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AUTHORPODS
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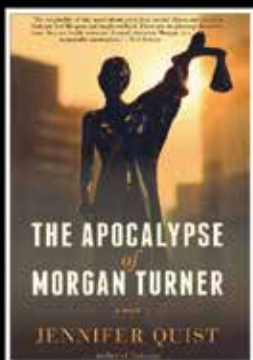
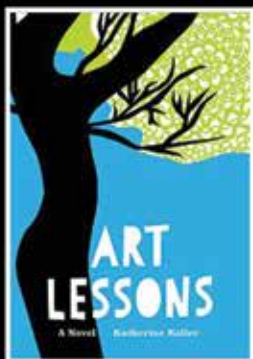


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ABOUT LITFEST

What is LitFest, anyway?

LitFest is not only a celebration of nonfiction books, but a festival of ideas. We don't just sit around and read (although we do that, too). At LitFest, nonfiction comes to life. Avid readers connect with nonfiction creators through a series of gatherings, discussions, and sensory experiences. We strive to get the content off the page and into the atmosphere surrounding our events. Come along, bring a friend, ask questions, and get ready to grow your reading list.

We Are All Treaty People

LitFest respectfully acknowledges that we gather on Treaty 6 territory, and that we are beneficiaries of this Treaty of peace and friendship signed in 1876. We extend our hand in respect to the Indigenous nations of the Cree, Nakota, Tsuu-T'ina, Blackfoot, Dene, Salteaux, and Métis as well as many others who have made this land their home. Today, we strive to honour the tradition of sharing and celebrating stories from the many voices that gather with us here.



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*Programming may be subject to change.
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause.*

WELCOME TO LITFEST



Greetings, LitFolk!

It may have been a year with no summer, but we've been busily anticipating one of the biggest items on our nonfiction bucket-list for months: Malcolm Gladwell is finally coming to YEG. The ideas behind *Talking to Strangers* started permeating through so much of the program — we simply had to run with it. If we all tried to better understand the people we don't know, it might just make the world a more understanding place.

So, in this year's line-up, you'll find some odd and interesting combinations of authors on panels; at times they'll be speaking from similar perspectives, and other times not so similar.

At the heart of LitFest's mission, we hope to drive conversation about big ideas. We also want our audience, presenters, and volunteers to have a great time. We love being in different spaces, trying new things, and walking away with a good new read or two (or ten!).

We look forward to seeing you all at the fest. Be kind to each other out there. And try striking up a conversation with someone you don't know. It may just surprise you.

Many thanks to you all for being part of the festival. We couldn't do this without you.

Fawnda Mithrush | Executive Director, LitFest



Message from his Worship Mayor Don Iveson

One of the best ways to embrace our diversity and learn about the world is through storytelling. By sharing our experiences, we open up the road to having deep, meaningful conversations and to developing an understanding of the lives of others.

Fortunately, Edmonton is home to LitFest, an engaging 11-day festival that brings together leading non-fiction writers from across Canada and around the world. Throughout the festival you will be treated to fun and thought-provoking panels, readings, conversations and workshops. I hope that each event you attend is informative and challenging.

On behalf of City Council and the people of Edmonton, thank you to the organizers, sponsors and volunteers of LitFest 2019. As Canada's first and only non-fiction festival, you are elevating our reputation as a centre for arts and culture, while also making space for us to engage in important conversations.

Best wishes for an enjoyable festival!

Yours truly,
Don Iveson | Mayor

A stack of Avenue magazine covers is shown in a grayscale, slightly blurred perspective. The word 'avenue' is visible on the spines of several covers, along with the date 'MAY 2019'. A large, bold, black title is superimposed over the center of the stack.

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WELCOME MESSAGES



Message from Honourable Leela Sharon Aheer, Minister of Culture, Multiculturalism and Status of Women

As Alberta's Minister for culture, it is my pleasure to welcome everyone to Edmonton LitFest 2019.

Storytelling is essential to life. It is how we connect with each other. Non-fiction writers take it a step further by sharing their stories with the world. Readers may be empowered by someone's bravery, have their eyes opened by a thought-provoking discovery, or find comfort from a writer sharing an experience.

From its grassroots beginnings, LitFest has blossomed into an 11-day celebration of the written word. Family life, politics, gender, trauma, and everything in between is up for discussion at the book readings, panels and workshops happening around the city.

I encourage you to explore and participate, and continue supporting local writers. Enjoy the festival.

Leela Sharon Aheer

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Acknowledgements

For contributions behind the scenes, above and beyond all expectations, LitFest would like to thank Noelle Allen, Big Pixel, Sharon Budnarchuk, Emma Butler, Marie Carriere, Jessica Chan, David Cheoros, Natalie Cook, Dana DiTomaso, Corina Eberle, Cynara Geissler, Karen Gibson, Amarjeet Heera, Tracy Hyatt, Ellen Kartz, Kyla Kazeil, Chris Martin, Shelley Martin, Arif Noorani, Pilar Martinez, Laura Meyer, Lauren Morocco, Andrew Paul, Jason Purcell, Chris Radojewski, Antoine Palmer, Krystina Silva, Matthew Stepanic, Chelsey Swankhuizen, Suzanne Trudel, Carol Watson.

Special thanks to the fantastic staff at the Matrix Hotel, Royal Alberta Museum, Yellowhead Brewery, Metro Cinema, and CBC Edmonton.

PASSES, TICKETS & PRICES

Single event tickets can be purchased at venue box offices starting 30 minutes prior to each presentation. Cash, Visa, and Mastercard are accepted on-site.

Single Event Tickets:

\$12 advance at litfestalberta.org, \$15 at the door

Processing fees apply. Seating is General Admission. If you require special seating, please notify one of our staff or volunteers on arrival.

Note: Festival Passes can be used to gain single-ticket admission to regular-priced LitFest events. Because of limited seating at some venues, Festival Passes do not guarantee admission. Pass holders may pre-book tickets to specific events when purchasing their Pass on Eventbrite, or by emailing rsvp@litfestalberta.org up to 24 hours in advance of the event.

Special Events*

Tickets must be purchased in advance at www.litfestalberta.org. No sales at the door.

A Brunch of Writers

Sunday, October 27 @ 11:00 am | \$49 | Matrix Hotel, Amber Ballroom

**Festival passes are not eligible for these events*

Festival Passes:

Festival Pass\$129

Community Access Program

To keep our events accessible for **all** audiences, regular-priced festival presentations will have a number of Community Access tickets available at no cost or by donation. These tickets can be claimed on a first-come, first serve basis at the on-site box offices prior to each event. If you'd like to know more, simply inquire with one of our staff or volunteers.

Content Advisory

Nonfiction sometimes includes subjects that are emotionally challenging. Among topics at this year's festival like historical hoaxes, astronauts, and urban forests, other books examine sexism, colonialism, racism, trauma, violent crime, suicide, mental illness, and other potentially triggering content. We respect that an audience member may want to leave or take a break at any time during an event, and also that speakers are not required to attend questions to which they do not wish to respond.

