth?](#), [Messing With History](#), [Mass Autographs](#)

Barb Howard

[Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?](#), [Where'd the Plot Go?](#), [Did That Really Happen?](#), [How to Break it to Your Relatives](#)

Axel Howerton

Axel Howerton is the author of the darkly funny detective novel Hot Sinatra, and a finalist for the 2014 Arthur Ellis Award for Best First Novel. His short fiction and essays have appeared all over hell's half-acre, under various nom de plumes and assumed identities. He is the editor of the books Death By Drive-In, Tall Tales of the Weird West and AB Negative. Axel is a member of the CSFFA, Calgary Crime Writers, The Kintsugi Poets, and is currently serving on the board of the Crime Writers of Canada. He is the organizer behind Calgary's NoirBarYYC events, and he is the owner and publisher of Coffin Hop Press. Axel spends most of his time roaming the untamed prairies of Alberta with his two brilliant young sons and a wife that is way out of his league. Find him at www.axelhow.com.

[Coffin Hop Press Presents](#), [Real Life Mysteries](#), [Mystery Shorts](#), [AB Negative](#), [Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?](#), [The Unusal Suspects Fandango](#), [Does Size Matter?](#), [Murder - Ancient and Contemporary](#), [The Past Is a Terrible Place](#), [Publishers Panel: Short Fiction](#), [In Places Between Contest Judging](#)

Caralee Hubbell

Caralee Hubbell is a book coach, editor and writer. She is the president of the Calgary Association of Freelance Editors. Caralee has experience in-house (Bloomsbury Publishing) as well as in the magazine world (WHERE magazine). She has worked with authors of young adult fiction, campus fiction, urban fantasy/sci-fi, contemporary romance,



Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators Canada West (SCBWI)

<http://www.scbwicanada.org/west/>

Founded in 1971, the Society of Children's Book Writers & Illustrators

(SCBWI) is an international association of both published and unpublished

writers and illustrators, and also includes as its members people who are agents, editors, and publishers, as well as any others who are interested or involved in the writing and illustrating of children's literature. There are currently more than 21 000 members worldwide, with over 70 regional chapters. Canada West is one such regional chapter, and it encompasses British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Yukon Territory, and Northwest Territories. Currently, regular meetings, workshops, speakers events, and conferences are held in both Vancouver and Calgary.

paranormal romance, short stories, novel series, and academic and literary works, as well as a variety of non-fiction projects (e.g. film, cooking, fashion, and travel). Caralee has taught the Copyediting and Proofreading course in the Professional Editing Extension Certificate program at Mount Royal University, and she has been an Editor in Residence for Wordfest for the past two years. When Caralee is not coaching or working on her own YA novel, you can find her pinning and tweeting about writing, fashion, style, and travel; hiking in the mountains, taking in a yoga class, or walking around lovely inner city Calgary where she resides. calgaryeditors.com/caralee-hubbell.

[Live Action Slush - Romance](#), [Editor's Speed Mingle](#)

Laurie Humble-Hodges

[From Stage to Page](#)

IFWA (Imaginative Fiction Writers' Association)

[IFWA Book Social](#), [In Places Between Sampler](#), [In Places Between Contest Judging](#)

Jessica Jackson

Jessica is ARWA's current president. She's been a member for about three years. Jessica says, "ARWA helps me maintain focus and I get ideas and learn craft skills. I participate in the Writing Challenge Groups which gives me feedback on my current projects."

Jessica has published three novellas, a collection for short stories, five novels over 100,000 words each and recently completed her third novel in the Look Behind You series for Ellora's Cave Publishing. www.jessicaleolajackson.com

[Writing a Book Blurb](#), [Where is the Love?](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Not Your Grandmother's Mystery](#), [Writing, Unplugged](#)

Danielle L. Jensen

Danielle was born and raised in Calgary, Canada. At the insistence of the left side of her brain, she graduated in 2003 from the University of Calgary with a bachelor's degree in finance. But the right side of her brain has ever been mutinous; and in 2010, it sent her back to school to complete an entirely impractical English literature degree at Mount Royal University and to pursue publication. Much to her satisfaction, the right side shows no sign of relinquishing its domination. She is the author of the acclaimed Malediction Trilogy: Stolen Songbird, Hidden Huntress, and the forthcoming Warrior Witch (Angry Robot Books). www.danielleljensen.com

[Creating Believable](#), [Unique Young Adult Characters](#), [Romance for Teens](#), [Sequels and Trilogies, 1-2-3](#)

Patrica Jensen Jeffery

[Mass Autographs](#)

Calvin Jim

Born in French Canada to a Japanese mother and Chinese father, Calvin D. Jim has spent his life going in several directions at once: writer, editor, IFWit, lawyer, gamer-geek, movie-lover, dad. He is a Prix Aurora Award nominated co-editor of Shanghai Steam, the Steampunk-Wuxia anthology. His stories have appeared in Rigor Amortis, Crossed Genre Quarterly and the Tomorrow anthology. His latest story, The Trials of Li-Wen, is in the Enigma Front anthology launching at the WWC. Calvin lives in Calgary, Alberta, with his wife, two kids, and an ever-expanding army of meeples. Follow him on Facebook and Twitter: @CalvinJim

[Apps that IMPROVE an Author's Life](#), [Setting - More Than Just Window Dressing](#), [Cross-cultural YA](#)

Sarah Kades

Sarah Kades is an American-Canadian author of romantic fiction where nature, humour and love meet. She spent over a decade as an archaeologist and now lives in Calgary, Canada with her family. <http://www.sarahkades.com>

[Novel Expansion](#), [Eco-Fiction](#), [Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Setting - More Than Just Window Dressing](#), [Does Size Matter?](#)

David Kang

David Kang is an English undergraduate student at the University of Calgary and a part-time vlogger. He began vlogging on his "Booktube" channel, LitJournal, in the summer of 2014 and it has grown to an audience of over three thousand subscribers. His channel focuses on engaging viewers with book discussions and book reviews from all sorts of genres of fiction. David is a strong advocate for supporting new and upcoming authors. When he is not in school or filming for his channel, David spends most of his time writing and reading.

[What is Booktube?](#)

Sandra Kasturi

[Pitch Session](#), [In Places Between Contest Judging](#)

Tony King

Tony King is a Calgary writer and broadcaster.

[Live Action Slush – Science Fiction](#), [Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book](#)

Kai Kiriya

A half-mad, time-travelling, demon-hunting, half-Frost Giant with a geeky love for Shakespeare and Pokemon, Kai is known online as The Raggedy Author and can usually be found on Twitter, avoiding responsibility. She is an independent author, and currently writes whatever genre tickles her fancy. Kai is also in the middle of The Raggedy Author's Year of the Zombie, and more information about it can be found on her website. www.theraggedyauthor.com

[Are Vampires and Zombies Dead?](#), [Pathogen: Outbreak](#), [Apps that IMPROVE an Author's Life](#), [Crossing Genres](#), [Hold That Thought](#), [Where'd the Plot Go?](#), [Random Readings](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [What Won't You Write?](#), [Writing, Unplugged](#), [When Biology and Fiction Collide](#)

Constantine Kaoukakis

Constantine's interests include comic books (Marvel & DC), Sherlock Holmes, Star Trek, Harry Potter, Lord of the Rings, Game of Thrones, Greek mythology, Doctor Who, British murder mysteries, British history, ancient history, and literature. He has degrees in education, English and Classics which have enabled him to teach Latin, ancient and modern Greek, ESL, English literature, ancient Greek and Roman literature at the high school, college and university levels: Concordia University (Montreal), Queen's University and other minor colleges. Not only is he a former member of the Bimetallic Question-the Sherlock Holmes Society of Montreal, but he also founded The Wisteria Lodgers-the Sherlock Holmes Society of Edmonton. Constantine also likes to dabble in mystery fiction. Furthermore, he is an editor for OnSpec magazine as well as the new Sleuth magazine: sleuthmagazine.ca

[Mystery Shorts](#), [Sleuthmagazine](#), [How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story](#), [Sherlock Holmes in the 21st Century](#), [Thriller VS Traditional Mysteries](#)

J.Y.T. Kennedy

J. Y. T. Kennedy (Jennifer) is an eclectic writer and storyteller. Most of her published work falls somewhere in the speculative fiction category. Her stories have appeared in Neo Opsis and Edge's Danse Macabre anthology. She has published one fantasy novel, Dominion, and her current novel in progress is also a fantasy. She enjoys not just building worlds, but puzzling through the ways in which characters try to define their reality. She has a website at sites.google.com/site/jytkennedy

Faith in Science Fiction And Fantasy, Random Readings, Live Action Slush - High Fantasy

Stacey Kondla

Stacey Kondla is a life-long book nerd and averages reading 10 -15 books per month in her spare time. She was fortunate to have spent 10 years working for Scholastic Book Fairs to promote the love of reading in children and young adults. Currently, Stacey manages the IndigoKids department at a local Indigo store and is an active member of When Words Collide's organizing committee. Stacey also is a member of Bookcrossing and promotes the love of reading to the public at large by releasing books into the wild to find new readers.

What's Hot & New in YA, Inspiring YA Books and Authors

Kate Larking

Kate Larking is the trade book buyer for the University of Calgary Bookstore. A University of Calgary graduate with a degree in Marketing and minor in English, she loves keeping on top of the newest book industry marketing trends. Off hours, between binge-watching anime and leveling-up game characters, she writes speculative fiction for both YA and adult markets. She cofounded AnxietyInk.com, a community of writers dealing with the stress and challenges of writing, as well as ArtIsMyBusiness.com, a venture focusing on creating successful artists by uniting creative work and business.

Diversity is Real, Art is My Business, In Places Between Contest Judging

Adria Laycraft

Adria is an author and freelance editor in Calgary that once upon a time earned Honours in Journalism. She co-edited the popular Urban Green Man anthology in 2013, which made the ballot for the Aurora Awards. Look for her stories in Orson Scott Card's IGMS, the Third Flatiron anthologies Abbreviated Epics and Only Disconnect, FAE and Corvidae anthologies, Tesseract 16, Neo-opsis, On-Spec, James Gunn's Ad Astra, and Hypersonic Tales, and many others. Adria is a grateful member of IFWA (The Imaginative Fiction Writers Association) and a proud survivor of the Odyssey Writers Workshop. She is also a member of the Calgary Association of Freelance Editors (CAFÉ).

Subtext in Foreshadowing, Corvidae & Scarecrow, Editing Explained, Mass Autographs

Fonda Lee

Fonda Lee is a science fiction and fantasy author. Her debut novel, Zeroboxer, a 2015 Junior Library Guild selection, is a high-action young adult sci-fi about a young man battling to make it to the top in the world of zero gravity prizefighting amid brewing interplanetary conflict between Earth and Mars. Fonda is a recovering corporate strategist, an avid martial artist, a fan of smart action movies, and an Eggs Benedict enthusiast. Born and raised in Calgary, she now lives in Portland, Oregon.

You can find Fonda at www.fondalee.com

Publishing Middle Grade/YA, Genres for Youth?, Where Story and Science Meet, Knock 'Em Out: How to Write Action and Fight Scenes, Mass Autographs

Matt Lees

So You Have a Writer in the Family, From Stage to Page

Mark Leslie Lefebvre

Mark Leslie Lefebvre's passion for writing and love of reading led him to the book industry. He sold his first short story in 1992 was the same year Mark sold his first short story, and his most recent books (under the name Mark Leslie) include Haunted Hamilton and Spooky Sudbury, two non-fiction books on the paranormal published by Dundurn. A hybrid author, Mark self-published his first book One Hand Screaming, a collection of previously published short fiction, in 2004, back when no self-respecting author would even venture in that territory, and he continues to firmly embrace both indie and traditional publishing. Mark is the Director of Self-Publishing & Author Relations at Kobo. Photo by John Robbie.

Social Media Best Practices, Mass Autographs, Publishers Panel: Novels, A Canadian Perspective on Self-Publishing

Jean Leggett

Jean Leggett is the Chief Operating Officer of One More Story Games, a digital publisher of interactive storytelling games. One More Story Games has developed a new software platform for writers called StoryStylus.

StoryStylus aims to democratize interactive storytelling, helping amateur to professional storytellers (writers, poets, graphic novelists, screenwriters, game designers and more) to create simple or complex interactive stories that include gameplay elements, without requiring previous coding experience.

Jean is also a stand-up comedian, professional coach and speaker. She earned a B.A. in English and almost pursued a Masters in medieval literature. She's easy to spot with her signature purple hair and is a professional hugger..

Turning Books into Games, Transmedia

Halli Lilburn

Born in Edmonton, AB, Halli Dee Lilburn teaches art journaling at local schools and through educational programs. She writes poetry, creative non-fiction and Young Adult fiction. She has work published in Canada's History, Canadian Stories, Poetry quarterly and other literary journals. Her novel SHIFTERS is published through Imajin Books. She now resides in southern Alberta with her husband and three children and works at the local library. She can be found at: hallililburn.blogspot.com

<http://www.facebook.com/hlilburn>

<http://www.goodreads.com/user/show/4878963twitter@hallililburn>

Poetry and the Fine Arts, The Strong Female Character, Diversity is Real, Faith in Science Fiction And Fantasy

Alison Lohans

Regina author Alison Lohans has published 26 books for young people with Canadian and international publishers. Many of her books have appeared on "notable" lists, and

Kensington Writers' Group

Formed in 1986, the Kensington Writers' Group is a critique and support group for writers of all genres. Members have published books of poetry, non-fiction, picture books, Juvenile and YA novels, adult novels, and speculative short stories. Members' related credits include ghost writing, editing poetry, non-fiction and speculative fiction, and award nominations (Prix Aurora Award, W.O. Mitchell City of Calgary Book Prize, the Stephen G. Stephansson Award for Poetry and the Governor-General's Award of Canada).

have been shortlisted for international, national and provincial awards. Leaving Mr. Humphries (Your Nickel's Worth) is among the candidates for the 2015 Shining Willow Award, and was a finalist for the children's literature category of the 2014 High Plains Book Awards, and the 2014 Saskatchewan Book Awards. This Land We Call Home (Pearson, New Zealand) won the 2008 Saskatchewan Book Award for YA. A new version of No Place for Kids was released last year in Heritage House's Wandering Fox imprint. Alison served as Writer in Residence at Regina Public Library in 2002-2003. She has given hundreds of readings at schools, libraries, and conferences across Canada, and was awarded the 2012 YWCA Woman of Distinction Award for her contributions to the arts.

[How to Avoid the Clichés of YA Books, Keeping it Real](#)

Jillian Long

Jillian Long has been captivated by stories for as long as she can remember! She graduated from the University of Calgary in 2010, with a BFA in Drama. She is the coordinator for social media for Alberta Romance Writers Association, and has recently completed her first novel. You can follow her on twitter @JillianRLong or visit her website at jillianlong.ca.