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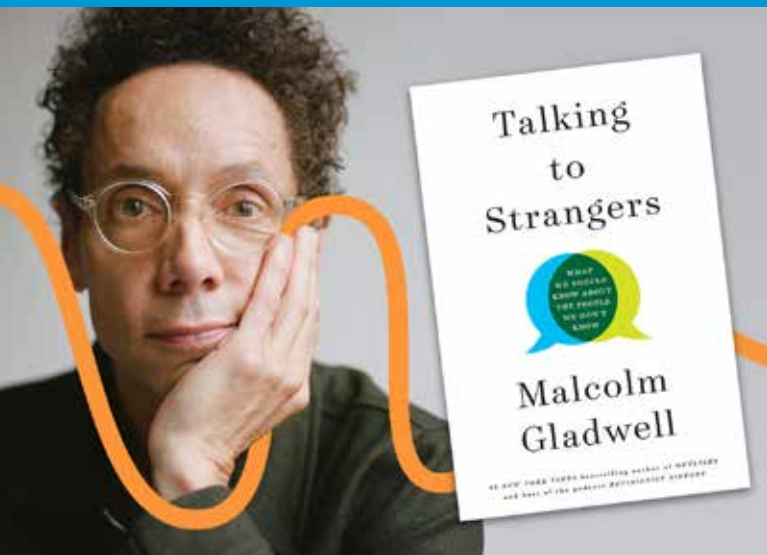


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HEADLINE EVENT



An Evening with Malcolm Gladwell

Wednesday, October 2 @ 7:30PM

Francis Winspear Centre for Music

Gladwell's first new book in six years, *TALKING TO STRANGERS: What We Should Know about the People We Don't Know*, offers an incisive and powerful examination of our interactions with strangers—and why they often go so terribly wrong. He starts by asking a question: “What happens when we have to deal with the unfamiliar?”

Signed copies of the book will be available for purchase at the event.

Malcolm Gladwell is the international best-selling author and host of the podcast *Revisionist History*, co-host of the music podcast *Broken Record*, and staff writer for *The New Yorker*. Gladwell was named one of the 100 most influential people by *Time Magazine* and one of Foreign Policy's top 100 Global Thinkers.

Presented in partnership with Edmonton Community Foundation and Devfacto.



DEVFACTO

AUTHORPODS

We're thrilled to present this new series featuring authors, podcasters, and those who fall in-between! All AuthorPods events are included in the LitFest Festival Pass. Single tickets \$12 advance, \$15 at the door.

MEDIA INDIGENA:

Rick Harp & The Book Women Podcast

Thursday, October 3 @ 7:00 PM Yellowhead Brewery

A conversation featuring Indigenous and Métis voices in podcasting. There will be talk about books, too!

Emotional Baggage

Friday, October 4 @ 6:00 PM Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum

Alicia Tobin of *Super! Sick! Podcast!*, *Retail Nightmares*, and author of *So You're A Little Sad, So What?* in conversation with Edmonton's current Poet Laureate, Nisha Patel.

Secret Life of Canada

Friday, October 4 @ 7:30PM



Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum

Falen Johnson and Leah-Simone Bowen of CBC Podcasts *Secret Life of Canada*.

How Is That Funny?

Saturday, October 5 @ 1:00 PM

The Common

A panel with Alicia Tobin, Falen Johnson, and Leah-Simone Bowen on how to talk about unfunny things in a funny way. (The secret: Punch up!).





Neighbourhood Beats

Saturday, October 5 @ 3:00 PM

The Common

A candid discussion on reporting from real-life neighbourhoods and the people who call them home. With Justin Ling of CBC Podcasts *Uncover: The Village*, *SLUMTOWN* producer Elizabeth Hames, and Carissa Halton, author of *Little Yellow House*.

TRUE CRIME SHOWDOWN

Saturday, October 5 @ 7:00 PM

Metro Cinema

In conversation with Justin Ling of CBC Podcasts *Uncover: The Village*, and *Globe & Mail's* crime reporter Jana Pruden, author of *Fear on the Family Farm*.



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AS YOU LIKE IT

FEB 15 – MAR 15, 2020

Shakespeare's wonderful romantic comedy is now set in Vancouver in the 1960s, complete with professional wrestling and songs by The Beatles!



THE
GARNEAU BLOCK

MAR 14 – APR 5, 2020

Belinda Cornish's stage adaptation of Todd Babiak's novel *The Garneau Block*. Meet the warm, endearing, and delightfully flawed residents of a fictional cul-de-sac in the city's Garneau neighbourhood, just after the scandalous death of a neighbour and the sudden news that their land is about to be repossessed by the university.



PETER
PAN GOES
WRONG

APR 11 – MAY 3, 2020

The Cornley University Drama Society tries to mount a production of J.M. Barrie's fantastic tale Peter Pan but anything that can go wrong, does. You've never seen anything like this brilliant display of sheer comedic mayhem.

OPENING NIGHT



FESTIVAL LAUNCH:

Talking to Strangers Part Deux

(followed by The Elevator Cabaret)

Thursday, October 17, 6-8PM | Yellowhead Brewery

We kick off the festival with a host passionate people. From the ideals of evangelists and oil magnates to a shared concern for the planet; we do live in interesting times. May we all learn better how to talk with strangers!

6:00 PM

In conversation with Darren Dochuk and Satya Brata Das, with Glass Buffalo contributor's Emily Riddle and Emma Jackson. Hosted by *The Narwhal's* Sharon J. Riley.

7:00 PM

We'll finish off the evening's program with the rapid-fire tradition of the **Elevator Cabaret!** Stick around to hear quick pitches from locals on what to put in your calendar for the rest of the fest.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Jesse Thistle: *From the Ashes*

Friday, October 18 @ 6:00 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum

Featuring Jesse Thistle
Host: Book Women Podcast

An hour with author Jesse Thistle on his memoir, *From the Ashes*.
Presented in part with the RISE Book Club.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Reconciling Times

Friday, October 18 @ 7:30 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum

Featuring: Suzanne Methot, Jesse Thistle, Annahid Dashtgard
Host: Book Women Podcast

Three authors present readings and discussion on varied challenges and
experiences with race and reconciliation.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Memoir Hour: Small Town Surprises

**Saturday, October 19 @ 11:00 AM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Carla Funk, Joshua M. Ferguson, Candace Savage
Host: Soni Dasmohapatra

Authors Candace Savage, Carla Funk, and Joshua M. Ferguson discuss their experiences leaving, returning to, and reconciling with their hometowns in each of their most recent memoirs.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Tarnished Legacies

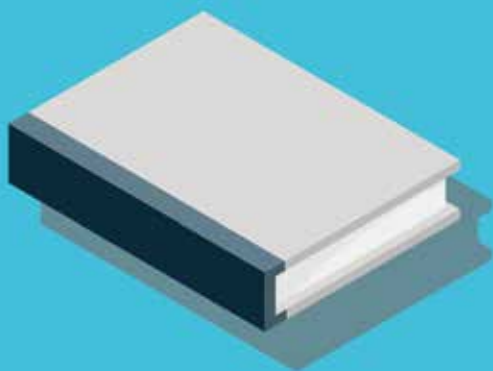
**Saturday, October 19 @ 1:30 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Jessica McDiarmid, Suzanne Methot

Two authors offer perspectives on the lasting legacy of residential schools and their inciting history of murdered and missing women, along with its ultimate inquiry.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

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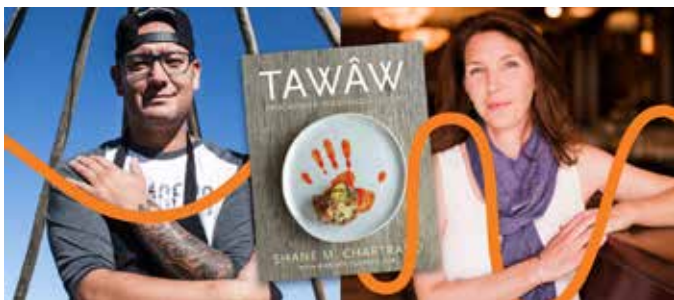
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FEATURE EVENTS



tawâw: There is Room

**Saturday, October 19 @ 3:00 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Chef Shane Chartrand,
Jennifer Cockrall-King | Host: Linda Tzang



One of the most anticipated cookbooks of the year, *tawâw* traces Chartrand's culinary journey from his childhood in Central Alberta, where he learned to raise livestock, hunt, and fish on his family's acreage, to his current position as executive chef at the acclaimed SC Restaurant in the River Cree Resort & Casino in Enoch, Alberta, on Treaty 6 Territory. Nibbles will be provided by the Royal Alberta Museum, with cash bar. Presented in partnership with FRAMS and Downtown Business Association's Harvest Week.

Tickets: \$20 advance, \$25 at the door



Panel: Voices of Change

**Sunday, October 20 @ Noon | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Roberta Staley, Kai Cheng Thom, Joshua M. Ferguson
Host: Anya Zoledziowski

Three authors with stories of incredible change and the politics of bodies: Two very personal transitions, one international scandal/sensation. All daring greatly.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Memoir Hour: Adventurers

**Sunday, October 20 @ 1:30 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Joanna Pocock, Linda Kenyon, Sharon Wood
Host: Spencer Sekyer

More memoir! These authors share stories on journeying far from home, by boat, on land, and toward the skies.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Treed (in YEG)

**Sunday, October 20 @ 3:00 PM |
Meet at Matrix Hotel Lobby**

Walking Tour, starting point at Matrix Hotel

Featuring: Ariel Gordon
Host: Dwayne Donald

Whether its climate change on city trees or foraging in the city, Dutch elm disease or squirrels in the living room, Ariel Gordon delves into our relationships with the natural world with passion. Join her on a walk through YEG's treasured river valley for insights on our very own urban forest. The walk will conclude at Yellowhead Brewery.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Ayelet Tsabari: *The Art of Leaving*

Sunday, October 20 @ 4:00 PM | Yellowhead Brewery

Host: Omar Mouallem

With fierce, emotional prose, Ayelet Tsabari crafts a beautiful meditation about the lengths we will travel to escape our grief, the universal search to find a place where we belong, and the sense of home we eventually find within ourselves. Winner of the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature and the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, this is a speaker to remember.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



CLC Brown Bag Lunch with Kai Cheng Thom

Monday, Oct 21 @ 12:00 PM | Old Arts Building,
Mainfloor Lounge, University of Alberta

In a heartbreaking yet hopeful collection of personal essays and prose poems, blending the confessional, political, and literary, acclaimed poet and essayist Kai Cheng Thom dives deep into the questions that haunt social movements today. With the author's characteristic eloquence and honesty, *I Hope We Choose Love* proposes heartfelt solutions on the topics of violence, complicity, family, vengeance, and forgiveness. Taking its cues from contemporary thought leaders in the transformative justice movement such as adrienne maree brown and Leah Lakshmi Piepzna-Samarasinha, this provocative book is a call for nuance in a time of political polarization, for healing in a time of justice, and for love in an apocalypse.

Presented in partnership with the Canadian Literature Centre. **Free to attend.**



FEATURE EVENTS



ELECTION NIGHT: Can't We Get Along?

Monday, October 21 @ 6:00 PM | Metro Cinema

Featuring: Humble the Poet, Kai Cheng Thom, Ayelet Tsabari, Ami McKay

Host: Dave Cournoyer

A plea for empathy on election night. Join us for a selection of readings with visiting authors, then commiserate, debate, and even celebrate as the results roll in from across the country. Presented in partnership with Metro Cinema.

Admission by donation; arrive early!



CLC Brown Bag Lunch with Ami McKay

Tuesday, October 22 @ 12:00 PM | Old Arts Building, mainfloor lounge, University of Alberta

Weaving together family history, genetic discovery, and scenes from her life, Ami McKay tells the compelling, true-science story of her own family's unsettling legacy of hereditary cancer while exploring the challenges that come from carrying the mutation that not only killed many people you loved, but might also kill you.

Presented in partnership with the Canadian Literature Centre. **Free to attend.**



FEATURE EVENTS



Genetics: A Love Story

Tuesday, October 22 @ 6:00 PM | Yellowhead Brewery

Featuring: Ami McKay & Renée Pellerin

Host: Keren Tang

A discussion on family, genetics, and the perils of early detection.
Presented in partnership with Kucey Dental.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Let's Talk About (gasp) Sex

Tuesday, October 22 @ 7:30 PM | Yellowhead Brewery

Featuring: Jenny Yuen, Lili Boisvert, Nellwyn Lampert

Host: Breanna Mroczek

Three authors discuss the myriad manifestations of female sexual experience, including but not limited to polyamory, virginity, patriarchal nonsense, and other such things.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



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FEATURE EVENTS

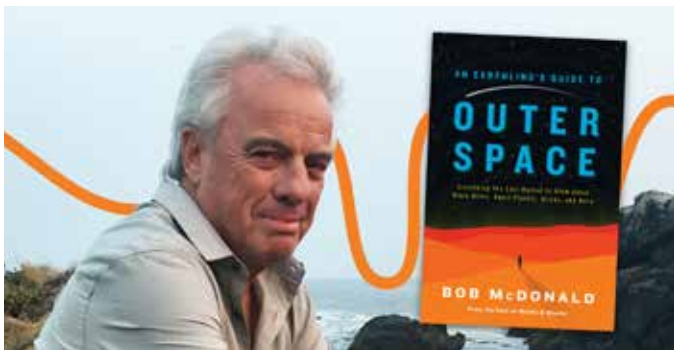


Nonfiction Story Slam

Wednesday, October 23 @ 7:00 PM |
99Ten

Slammers be slammin' again! Sign-up at 7pm, slam at 7:30pm. Ten tellers. Five minutes. One winner. Let the game of truth begin!

Free to attend; arrive early! Space is limited.



An Earthling's Guide to Outer Space

Thursday, October 24 @ 6:00 PM | Amiskwaciy
Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum

Featuring Bob McDonald
Host: Adam Rozenhart

Acclaimed science commentator Bob McDonald takes us on a tour of our galaxy, unraveling the mysteries of the universe, and helping us navigate our place among the stars.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Anna Mehler Paperny: ***Hello I Want to Die Please Fix Me***

**Thursday, October 24 @ 7:30 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum**

Featuring: Anna Mehler Paperny
Host: Rayanne Haines

Award-winning journalist Anna Mehler Paperny's stunning memoir chronicles with courageous honesty and uncommon eloquence her experience of depression and her quest to explore what we know and don't know about this disease that afflicts almost a fifth of the population, providing an invaluable guide to a system struggling to find solutions.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Mental Health Mixer

**Friday, October 25 @ 7:00 PM |
Yellowhead Brewery**

Featuring: Joanne Vannicola, Anna Mehler Paperny,
Richard Kemick, Lorimer Shenher, Naomi Lewis, Lise Weil



A night to mix and mingle, and to address our worst and best fears: Talking about our feelings with strangers. Join us for this evening of loose lips and big feels. Expect short readings and discussions with the authors on the act of writing on personal stories, writing as therapy, and other light-hearted fare.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door

FEATURE EVENTS



Acting (for your) Life

Saturday, October 26 @ 12:00 PM | The Common

Featuring: Richard Kemick, Joanne Vannicola

Host: Sheri Somerville

Joanne Vannicola is an Emmy Award-winning actor who has worked in theatre, film, and television, and published a memoir about her childhood this year, *All We Knew But Couldn't Say*. Richard Kemick is an armchair-atheist who joined the 100+ cast of the Badlands Passion Play, North America's largest production of its kind—then wrote a memoir, *I Am Herod*, about the experience. What could these two possibly have to talk about?