[Sexy Starts](#), [How to Start Writing Sex Scenes](#), [Common Sex Scene Mistakes](#)

Maraya Loza Koxahn

[Did That Really Happen?](#) , [Memoir or Autobiography?](#) , [To Blog or Not to Blog](#)

Nicole Luiken

Nicole Luiken wrote her first book at age 13 and never stopped. She is the author of ten published books for young adults, including Violet Eyes and its sequels. Her latest release is YA fantasy *Through Fire & Sea* published by Entangled Teen. Nicole also sidelines as an editor specializing in Story Structure. Nicole lives with her family in Edmonton, AB. It is physically impossible for her to go more than three days in a row without writing. www.nicoleluiken.com

[Genres for Youth?](#) , [Romance for Teens](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Blue Pencil](#)

Ed Lukowich

Ed Lukowich of Calgary is the author of the new sci-fi futuristic novel entitled The Trillionist (under his pen name Sagan Jeffries) which was published by Edge Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing in October of 2013. Ed's new book for 2014 entitled Trillion Years Universe Theory, is a newly released cosmology theory which rivals the Big Bang Theory depicting how our universe began. Ed is a former World Curling Champion and Olympian who has reinvented himself into a sci-fi author. During his curling career, Ed authored four books on the sport of curling. Learn more: www.trillionist.com

[Writing a New Cosmology Theory](#), [Mass Autographs](#)



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Foundation
for the Arts

Alberta Foundation for the Arts (AFA)

<http://www.afta.ab.ca/default.aspx>

As the primary arts resource and grant funding body in Al-

berta, the Alberta Foundation for the Arts helps to unleash the potential of every artist through funding, arts promotion, and capacity-building services. With the same passion as Alberta's artists, we provide behind-the-scenes support to artists and arts organizations, giving them the power to inspire minds, encourage expression, foster creativity, and contribute to Alberta's economy. Whether you are an artist or just love the arts and want to learn more, we can help you in your pursuit of artistic expression.

Susan MacGregor

Susan J. MacGregor is the author of The Tattooed Witch trilogy, published through Five Rivers Publishing. All three books, The Tattooed Witch, The Tattooed Seer, and The Tattooed Queen (forthcoming 2016) are historical fantasies set in a world reminiscent of 16th century Spain and the New World. Her non-fiction book, The ABC's of How Not to Write Speculative Fiction is based on her 20+ years' experience as a fiction editor with On Spec Magazine. She has edited two anthologies, Tesseract Fifteen: A Case of Quite Curious Tales (Edge Books) and Divine Realms (Ravenstone Books). Her blog, Suzenymys, <http://suzenymys.blogspot.ca> features many posts on the writing and editing process. Susan lives in Edmonton.

[Five Rivers Presents](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Live Action Slush – Historical](#), [Live Action Slush - Urban Fantasy](#), [Historical License](#), [The Tattooed Queen](#)

Lily MacKenzie

Lily Iona MacKenzie sprouted on the Canadian prairies under cumulous clouds that bloomed everywhere in Alberta's big sky. They were her first creative writing instructors, scudding across the heavenly blue, constantly changing shape: one minute an elephant, bruised and brooding. The next, morphing into a rabbit or a castle. She has published reviews, interviews, short fiction, poetry, travel pieces, essays, and memoir in over 145 American and Canadian venues. Fling, one of her novels, was published in July 2015 by Pen-L Publishing. Bone Songs, another novel, will be published in the spring of 2016. Her poetry collection "All This" was published in 2011. She teaches writing at the University of San Francisco. Visit her blog: <http://lilyionamackenzie.wordpress.com>

[Origins of Fiction: A Personal Odyssey](#), [Random Readings](#)

Kristal MacWhirter

[Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book](#)

Michael J. Martineck

[SF Noir](#), [Eco-Fiction](#), [Back Cover Blues](#), [What Won't You Write?](#) , [Two Heads Are Better Than One](#)

Arlene Marks

Born and raised in Toronto, Arlene F. Marks found her muse at the age of 6, and she has been writing and sharing her stories ever since. Most recently, she is the author of From First Word to Last: The Craft of Writing Popular Fiction (2013), Literacy: Made for All (2014), and two novels -- No Pain, No Gain (2015), and The Accidental God (2014), which was nominated for the 2015 Stephen Leacock Medal for Humour. Her SF novel Sic Transit Terra #1: The Genius Asylum, will be coming out in January 2016 from EDGE Publishing. Visit her at her website: www.thewritersnest.ca.

[Editing Tricks](#), [Where'd the Plot Go?](#)

Clare C. Marshall

Clare C. Marshall grew up in rural Nova Scotia with very little television and dial-up internet, and yet, she turned out okay. She has a combined honours degree in journalism and psychology from the University of King's College, and is a graduate from Humber College's Creative Book Publishing Program. She is a full-time freelance editor, book designer, and web manager. She enjoys publishing books through her publishing imprint, Faery Ink Press. When she's not writing, she enjoys playing the fiddle and making silly noises at cats. Website: <http://faeryinkpress.com>.

[Blue Pencil](#), [Publishing Middle Grade/YA](#), [YA Inspiration](#), [Romance for Teens](#), [Faery Ink Press Book Social](#), [Fear as a Tool in Middle Grade or YA Writing](#)

Ian Alexander Martin

Ian Alexander Martin is the Publisher / Proprietor of Atomic Fez Publishing, based in Burnaby, BC. Atomic Fez has published 11 different titles since launching in 2010; in paperback, hardcover, and DRM-free eBook formats (some titles in all three). Two titles have been finalists for international awards, and Atomic Fez itself was the first non-UK publisher to be shortlisted by the British Fantasy Society for "Best Small Press." Prior to being a book publisher, he has been a stage & screen actor, federal and provincial government employee, theatre reviewer, business owner, and professional photographer. During the day he is a Data Entry Clerk for a document management company specialising in the legal market.

Live Action Slush – Science Fiction

Randy McCharles

Randy McCharles is active in Calgary, Alberta's writing community with a focus on speculative fiction, usually of the wickedly humorous variety, with short stories and novellas available from Edge SF&F Publishing, House of Anansi, and Reality Skimming Press. He is the recipient of several Aurora Awards (Canada's most prestigious award for speculative fiction) and is short-listed in three categories for the upcoming 2014 Awards. In 2013, his short story Ghost-B-Gone Incorporated won the House of Anansi 7-day Ghost Story Contest. Randy's first Tyche Books publication, Much Ado About Macbeth, will be available in August 2015. www.RandyMcCharles.com.

SF Noir, Guest of Honour Keynotes, 50 Shades of Publishing, Tyche Books Presents, AB Negative, Mass Autographs, Not Your Grandmother's Mystery

Tod McCoy

Tod McCoy is a Seattle-based writer whose work has appeared in the anthologies The People's Apocalypse and in Bronies: For the Love of Ponies, as well as on AntipodeanSF.com, Qarrrsiluni.com, and The Gloaming. He is a Clarion West graduate and the publisher behind Hydra House, a small press dedicated to West Coast speculative fiction, including the Faerie Tales from the White Forest series by Danika Dinsmore, Near+Far, a collection of short stories by Cat Rambo (which generated her a Nebula nomination), and Telling Tales, edited by Ellen Datlow, an anthology of work by Clarion West alumni.

Live Action Slush – Science Fiction, What Can a Genre Writer Learn From a Poet? , Back Cover Blues, Does Size Matter? , Publishers Panel: Short Fiction

Ryan McFadden

The Etiquette of your Literary Elevator Pitch, To Blog or Not to Blog

Kate McGilles

Blue Pencil

Jodi McIsaac

Jodi McIsaac is the author of the bestselling fantasy series The Thin Veil and the forthcoming thriller, A CURE FOR MADNESS (January 2016). She is currently writing a historical series spanning several centuries of Irish history. Jodi grew up on the East Coast but now lives in Calgary with her husband, cat, and two feisty daughters. www.jodimcisaac.com

Research, Crossing Genres, Mass Autographs, Historical License, Live Action Slush - High Fantasy

G.J.C. (Greg) McKittrick

G.J.C. McKittrick lives in Sherwood Park, Alberta, with his wife. In 2012 he began the awkward and painful transition between being a mainstream fiction writer and becoming a

science fiction nerd. Remnants of his literary past can be read in his Novel, A Walk in the Thai Sun. The future will be revealed in the publication of Planet Song, first book in the Fahr Trilogy, probably in late 2015 or early 2016. Other aspects of the transition, like video game obsession and wearing costumes at SF conventions are proving to be more difficult.

Where Story and Science Meet, Live Action Slush – Mystery

Jane Ann McLachlan

Jane Ann McLachlan is the Canadian author of two college textbooks on Professional Ethics, (Pearson/Prentice Hall) and a short story collection, Connections: Parables for Today, (Pandora Press). But speculative fiction is her first love, the genre she's been reading all her life. Her first science fiction novel, Walls of Wind, an alien world novel, was published in January 2014, and her young adult science fiction novel, The Occasional Diamond Thief, was published as an ebook on Amazon in December, 2014 and in print in 2015 by EDGE Science Fiction and Fantasy Publishing. She's represented by Carrie Prostritto at Prospect Agency. Visit her website: <http://www.janeannmclachlan.com>

Thematic Literature, How to Avoid the Clichés of YA Books, How to Write a Good Pitch & Query, Blue Pencil, The Trials and Triumphs of Writing Short Stories, Mass Autographs, Edge Press Presents

Kirk Miles

In June of 2009 Kirk Miles won the Writers Guild of Alberta Screenwriters Award for a screenplay entitled Shadow Maker. Author of three books of poetry the most recent Hotel on the Cliffs on the Heartq was published in May of 2013. In 2011 Kirk won the Golden Beret Award, a lifetime achievement award in poetry presented by the Calgary International Spoken Word Festival. Moving Dust, a manuscript of poems about the Holocaust will be published in the summer of 2015 He has been nominated twice for the Calgary Poet Laureate Position and last year he was short-listed.

Lyrics to Libretto: Writers Working with Musicians

Joanne Morcom

Joanne Morcom is the author of two poetry collections and the co-author of two poetry anthologies. She specializes in haiku and related forms, such as the five line tanka. She's a founding member of the Calgary based Magpie Haiku & Tanka Poets, a member of Haiku Canada, Tanka Canada and the Independent Publishers Association of Canada. She's also a social worker and a certified laughter yoga leader, which means that she laughs for no reason and teaches others to do the same. A poem of Joanne's recently placed first in the 2015 Alberta 55 Plus Creative Writing Games. Visit her at www.joannemorcom.ca.

Poetry with a Funny Bone, Mass Autographs, The Great Four Haiku Poets

Carol Mulholland

Carol Mulholland is a credited screenwriter currently in preproduction on a feature with Kris Kristofferson and Peter Stormare attached. Also in the works is a "creature feature" on assignment, as well as writing her own spec features. Originally from Scotland, Carol writes for both the UK and North American markets. She may write that novel one day, but for now screenwriting has Carol well in its claws.

From Stage to Page

Nina Munteanu

Nina Munteanu is a Canadian ecologist, short story author and novelist, with works translated into several languages. Recognition for her work includes the Midwest Book Review Readers' Choice Award, the SLF Fountain Award, The Delta Optimist Reviewers Choice Award and finalist for Foreword Magazine's Book of the Year.

Nina teaches writing at the University of Toronto and George Brown College and coaches writers to publication (www.ninamunteanu.me). Her award-nominated textbook *The Fiction Writer* is used in colleges and universities throughout North America and Europe. She also writes for *Amazing Stories* and is an editor for *Europa SF*.

For more information about Nina visit www.NinaMunteanu.ca.

5 Things To Consider in Writing Better Fiction, Eco-Fiction, Mastering "Voice" and Narration, Mastering Setting

Shenaaz Nanji

Shenaaz is a squid who lives in the water world when not reading or writing. She grew up in East Africa amid a fusion of cultures: Bantu, Swahili, colonial British and East Indian. She holds an MFA in Creative Writing for Children from Vermont College.

Her publications include nine books: fiction and non-fiction picture books, short stories, and a novel. Her young adult novel was a finalist in the Governor General Award for Children's Literature and a Notable Book for a Global Society.

Shenaaz is keen to share her experiences of 'What goes on behind the scenes of writing?'

Fiction Writing: Behind the Scenes

Brent Nichols

AB Negative

Janet Nicolson

Janet Nicolson was born in Saskatchewan and has lived in the ice and cold ever since. She currently works as a technical writer for a telecommunications firm. When she's not writing, she's rocking video games or searching bookstores for novels about Big Dumb Objects. Her work has appeared in *On Spec* (Fall 2014) and *Tesseract 18: Wrestling With Gods* (April 2015).

Faith in Science Fiction And Fantasy

Rosemary Nixon

Rosemary Nixon is a pre-eminent short story writer, novelist, and free-lance editor. Her collection, *Mostly Country*, a Nunatak Fiction imprint: especially selected works of outstanding fiction by new western writers, was shortlisted for the Howard O'Hagan Award. *The Cock's Egg* won the Howard O'Hagan. Her novel, *Kalila* was longlisted for the ReLit Award and shortlisted for the George Bugnet Award. Her latest, *Are You Ready To Be Lucky?* will be released in fall of 2013.

Rosemary won Grain Magazine's Postcard Competition, has been awarded a Fellowship to write at Scotland's Hawthornden Castle, and invited as Canadian Guest Writer to Portugal's DISQUIET International Literary Festival. She has taught creative writing for over twenty years, including *Writing With Style* at the Banff Center, *Sage Hill Writing Experience* in Saskatchewan, and *Writing Away* in Greece.

Thematic Literature

Virginia O'Dine

Blue Pencil

Stacey O'Sullivan

So You Have a Writer in the Family, Building Your Readership, Mass Autographs

Avery Olive

Avery Olive doesn't kiss and tell. Except when it comes to writing. She lives in Red Deer, Alberta, where she spends way too much time reading, writing and avoiding house work. She's the author of the young adult novel, *A Stiff Kiss*, a morbid twist on a classic

fairytale, in reverse, and Won't Let Go, involving an amnesic ghostboy who just won't move on.

For a change of pace, check out Avery's latest release, *Capturing the Muse*, written under the pseudonym Madison Avery. A collection of steamy erotic-laced short stories, where writers find out just how far they are willing to go to gain back their creativity.

You can find Avery, and her counterpart, Madison, on her website www.averyolive.blogspot.com.

[Romance for Teens](#), [Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Tween and Teen Dialogue](#)

Al Onia

Al Onia is a geophysicist living in Calgary, Canada. His debut novel *Javenny* was released by Bوندoran Press in August 2014. His short fiction has appeared in *Ares*, *Perihelion SF*, *On Spec*, *The Speculative Edge*, *Heroic Fantasy Quarterly*, *Spinetingler*, *Marion Zimmer Bradley* and the anthologies *Casserole Diplomacy*, *Body-Smith 401*, *North of Infinity* and *Warrior Wisewoman 3*. Al is a two-time Aurora Award finalist in the short story category. You can visit Al at: <http://ajonia.com>

[AB Negative](#), [Setting - More Than Just Window Dressing](#)

Candace Osmond

[Mass Autographs](#)

Rick Overwater

[Coffin Hop Press Presents](#), [Script Writing For Graphic Novels And Comics](#), [AB Negative](#)

Martin Parnell

At the age of twenty-one, Martin immigrated to Canada in order to pursue a career as a mining engineer. During a career break, taken after the death of his first wife, Martin began participating in marathons and other endurance events.

Whilst touring Africa, Martin realised how sport and play can impact the lives of children. This led him to embark on a series of ten quests, with the aim of raising one million dollars and helping change the lives of thousands of disadvantaged children. He currently lives in Alberta.

[The Accidental Author](#)

Rhonda Parrish

Rhonda Parrish is driven by a desire to do All The Things. She has been the publisher and editor-in-chief of *Niteblade Magazine* for over six years now (which is like 30 years in internet time) and is the editor of several anthologies including *Corvidae*, *Scarecrow* and *B is for Broken*. In addition, Rhonda is a writer whose work has been in dozens of publications such as *Tesseract 17: Speculating Canada from Coast to Coast*, *Imaginarium: The Best Canadian Speculative Writing (2012)* and *Mythic Delirium*. www.rhondaparrish.com

[Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition](#), [Corvidae & Scarecrow](#), [Live Action Slush - Romance](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Blue Pencil](#), [Live Action Slush - High Fantasy](#), [Publishers Panel: Short Fiction](#)

Eva Pea

[Speaking / Reading skills](#)

Sherry Peters

Sherry Peters is a Certified Life Coach who works with writers at all stages of their writing career looking to increase their productivity through pushing past the self-doubt holding them back. Sherry graduated from the Odyssey Writing Workshop and earned her M.A. in Writing Popular Fiction from Seton Hill University. Her debut novel *Mabel the Lovelorn Dwarf* placed 1st in the 2014 Writer's Digest Self-Published e-Book Awards in the YA category. It has also been nominated for a 2015 Aurora Award. For more information on Sherry or her workshops, visit her website at sherrypeters.wordpress.com.