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



Food Matters: The Road Travelled

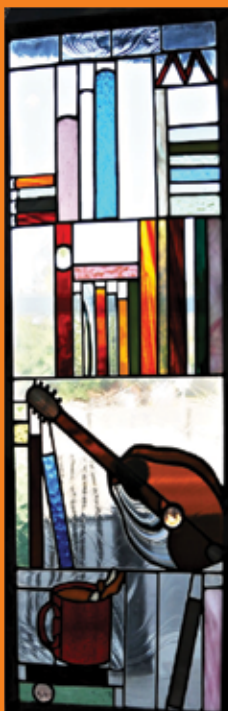
Saturday, October 26 @ 2:00 PM | The Common

Featuring: Twyla Campbell, Ann Hui, Lenore Newman

Host: Linda Tzang

One of LitFest's most popular events returns with stories and writers expounding on restaurant road trips, forever lost food experiences, and friends who inspire good taste throughout life's challenges. Enjoy tastings and nibbles, and don't forget to tip your server.

Tickets: \$20 advance, \$25 at the door



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FEATURE EVENTS



A Brunch of Writers

Sunday, October 27 @ 11:00 AM | Matrix Hotel,
Amber Room | **SPECIAL EVENT**

Featuring: Lorimer Shenher, Lenore Newman, Twyla Campbell,
Joanne Vannicola, Charlotte Gray

Host: Ted Bishop

Our final feast of the fest is always a treat. Join the surviving authors for a delicious buffet brunch, readings, and a special sneak peek on LitFest's future plans.

Tickets: \$49, tickets must be purchased in advance. No passes.



Charlotte Gray: *Murdered Midas*

Sunday, October 27 @ 2:00 PM | Amiskwaciy Theatre,
Royal Alberta Museum

Featuring: Charlotte Gray

Host: Marty Chan



A gold mine. A millionaire. An island paradise. An unsolved murder. A missing fortune. The story of the infamous Sir Harry Oakes, by an all-time festival favourite. Charlotte Gray wraps up this year's fest as only one of Canada's ultimate historians can. Presented with Friends of Royal Alberta Museum Society (FRAMS).

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at the door



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FREE EVENTS



Darren Dochuk October 17 @ 12:00 PM

CBC Centre Stage

A noon-hour conversation with Darren Dochuk, author of *Anointed With Oil*.



Annahid Dashtgard October 18 @ 12:00 PM

CBC Centre Stage

A noon-hour conversation with Annahid Dashtgard, author of *Breaking the Ocean: A Memoir of Race, Rebellion, and Reconciliation*.



Bob McDonald October 24 @ 12:00 PM

Glass Bookshop in City Centre

A noon-hour conversation with Bob McDonald, host of CBC's *Quirks & Quarks*, and author of *An Earthling's Guide to Outer Space*.



Anna Mehler Paperny October 25 @ 12:00 PM

Glass Bookshop in City Centre

A noon-hour conversation with Anna Mehler Paperny, author of *Hello I Want To Die Please Fix Me*.

MASTERCLASSES



Masterclass: Gender in the Developing World

Saturday, October 19 @ 9:00 AM | Matrix Prism Room

Facilitator: Roberta Staley

Assessing the welfare of women and children is key to determining the efficacy of foreign aid and development initiatives. Documentary filmmaker and author Roberta Staley specializes in international reportage, and in this session she will discuss the importance of investigating gender in the developing world. Her writing covers violence against women, HIV-AIDS, media, and maternal health.



Masterclass: The Drama of "Ordinary" Lives

Sunday, October 20 @ 10:00 AM | Matrix Amber Room

Facilitator: Candace Savage

Most people lead unremarkable, and little unremarked upon, lives. They are born, grow up, have children (or not), find work, perhaps grow old, and die. We can be sure that each of these life passages was filled with effort and feeling. Yet all that remains to the next generation is a scattered assortment of clues: the bare data of genealogy, the testimony of old photos, the uncertain evidence of family anecdotes. In this lively, conversational workshop, Candace Savage will explore techniques for telling rich, personal stories about long-departed people based on fragments of evidence. Drawn in part from what Candace learned while writing her latest book, *Strangers in the House*, this discussion will be of special importance to anyone interested in writing narrative history or in exploring their own family stories.

MASTERCLASSES

All masterclass sessions are 90 minutes in length. Space is limited. Festival Passholders must reserve your spot in advance at rsvp@litfestalberta.org.

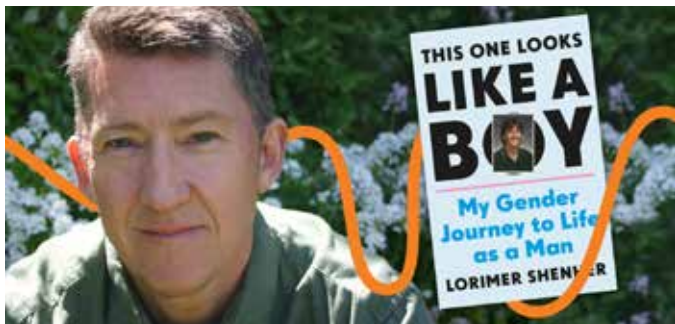
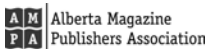


Masterclass: Eat, Drink, Write

Sunday, October 20 @ 12:00 PM | Matrix Amber Room

Facilitator: Jennifer Cockrall-King

Jennifer Cockrall-King has done it all from restaurant reviews, culinary trends, to chef profiles to co-authoring a cookbook. Bring your passion for food and drink and learn how to take the next step in your writing. Open to all levels of writers. Presented with the support of Alberta Magazine Publishers Association.



Masterclass: From Seen to Scene

Saturday, October 26 @ 10:00 AM | Matrix Prism Room

Facilitator: Lorimer Shenher

Moving a story idea or life experience from the mind to the page can be incredibly daunting. Lorimer Shenher discusses his process for ensuring the topics he writes about keep him engaged throughout the process of creating a book. From writing good scenes to navigating delicate 'characters' or topics, Lorimer will share what has worked for him, what he's doing differently, and how each experience helped on his writing path.

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



L'w' "Δb' Δ'q' <·` masinahikan iskwêwak: Book Women is a podcast that is by and for Indigenous Peoples who have an interest in editing, publishing, and writing Indigenous stories. The hope is to inspire Indigenous Peoples to share their stories in whatever medium that they enjoy. The hosts of the podcasts, the "Book Women", are: Tanya Ball, Sheila Laroque, and Kayla Lar-Son. They are strong, Métis/Metis women representing nations from across the homeland. At one point, they all worked together as radical librarians, challenging library systems wherever possible. Now, they have banded together to chat books, culture, and anything else that comes up.



Ted Bishop's latest book, *The Social Life of Ink: Culture, Wonder, and Our Relationship with the Written Word*, combines memoir, travel, and cultural history as it moves from Samarkand to Budapest, from Chinese ink sticks to Bic ballpoint pens. It won the Wilfred Eggleston prize for nonfiction, and was a finalist for the Edmonton Public Library's Readers' Choice Award. Ted teaches at the University of Alberta and writes with a fountain pen.



Lili Boisvert is a journalist, columnist, and television host. She hosted the show *Sexplora*, broadcast on ICI Explora, and is the co-creator of the feminist webseries, *Les Brutes on Télé-Québec*. Lili lives in Montreal. | [@BoisvertLili](#)



Leah-Simone Bowen is a writer, performer and producer. She is a Toronto based, first generation Canadian from Alberta, whose family hails from Barbados W.I.



Twyla Campbell is CBC Edmonton's long-standing restaurant reviewer (since 2010). She is a seasoned traveller, adventurous eater, oenophile, and freelance writer who has covered those topics for newspapers, magazines, and websites for 14 years and counting. She is [www.EatNorth.com's](#) primary Edmonton and Okanagan food writer, has completed WSET II, and

proudly supports conscientious food growers who practice sustainable food production. | [@WanderWoman10](#)



Marty Chan writes books for kids and plays for adults. He's best known for his hit play, *Mom, Dad, I'm Living with a White Girl*, which toured across Canada and received an Off-Broadway production in 2004. He has two books out this fall, *Kung Fu Master* (Orca) and *The Ehrich Weisz Chronicles: Metamorphosis*. You can learn more about Marty at [martychan.com](#) | [@Marty_Chan](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Shane Mederic Chartrand, of the Enoch Cree Nation, is at the forefront of the re-emergence of Indigenous cuisine in North America. Raised in Central Alberta, where he learned to respect food through raising livestock, hunting, and fishing on his family's acreage, Chartrand relocated to Edmonton to pursue culinary training. In 2015, he was invited to participate in the prestigious international chef contingent of *Cook It Raw*, and has since competed on *Chopped Canada*. Chartrand is the executive chef at the acclaimed SC Restaurant at the River Cree Resort & Casino in Enoch, Alberta. | [@chefchartrand](#)



Jennifer Cockrall-King is an award-winning independent food writer, lecturer, and editor. Her writing has appeared in publications across North America, including *Maclean's*, *Reader's Digest*, *Eighteen Bridges*, *Canadian Geographic*, and *enRoute* magazine. *Tawâw: Progressive Indigenous Cuisine* is her third book. She lives in the small community of Naramata, in British Columbia's Okanagan Valley. | [@jennifer_ck](#)



Satya Brata Das is a seasoned strategist, author, board director, and policy guru. He is a frequent commentator and public speaker in both French and English, in media and on stage. Satya's volunteer work is deeply informed with a lifelong commitment to human rights as a way of life, and the principles of human dignity espoused by M.K. Gandhi. Satya's books span some of the most compelling challenges of our times, offering intimate vignettes and deep exploration of the points where society, culture, economy, and environment come together.



Soni Dasmohapatra BA, MPA is a passionate advocate for the promotion of equity, diversity and inclusion. Throughout her diverse career she has had the opportunity to be an educator, policy wonk, convenor and creative leader. She currently is building a consulting practice in Edmonton focused on strategy development for organizational growth, learning, and change, public policy development and review, civic engagement and offering human rights frameworks for program implementation.



Annahid Dashtgard (M.Ed.) is the co-founder of Anima Leadership, an international consulting company specializing in issues of diversity and inclusion. She has been a leader in the anti-corporate globalization movement, and frequently referred to as one of the top activists to watch in the 1990s. She is the host of the podcast series *Breaking the Ocean: Soundwaves of Belonging* and the director of two award-winning documentaries, *Buy-Bye World: The Battle of Seattle* and *Bread*. Dashtgard lives in Toronto with her husband and children. *Breaking the Ocean* is her first book. | [@Annahid](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Darren Dochuk is associate professor of history at the University of Notre Dame. He is author of *From Bible Belt to Sunbelt*, which received the John H. Dunning Prize from the American Historical Association and the Ellis W. Hawley Prize from the Organization of American Historians, and was based on a dissertation that was awarded the Allan Nevins

Prize from the Society of American Historians. He has also edited several other books in American religious history. Born and raised in Edmonton, he now lives in South Bend, Indiana.



Joshua M. Ferguson (Ph.D.) is a non-binary trans (they/them) writer, filmmaker, advocate, and alchemist. In 2018, they became the first person to receive a non-binary birth certificate with an “X” designation in their home province of Ontario, and their advocacy on behalf of non-binary trans people has contributed to government reform in Canada.

Joshua’s writing and advocacy efforts have been

featured in the *Toronto Star*, *the Guardian*, *NBC News*, *HuffPost*, *VICE*, *BuzzFeed*, *Teen Vogue*, and *OUT Magazine*. Ferguson lives in Vancouver, British Columbia. *Me, Myself, They* is their first book. | [@joshuamferguson](#)



Carla Funk was born and raised in Vanderhoof, one of the earliest Mennonite settlements in British Columbia, Canada. She is the author of five books of poetry, the former poet laureate for the City of Victoria, and a recipient of the Malahat Review’s esteemed Constance Rooke Nonfiction Prize. She lives in Victoria, BC.



Malcolm Gladwell is the author of five international bestsellers: *The Tipping Point*, *Blink*, *Outliers*, *What the Dog Saw*, and *David and Goliath*. He is the host of the podcast *Revisionist History*, co-host of the music podcast *Broken Record*, and a staff writer at *The New Yorker*. He was named one of the 100 most influential people by *Time* magazine and one of Foreign Policy’s

top 100 Global Thinkers. He graduated from the University of Toronto, Trinity College, with a degree in history. Gladwell was born in England and grew up in rural Ontario. He lives in New York. | [@Gladwell](#)



Ariel Gordon is the author of two collections of urban-nature poetry, both of which won the Lansdowne Prize for Poetry. Recent projects include the anthology *GUSH: menstrual manifestos for our times*, co-edited with Tanis MacDonald and Rosanna Deerchild, and the third installment of the National Poetry Month in the Winnipeg Free Press project. She lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba. | [@JaneDayReader](#)



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AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Charlotte Gray is one of Canada's best-known writers and the author of ten acclaimed books of literary non-fiction. Her bestseller, *The Massey Murder: A Maid, Her Master and the Trial That Shocked a Country* won the Toronto Book Award, the Canadian Authors Association Lela Common Award for Canadian History, and the Arthur Ellis Award for Best Nonfiction Crime Book. An adaptation of her bestseller, *Gold Diggers: Striking It Rich in the Klondike*, was made into a TV miniseries in 2014. Gray is an adjunct research professor in the department of history at Carleton University. | [@CharlotteJGray](#)



Rayanne Haines is an award-winning fiction author and poet, co-host of the poetry podcast, *Let's Get Lit*, and has been a feature artist with Edmonton Public Library, writer-in-residence at Audreys Books, and Executive Director of the Edmonton Poetry Festival. Her novel-in-verse, *Stained with the Colours of Sunday Morning* (Inanna Publications 2018) released to critical acclaim. Rayanne is currently working on a non-fiction collection of poetry & essay that looks at mental health trauma, grief and motherhood.



Carissa Halton is an award-winning magazine writer and author of *Little Yellow House: Finding Community in a Changing Neighbourhood*. Her writing about urban culture, politics, and design has appeared in many publications including: *Alberta Venture*, *Alberta Views*, and Postmedia newspapers. Her essays have been published in *In This Together*, *Broadview Anthology of Expository Prose*, *The Globe and Mail*, and *Today's Parent*. She is the Off the Beaten Track columnist for CBC's Edmonton AM. When not writing, she has worked broadly as a non-profit leader, an advisor to government ministers, a communications consultant and group facilitator. She lives with her husband and three children in Edmonton. | [@carissahalton](#)



Elizabeth Hames is a producer with CBC Edmonton with a passion for research and investigations. She is intensely curious and nose-y and is living her best life when scouring documents for clues and telling details. She began her career with small-town newspapers on Vancouver Island and Whitehorse and started with CBC as an intern for News Network and As It Happens while pursuing her Master of Journalism at the University of British Columbia. An opportunity to work for a business magazine brought her out to Edmonton, and she transitioned to CBC Edmonton in 2016.



Rick Harp has been a broadcaster and communicator for over two decades. He has worked for CBC Radio, the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network and NCI-FM. The host/producer of the Indigenous current affairs podcast *MEDIA INDIGENA*, Rick is part of the Peter Ballantyne Cree Nation in northern Saskatchewan.