[Mabel the Mafioso Dwarf](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Blueprint for Writing Success](#)

Marie Powell

Marie Powell (<http://www.mepowell.com>) is a Regina-based author of young adult historical fantasy, including *Hawk* (Five Rivers, 2015). She is the author of 30 children's books with such publishers as Scholastic Canada, Amicus, and Lerner Publications. She holds a Master of Fine Arts (MFA) degree in Creative Writing from the University of British Columbia, and her award-winning short stories and poetry appear in such literary magazines as *subTerrain*, *Room*, and *Transition*. Her writing workshops are popular across Saskatchewan, and she instructs regular free-writing workshop classes in Regina. She is represented by Naomi Davis of Inklings.

[How to Write a Good Pitch & Query](#), [Research](#), [Five Rivers Presents](#), [Random Readings](#)

Charles Prepolec

Charles Prepolec is a former bookshop owner, currently freelance editor, writer, artist and reviewer with published contributions in a variety of books and magazines. He is co-editor of five Sherlock Holmes anthologies (with J. R. Campbell) - *Curious Incidents Vols. 1 & 2*, *Gaslight Grimoire: Fantastic Tales of Sherlock Holmes* (2008), *Gaslight Grotesque: Nightmare Tales of Sherlock Holmes* (2009) and *Gaslight Arcanum: Uncanny Tales of Sherlock Holmes* (2011); as well as co-editor (with Paul Kane) of *Beyond Rue Morgue: Further Tales of Edgar Allan Poe's 1st Detective* (2013) for Titan Books. His most recent anthology (with J. R. Campbell) is *Professor Challenger: New Worlds, Lost Places* (2015) for EDGE SF&F.

[Murder - Ancient and Contemporary](#)

Danielle Rayner

[Live Action Slush - Romance](#), [Publishers Panel: Novels](#), [Tule Publishing Presents](#), [Pitch Session](#)

Mahrie G Reid

Mahrie G. Reid grew up in small eastern towns. She read copiously and wrote her first novel at age eight. A minister's daughter in the fifties, she was encouraged to be a nurse, teacher or office worker so she'd have something to 'fall back on' if anything happened to her husband.



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Her published works include short stories, poems, trade articles, technical and research papers and newspaper features. Her mystery novels, *Sheldon Harris Came Home Dead* and *Katya Binks Came Home from Away* were published in 2014.

[Agatha Christie's Notebooks](#), [Where is the Love?](#) , [Writing, Unplugged](#), [Writing a Mystery Series](#)

Jodie Renner

Jodie Renner is a freelance fiction editor and award-winning author of three popular craft-of-writing guides, *Fire up Your Fiction*, *Captivate Your Readers*, and *Writing a Killer Thriller*, as well as her Quick Clicks e-resources for writers and editors. A former teacher and school librarian, Jodie presents at writers' conferences across North America and also judges writers' contests, including several times for Writer's Digest contests.

She now lives in Penticton, BC. www.JodieRennerEditing.com, www.JodieRenner.com

[Let The Characters Tell The Story!](#), [Thriller VS Traditional Mysteries](#), [Revise for Success](#)

G.W. Renshaw

G.W. Renshaw's short story *Vacation* appears in *On Spec's* Spring 2013 issue as well as the *Starklight 3* anthology. His short story *Hic Sunt Dracones* and collection *Odd Thoughts* are available online. The *Stable Vices Affair*, first of *The Chandler Affairs* series, is out in paperback and e-book. The second book, *The Prince and the Puppet Affair*, is available in paperback and soon as an e-book. Follow him on Facebook and Twitter @gwrenshaw, <http://gwrenshaw.ca/>

[Not Your Grandmother's Mystery](#), [Mass Autographs](#)

Tim Reynolds

Tim Reynolds is a Canadian 'twistorian', bending and twisting history into fictional shapes for fun & entertainment. His debut novel, the urban fantasy thriller *The Broken Shield*, was released in July, 2014 on Amazon as a digital book and in March 2015 in paperback form. It covers over 2000 years of history and shows that even Lucifer knows "there's an app for that." His published short stories range from lighthearted fantasy to turn-on-the-damned-lights-now horror. The first collection of his short stories—*The Death of God*—became available in 2015, both in print and eBook. In 2016 watch for his novel *When Anastasia Laughs* from Tyche Books.

He can be found online at www.tgmreynolds.com or @TGMReynolds on Twitter.

[Enigma Front](#), [Return of the Idea Spark Session](#), [Sacred Cows & The Broken Shield](#), [Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?](#) , [Random Readings](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Messing With History](#)

Brock Roberts

Thanks to a mother who took him to the library often, Brock Roberts has grown into a lifelong reader of science fiction and fantasy. His appreciation for stories has spread online to Let's Read, a channel where he rants about all things bookish. When he's not



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www.sentrybox.com

discussing stories on Youtube, Brock works as a professional editor making videos for everything else.

What is Booktube?

Simon Rose

Simon Rose is the author of science fiction and fantasy novels for middle grade and YA readers. He is also the author of *The Children's Writer's Guide*, a contributing author to *The Complete Guide to Writing Science Fiction Volume One*, and has written many non-fiction books for younger readers with Weigl Educational Publishers and Capstone. Simon is an instructor for adults with the University of Calgary and Mount Royal University and offers presentations, workshops, and author in residence programs for schools. He also offers services for writers of all ages, including editing, coaching, online workshops and more. Full details can be found at www.simon-rose.com

Tyche Books Presents, Time Travel: Not just a thing of the past, Mass Autographs

Robert Runté

Robert Runté is Senior Editor at Five Rivers Publishing and an Associate Professor at the University of Lethbridge. He has edited over 150 zines, and won three Aurora Awards for his SF criticism; two of the novels he has edited have also been short listed for the Aurora.

Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition, Blue Pencil, Five Rivers Presents, Pitch Session, Publishers Panel: Novels, Blue Pencil

Caroline Russell-King

Caroline is an award winning playwright, dramaturg and instructor. She has written 30 plays which have been produced all across Canada. She is a member and past vice president of the Playwrights Guild of Canada and a member of the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas. Frontenac House is publishing her new play *Palliser Suite* in October. www.carolinerussellking.com

From Stage to Page, Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?

Garry Ryan

Since 2004 Garry Ryan has published nine novels with NeWest Press. The second, *The Lucky Elephant Restaurant*, won a 2007 Lambda Literary Award. In 2009, Ryan was awarded Calgary's Freedom of Expression Award. www.garryryan.ca.

Writing a Mystery Series

Daire St. Denis

A New York Times bestselling author, Daire St. Denis writes smoking hot, contemporary romance where the pages are steeped in sensuality and there's always a dash of the unexpected. With twenty published works (six of which are under the name D.L. Snow) she is a hybrid author who has had been contracted by numerous publishing houses including Harlequin Romance. Highly involved in the romance community, Daire served many years on the board of her local chapter of Romance Writers of America and has presented at numerous conferences including Romance Writers of America National Conference, The Calgary Public Library's Writers Weekend and When Word's Collide. www.dairestdenis.com

From Sweet to Spicy, How to Sex Up Your Story, Building Your Readership

Nola Sarina

Nola Sarina is a paranormal romance, dark fantasy, and erotica author from Alberta, Canada. She loves weaving romances that leave you breathless and challenge typical relationships with the most mind-blowing twists. Her *Vesper* series takes immortal

creatures to a deadly, alluring new level. Represented by Michelle Johnson of Inklings Literary Agency, Nola is also the co-author (with Emily Faith) of the party-dropping short story series The Core and The Core: Alice.

[Sexy Starts](#), [How to Start Writing Sex Scenes](#), [Common Sex Scene Mistakes](#), [When Biology and Fiction Collide](#)

Robert J. Sawyer

Robert J. Sawyer is the author of Hugo Award-winner Hominids, Nebula Award-winner The Terminal Experiment, and John W. Campbell Memorial Award-winner Mindscan, plus Starplex, Frameshift, Factoring Humanity, Calculating God, Humans, Rollback, and Wake, all of which were Hugo finalists. Other awards: 2014 Skylark Award; China's Galaxy Award for "Most Popular Foreign SF Writer;" three Japanese Seiun Awards; thirteen Canadian Aurora Awards (plus Lifetime Achievement Aurora); as well as Analog's Analytical Laboratory Award, Science Fiction Chronicle's Reader Award, and the Crime Writers of Canada's Arthur Ellis Award, all for best short-story of the year. The ABC TV series FlashForward was based on his novel of the same name. Website: sfwriter.com.

[SF Noir](#), [Live Action Slush – Science Fiction](#), [Science Fiction and the Future](#), [Two Heads Are Better Than One](#), [The Writing Life: Past, Present, and Future](#)

Catherine Saykaly-Stevens

Catherine Saykaly-Stevens is a Social Media Trainer for writers and authors. She coaches how to build an engaged social audience, both pre and post book launches and projects. She also writes mystery/thriller genre and Transmedia projects (word and film).

Catherine's book and webinars "Social Media Strategies for Writers and Authors" launches this September. www.TheNetworkingWeb.com

[Apps that IMPROVE an Author's Life](#), [Twitter: Interactive Workshop](#), [Social Media Best Practices](#), [Transmedia \(M\)](#)

Judith Silverthorne

[YA Inspiration](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Cross-cultural YA](#)

J. Ellen Smith

[Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book](#)

Shirlee Smith Matheson

Research, writing, and reading tours take Shirlee Smith Matheson across North America to schools, libraries and museums, and into the homes and hangars of aviation heroes whose stories are found in her 20 published books. Her collection of aviation stories related in Flying the Frontiers Vols. I, II, and III, and Amazing Flights & Flyers, recall true tales of adventure and misadventure. Maverick in the Sky brings to life the amazing story of Calgary's WWI flying ace, Freddie McCall. A Royal Balance - the Life and times of Hal Wyatt, was released in December 2013. Her latest nonfiction book, Lost: Unsolved Mysteries of Canadian Aviation, will appeal to readers of all ages. Historical young adult novels include Flying Ghosts and The Gambler's Daughter, set in Canada's North. Fastback Beach is a contemporary "hi-lo" novel that catapults readers into the world of hot-rod cars. Jailbird Kid features a dramatic story of a girl turning 15 the day her dad is being released from prison. Former award-winning young adult novels, Prairie Pictures and City Pictures, have received dynamic updates for new releases in 2014/2015. She welcomes inquiries regarding her literary work. <http://ssmatheson.ca>

[Real Life Mysteries](#), [Keeping it Real](#), [The Business of Being a YA Writer](#), [Live Action Slush – Mystery](#), [Live Action Slush – YA](#)

Harold Squire

[Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book](#)

Bob Stallworthy

[What Can a Genre Writer Learn From a Poet?](#)

Virginia Carraway Stark

Virginia started her writing career with three successful screenplays and went on to write speculative fiction as well as plays and various blogs. She has written for several anthologies and three novels as well. Her novel, *Dalton's Daughter* is available now through Amazon and Starklight Press. *Detachment's Daughter* and *Carnival Fun* are coming later this year. www.starklightpress.com

[Corvidae & Scarecrow](#), [Not Your Grandmother's Mystery](#)

Kay Stewart

Kay Stewart is the author of police procedurals featuring RCMP Constable Danutia Dranchuk. *Unholy Rites*, written with husband Chris Bullock and released in March, is the third in the series. Kay has also published short stories, personal essays, and writing textbooks. She taught at the University of Alberta before moving to Vancouver Island to devote her time to writing. She is active in the crime-writing community, having served as National Vice President and President of Crime Writers of Canada and co-chair of Bloody Words 2011.

[Mystery in a Foreign Location](#), [What Won't You Write?](#) , [How to Break it to Your Relatives](#), [Writing a Mystery Series](#)

Trina St. Jean

Trina St. Jean grew up in northern Alberta, but left in pursuit of degrees in psychology and education. During a decade out east, she picked up an MFA in Writing from Vermont College and aoutine addiction. Her first YA novel *Blank*, published by Orca Book Publishers in April 2015, tells the story of fifteen-year-old Jessica's struggle to piece her shattered life back together after a brain injury. She now teaches ESL in Calgary and tries to stay out of trouble with her husband and two daughters. You can pay Trina a visit at <http://www.trinastjean.com> or like Author Trina St. Jean on Facebook.

[Creating Believable](#), [Unique Young Adult Characters](#), [YA and the Tough Stuff](#), [Mass Autographs](#)

Lorna Suzuki

After multiple, failed bids at world domination, Lorna Suzuki was forced to create a fantasy world where she reigned supreme, until her characters orchestrated a military coup! She is a 5th degree black belt martial arts instructor with over 30 years experience in this field and a novelist, best known for the epic adult fantasy series, the *Imago Chronicles* as well as the YA fantasy series, *The Dream Merchant Saga* co-written with her teenaged daughter, Nia. The first three novels of the *Imago Chronicles* have been optioned for a major motion picture trilogy for worldwide theatrical release with a two-time Oscar-winning producer at the creative helm. <http://www.imagochronicles.com>

[Crossing Genres](#), [Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?](#) , [The Business of Being a YA Writer](#), [Book to Screen](#), [Faith in Science Fiction And Fantasy](#), [Transmedia](#)

Steve Swanson

[Alpha vs Beta](#), [Back Cover Blues](#), [Illustrators' Jam](#), [The Past Is a Terrible Place](#)

Det. Sweet

Det. Sweet became a member of the Calgary Police Service in 1998 after graduating from the Mount Royal College Criminology program. He has worked in general patrol, general investigations, the Drug Unit and in the Organized Crime Section. Det Sweet brings to his presentation his extensive experience with suspicious death investigations in the Homicide Unit. He'll leave you spell bound as he reveals how dead men do talk.

[Sirens, Secrets, and Sins](#)



Merchant's Corner

Nakiska room is our merchants corner. You will find these fine establishments there. **Please support them all.**

Festival Registration is located at the entrance to the Nakiska Room.

This is where you will find our volunteers desk. We will also be selling festival tote bags and t-shirts.



Edge Science Fiction & Fantasy (1 - 2 - 3)



Champagne Books (4-5)



Owl's Nest Books (6-7)

Joshua Pantalleresco (8)

CAFE—Calgary Association of Freelance Editors (9)

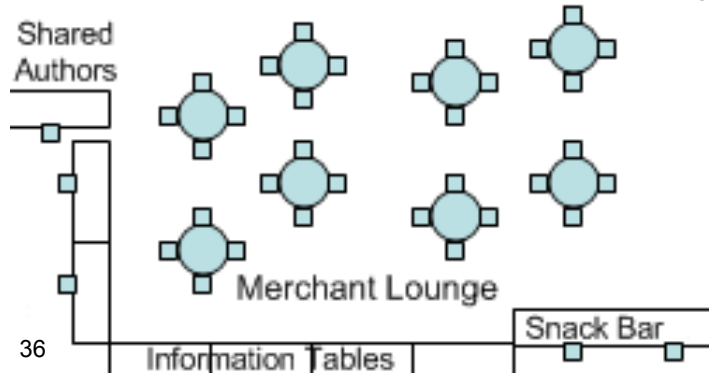


Faery Ink Press (10)



ChiZine Publications (11)

Exit



Snack Bar Hours
11 am—4 pm Daily

Our merchant's room is open to the public.

Hours of Operations

Friday 12 Noon—8 pm

Saturday 9 am—5:30pm

Sunday 9 am—5:30pm



Fairwood Press and Hydra House (12)



Atomic Fez Press (13)



TYCHE BOOKS
FORTUNE FAVOURS THE BOLD

Tyche Books (14)



The Sentry Box (15 - 16 - 17)

Magpie Haiku and Tanka Poets (18)



Alberta Romance Writers' Association



Bundoran Press (20)



On Spec Magazine (21)



Writers' Guild of Alberta (D1)



Canadian Science Fiction and Fantasy
Association (Aurora Awards) (D2)

Information Tables (D3 - D4 - D5)

Plus tables beside the snack bar



IFWA Sponsored Shared Authors' Tables

Patrick Swenson

Patrick Swenson's first novel is entitled *The Ultra Thin Man*, which appeared from Tor Books in August 2014. A graduate of Clarion West, he has sold stories to the anthology *Like Water for Quarks*, and magazines such as Marion Zimmer Bradley's *Fantasy Magazine*, *Figment*, and others. He owns Fairwood Press, a small book press, and runs the Rainforest Writers Village, a writers retreat on the Olympic Peninsula. A high school teacher for 30 years, he lives in Bonney Lake, Washington with his 13-year-old son Orion. You'll find more information at www.patrickswenson.net

[SF Noir](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Alpha and Beta Readers](#), [Writing](#), [Unplugged](#)

Kevin Thornton

A six time Arthur Ellis Award Nominee, Kevin Thornton is a writer for Keyano College and Chair of his local Arts Council Funding Committee. He has been a soldier, a contractor for the Canadian Military in Kabul, a newspaper and magazine columnist, a Director of the Crime Writers of Canada and a board member of *Northword Literary Magazine* and the Fort McMurray Public Library. He writes short stories and poetry that has metre as its metier. Like everyone else he is working on a novel.

Born in Kenya, Kevin has lived or worked in South Africa, Dubai, England, Afghanistan, New Zealand, Ontario and now Northern Alberta. He lives on his wits and his wit, and is doing better than expected. He has a not made up his mind about the dangling participle. Having said that, he might.

He may be found at [/theoldfortamusingfromtheoilsands.blogspot.ca/](http://theoldfortamusingfromtheoilsands.blogspot.ca/)

[Poetry with a Funny Bone](#), [The Essentiality of Place to Mystery Fiction](#), [What Can a Genre Writer Learn From a Poet?](#), [Mystery in a Foreign Location](#), [Did That Really Happen?](#), [Publishers Panel: Short Fiction](#)

Hayden Trenholm

Hayden Trenholm's stories have appeared in *On Spec*, *TransVersions*, *Neo-Opis*, *Challenging Destiny*, *Talebones*, and on CBC radio. In 2008, he won the Canadian Science Fiction Aurora Award, *Like Water in the Desert*. He won a second Aurora in 2011 for his short story, *The Burden of Fire*. His first SF novel, *Defining Diana*, (Bundoran Press 2008) and sequel, *Steel Whispers*, (2009) were nominated for Aurora Awards. *Stealing Home*, (2010) and received an Aurora and a Sunburst Award nomination. He won the 2013 Aurora Award for editing the anthology, *Blood and Water*. He is the managing editor of Bundoran Press. And recently edited the anthology: *Strange Bedfellows*.

[Blue Pencil](#), [Where Story and Science Meet](#), [Eco-Fiction](#), [Science Fiction and the Future](#), [Cyberpunk and Social Order](#)

Laura VanArendonk Baugh

Laura was born at a very early age and never looked back. She overcame childhood deficiencies of having been born without teeth or developed motor skills, and by the time she matured into a recognizable adult she had become a behavior analyst, an internationally-recognized and award-winning animal trainer, a popular costumer/cosplayer, a chocolate addict, and an award-winning writer. Find her at www.LauraVanArendonkBaugh.com.

[Corvidae & Scarecrow](#)

Richard Van Camp

Richard Van Camp is a proud member of the Tlicho Dene from Fort Smith, NWT. He publishes in all genres. His novel, *The Lesser Blessed*, is now a feature film with First Generation Films. You can visit him on Facebook, Twitter and at www.richardvancamp.com. His new graphic novel is *Three Feathers*, about restorative justice, with Portage and Main Press. The artist is Krystal Mateus. He also has two new

books out with Pearson Canada as part of their "Well Aware" series: Whistle, a novel, and The Blue Raven, a graphic novel, with Steven Sanderson.

From the Page to the Big Screen

Robin Van Eck

Character and the Inner Life, In Places Between Contest Judging

Leslie Van Zwel

Corvidae & Scarecrow

Krista Wallace

Krista writes in a closet in Port Coquitlam, BC. She writes mostly Fantasy, and has mucked about with other genres, and short fiction. She has her BFA in Theatre from the University of Victoria. Favourite roles include Laura in The Glass Menagerie and Pristine in the Pinchpenny Phantom of the Opera. Cool experiences of Spring 2015 include playing Mrs. Pearce in the Royal City Musical Theatre production of My Fair Lady, and the publication of her story, The Inner Light in Pulp Literature magazine. She loves being Musical Director for musical theatre productions with young people (In the Heights, Urinetown, Mary Poppins, etc.) and sings jazz a lot.

The Strong Female Character, Research, From Stage to Page, Live Action Slush – Historical, Alpha and Beta Readers

Diane Walton

Diane Walton has served as Managing Editor of On Spec since Jena Snyder passed along the torch. Diane also serves as a Fiction editor, something she's done since the magazine's birth in 1989. As a published writer, Diane's had stories in On Spec, Northern Frights, and Divine Realms. Diane and On Spec are also part of the team that runs Edmonton's Pure Speculation Festival. She lives near Alberta Beach, AB. with the lovely Rick LeBlanc, two cats and four very hardy goldfish.

Live Action Slush - Urban Fantasy

Karin Weekes

Karin Weekes is Lead Editor for BioWare game studios, where she's edited for Dragon Age: Inquisition, Mass Effect 3, Dragon Age II, Star Wars: The Old Republic, Mass Effect 2, Dragon Age: Origins and various Mass Effect and Dragon Age DLC releases. She's been a technical editor in Silicon Valley and has freelance edited written media from short stories to news pieces to resumes. Karin holds an M.A. in Journalism from Stanford University and a B.A. in Communication from the University of New Mexico. She lives in Edmonton, AB, with her husband, Patrick, and their two school-age sons, who she's attempting to lead down the dark path of cosplay.

So You Have a Writer in the Family, The Strong Female Character

Patrick Weekes

Patrick Weekes is the author of the Rogues of the Republic series (The Palace Job, The Prophecy Con, and coming this October, The Paladin Caper), as well as Dragon Age: The Masked Empire. He joined BioWare's writing team in 2005, and worked on all three games in the Mass Effect trilogy, as well as Dragon Age: Inquisition. He lives in Edmonton with his wife Karin, his two LEGO-and-video-game-obsessed sons, and a significant number of rescued animals. He enjoys complicated RPG character builds, justifying his M.A. in English with hyperliterary background content, and unnecessary musical numbers.

The Strong Female Character, Script Writing For Graphic Novels And Comics, Where Story and Science Meet, Women in Urban Fantasy, Mass Autographs

M. Darusha Wehm

M. Darusha Wehm is the three-time Parsec Award shortlisted author of the novels Beautiful Red, Self Made, Act of Will and The Beauty of Our Weapons. Her most recent novel, Children of Arkadia (Bundoran Press), is available everywhere now. Her short fiction has appeared in many venues, including Andromeda Spaceways Inflight Magazine, Toasted Cake and Escape Pod. She is the editor of the crime and mystery magazine Plan B. She is originally from Canada but currently lives in Wellington, New Zealand after spending the past several years traveling at sea on her sailboat. For more information, visit darusha.ca.

[Mystery Shorts](#), [Diversity is Real](#), [Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?](#), [Random Readings](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Live Action Slush – Mystery](#), [Cyberpunk and Social Order](#)

Cassy Welburn

Cassy Welburn is a poet and storyteller with a theatre background, who has had her work published and broadcast. She has been telling stories across Canada (and in Australia) for the last 25 years. Traditional folktales from around the world, often learned from her immigrant students, are favourites. She enjoys telling classics from literature, such as: Isaac Singer, Shakespeare, Edgar Allen Poe and Sherlock Holmes adapted to the oral tradition. Experienced in leading workshops, instructing and performing. English and sign language.

A published author with her new book of poetry, Changelings just coming out, she likes to blend poetry and music with the oral tradition of storytelling. She was Storytellers of Canada's 2013 Storyteller on Tour with TD Canadian Children's Book Week, where she performed her poetry and stories for secondary students and their families across Ontario schools.

[Poetry and the Fine Arts](#)

Sandra Wickham

Sandra Wickham lives in Vancouver, Canada with her husband and two cats. Her friends call her a needle crafting aficionado, health guru and ninja-in-training. Sandra's short stories have appeared in Evolve, Vampires of the New Undead, Evolve, Vampires of the Future Undead, Chronicles of the Order, Crossed Genres magazine, LocoThology: Tales of Fantasy & Science Fiction, The Urban Green Man and Luna Station Quarterly. She blogs about writing with the Inkpunks, writes a column for Luna Station Quarterly, is the Fitness Nerd columnist for the Functional Nerds and slush reads for Lightspeed Magazine.

<http://www.sandrawickham.com> and <http://www.sandrawickhamfitness.com>

[Diversity is Real](#), [Social Media Best Practices](#), [Health and Fitness for Creative People](#)

Sam Wiebe

Sam Wiebe's debut novel Last of the Independents won an Arthur Ellis Award, and was nominated for a second Arthur, a Shamus, and the Kobo Emerging Writer award. Sam's short fiction has been published in SubTerrain, Thuglit, Spinetingler, and Criminal Element, among others. He's currently at work on his follow-up novel. Follow him at @sam_wiebe, and at samwiebe.com.

[The Essentiality of Place to Mystery Fiction](#), [Mystery Shorts](#), [Mass Autographs](#), [Writing a Mystery Series](#)

Sharon Wildwind

[How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story](#), [AB Negative](#), [Anatomy of Mysteries](#)

Alice Willett

[Hearing from Kids](#), [Live Action Slush - Kids Critique](#)

Edward Willett

Edward Willett is a writer and editor from Regina, the author of more than 50 books of fiction and nonfiction for readers of all ages, both under his own name and under the pseudonyms E.C. Blake and Lee Arthur Chane. As E.C. Blake, he's the author of YA/adult crossover trilogy The Masks of Aygrima for DAW books, the third book of which, FACES, came out in July.

Under his own name, he's three books into the five-book YA modern fantasy series The Shards of Excalibur for Coteau Books. The third book, THE LAKE IN THE CLOUDS, came out in May, and the fourth book, THE CAVERN BENEATH THE SEA, will come out this fall, with the final book to follow in 2016. This year will also see the release of a new YA fantasy novel from Rebelight Publishing and FALCON'S EGG, an adult science fiction novel, from Bundoran Press, a sequel to 2013's RIGHT TO KNOW.

Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition, Creating Believable, Unique Young Adult Characters, YA Inspiration, Sequels and Trilogies, 1-2-3, Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens, Science Fiction and the Future, Writers at the Improv, Live Action Slush – YA, Mass Autographs

Leya Wolfgang

While the Young Ones Sleep, Live Action Slush - Romance

S G Wong

SG Wong is a hybrid author living in Edmonton, Alberta with her family and a whole lotta LEGO. She writes noir-tinged, alternate history, ghost-filled, hard-boiled novels and short stories, featuring Lola Starke and fictional Crescent City. Her debut novel, DIE ON YOUR FEET, was shortlisted for a 2014 Arthur Ellis Award for Excellence in Canadian Crime Writing. She holds a B.A. (Honours) in English Literature from the University of Alberta. She speaks four languages—at varying degrees of proficiency—and usually only curses in one of them. She is a member of the Writers' Guild of Alberta, Crime Writers of Canada and Sisters in Crime (Toronto Chapter). She has been a panellist/moderator/presenter at such varied events as Calgary Comics and Entertainment Expo, PureSpec Science Fiction Festival, Words in 3D 2015 literary conference, Bloody Words XIII mystery convention, and, of course, When Words Collide. (Twitter: @S_G_Wong; Web: www.sgwong.com; Facebook: SG Wong)

The Essentiality of Place to Mystery Fiction, More Than Just Volume, AB Negative, Mass Autographs, In For A Pound, Murder - Ancient and Contemporary, Live Action Slush – Mystery, Writing a Mystery Series

Donna-Lee Wybert

Blue Pencil, Blue Pencil



Imaginative Fiction Writers' Association (IFWA)

<http://writtenword.org/ifwa/>

The Imaginative Fiction Writers Association ("IFWA") is a group for writers at all stages of development (beginners, those trying to break into the market, and published and award winning authors), predominantly writing in the speculative genres of fantasy, science fiction and horror, but open to all genres. Our purpose is to help writers hone their skills and expand their knowledge base. To this end, IFWA engages in many activities including: critiquing written work, providing marketing advice, suggesting writing games and exercises, and notifying members about interesting events, contests and writing opportunities.

Socials

More details on Socials are available in Programming details

Friday

Enigma Front

(3 -4 pm Fireside)

Coffin Hop Press Presents

(4 -5 pm Fireside)

Pathogen: Outbreak

(5 -6 pm Fireside)

Corvidae & Scarecrow

(6 -7 pm Fireside)

Open Mic

(7 -9 pm Fireside)

Whiskey and Absinthe Tasting

(Tyche books)

(8 pm till Midnight Atrium suite 319)

Friday Night Readings (IFWA)

(9 - 11 pm Fireside)

The Gonzo Get-together

(9 pm till Midnight Atrium suite 266)

Noir at the Bar

(9 pm till late Boomtown Pub)

Sunday

In Places Between Sampler

(10- 11am Fireside)

In Places Between Contest Judging

(11- 12 Noon Fireside)

In For A Pound

(12 Noon – 1pm Fireside)

The Tattooed Queen

(1 – 2pm Fireside)

Susan MacGregor pre-launches the 3rd book in her fantasy series.

Faery Ink Press Book Social

(2 – 3pm Fireside)

Northwoods Wolfman

(3 – 4pm Fireside)

Edge Press Presents

(4 – 5pm Fireside)

Saturday

Sleuthmagazine

(10 -11 am Fireside)

Sacred Cows & The Broken Shield

(11 -12 Noon Fireside)

Tyche Books Presents

(12 Noon – 1pm Fireside)

Five Rivers Presents

(1 – 2pm Fireside)

AB Negative

(2– 3pm Fireside)

Mabel the Mafioso Dwarf

(3– 4pm Fireside)

Adam Dreece - Yellow Hoods Series

(4– 5pm Fireside)

Random Readings - Fireside

7:00 PM	Rebecca Bradley
7:15 PM	Caterina Edwards
7:30 PM	Nowick Gray
7:45 PM	J. Y. T. Kennedy
8:00 PM	Lily Iona MacKenzie
8:15 PM	Susan Bohnet
8:30 PM	Aviva Bel'Harold
8:45 PM	Darusha Wehm
9:00 PM	Tim Reynolds
9:15 PM	Kai Kiriama
9:30 PM	Marie Powell
9:45 PM	Sharon Hamilton

IFWA on the Writers Block

(8pm – till late Boomtown pub)

The Gonzo Get-together

(9 pm till Midnight Atrium suite 266)

WWC Dead Dog

Join us in Boomtown Pub Sunday

**Night after 8pm to celebrate
another great festival**

Programming Notes

This page has been left blank for panel notes

Programming

With so many presenters, we are able to give you this wonderful selection of programming to see and enjoy. Here is a detailed list of what's happening during the festival.