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Ann Hui has been *The Globe and Mail's* national food reporter since 2015. Her work has included investigations into the role of lobbying in the development of Canada's Food Guide, and a 2018 story that uncovered widespread sexual harassment in one of the country's most prominent wineries. Hui has written for *The Walrus*, *National Post*, *Toronto Star* and *Victoria Times Colonist* and has twice

been nominated for National Newspaper Awards. She has a master of journalism from Ryerson University and a Bachelor of Arts from the University of British Columbia. | [@annhui](#)



Emma Jackson is a queer white settler born and raised on Algonquin Anishinabe territory. She grew up in the Canadian labour movement and first got involved in organizing through fossil fuel divestment. She's a co-founder and organizer with Climate Justice Edmonton, solidarity organizer with Migrante AB, and board member of the Alberta Workers' Association for Research and Education (AWARE). She has an MA

in Sociology from the University of Alberta, where she studied migrant caregivers' experiences of the Fort McMurray wildfire and now works full-time as a field organizer with 350 Canada.



Humble the Poet (Kanwer Singh), is a Canadian-born rapper, spoken-word artist, poet, international bestselling author, and former elementary school teacher. He runs a wildly popular blog that has more than 100,000 monthly readers, and he has over 930,000 social media followers. His first book, *Unlearn*, sold nearly 30,000 copies. He has performed at concerts and festivals including Lollapalooza and has been featured in major media including *BuzzFeed* and the *Huffington Post*. | [@humblethepoet](#)



Falen Johnson is a playwright and performer. She is Mohawk and Tuscarora from Six Nations and now lives in Toronto.



Richard Kelly Kemick is the recipient of numerous awards, including two National Magazine Awards and the Norma Epstein Award. His debut poetry collection, *Caribou Run*, was published to critical acclaim in 2016, and he recently won the Writers' Guild of Alberta's 2019 Howard O'Hagan Award for best short story. His writing has appeared in the *Walrus*, *The New Quarterly*, *This Magazine*, *Numero Cinq*, and *Taddle Creek*. He lives in the BC Interior.



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AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Linda Kenyon is a writer of short fiction and creative non-fiction. She lives full-time on a 43-foot sailboat with her husband and has sailed across the Atlantic Ocean and back. Stories about her sailing adventures appear regularly in *Grand Magazine*. She has published two flash fiction chapbooks, *You Are Here* (Trout Lily Press) and *This is a love song, sort of* (Stonegarden Press) as well as the non-fiction book *Rainforest Bird Rescue: Changing the future for endangered wildlife* (Firefly Books), which won a Canadian Science Writers Association Science in Society Journalism Award.



Nellwyn Lampert is a writer, editor, and blogger with an MFA in creative nonfiction from the University of King's College. She lives in Toronto. | [@NellwynLampert](#)



Naomi K. Lewis is the author of the novel *Cricket in a Fist*, the short story collection *I Know Who You Remind Me Of*, and most recently the memoir *Tiny Lights for Travellers*. She co-edited the anthology *Shy* with Rona Altrows. She was an associate editor at *Alberta Views* magazine, and has served as writer in residence at the Calgary Public Library and the University of New Brunswick.



Justin Ling is an investigative journalist who has worked across the country, focusing on stories and issues undercovered or misunderstood. For the past year, he has been covering the investigation into Bruce McArthur. His forthcoming book on the case will be published by McClelland & Stewart in early 2020.



Jessica McDiarmid is a Canadian journalist who has worked across North America and Africa. She has written for the Associated Press, the *Toronto Star*, CBC, IPS Africa and *The Harvard Review*, among other publications, and trains local journalists through her work with Journalists for Human Rights. McDiarmid grew up near the Highway of Tears and currently lives in British Columbia. This is her first book. | [@jessmcDiarmid](#)



Bob McDonald has been the host of CBC Radio's *Quirks & Quarks* since 1992. He is a regular science commentator on CBC News Network and science correspondent for CBC TV's *The National*. He has been honoured with the 2001 Michael Smith Award for Science Promotion from the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada; the 2002 Sandford Fleming Medal from The Royal Canadian Institute; and the 2005 McNeil Medal for the Public Awareness of Science from the Royal Society of Canada. In 2014, an asteroid designated 2006XN67 was officially named BOBMCDONALD in his honour. | [@CBCQuirks](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Ami McKay's debut novel, *The Birth House*, was a #1 bestseller in Canada, winner of three CBA Libris Awards, nominated for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award, and a book club favourite around the world. While writing her new novel, *The Witches of New York*, she discovered several women in her family tree who were accused and tried for witchcraft. Born and raised in Indiana, Ami now lives in Nova Scotia.



Anna Mehler Paperny is an award-winning reporter for Reuters based in Toronto. Over a decade she's chased down stories ranging from the opioid crisis to migration, from post-quake Haiti to Guantanamo Bay. She's written for the *Kingston Whig-Standard*, *Edmonton Journal*, *San Francisco Chronicle*, *Maclean's Magazine*; as a staff reporter at *The Globe and Mail*; and a reporter-editor for Global News, where she developed globalnews.ca's award-winning Investigative Data Desk. Her work on deaths in Canadian prisons won an investigative journalism award. At Queen's University, she spent most of her time working on the campus newspaper. | [@amp6](#)



Nisha Patel is an award-winning Indo-Canadian poet & artist. She is the City of Edmonton's Poet Laureate, and the 2019 Canadian Individual Slam Champion. She is a recipient of the Edmonton Artists' Trust Fund Award. She is also the Executive Director of the Edmonton Poetry Festival. Nisha is a graduate of the Alberta School of Business, working to further her goal of building a stronger artistic community through living in her truth. You can find out more about her at [nishapatel.ca](#).



Suzanne Methot is a Nehiyaw (Cree) writer, editor, educator, and community worker born in Vancouver, British Columbia, and raised in Peace River, Alberta. Her work has been published in anthologies including *Steal My Rage: New Native Voices* and *Let the Drums Be Your Heart*. She has worked in the non-profit sector, in the classroom, and in advocacy and direct-service positions in Indigenous community-based agencies. She is co-author of the textbook, *Aboriginal Beliefs, Values, and Aspirations*, and currently lives in Toronto, Ontario.



Omar Mouallem is a national bestselling author and contributing writer to *New Yorker.com*, *Rolling Stone*, *The Guardian*, *WIRED*. He co-directed the CBC documentary *Digging in the Dirt* about the psychological costs of working in the oil sands, based on his award-winning investigative journalism for BuzzFeed, and is currently writing a travel memoir about Muslims in the Americas called *Praying to the West*, to be released in 2020. | [@omar_aok](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Breanna Mroczek is a writer and editor in Edmonton, and is the assistant editor of *Glass Buffalo* literary magazine. She was named Alberta Magazine Publishers Association Volunteer of the Year in 2019.



Lenore Newman is the Canada Research Chair in Food Security and Environment at the University of the Fraser Valley. She is the author of *Lost Feast: Culinary Extinction and the Future of Food* and the acclaimed *Speaking in Cod Tongues: A Canadian Culinary Journey*. She divides her time between Vancouver and Roberts Creek, British Columbia. | [@DrLenoreNewman](#)



Renée Pellerin is a former television and radio producer with CBC. For many years, she was a documentary producer for *Marketplace*, specializing in investigative health stories. She was also a producer at the *Fifth Estate*, consultant to the CBC Newsworld program *Health Matters*, and a producer at *Morningside* and *Sunday Morning*. *Conspiracy of Hope* is her first book. Her work has appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *The Walrus* and *The Toronto Star*. She now lives in Niagara-on-the-Lake. | [@ReneePellerin](#)



Joanna Pocock is an Irish-Canadian writer living in London, U.K. Her essays, reviews, and travel pieces have appeared in *Distinctly Montana*, *Litro*, *the Sunday Independent*, *the Los Angeles Times*, *the Nation*, *Orion*, *Tahoma Literary Review*, *3:AM*, and on the *Dark Mountain* blog. She was a finalist for the Barry Lopez Narrative Nonfiction Prize in 2017 and won the 2018 Fitzcarraldo Editions Essay Prize for *Surrender*. She teaches creative writing at the University of the Arts in London and works as a freelance editor for a variety of publishers. | [@joannaofottawa](#)



Jana G. Pruden is an award-winning feature writer at *The Globe and Mail*, and the former crime bureau chief of the *Edmonton Journal*. She is the founder of the Flat Worms Writing Studio. | [@jana_pruden](#)



Emily Riddle is from the Alexander First Nation in Treaty 6. She is a writer, researcher, and policy analyst who recently moved home to become the Senior Advisor of Indigenous Relations at the Edmonton Public Library. She is on the Board of Advisors with the Yellowhead Institute, a First Nations think tank based out of Ryerson University. Her writing has appeared in *PRISM International*, *GUTS Magazine*, *Canadian Art*, *Briarpatch Magazine*, *Teen Vogue*, *the Globe and Mail*, among others.