Friday 1 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Thematic Literature

Rosemary Nixon, Jane Ann McLachlan, Candace Jane Dorsey

What does literature have to say to us and how is this accomplished? Are stories with profound thematic elements necessarily dull or difficult?

Friday 1 PM – Fairview

Kim Hudson's Book *The Virgin's Promise*, Explained (2 hours)

Diana Cranstoun

The Virgin's Promise is the counter-point to the Hero's Journey. It's not about gender; it is about the style and progression of the journey. Join local author Diana Cranstoun.

Friday 1 PM – Acadia

How To Give A Successful Book Signing At Chapters/Indigo

Adam Dreece

In a room full of books, how do you get someone to notice yours? Or you standing next it? There is an art to public book signings. A veteran of many success book signings, author Adam Dreece share his experience.

Friday 1 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Jessica Corra

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 1 PM – Fireside

Festival Guest Readings (2 hours)

Daniel Abraham, C.J. Carmichael, Diana Gabaldon, Faith Hunter, Brandon Mull, David B. Coe, Stacey Kondla (M)

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

Friday 1 PM – Kananaskis

Are Vampires and Zombies Dead?

Kai Kiriama, Craig DiLouie, Aviva Bel'Harold, Scott Burtress

Have vampires and zombies outlived their market appeal? Or will they reign again with new and grittier tales? Find out what's popular in the horror genre, what's going to the grave (at least, for now), and what new terrors are appearing on the horizon.

Friday 1 PM – Rundle

Live Action Slush – Early Bird Edition

Edward Willett (reader), Robert Runte, Ella Beaumont, Rhonda Parrish, Barb Galler-Smith

Bring the 1st page of your manuscript (long or short fiction of any kind) to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from our editors.

Friday 1 PM – Waterton

Poetry and the Fine Arts

Halli Lilburn, Cassy Welburn

Poetry involves more senses than just the eyes, and is often a performance, even when on the written page. This panel discusses how poetry incorporates music, visual art, and sometimes film.

Friday 1 PM – Canmore

So You Have a Writer in the Family

Dave Harold, Margaret Anne Willett, Stacey O'Sullivan, Karin Weekes, Matt Lees (M)

Join spouses and children of working writers for a discussion on the finer points of life with a writer in the house. Hmmm. This might make a good sit-com.

Friday 2 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

The Strong Female Character

Krista Wallace, Halli Lilburn, Karin Weekes, Patrick Weekes

The misunderstandings surrounding Strong Female Characters have started a trend of kick-ass female character--but as equally underdeveloped as their damsel-in-distress triggers. This panel will explore the real meaning of Strong Female Characters--developed and complex female characters with agency--along with where it's being done right, and where it's being done wrong.

Friday 2 PM – Acadia

Subtext in Foreshadowing

Adria Laycraft

Writers often use foreshadowing unconsciously, even instinctually. With a little awareness, however, utilizing subtext in foreshadowing creates a powerful tool that shapes a reader's thoughts and emotions, purposefully guiding their experience to match the intention of the story's theme.

Friday 2 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Claire Marshall

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 2 PM – Kananaskis

Writer's Toolkit: Tools and Notes for Crafting Your Novel

Craig DiLouie

Writing is an art, but story building is sometimes compared to engineering. In this presentation, novelist Craig DiLouie provides tools writers can use to outline/plot, analyze pacing and intensity, develop scenes, create interesting characters, and other aspects of craft. Attendees will learn to apply these tools to create compelling fiction that attracts publishers and readers.

Friday 2 PM – Rundle

From Sweet to Spicy, How to Sex Up Your Story

Daire St. Denis & Elena Aitken

Join two bestselling romance authors for some pointers on how to heat up your prose and make it sell.

Friday 2 PM – Waterton

Poetry with a Funny Bone

Joanne Morcom, Patricia Benedict, Kevin Thornton

Join our panel to read your own short, funny poems (or someone else's!) "The most wasted of all days is one without laughter." – E.E. Cummings (a very funny poet).

Friday 2 PM – Canmore

How to Avoid the Clichés of Young Adult Books

Jane Ann McLachlan, Kristi Charish, Alison Lohans, Michele Bossley

"Issue" books, coming of age - how to keep it fresh! Authors talk about what's been done, what's been overdone and what they think publishers and readers are looking for today and in the years to come.

Friday 3 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

The Essentiality of Place to Mystery Fiction

Caterina Edwards, Sam Wiebe, SG Wong, Kevin Thornton

More than a character, setting provides mood and voice to mystery fiction, and often is essential to the plot. A murder in Calgary, Alberta is a much different affair than a murder in Calgary, Scotland.

Friday 3 PM – Fairview

The Blind Leading the Blind to the End of the Double-Rainbow

Scott Burntress

If you are considering self-publishing or hybrid-publishing, come hear author Scott Burntress discuss his experiences with approaching agents and publishers via traditional queries and emerging social media channels (ie. Twitter pitch parties, etc), and his decision to self-publish along with his experience with self-marketing and promotion.

Friday 3 PM – Acadia

Crafting Magical Worlds with Extra Credits' Mario Theory

Susan Forest

"Ah, my young apprentice, let me explain how magic works," or "he remembered where the dragons had come from, back in antiquity" use clunky "telling" to dump the rules of magic readers need to know at the beginning of a speculative story. Remember "show don't tell"? So, you write an amazing scene in which your hero uses the antigravity drive to squeeze into the microhole, steal the Heisenberg compensators, and escape via the wormhole—only to be showered with questions from your beta readers who are completely confused. You "showed," all right, but only flummoxed everyone. Enter: Extra Credits' Mario Theory on how to craft your rules of magic through showing without confusing.

Friday 3 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Robert Runte

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 3 PM – Fireside

Enigma Front

Join Analemma Book's publisher, editorial team and authors as we celebrate the launch of our first anthology. Refreshments, readings, and door prizes.

Friday 3 PM – Kananaskis

Writing a Book Blurb -- It's Not Impossible

Jessica L. Jackson

So, you've written your book. You've spent hours and hours editing it. Now, you stare at the blank screen wondering how the heck are you going to write your book blurb. The page is mocking you. The task seems monumental. You don't like anything you've written. Dang. However, the task is not monumental. Join me for some tips that will help make your book blurb stand out from the rest.

Friday 3 PM – Rundle

How to Write a Good Pitch and Query

Sally Harding, Jane Ann McLachlan, Marie Powell

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.

Friday 3 PM – Waterton

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.

Friday 3 PM – Canmore

Sexy Starts, How to Start Writing Sex Scenes

Jillian Long, Tammy Lynn Carbol, Nola Sarina

The title says it all

Friday 4 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Things TV and Movies Gets Wrong in Medical or Police Procedurals

Dwayne Clayden

"That's not the way I was taught to do CPR!" Or *"When he was shot, he was blown back 20 feet!"* TV and movies tend to go for sensationalism, not realism. What is it they get wrong, and does it really matter to viewers, be they laymen or professionals in the field? A humorous, at times tongue-in-cheek, look at Hollywood.

Friday 4 PM – Fairview

Origins of Fiction: A Personal Odyssey

Lily Iona MacKenzie

What are the narrative seeds that set writers off on their explorations? How do we understand what propels us as writers? Lily Iona MacKenzie, author of four novels and *All This*, a poetry collection, conducts an interactive workshop where, using the hero's journey and other mythic structures, she explores where our fictions come from and shares her insights. She also will call on her own experiences in writing *Fling!* (published in July 2015), *Bone Songs* (to be published in 2016), and *Freefall*, publishing date yet to be announced. of magic through showing without confusing.

Friday 4 PM – Acadia

Novel Expansion

Sarah Kades

You've written your story, you're happy, it's ready. But what happens if you have been asked to add length? Will your story support it? Sarah Kades takes you on her adventure of finding those story threads to weave additional scenes and subplots to help you rock a longer story, not simply up your word count.

Friday 4 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Virginia O'Dine

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 4 PM – Fireside

Coffin Hop Press Presents

Tall Tales of the Weird West (2015) and other upcoming projects. Join Axel Howerton, Dwayne Clayden, Rick Overwater and more.

Friday 4 PM – Kananaskis

Building Your Readership

C. J. Carmichael, Steena Holmes, Daire St. Denis

Bestselling novelists discuss the problem of discoverability, especially for indie-authors and how to reach and keep new readers.

Friday 4 PM – Rundle

Speaking / Reading skills -- Tips for Using a Microphone

Zoey Duncan (of ZEDS Comic Communication) & Eva Pea

What's the point of getting behind a microphone if you can't hold your audience's attention? Zoey wants your presentation, readings and karaoke to be in the spotlight and her microphone skills (inspired by stand-up comedy experience) will get you set for a confident and engaging performance.

Friday 4 PM – Waterton

SF Noir

Robert J. Sawyer, Patrick Swenson, Michael Martineck, Randy McCharles

Despite assertions by editor John W. Campbell that mystery and science fiction are incompatible genres, cult classic films such as Blade Runner and Dark City to books such as Asimov's Caves of Steel and Gibson's Neuromancer prove that the blending of Science Fiction and Noir mystery has a dedicated following. Authors of Science Fiction Noir discuss the genre and why it appeals to readers of SF and Mystery.

Friday 4 PM – Canmore

Publishing Middle Grade/YA

Brandon Mull, Clare C. Marshall, Fonda Lee

An open discussion of author journeys to publishing their Middle Grade or YA books. How does it differ in terms of publishers in North America and beyond? What about self-publishing?

Friday 5 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Real Life Mysteries

Shirlee Smith Matheson, Rebecca Bradley, Axel Howerton

Truth is often stranger than fiction. Our experts discuss unsolved mysteries from the past that fire the imagination, offering popular theories and, for a few, how modern technology has solved mysteries once thought unsolvable.

Friday 5 PM – Fairview

Business Planning in the Digital Age for Authors

B.C. Deeks

How do you pump up your brand while banging out your daily word count? How do you make decisions about social media and marketing commitments? How do you still find the time and energy to write the darn book? Given the demands of the digital publishing world - whether you pursue traditional publishing, the indie route, or a hybrid approach - authors must create a PLAN if they want to succeed with their writing as a career. Don't miss this chance to learn how.

Friday 5 PM – Acadia

Return of the Idea Spark Session

Tim Reynolds

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

Friday 5 PM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Sally Harding

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Friday 5 PM – Fireside

Pathogen: Outbreak

Join author Kai Kiriya for the release of her 4th novel.

Friday 5 PM – Kananaskis

5 Things To Consider in Writing Better Fiction

Nina Munteanu

This workshop provides some basic approaches to improve your fiction writing and successfully complete your writing project. The workshop will explore: 1) Finding your story (dramatizing premise, creating story promise and integrating theme); 2) storyboarding and character journey: exploring plot with character and setting (hero's journey); 3) Narrative (including voice and POV, metaphor and senses); 4) show and tell; and 5) effective language.

Friday 5 PM – Rundle

Research

Jodi McIsaac, Marie Powell, Makenzi Fisk, Krista Wallace

Whether you are writing historical, Sci-fi, or anything in between, you are going to incorporate facts that you need to get right. Authors discuss how they do it, how much of their factfinding they incorporate, and when to stop researching and start writing.

Friday 5 PM – Waterton

Giving a Great Reading

E.C. Bell & Jayne Bernard

An interactive workshop providing pointers for doing a great reading. Bring a page of your work to practice with.

Friday 5 PM – Canmore

Creating Believable, Unique Young Adult Characters

Edward Willett, Janet Gurtler, Danielle L. Jensen, Trina St. Jean

How to tap into characters that today's youth will find relevant and want to read about. These writers share how they built the characters in their own stories and how they think that building characters for young readers is the same or different from characters in other genres.

Friday 6 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

An Hour with Diana Gabaldon

Friday 6 PM – Fairview

Writing new a Cosmology Theory

Ed Lukowich

Ed Lukowich discusses controversial concepts that challenge the Big Bang Theory, offering a better explanation of the origin and age of our universe.

Friday 6 PM – Acadia

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.

Friday 6 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Hayden Trenholm

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 6 PM – Fireside

Corvidae & Scarecrow

Two for one! We're launching both Corvidae and Scarecrow in this book social, so you know it's going to be packed full of awesome. These speculative anthologies are both stuffed full of surprising, shiny stories. Stop by to hear the contributors read from their work and get your copy signed!

Friday 6 PM – Kananaskis

Make Your Own Website with WordPress

Sharon Hamilton

WordPress is free software that allows you to make your own websites and blogs using your choice of themes (layouts). If you can use Facebook, you can use WordPress. This session will show you how to create an account and use the Wordpress dashboard to find and customize a layout you like, add posts and pages and organize them, add media files, links and widgets, connect to social media, customize your settings, and (optionally) purchase your own URL.

Friday 6 PM – Rundle

Mystery Shorts

Axel Howerton, Darusha Wehm, Jayne Barnard, Sam Wiebe, Constantine Kaoukakis (M)

What are the ingredients and markets for short mystery stories? Short mystery stories need to be succinct and punchy. They are a writing challenge on their own. There are conventions, guidelines and various markets to be considered. Join us for a lively discussion to learn about the writing opportunity.

Friday 6 PM – Waterton

Script Writing for Graphic Novels and Comics

Daniel Abraham, Rick Overwater, Ryan Ferrier, Patrick Weekes

More than just art, good graphic novels and comics tell compelling stories. Our panel of script writers discuss how its done and how they collaborate with the artists.

Friday 6 PM – Canmore

Genres for Youth?

Adam Dreece, Nicole Luiken, R. J. Hore, Fonda Lee, Kate Boorman

Wizards, vampires, ancient gods... is fantasy the only genre being written in middle grade and Young Adult? What about science fiction or military fiction for youth? Is worldbuilding important in all of these genres? Mystery, or westerns? Are young readers open to expanding their horizons?

Friday 7 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Guest of Honour Keynotes (2 Hours)

Daniel Abraham, C.J. Carmichael, Diana Gabaldon, Sally Harding, Faith Hunter, Brandon Mull, 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.

Friday 7 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Kate McGilles

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Friday 7 PM – Fireside

Open Mic (2 Hours)

Vanessa Cardui (host)

If you play an instrument, sing, or otherwise perform, step up to the mic. Val King has a karaoke machine with a huge selection of tunes. 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 8 PM (till midnight) – Suite 319 Atrium

Whiskey and Absinthe Tasting

Hang out with Tyche Books and the Steampunk Arts and Science Society.

Friday 9 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

YA - Keeping it Real

Shirlee Smith Matheson, Alison Lohans, Janet Gurtler, Naomi Davis

There is a global discussion in the world today about the merits of "realistic" YA literature verses the speculative variety that has become so popular in recent years such as Harry Potter and Divergent. Is speculative YA failing to deliver needed lessons for young minds? Or worse, being harmful? Should teens be reading more realistic fiction? And, if so, what?

Friday 9 PM – Acadia

While the Young Ones Sleep

Join Leya Wolfgang for an open mic of erotic readings.

Friday 9 PM – Fireside

Friday Night Readings

IFWA hosts an hour of themed short fiction readings. This year's reading theme is: *"If not for those meddling kids."*

Friday 9 PM (till midnight) – Suite 266 Atrium

The Gonzo Get-together

Hang out with the Calgary Writers Montparnasse group for literary discourse.

Friday 9 PM (till late) – Boomtown Pub

Noir at the Bar

Literary mayhem with Canada's best crime writers. Drop by for teaser readings and discussions dark and deadly.

Saturday 10 AM – Parkland

An Hour With Brandon Mull

Brandon Mull

New York Times bestselling author Brandon Mull discusses his books and takes questions from the audience.

Saturday 10 AM – Bonavista

Where Story and Science Meet

Kristi Charish, Ron Friedman, Hayden Trenholm, Patrick Weekes, Greg McKittrick, Fonda Lee

Everyone loves a good zombie or futuristic alien, but when is it important to keep the details right and when can you let them slide? This panel looks at how to marry science with plot in your story and when it is OK to sweat the details.

Saturday 10 AM – Willow Park

Let the Characters Tell the Story

Jodi Renner

This workshop by editor and award-winning author Jodie Renner will show you how to engage readers emotionally and keep them eagerly turning the pages of your story. You'll receive concrete tips for developing an authentic voice, not only through your protagonist's words and thoughts, but also the narration—his observations. You'll provide readers the intimacy they crave by showing the character's inner conflict and emotional and physical reactions, avoiding author intrusions, imparting info with attitude, and depicting the setting through the character's needs, goals, and attitude.

Saturday 10 AM – Fairview

Apps that IMPROVE an Author's Life

Catherine Saykaly-Stevens, Calvin Jim, Kai Kiriya

Pull out your Smartphone and learn which apps are truly useful for writers today. Presenters will share their five favourite author-friendly apps. Some are free and some have a nominal cost, but most APPs will improve an author's life. Discover apps that make your life easier and improve the writing process..

Saturday 10 AM – Acadia

Tie-In Fiction Demystified

Dave Gross

There is a big market for tie-in books, whether for games, television, or even other books. Some authors seem to have cornered the market while others don't even know what part of town it's in. Why write a tie-in? How to write to canon. And how to go about getting involved.

Saturday 10 AM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Naomi Davis (Inklings)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 10 AM – Fireside

Sleuthmagazine

Constantine Kaoukakis launches Sleuthmagazine with Barb Galler-Smith. Sleuth magazine is a literary vehicle for crime fiction, suspense, thrillers & other writing related to the mystery genre. sleuthmagazine.ca

Saturday 10 AM – Kananaskis

Sirens, Secrets, and Sins (2 hrs)

Detective Sweet

From street cop, to undercover and drug work, to life as a homicide detective, Calgary Police Service Detective Dave Sweet talks about his life in law enforcement. There will be a Q&A after for an opportunity to ask him your writing questions. *Please be aware there will be explicit visual and audio material used.

Saturday 10 AM – Rundle

The Accidental Author- Confessions of a Rookie Non-Fiction Writer

Martin Parnell

Martin will review his school days struggles with the written English language and his first foray into the world of blogging while cycling across the African continent. He will share with the audience the trials and tribulations of self-publishing three books and finally the surprising twist that led him to have his first book MARATHON QUEST published by Rocky Mountain Books.

Saturday 10 AM – Waterton

Diversity is Real

Kate Larking, Jessica Corra, Darusha Wehm, Sandra Wickham, Halli Lilburn

The world is populated by a diversity of people, and so should your stories. This panel will discuss including realistic diversity in your realistic or fantastic fiction, particularly dealing with LGBT characters.

Saturday 10 AM – Canmore

Supportive Critique Groups Exist

ARWA

Finding a supportive critique group can help take your writing out of the closet and into the light where it can steadily grow and reach new heights, naturally. ARWA Writer Challenges have helped connect local and remote writers to reach and surpass their writing goals. Join us for a how-they-did-it and what ARWA is all about.

Saturday 11 AM – Parkland

Switching Genres

Faith Hunter

Festival guest Faith Hunter talks about her transition from writing bestselling Mystery/Thrillers as Gwen Hunter to her persona as bestselling Fantasy and Paranormal/Urban Fantasy author Faith Hunter.

Saturday 11 AM – Bonavista

Eco-Fiction

Hayden Trenholm, Michael J. Martineck, Sarah Kades, Susan Forest, Nina Munteanu (M)

The rise of environmental fiction has spawned several sub-genres such as climate fiction, eco-thrillers, eco-mystery, eco-punk, and eco-romance. In Barbara Kingsolver's 2012 novel *Flight Behavior*, climate change plays a major role in a story about people's beliefs and actions. Environmental catastrophe plays a major role in Margaret Atwood's *MaddAddam* and Ian McEwan's *Solar*. Is eco-fiction simply a new fad or does it reflect a cultural awakening to current environmental issues? What role does eco-fiction play in storytelling and defining ourselves? Should eco-fiction educate? How can an eco-fiction writer prevent it from becoming polemic?

Saturday 11 AM – Willow Park

Crossing Genres

Daniel Abraham, Lorna Suzuki, Jodi McIsaac, Caterina Edwards, Kai Kiriama

Writing is hard. Writing multiple genres is harder. How do multi-genre authors switch gears, manage their alter egos, handle different audiences...? Authors with multiple hats tell all.

Saturday 11 AM – Fairview

Twitter: Interactive Workshop

Catherine Saykaly-Stevens

Bring your Smartphone with your Twitter app downloaded and ready to go in this interactive workshop. With Twitter user growth increasing every year, more of your potential fans, influencers and media are using Twitter. Learn ten interactive Twitter tips to connect you powerfully at conferences, like WWC..

Saturday 11 AM – Acadia

50 Shades of Publishing

Randy McCharles

Once upon a time there were two ways for a writer to publish a novel. In today's ever-changing publishing landscape there are fifty. What are they and which is right for you? Should you be a hybrid author?

Saturday 11 AM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Samantha Beiko (ChiZine)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 11 AM – Fireside

Sacred Cows & The Broken Shield

Official launch of Tim Reynold's novel "The Broken Shield" and short story collection, "The Death of God" with a reading and a discussion of the Faith vs Religion sub-theme in the novel. Hard copies of both books will be on hand.

Saturday 11 AM – Rundle

Editing Tricks

Faye Holt, Ella Beaumont, Nowick Gray, Arlene F. Marks, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

Catching your own goofs before you send your manuscript to your beta reader, or worse, Amazon. Developmental, structural, copyediting or proofreading: Do you need an editor before you self publish? What kind? Or have you been burned: I'm not going to let an editor touch my words!

Saturday 11 AM – Waterton

From the Stage to Page

Krista Wallace, David B. Coe, Laurie Humble-Hodges, Carol Mulholland, Caroline Russell-King, Matt Lees (M)

Actors and writers discuss applying stage experience to the written word. Dialogue, character movements, attire, and more.

Saturday 11 AM – Canmore

YA Inspiration

Clare C. Marshall, Edward Willett, Shawn Bird, Judith Silverthorne

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

Saturday 12 PM – Parkland

Writing the Series

C.J. Carmichael

C.J. Carmichael discusses why it is in both the writer and the reader's interest to write series rather than stand-alone books. Tips include how to world build, how to control your characters over a span of 4 or more books, plotting a series arc as well as story arcs, and marketing tips for selling your series.

Saturday 12 PM – Bonavista

How the Mystery Protagonist Defines the Story

Amber Hayward, Sharon Wildwind, Constantine Kaoukakis, Dwayne Clayden, Susan Calder (M)

Whether we discuss Miss Marple, Sherlock Holmes, or Jessica Fletcher, there is a certain reader expectation for that series of stories. Our experts discuss how the character's characteristics, understandings, and view of life shape the style and stories.

Saturday 12 PM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – Science Fiction Edition

Tony King (reader), Daniel Abraham, Sally Harding, Robert J. Sawyer, Ian Alexander Martin, Tod McCoy

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

Saturday 12 PM – Fairview

Agatha Christie's Notebooks

Mahrie Reid

- and what they can teach us. We often hear the admonishment: Don't start with back story or keep back story on a need to know basis. This is true, but you still, as the writer, need to know the back story of your characters. This is doubly true when you are writing a mystery. What has gone before must be revealed in order to uncover your killer. What specific areas of back story are pertinent for mysteries and how does your sleuth uncover them?

Saturday 12 PM – Acadia

More Than Just Volume—Readings Like You Mean It

SG Wong

Whether you love to read your work to a room full of strangers or you hate the thought, if you're an author, public readings are a necessary part of the job. Come learn ways to make readings fun and lively; to engage your audience; to get over your fears and perhaps some bad habits! In this fun-filled workshop, you'll pick up some tips and practise what you learn in a safe, encouraging atmosphere. Public readings give you the chance to connect live with your readers. Why not make the most of them by being the best reader you can be?"

Saturday 12 PM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Ella Beaumont (Edge)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 12 PM – Fireside

Tyche Books Presents

Tyche Books introduce new books for 2015. Join the editors and attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A including Randy McCharles, Pat Flewelling, Christopher Hoare, Jayne Barnard, E.C. Bell, and Simon Rose.

Saturday 12 PM – Kananaskis

From the Page to the Big Screen

Richard Van Camp

The first published novelist, short story and baby-book author, and comic-book creator of his nation, the Tlicho Dene, Richard will talk about adapting *The Lesser Blessed*, a major motion picture with First Generation Films, and two short movies, *Mohawk Midnight Runners* (Big Soul Productions) and *Firebear Called them Faith Healers* (CrossCurrent Productions) to the big screen. Richard will also discuss how true events in his home town compelled him to write his new graphic novel, *Three Feathers* (published by HighWater Press) and plans to turn *Three Feathers* into a movie in hopes of giving back to the community by filming and using actors from Fort Smith, NT.

Saturday 12 PM – Rundle

Humour: How Can Comedy Help You Lift Your Serious Book?

Barb Howard, Lorna Suzuki, Tim Reynolds, Sarah Kades, Dave Gross, Caroline Russell-King

How can you use comedy in your public speaking? What pitfalls do you need to avoid so you don't fall flat or, worse, insult people?

Saturday 12 PM – Waterton

Raw Poetry

Cheryl Cottreau (M)

Are you a closet poet? Do you have scraps of paper with little rhymes with reason or no reason at all? Have you hid them in under your bed or in your underwear drawer? Do you love them like children but fear that the world would just not understand? Well here is your opportunity for revealing your gift to the world with no fear of exposure. Type the poems out on sheets of paper and bring them to RAW POETRY. Do not put your name on them. During the workshop we will read all the submissions and others will respond to what they like about them and you can hear critiques without ever owning that these little gems are yours. Unless you want to of course. This is fun for readers and writers alike. Come and support our emerging artists and hear words never spoken before.

Saturday 12 PM – Canmore

YA and the Tough Stuff

Adam Dreece, Janet Gurtler, Trina St. Jean, Naomi Davis

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 1 PM – Parkland

Breaking In: The Query Letter & the Pitch

Sally Harding

Using the query letter as a jumping off point, this is an agent's view of book concepts and how to successfully position them. Will your query letter entice an agent or acquiring editor to ask for sample pages? Queries offer valuable clues about writers and their work – clues that help agents and editors decide whether to invite submission or reject on the spot.

Saturday 1 PM – Bonavista

Romance for Teens

Clare C. Marshall, Nicole Luiken, Avery Olive, Danielle L. Jensen

Authors talk about the magic of first love and romantic story lines coming alive on the page. What place does romance have in an adventure story, and will a romantic story line turn off the boys? Are romantic story lines a time honoured tradition, or are they changing to meet the future?

Saturday 1 PM – Willow Park

Social Media Best Practices for Writers, Authors and Readers

Mark Leslie, Catherine Saykaly-Stevens, Sandra Wickham, Craig DiLouie

It's an online world. Whether you are an author, a future author, a reader, or just someone who likes cute photos of cats, there are ways to participate online in a meaningful way and ways to embarrass or injure yourself and others. Our panel of experts who virtually live online provide tips for success and warnings against pitfalls.

Saturday 1 PM – Fairview

Time Travel: Not just a Thing of the Past

Simon Rose

Simon Rose, author of eight science fiction and fantasy novels for children and young adults shares tips and tricks to weave time travel element into a plot for any age group. How to plan and realize your novel with an alternate reality element that takes the reader on a logical journey, in an illogical world.

Saturday 1 PM – Acadia

Hold That Thought

Kai Kiriama, Susan Bohnet, Scott Burtness

A safe place to keep those ideas that might turn into a poem, a short story, a novel, a magazine article or a card to your grandmother. Journaling is a practice unto itself. Panellists discuss the benefits and best practices of journaling.

Saturday 1 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Jane Ann McLachlan

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Saturday 1 PM – Fireside

Five Rivers Presents

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

Saturday 1 PM – Kananaskis

Sherlock Holmes in the 21st Century

Constantine Kaoukakis

There is nothing elementary about Sherlock Holmes, who was created in the 19th century. Today, he is more complex and more popular than ever before. In television and movies, there are various depictions of the great detective, which reflect the society in which he operates. The BBC Sherlock and the CBS' Elementary depict different incarnations. Both seem to be damaged: one is a "sociopath" and the other is a recovering drug addict with relationship issues. Are these the Sherlocks we deserve? What do they reveal about us and the era we live in?

Saturday 1 PM – Rundle

Where is the Love?

Jessica L. Jackson, Mahrie Reid, Kristi Charish, Steena Holmes

Like Dean Kootz, Jim Butcher and Dick Frances, you can enrich your story with romantic elements. Our panellists will offer tips and advice on how to harness these emotions in your work, whatever your genre.

Saturday 1 PM – Waterton

What Can a Genre Writer Learn From a Poet?

Bob Stallworthy, Vivian Hansen, Kevin Thornton, Tod McCoy

Prose of any sort still contains rhythm, imagery, and atmosphere, all of which become part of the author's voice. New writers can spend years trying to develop voice. Poetry can offer a shortcut.

Saturday 1 PM – Canmore

Hearing from Kids

Suzy Vadori (M)

Panel of young readers discuss what they are looking for.

Saturday 2 PM – Parkland

On Writing

Gwen Hunter, David B. Coe

Festival Guest Gwen Hunter is joined by past guest David B. Coe and cofounder of Magical Words (www.magicalwords.net) to discuss 3 topics: Setting as Character, Character & POV, and Pacing Specific to Genre.

Saturday 2 PM – Bonavista**Mystery in a Foreign Location**

Nowick Gray, Caterina Edwards, Kay Stewart, Kevin Thornton

Readers enjoy locations that are different and exciting to them. But writing a mystery set in a location far from your home town can raise many questions. What do you have to consider and how do you find your answers to questions on geography, weather, cultural aspects and police procedures for starters. Join the panellists for a discussion on covering all those foreign (to you) aspects.

Saturday 2 PM – Willow Park**Where'd the Plot Go?**

Barb Howard, Kai Kiriama, Arlene F. Marks, Candace Jane Dorsey

If a story doesn't have a plot, does that make it literary? Can a mass market novel not be plot-driven?

Saturday 2 PM – Fairview**Graphic Novels**

Samantha Beiko

If you've never read a graphic novel, you're missing out. ChiZine editor Samantha Beiko discusses what sets graphic apart from print-only and why the market has so many readers.

Saturday 2 PM – Acadia**Write For Hire Workshop- YA and Children Fiction**

Janet Gurtler

Have you ever wondered how writers get hired to write for publishing companies? Sometimes it's under a pen name, and sometimes, the author uses their own name. Do you wonder what a write for hire author does? Get insights into why publishing companies hire authors to write stories and how to audition for write for hire positions. You'll also learn about publisher and writer expectations and responsibilities, and hear a range of pay scales from chapter books to YA novels.

Saturday 2 PM – Heritage**Pitch Session**

Robert Runte (Five Rivers)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 2 PM – Fireside**AB Negative**

Coffin Hop Press presents a new anthology of the very best in Alberta crime and mystery from Alberta's greatest crime writers. Join Axel Howerton, Jayne Barnard, Robert Bose, Susan Calder, Dwayne E. Clayden, Randy McCharles, Brent Nichols, Al Onia, Rick Overwater, Sharon Wildwind, and S.G. Wong.