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AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Sharon J. Riley is an investigative journalist, currently covering energy and the environment in Alberta for *The Narwhal*. Her essays, interviews, and long-form nonfiction have been published by *The Walrus*, *Harper's*, *The Tyee*, *J-Source*, *Alberta Views*, and *Maisonneuve*, among others. Her work has been named a finalist for numerous national awards, including the National Magazine Awards, the Digital Publishing Awards, and the Canadian Association of Journalists awards.



Adam Rozenhart loves literature, reading, and being nerdy. He's the co-founder of Nerd Nite Edmonton, and producer of the Daveberta Podcast, a show all about Albertan and Canadian politics. Adam is also a 13-year veteran in communications and marketing. He currently hangs his hat at ATB Financial as Director, Social Media Strategy on the Media & Story team. | [@bingofuel](#)



Candace Savage is the author of several bestselling, award-winning books. She is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada and, in 1994, was inducted into the Honor Roll of the Rachel Carson Institute at Chatham College in Pittsburgh. She shares her time between Eastend and Saskatoon, Saskatchewan. Her latest book *Strangers in the House: A Prairie Story of Bigotry and Belonging*, investigates the dark and shocking history of her prairie house. | [@candacesavage](#)



Spencer Sekyer is an adventurer, philanthropist, and educator who has taught in Sierra Leone, the Dheisheh refugee camp in the West Bank, Afghanistan, Ethiopia, and Haiti. His passion is assisting children and animals in Canada and in distressed areas around the world, and his travel has taken him to Europe, the Middle East, Central and South America, Somalia, Tanzania, Rwanda, Democratic Republic of Congo, and Kenya. Spencer lives in Edmonton with his wife, Dr. Christie Macdonald Sekyer, their son, Anders, and their faithful Alaskan Malamute dog.



Lorimer Shenher is an acclaimed author, public speaker, and advocate for marginalized people and police reform. His first book, *That Lonely Section of Hell*, is a memoir of working on Vancouver's Missing and Murdered Women file. It was chosen as a *Globe and Mail's* 100 Best Books in 2015. His new memoir, *This One Looks Like a Boy: My Gender Journey to Life as a Man*, reflects on his childhood gender dysphoria and teenage sexual experimentation to his early-adult denial of his identity—and finally the acceptance that he is trans, culminating in gender reassignment surgery in his fifties. |

[@ShenherLorimer](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Sheri Somerville has spent four decades as a professional multidisciplinary performing artist, arts administrator, and entrepreneur. She is a member of the renowned improvisational comedy troupe Die Nasty, and recipient of the Mayors Salute to Excellence award for her contributions to arts in Edmonton. She has worked with Citadel Theatre, Freewill Players, Teatro La Quindicina, Workshop West, and Catalyst

Theatre, and is currently a Governor and Senator at the University of Alberta, and Executive Director at Ballet Edmonton.



Roberta Staley is a magazine editor, writer, and documentary filmmaker. She has reported from Afghanistan, El Salvador, Haiti, Cambodia, Israel, and more countries around the world. Her award-winning documentary, *Mightier Than the Sword*, reveals how Afghan women in media are working to overcome a culture of silence and invisibility. Her

book *Voice of Rebellion* profiles Afghan refugee, pop singer, and activist Mozhdah Jamalzadah, the most powerful female voice of her generation in Afghanistan, boldly speaking out about women's rights in her home country and beyond. | [@RobertaStaley](#)



Keren Tang is a health promotion practitioner, graduating from the School of Public Health at the University of Alberta in 2014. She is currently the project manager for Recover, a social innovation initiative with the City of Edmonton to improve urban wellness. She has spent most of her career working with diverse communities including Indigenous peoples and newcomer immigrants. Keren is a Top 40

Under 40 Alumnus, serving on multiple boards including the Edmonton Community Foundation and has run for Edmonton City Council to represent Ward 11 in the 2017 municipal election.



Jesse Thistle is Métis-Cree, from Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. He is an assistant professor in Métis Studies at York University in Toronto. He won a Governor General's Academic Medal in 2016, and is a Pierre Elliot Trudeau Foundation Scholar and a Vanier Scholar. He lives in Toronto. | [@MichifMan](#)



Kai Cheng Thom is a writer, performer, and community worker based in Toronto, unceded Indigenous territory. The winner of the 2017 Dayne Ogilvie Prize for Emerging LGBT Writers and a two-time Lambda Literary nominee, she has published widely, including a novel, a children's book, and a poetry collection. Her new book *I Hope We Choose Love: A Trans Girl's Notes from the End of the World* is out this fall from Arsenal Pulp Press.

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AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Alicia Tobin is a comedian and writer living and working in Vancouver. She is the co-host of two popular podcasts, *Retail Nightmares* and *Super! Sick! Podcast!* and the creator of *Alicia Tobin's Come Draw with Me*, a live, entirely improvised comedy show that has been featured in a number of comedy festivals. She loves baked goods, animals, friendship, and her miniature poodle, Hank Tobin. *So You're a Little Sad, So What?* is her first book. | [@AliciaATobin](#)



Ayelet Tsabari was born in Israel to a large family of Yemeni descent. Her first book, *The Best Place on Earth*, won the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature and the Edward Lewis Wallant Award, and was long listed for the Frank O'Connor International Short Story Award. The book was a *New York Times Book Review* Editors' Choice, a Kirkus Reviews Best Book of 2016, and has been published internationally to great acclaim. Excerpts from her memoir, *The Art of Leaving*, have won a National Magazine Award and a Western Magazine Award. She lives in Toronto. | [@AyeletTsabari](#)



K. Linda Tzang was brought up in a family that talked about food a lot. She later became a cultural historian who talks about food (and history) a lot. From 2005 to 2019 she was the Curator of Cultural Communities at the Royal Alberta Museum where she created the exhibit *Chop Suey on the Prairies: A History of Chinese Restaurants in Alberta*. Currently Tzang is the Executive Director of the Chinatown Transformation Collaborative, a non-profit organization dedicated to the enhancement and promotion of Edmonton's Chinatown.



Joanne Vannicola is an Emmy award-winning actor and writer. They have been nominated for a Genie, a Gemini, and an ACTRA award. Vannicola is the chair of outACTRAto, and sits on the sexual assault adhoc committee for women in film and television at ACTRA TO. Vannicola is the recipient of the Leslie Yeo award for volunteerism (2019). They have a piece in the anthology *Cuarenta y Nueve*, a book by 49 artists for the 49 victims of the Orlando Pulse club massacre.