Saturday 2 PM – Kananaskis**Mastering "Voice" and Narration: How are you telling your story?**

Nina Munteanu

Finding and defining your authorial voice and applying the appropriate narrative and character voice is critical in storytelling. Learn to master author "branding", "voice", narration and viewpoint to maximize the meaning and depth of your story as well as compelling narrative expression through the exploration of different narrative styles. These include anything from body language to creating "atmosphere" and setting, POV, the role of metaphor and the senses in theme, and more.

Saturday 2 PM – Rundle

Alpha vs Beta

David Fortier, Steve Swanson, Barb Geiger

What do the terms Alpha Hero and Beta Hero mean? What are the challenges, and the freedoms, of writing each? What happens when a plot or scene inspires your character to assume the other? How do you write Alphas and Betas stepping into the opposite role, but then slide back into their natural tendencies without losing face or momentum?

Saturday 2 PM – Waterton

The Etiquette of your Literary Elevator Pitch

Ron Friedman, Ryan McFaddon

How does the literary editor want to be approached? Are there differences among the genres in putting your work in front of the right pair of eyes? When do you approach an editor or agent at a party--or in an elevator--and when is that considered gauche? Is the over-the-transom method preferred in some markets?

Saturday 2 PM – Canmore

Live Action Slush – Kids Critique

David Lees (reader)

A panel of teen readers respond to YA long form of any genre. Bring the 1st page of your manuscript to be anonymously read aloud and receive comments from our editors.

Saturday 3 PM – Parkland

An Hour With Daniel Abraham

Daniel Abraham

SF / Fantasy author Daniel Abraham discusses his many projects and pen names, including his current TV adaptation of his Ty Frank collaboration, the Expanse series.

Saturday 3 PM – Bonavista

Thriller VS Traditional Mysteries

Jodie Renner, Constantine Kaoukakis, Dwayne Clayden, Susan Calder

In many camps, *thriller* is considered a sub-genre of *mystery*. Yet it can be argued that thriller and traditional mysteries have different readerships with little overlap. Indeed, many bookstores have a separate category for action/thriller. Our panel of thriller and traditional mystery authors discuss this dilemma, look for common ground, and perhaps develop some new definitions.

Saturday 3 PM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – Romance

Leya Wolfgang (reader), C.J. Carmichael, Rhonda Parrish, Caralee L Hubbell, Danielle Rayner

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

Saturday 3 PM – Fairview

Health and Fitness for Creative People

Sandra Wickham

Strong in body, stronger in mind! Join fitness professional and author Sandra Wickham for an informative session on how to incorporate health and fitness into your life, how it will benefit your creative endeavours and how to start and stick with your health and fitness goals.

Saturday 3 PM – Acadia

The Trials and Triumphs of Writing Short Stories

Jane Ann McLachlan

This interactive workshop will explore the difficulties and benefits of writing short stories. Whether you are writing fiction or creative non-fiction, this workshop will help you grab your reader's interest and hold it through to the end of your story. Please come with an idea for a short story which you will work on during the workshop.

Saturday 3 PM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Sally Harding

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Saturday 3 PM – Fireside

Mabel the Mafioso Dwarf

Sherry Peters

Saturday 3 PM – Kananaskis

Editing As Re-Vision

Jessica Corra

Revision has always been part of the editing process but editing is also a Re-Vision. This workshop will look at common tools for editing at the macro level of the novel and how to utilize those tools with intentionality, based on the analogy of the potter or sculptor, from scenes to theme. This will not be a proof-reading workshop. The focus will be on the big picture aspects and how to approach the complete novel.

Saturday 3 PM – Rundle

Editing Explained

Susan Forest, Adria Laycraft, Karen Crosby, Christa Bedwin, Michelle Heumann (M)

Copy edit? Developmental edit? Line edit? What is an editor and what do they do?

Experts from the Calgary Association of Freelance Editors (CAFE) discuss and answer audience questions about all things editing—from different types of editing and what they involve to what happens between writing the first draft and reading that published novel, short story, or magazine or journal article.

Saturday 3 PM – Waterton

Does Being an Editor Make You a Better Writer?

Richard Harrison, Axel Howerton, Nowick Gray, Darusha Wehm, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

The Left Brain - Right Brain Dominance Theory suggests that editing is a left brain function while creative writing is a right brain function. Does being an editor hurt or help your writing? Does being too analytical interfere with your creativity? Or can you control which brain has dominance at different stages of writing?

Saturday 3 PM – Canmore

Sequels and Trilogies, 1-2-3

Brandon Mull, Edward Willett, Kristi Charish, Danielle L. Jensen

Authors discuss how to write successful sequels and series - how publishers decide whether a book deserves a follow up, how to develop a story arc over multiple books and how to leverage your fan base to get your stories read.

Saturday 4 PM – Fairview

Your Novel is Lacking Tension

Dwayne Clayden

Conflict and Tension are the gasoline in our stories' engines. When used properly, conflict and tension make a story interesting and move the story line along at a fast pace, which keeps the reader mesmerized. Each story requires a different kind of tension. But tension, in whatever form, must be present for a book to sell in today's competitive market. And besides, tension makes the story more fun to read...and to write!

Saturday 4 PM – Acadia

Knock 'Em Out: How to Write Action and Fight Scenes

Fonda Lee

How do you write action and fight scenes that are gripping and realistic? How do you convey the pulse-pounding experience of combat if you're not the sort of person with experience throwing punches or firing guns? Author Fonda Lee, a black belt with fifteen years of martial arts experience, and author of Zeroboxer, offers guidelines and tips for writing edge-of-your-seat fights that feel real.

Saturday 4 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Kristi Charish

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Saturday 4 PM – Fireside

Adam Dreece

Join the bestselling author of the YA steampunk Yellow Hoods Series.

Saturday 4 PM – Kananaskis

Your 20 Second Opportunity

Faith Hunter, David B. Coe

Festival guest Faith Hunter talks about How Not to Blow It. This intensive, interactive workshop teaches participants how to describe their work in a professional manner, and how to hone the verbal presentation process. It is not intended to provide assistance for formal written queries, though there may be some crossover. Bring your blurb(s) (single spaced) with laptop/tablet or paper to work.

Saturday 4 PM – Rundle

Editor's Speed Mingle

Café

Speed dating for writers - only instead of looking for a love relationship, you're looking for freelance editors or writing coaches. A great opportunity to find an editor who is right for you. 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 4 PM – Waterton

Back Cover Blues

Ella Beaumont, Michael J. Martineck, Steve Swanson, Tod McCoy

How the self publisher builds back cover copy, from foundation to publish. Grabbing the reader is one of your toughest writing assignments.

Saturday 4 PM – Canmore

Sex, Violence and Profanity for Teens

Edward Willett, Avery Olive, Aviva Bell Harold, Naomi Davis

A frank discussion of sex, violence and profanity on the pages of young adult books. How much are we seeing of these topics in Middle Grade/Young Adult/New Adult? What standards are publishers enforcing, what are parents allowing and how much are youth exposed to? How much is too much?

Saturday 5:30 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Western Banquet

Pre-purchased banquet tickets are required for this food and fun extravaganza with entertainment by Midnight Yoga for Alcoholics.

Saturday 7 PM – Fairview

What is Booktube?

Savanna Harvey, David Kang, Brock Roberts

is a bookish community on Youtube that is growing exponentially in size and influence. Booktubers make a variety of videos from reviews to discussions, host diverse community activities from read-a-longs to social change initiatives, and upload their own creative content – unique to every channel. It is an important community for readers, but also for authors and publishers. With the advent of social media, online communities have offered new ways to promote literature on a more intimate scale (though no less effective) and personally interact with those reading it.

Saturday 7 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Donna-Lee Wybert

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Saturday 7 PM – Fireside

Random Readings

7:00 PM	Rebecca Bradley
7:15 PM	Caterina Edwards
7:30 PM	Nowick Gray
7:45 PM	J. Y. T. Kennedy
8:00 PM	Lily Iona MacKenzie
8:15 PM	Susan Bohnet
8:30 PM	Aviva Bel'Harold
8:45 PM	Darusha Wehm
9:00 PM	Tim Reynolds
9:15 PM	Kai Kiriama
9:30 PM	Marie Powell
9:45 PM	Sharon Hamilton

Saturday 8 PM – Parkland-Bonavista-Willow Park

Autograph Session (2 Hours)

Our Festival Guests are joined by 50+ authors

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

Saturday 8 PM (till late) – Boomtown Pub

IFWA on the Writers Block

Drop by the Boomtown Pub for writerly discussions while sipping and snacking.

Saturday 9 PM (till late) – Acadia

The Unusal Suspects Fandango

Drop in for some killer excitement with crime writers from across Canada.

Saturday 9 PM (till midnight) – Suite 266 Atrium

The Gonzo Get-together

Hang out with the Calgary Writers Montparnasse group for literary discourse.

Sunday 10 AM – Parkland

Women in Urban Fantasy

Faith Hunter, Kristi Charish, Patrick Weekes

From Anita Blake to Mercy Thompson to Jane Yellowrock, today's heroine has a firm foothold in Urban Fantasy.

This panel discusses the genre's beginnings in the late 1980's and early 1990's to what the contemporary urban fantasy protagonist looks like now, and to where she's evolving.

Sunday 10 AM – Bonavista

Revise for Success

Jodi Renner

Sought-after freelance editor Jodie Renner presents a step-by-step approach to revising and editing your novel or short story, starting with big-picture elements such as plot, pacing, characterization, point of view, showing rather than telling, and natural-sounding, snappy dialogue, as well as looking for any possible inconsistencies and discrepancies. After any major issues have been addressed, the next step is to attack wordiness and make sure your style, tone, and mood suit the genre; then finally, to polish the sentence structure, spelling, and punctuation. Jodie provides specific tips for every step. Includes exercises and handouts.

Sunday 10 AM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – Historical Edition

Krista Wallace (reader), Diana Gabaldon, D. B. Jackson, Susan MacGregor, Barb Galler-Smith

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

Sunday 10 AM – Fairview

Turning Books into Games

Jean Leggett

Push story realms beyond pages. Jean Leggett demonstrates software that turns mystery and other books into games.

Sunday 10 AM – Acadia

Art is My Business

Sandy Fitzpatrick, Kate Larking, Jack Giesen

How do you make a living as an author? Or as an artist? The creators of *ArtIsMyBusiness.com* talk money, marketing, and making your creative endeavour successful.

Sunday 10 AM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

M.L.D. Curelas

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 10 AM – Fireside

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 – Kananaskis

Theme, Identified

Diana Cranstoun

What is theme? Diana Cranstoun explores how to use theme as a brainstorming tool for your story.

Sunday 10 AM – Rundle

The Publishers Panel: Novels

Sally Harding, Robert Runte, Mark Leslie, Danielle Rayner

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 – Waterton

The Great Four Haiku Poets

Joanne Morcom & Patricia Benedict

Meet the classical haiku masters Basho, Buson, Issa and Shiki through their exquisite short poetry. Be inspired to write your own haiku poems, and learn about markets for your masterpieces.

Sunday 10 AM – Canmore

The Business of Being a YA Writer

Brandon Mull, Shirlee Smith Matheson, Lorna Suzuki, Aviva Bel Harold

From marketing your books to how book signings, writing for hire, school visits and extra projects can make your dream of being a full time writer for youth a reality.

Sunday 11 AM – Parkland

Science Fiction and the Future

Daniel Abraham, Robert J. Sawyer, Hayden Trenholm, Edward Willett

From spaceships and aliens to medical tampering and secret military weapons, science fiction books have never been as varied and exciting as they are now. Authors of science fiction discuss their books and the vivid visions science fiction has to offer, from distant space to our own backyards.

Sunday 11 AM – Bonavista

What Won't You Write?

Aviva Bel'Harold, Kai Kiriya, Michael J. Martineck, Kay Stewart, Candace Jane Dorsey, Timothy Anderson

Charles Stross has said publicly that he won't write about children being harmed or exploited. Seanan McGuire refuses to write about female characters being raped. Many other writers have no-go topics. Panellists will discuss their personal choices for off-limits subject areas, and their reasons for the ban.

Sunday 11 AM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – Urban Fantasy Edition

Diane Walton (reader), Faith Hunter, Sally Harding, Kristi Charish, Susan MacGregor

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

Sunday 11 AM – Acadia

Workshop as Writing Community

Richard Harrison

Mount Royal University professor Richard Harrison discusses how to sustain a community of writers and to have them create the best work of which they are capable.

Sunday 11 AM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Rhonda Parrish

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 11 AM – Fireside

In Places Between Contest Judging

Axel Howerton, Kate Larking, Sandra Kasturi, and Robin Van Eck

Our panel of judges announces this year's winners of the Robyn Herrington Short Story Contest and discusses their selections.

Sunday 11 AM – Kananaskis

Book to Screen

Lorna Suzuki

Ever dream of seeing your novel on the big screen? Is it even possible? Of course it is! Join this indie author as the first of her epic fantasy series heads to pre-production with an Oscar-winning producer at the creative helm. Lorna will share in her personal experience while she tries to unravel some of the mysteries, perks and pitfalls in a book-to-film deal including how to get your book before the eyes of a Hollywood producer, dealing with agents, understanding contracts and industry standards, and how much control authors have in the creative process.

Sunday 11 AM – Rundle

Setting - More Than Just Window Dressing

Al Onia, Sarah Kades, Chadwick Ginther, Calvin Jim

Setting in fiction can be so much more than a backdrop for the characters. A story's world can be an integral part of the plot, theme and character. Arrakis in Dune is a main antagonist. Noir detective tales are defined by their milieu as much as by the hard-boiled hero. Fantasy would be simple magic without an outré world. Science fiction has matured as much in depiction of believable universes as much as character realism.

Sunday 11 AM – Waterton

Did That Really Happen?

Dwayne Clayden, Barb Howard, Maraya Loza Koxahn, Kevin Thornton

How much truth is there in fiction? Is there a difference between the truth in mass market fiction and literary fiction? WO Mitchell said "all writers are liars. All writers tell the truth." Ever wonder how a writer can do both?

Sunday 11 AM – Canmore

Illustrators' Jam

Janice Blaine, Steve Swanson

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

Sunday 12 PM – Parkland

Historical License

Diana Gabaldon, D. B Jackson, Jodi McIsaac, Susan MacGregor, Barb Galler-Smith (M)

When using actual historical times/places/events in your story, how close do you have to stick to what really happened? What can you change, and what needs to stay true?

Sunday 12 PM – Bonavista

Not Your Grandmother's Mystery

G. W. Renshaw, Randy McCharles, Jayne Barnard, Jessica L. Jackson, Virginia Carraway Stark (M)

Authors of genres outside mainstream mystery discuss the importance of including mystery elements in other genres, such as Steampunk, Paranormal, and fantasy, and how they do it.

Sunday 12 PM – Willow Park

Alpha and Beta Readers: An Evolving Paradigm

Anna Bortolotto, Krista Wallace, Susan Forest, Patrick Swenson

While a good editor is essential, pre-publication reader feedback has never been more important. Alpha and Beta feedback is not a new concept, but in this age of ever increasing consumer choices its role in discovering, defining, and maintaining an author's market has never been more important. Authors discuss the importance of having good alpha and beta readers, what they contribute to the final manuscript, and how to find readers who represent their market.

Sunday 12 PM – Fairview

Writers at the Improv

IFWA, Edward Willett

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 12 PM – Acadia

What Artists Need to Know

Jack Giesen

There is more to being an artist than brushing paint onto canvas or arranging words on a page. Craft of any kind is built on foundation of knowledge and skills that may not at first be apparent. Jack Giesen discusses some of the reality of being a successful artist.