They are currently co-developing a new series primarily with women, and working on their second book, a YA novel. Joanne also founded the non-profit organization, Youth Out Loud, between 2004-2009, raising awareness about child abuse and sexual violence. Equity issues have always been at the forefront of Joanne's work both in their artistic world and in their personal/political life. Vannicola can be found at [allweknewbutcouldntsays.com](#) as well as the organization Youth Out Loud ([youthoutloud.ca](#)). *All We Knew But Couldn't Say*, is their debut book. | [@joannevannicola](#)

AUTHORS & ARTISTS



Lise Weil is an award-winning editor and translator. Her essays and literary nonfiction have been published widely in Canada and the U.S. She is founding editor of *Dark Matter: Women Witnessing* and teaches in the Goddard Graduate Institute. Her short fiction, essays, reviews, literary nonfiction, and translations have been published widely in journals in both Canada and the U.S. Her collection of Mary Meigs' writings on aging, *Beyond Recall* (2005), was a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award in biography in 2006. Born in Chicago, she moved to Montreal in 1990. She spends summers in a cabin in the woods north of the city where she hosts annual retreats for women writers centred around dreamwork.



Sharon Wood is the owner of her own speaking and mountain guiding business, Adventure Dynamics. She has co-authored an ebook with Pat Morrow, *Everest: High Expectations* (Bungalo Books, 2012) and has been published in several anthologies, including *Everest: Eighty Years of Triumph and Tragedy* (Mountaineers Press, 2001). This is her first full-length memoir. Wood can now be found in Canmore, AB, writing, public speaking and, of course, climbing mountains.



Jenny Yuen is an award-winning reporter who has written for the *Toronto Sun*, *Now Magazine*, and CBC Radio. She is a proud poly partner and has a dog named Wampa. She lives in Toronto. | [@SunReporterYuen](#)



Anya Zoledziowski is an Edmonton-based multimedia reporter who focuses on race, gender, and Indigenous issues. Her work has appeared in *The Globe and Mail*, *the Toronto Star*, *VICE*, *The Tyee*, and more. In 2018, she investigated hate crimes in the United States with a team of fellow journalists. The project won multiple awards, including an Edward R. Murrow Award, a best feature award from the Native American Journalists Association, and a Robert F. Kennedy Journalism Award in human rights. Anya currently edits the Media Indigena podcast. She once tried to be a food influencer on Instagram, but forgot the account's password and gave up.

LitFest is for EVERYONE

Our mission is to create fun, welcoming events where readers and writers experience great discussions in an environment, where all feel safe and accepted. LitFest has a zero tolerance policy for harassment of any kind, including but not limited to: intimidation, offensive verbal comments, harassing or non-consensual photography or recording, sustained disruption of panels and other events, bathroom policing, or unwelcome physical attention. Our policy applies to every person at the festival: speakers, guests, audience members, festival staff, board, and volunteers. Anyone can report harassment.

Remember: When at LitFest, be respectful, be cool, and be kind to each other.

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

Thursday October 17	Friday October 18	Saturday October 19	Sunday October 20
		9–10:30am  Masterclass: Gender in the Developing World <i>Matrix Prism Room</i>	10–11:30am Masterclass: The Drama of "Ordinary" Lives <i>Matrix Amber Room</i>
		11am–12pm Memoir Hour: Small Town Surprises <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>	12–1:30pm Masterclass: Eat Drink Write <i>Matrix Amber Room</i>
12–1pm Conversation at Noon with Darren Dochuk & Anointed With Oil <i>CBC Centre Stage</i>	12–1pm Conversation at Noon with Annahid Dashtgard & Breaking the Ocean: A Memoir of Race, Rebellion, and Reconciliation <i>CBC Centre Stage</i>		12–1pm Voices of Change <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>
 CANADA'S ORIGINAL NONFICTION FESTIVAL YOUR SUPPORT OF LITFEST HELPS BRING NONFICTION TO LIFE litfestalberta.org/donate		1:30–2:30pm Tarnished Legacies <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>	1:30–2:30pm Memoir Hour: Adventurers <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>
		3–4pm  tawâw: There is Room with Chef Shane Chartrand, Jennifer Cockrall-King <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>	3–4pm Ariel Gordon: Treed (in YEG) <i>Meet at Matrix</i>
			4–5pm Ayelet Tsabari: The Art of Leaving <i>Yellowhead Brewery</i>
	 FESTIVAL LAUNCH 6–8pm Talking to Strangers Part Deux (followed by Elevator Cabaret) <i>Yellowhead Brewery</i>	6–7pm Jesse Thistle: From the Ashes <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>	
	7:30–8:30pm Reconciling Times: <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i>		



	Monday October 21	Tuesday October 22	Wednesday October 23	Thursday October 24	Friday October 25	Saturday October 26	Sunday October 27
	<p>Check out AuthorPods events running October 2-5 on Page 12</p>					<p>10-11:30am Masterclass: From Seen to Scene <i>Matrix Prism Room</i></p>	
	<p>12-1pm CLC Brown Bag Lunch with Kai Cheng Thom & <i>I Hope We Choose Love</i> <i>University of Alberta Old Arts Building, mainfloor lounge</i></p>	<p>12-1pm CLC Brown Bag Lunch with Ami McKay & <i>Daughter of Family G</i> <i>University of Alberta Old Arts Building, mainfloor lounge</i></p>		<p>12-1pm Conversation at Noon with Bob McDonald & <i>An Earthling's Guide to Outer Space</i> <i>Glass Bookshop in City Centre</i></p>	<p>12-1pm Conversation at Noon with Anna Mehler Paperny: <i>Hello I Want to Die Please Fix Me</i> <i>Glass Bookshop in City Centre</i></p>	<p>12-1pm Acting (for your) Life <i>The Common</i></p>	<p> SPECIAL EVENT 11am-1pm A Brunch of Writers <i>Matrix Amber Room</i></p>
	<p>SCHEDULE LEGEND</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li style="width: 50%;"> Free Admission <li style="width: 50%;"> Special Event <li style="width: 50%;"> Masterclass <li style="width: 50%;"> Food/Drink <li style="width: 50%;"> Panels <li style="width: 50%;"> Workshop <li style="width: 50%;"> Feature Events 					<p> 2-4pm Food Matters <i>The Common</i></p>	<p> 2-3pm Charlotte Gray: Murdered Midas <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i></p>
	<p>6-8pm Election Night: Can't We Get Along? <i>Metro Cinema</i></p>	<p>6-7pm Genetics: A Love Story <i>Yellowhead Brewery</i></p> <p>7:30-8:30pm Let's Talk About (gasp) Sex <i>Yellowhead Brewery</i></p>	<p>7-8pm Nonfiction Story Slam <i>99Ten</i></p>	<p>6-7pm Bob McDonald: An Earthling's Guide to Outer Space <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i></p> <p>7:30-8:30pm Anna Mehler Paperny: Hello I Want to Die Please Fix Me <i>Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum</i></p>	<p>7-9pm Mental Health Mixer <i>Yellowhead Brewery</i></p>	<p> </p> <p>Tell us about your LitFest experience. @LitFestYEG #LitFestYEG</p>	

VENUES

 *Wheelchair Accessible*

 *Hearing Assist*

The Common & 99TEN

9910 109 Street

CBC Centre Stage – City Centre East

10062 102 Avenue

Matrix Hotel

- Amber Ballroom
- Prism Room

10640 100 Avenue

Metro Cinema Garneau Theatre

8712 109 Street

Old Arts Building, Student Lounge, University of Alberta

113 Street and 91 Avenue

Francis Winspear Centre for Music

4 Sir Winston Churchill Square

Yellowhead Brewery

10229 105 Street

Amiskwaciy Theatre, Royal Alberta Museum

9810 103a Avenue

Glass Bookshop Pop-Up

Starting October 1st, find all the LitFest 2019 titles at the pop-up store in City Centre West, 10025 102A Ave, upper level

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social & community services leisure environments social
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Karen Platten

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