Sunday 12 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Michelle Browne

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 12 PM – Fireside

In For A Pound

Join SG Wong for a celebration of the second book in the Lola Starke series of alternate history, hard-boiled detective stories—with ghosts! There will be goodies and a reading. Questions and lively conversation most welcome! Copies of IN FOR A POUND and DIE ON YOUR FEET (book 1) will also be in attendance."

Sunday 12 PM – Kananaskis

Mastering Setting: Effective use of Setting in Story from Premise to Destiny

Nina Munteanu

Learn the tools to increase the richness and meaning of your story. Setting is best described as a character, defining and interacting with all other characters related to the

theme. Learning to integrate setting with plot, theme, and character will provide depth and will ground the reader in context and meaning. All too often settings are either too vague or not enmeshed in story. Learn how to use setting to draw readers into story through metaphor, sensual description, integration and interaction with character and plot. Discussion will also cover the role of POV characters to create meaningful story and memorable characters.

Sunday 12 PM – Rundle

Does Size Matter?

Axel Howerton, Steena Holmes, Sarah Kades, Tod McCoy

Novellas and short stories are on the rise, but does length of a story make a difference? We hear from readers, editors and writers who will share their thoughts on story length, how it can affect sales, and whether the appetite for shorter fiction is here to stay.

Sunday 12 PM – Waterton

Character and the Inner Life

Robin Van Eck, Candace Jane Dorsey

The most compelling characters are those who give the reader access to the human mind in all its complexity. In what works of literature, classical or contemporary, do we gain insights through our access to the character's inner life, and in which examples is the reader bored by unresolved navel-gazing? And in the best works, how does the author achieve this feat?

Sunday 12 PM – Canmore

Tween and Teen Dialogue

Brandon Mull, Adam Dreece, Avery Olive, Jacqueline Guest

Authors share how they make sure that their middle grade or teen characters speak with authenticity. Trendy language - keep it current or make it timeless? Texting, profanity? How do they make it ring true? How does this translate into fantastical worlds?

Sunday 1 PM – Parkland

Two Heads Are Better Than One

Robert J. Sawyer, Michael J. Martineck

Michael J. Martineck and Robert J. Sawyer discuss the science and story development of their novels about memory sharing, CINCO DI MAYO and TRIGGERS.

Sunday 1 PM – Bonavista

Murder - Ancient and Contemporary

Axel Howerton, Dwayne Clayden, Charles Prepolec, S.G. Wong

What are the differences and similarities in writing mysteries in different eras. How do you do the research, how much of true facts can you include in historical mysteries. What differences dialogue, setting and forensics do you encounter?

Sunday 1 PM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – High Fantasy Edition

J. Y. T. Kennedy (reader), David. B. Coe, Jodi McIsaac, Ella Beaumont, Rhonda Parrish

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

Sunday 1 PM – Fairview

The History of Modern Publishing

Jeff Campbell

From the Gutenberg Bible to the latest Galardon book on your eReader, through the years publishing has made some astounding and sometimes confusing advances. Follow Jeff as he takes a look at how we ended up where we are today.

Sunday 1 PM – Acadia

Taxes for Creative Folk

Sandy Fitzpatrick

What do authors and artists have to claim as income? What can they deduct? Will deducting home office space, trips to Europe for research, and lunch with your editor eventually land you with a tax audit. Tax specialist Sandra Fitzpatrick answers your tax questions.

Sunday 1 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Dave Gross

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 1 PM – Poolside Patio

Blue Pencil Café

Robert Runté

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 1 PM – Fireside

The Tattooed Queen

Susan MacGregor pre-launches the 3rd book in her fantasy series.

Sunday 1 PM – Kananaskis

Tule Publishing

Join acquisition editor Danielle Rayner and author C.J. Carmichael.

Sunday 1 PM – Rundle

Audio, Audibles, and Voice-Over: How to Create Your Audio Book

Ryah Deines, Harold Squire, J. Ellen Smith, Tony King, Kristal MacWhirter

Industry experts discuss the popularity of audio books, who is the market, and why some books are never released in audio format.

Sunday 1 PM – Waterton

Memoir or Autobiography?

Brian Brennan, Faye Holt, Vivian Hansen, Maraya Loza Koxahn

Should your memoir start with your birth? Or is that your mother's story? Memoir focuses on a significant event or series of events that illustrate a concept. Or do they? Panellists discuss what to include and what to leave out of memoir: the line between memoir and autobiography.

Sunday 1 PM – Canmore

Cross-Cultural YA

Kristi Charish, Jacqueline Guest, Karen Bass, Judith Silverthorne, Calvin Jim (M)

How can we use characters from cultures not our own, engage young readers from other cultures, and do it all without stomping all over cultural respect and sensitivity?

Sunday 2 PM – Parkland

The Past Is a Terrible Place

Rebecca Bradley, Axel Howerton, Steve Swanson

Compared to the present day, the past was filthy, bigoted, stratified, polluted, violent, and crude—whether thousands of years ago or yesterday. What possible appeal could travel into the past have? How does it vary based on your current socioeconomic status, or on

the status you have (or can acquire) in the past with your knowledge of history, technology, and sociology? We'll discuss various depictions of travel into the past, including Connie Willis's Doomsday Book and Diana Gabaldon's Outlander series.

Sunday 2 PM – Bonavista

Faith in Science Fiction And Fantasy

Lorna Suzuki, Halli Lilburn, J. Y. T. Kennedy, Janet Nicolson

In the fiction of 'what if?' what role does and can faith play? What are some of the messages that apply to our mundane lives that authors seek to deliver by turning to speculative fiction?

Sunday 2 PM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – Mystery Edition

Greg McKittrick (reader), Gwen Hunter, Shirlee Smith Matheson, Darusha Wehm, SG Wong

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

Sunday 2 PM – Fairview

Writing Advice on YouTube

Barb Geiger

YouTube legend Vi Hart talks about the creative process in a way that takes nebulous ideas and makes them obvious and will help you get to the next level in your writing. We'll discuss how to take a world of infinite possibilities and narrow it down to a unique plotline, making your writing have more impact, and how to deal with negative reviews and comments. We'll talk about second drafts as being more than just the first draft minus 10% and how to take your writing from where it is to where you want it.

Sunday 2 PM – Acadia

Hybrid Publishing

C.J. Carmichael

C.J. Carmichael discusses her experiences publishing with Traditional, Indie, and Boutique Publishers.

Sunday 2 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Nicole Luiken

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 2 PM – Poolside Patio

Pitch Session

Sally Harding (Cooke Agency)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Sunday 2 PM – Fireside

Faery Ink Press Book Social

Clare C. Marshall unveils the sequel to *The Violet Fox*.

Sunday 2 PM – Kananaskis

Science of Readability

Christa Bedwin

A crucial role of every writer and editor is to ensure readability of a document. Your word processor may offer some metrics and there are a number of tests online. Using them is easy. Understanding them is trickier. Christa Bedwin walks through some of the tools and discuss how to make them useful.

Sunday 2 PM – Rundle

To Blog or Not to Blog: Answer This Question

Faye Holt, Maraya Loza Koxahn, Ella Beaumont, Ryan McFadden

Should writers spend their little time writing their book or splitting it with a consistent blog. Panellists discuss benefits and best practices to hosting a blog.

Sunday 2 PM – Waterton

How to Break it to Your Relatives

Barb Howard, Caterina Edwards, Kay Stewart

Almost every story has autobiographical elements, whether the author is aware of it or not. As a writer, how do you negotiate the delicacies of publishing stories without hurting those you love--or getting sued? Or does the gutsy writer need to stand up and be heard?

Sunday 2 PM – Canmore

What's Hot & New YA Fiction

Stacey Kondla

Whether you write YA fiction or love reading it – there are a LOT of great new books in YA Fiction. This hour will be spent showcasing some of the newest, hottest amazing reads that came out in 2014/2015. Join us for writing inspiration or to compile a list of must-reads for yourself and/or your kids!

Sunday 3 PM – Parkland

Messing With History

Tim Reynolds, Barb Galler-Smith, R. J. Hore, Ron Friedman

Authors discuss using historical settings for speculative fiction stories.

Sunday 3 PM – Bonavista

The Writing Life: Past, Present, and Future

Robert J. Sawyer

Lessons learned from a quarter-century of being a novelist, and a look ahead at how writers will continue to prosper in the next 25 years.

Sunday 3 PM – Willow Park

Live Action Slush – YA Edition

Edward Willett (reader), Brandon Mull, Jacqueline Guest, Shirlee Smith Matheson, Susan Forest

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

Sunday 3 PM – Fairview

Fiction Writing: Behind the Scenes

Shenaaz Nanji, Lois Donovan

Authors Lois Donovan and Shenaaz Nanji invite you to journey behind the scenes with us as we share our process from blank page to published book. Get a glimpse of why we feel compelled to write, where we got the ideas for our books and how we wrestle these ideas into a publishable story in this multi-media session for aspiring authors.

Sunday 3 PM – Acadia

Anatomy of Mysteries

B.C. Deeks & Sharon Wildwind

Want to write a mystery? Join these two talented mystery writers to learn the basics, the expectation and the tricks of playing fair, hiding clues, dealing with suspects and villains and questioning witnesses.

Sunday 3 PM – Heritage

Pitch Session

Sandra Kasturi (ChiZine)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Sunday 3 PM – Poolside Patio

Pitch Session

Danielle Rayner (Tule)

Pitch your manuscript to an editor and get instant feedback.

Sunday 3 PM – Fireside

Northwoods Wolfman

More monsters in the Midwest? Uff dah. Join author Scott Burtress for the launch of the second book in his Monsters in the Midwest series. Stop by to meet Scott, hear a few short readings from the book, and discuss why horromedy (aka comedorrer) is so much fun to write and read.

Sunday 3 PM – Kananaskis

Transmedia: What Is It & How to Expand Your STORY's Reach To New Audiences

Jean Leggett, Lorna Suzuki, Angie Chiang, Catherine Saykaly-Stevens(M)

How to use social media, comics, web series, book trailers, and other media to expand your single story and increase reach to new audiences.

Sunday 3 PM – Rundle

Writing, Unplugged

Jessica L Jackson, Mahrie G. Reid, Kai Kiriyaama, Patrick Swenson

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

Sunday 3 PM – Waterton

Common Sex Scene Mistakes

Jessica Corra, Tammy Lynn Carbol, Nola Sarina, Jillian Long (M)

Sex scenes are not just for the erotica genre. We'll discuss the basics of adding the physical side of romance to your manuscripts and where it's most likely to go wrong.

Sunday 3 PM – Canmore

Fear as a Tool in Middle Grade or Young Adult Writing

Clare C. Marshall, Kate Boorman, Aviva Bel Harold, Susan Bohnet

From fairytales of old, kids have always been drawn to the darker side, with scary stories. Likewise, tweens and teens are also drawn to stories that have a component of fear. In this panel, authors share how to weave the "Fear Factor" into your novel to keep kids turning pages.

Sunday 4 PM – Parkland

When Biology and Fiction Collide

Kai Kiriyaama, Nola Sarina

What physically happens to the body when you fall in love? How do you express this roller coaster viscerally--or delicately--in your novel.

Sunday 4 PM – Bonavista

Writing a Mystery Series

E.C. Bell, Mahrie G. Reid, Kay Stewart, Gary Ryan, Sam Wiebe, SG Wong, Doug Dear(M)
Series of any kind draw repeat readers. They become attached to the characters and the location. How do you manage a series: Keep information straight, justify more murders for your protagonist, tell a stand-alone story blended with previous characters, and not give away the story from previous books?

Sunday 4 PM – Willow Park

Inspiring YA Books and Authors

Adam Dreece, Shawn Bird, Stacey Kondla, Kim Greyson

Readers and writers alike come prepared to this session to discuss Middle Grade and YA books with writing styles they enjoy, or that challenge, or that they'd love to emulate. Warning - you'll leave this session with a long list of books you're dying to read!

Sunday 4 PM – Fairview

Cyberpunk and Social Order

Hayden Trenholm, Nowick Gray, Darusha Wehm, Ron Bender

Cyberpunk is all about addressing how societal technology advancements bring moral and social questions to light. In an age of realized megacorporations and vulnerable technologies, is cyberpunk going mainstream? This panel will address cyberpunk literature and societal crashes, both now and in the future.

Sunday 4 PM – Acadia

Blueprint for Writing Success

Sherry Peters

There is no magical trick to writing. Writing itself isn't hard. Persisting at it, completing a story, pursuing a career as a writer is. Distractions and self-doubt get in our way. It doesn't have to be that way. We are the architects of our own success. Our writing lives are our masterpiece designs. In this interactive workshop, participants will develop tools necessary for building the writing life they want.

Sunday 4 PM – Heritage

Blue Pencil Café

Samantha Beiko

Bring the first page or two of your manuscript (max 1000 words, typed, double-spaced) for 1-on-1 feedback from an editor.

Sunday 4 PM – Fireside

Edge Press Presents

Edge Press introduces new books and anthologies. Join the editors and many attending authors for teasers readings and Q&A.

Sunday 4 PM – Kananaskis

A Canadian Perspective on Self-Publishing

Mark Leslie

Kobo Canada's Director of Self-Publishing discusses the state of the industry in Canada, especially as it relates to Canadian indie authors.

Sunday 4 PM – Rundle

The Publishers Panel: Short Fiction

Axel Howerton, Rhonda Parrish, Ron Friedman, Kevin Thornton, Tod McCoy

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 4 PM – Waterton

Memoir as Saleable Art

Caterina Edwards, Timothy Anderson, Candace Jane Doresy

Your book is sitting on the shelf at \$25. Convince me why I should read your memoir. Did you write it for your family, your shrink, your own catharsis? Or do you have something to say to readers? Panellists discuss what elements of memoir stretch its appeal to the buying public.

Sunday 4 PM – Canmore

Lyrics to Libretto: Writers Working with Musicians

Kirk Miles

David Byrne of the Talking Heads, once said: “combining words and music makes us listen to each of them longer than we would by themselves.” This workshop explores the excitement and challenges a writer faces when working with musicians. Whether you are just putting a poem to music or creating a full libretto sometime in your career as a writer you will be asked to use music to present your writing. This workshop will teach you what to expect and how to achieve artistic goals working with sound and the written word.

Saturday Night Autograph Session

We have so many authors ready to sign your books! Among them are:

Our Guests

Diana Gabaldon
Daniel Abraham
Faith Hunter
Brandon Mull
CJ Carmichael

— Plus —

Madison Avery
Jayne Barnard
E.C. Bell
Shawn Bird
E.C. Blake
Susan Bohnet
Kate Boorman
Rebecca Bradley
Scott Burtness
Kristi Charish
David B. Coe
Adam Dreece
Caterina Edwards
Pat Flewwelling
Susan Forest
Barb Galler-Smith
Chadwick Ginther
Dave Gross
Christopher Hoare
R. J. Hore
Steena Holmes
Gwen Hunter
D. B. Jackson

Jessica L. Jackson
Patricia Jensen Jeffery
Sarah Kades
Kai Kiriama
Adria Laycraft
Fonda Lee
Mark Leslie
Nicole Luiken
Ed Lukowich
Susan MacGregor
Randy McCharles
Jodi McIsaac
Jane Ann McLachlan
Joanne Morcom
Avery Olive
Candace Osmond
Sherry Peters
Rhonda Parrish
Jodie Renner
G.W. Renshaw
Tim Reynolds
Simon Rose
Trina St. Jean
Judith Silverthorne
Patrick Swenson
Patrick Weekes
Darusha Wehm
Sam Wiebe
Edward Willett
SG Wong

Autographs

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