



Hamilton's Readers & Writers Festival



Growing the city one story at a time

April 6th-9th, 2017

at the Art Gallery of Hamilton

(unless otherwise noted)

Schedule of Events

Tickets: \$10 advance, \$12 at the door unless otherwise noted
Afternoon/Evening Passes and Weekend Passes also available

www.gritlit.ca

Sunday, April 2, 2017

grit (LIT) Live (7:30 pm at Staircase Theatre)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Chris Pannell

Festival week opens with our annual partner event with the LitLive Reading Series. Featuring Andrew Baulcomb (*Evenings and Weekends*), Graham Jackson (*The Jane Loop*), Joe Ollmann (*The Abominable Mr. Seabrook*), Molly Peacock (*The Analyst*), Phoebe Wang (*Admission Requirements*) and Sarah Raughley (*Fate of Flames*). *This is a free event.*

Thursday, April 6, 2016

Children's Reading (in-school)

Vivek Shraya: *The Boy and the Bindi*

Children's Reading (in-school)

Melanie Florence: *He Who Dreams*

Poetry with the HPC (6:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by Mark Kempf from the Hamilton Poetry Centre

gritLIT partners with the Hamilton Poetry Centre for a vibrant presentation featuring Robin Richardson (*Knife Throwing Through Self-Hypnosis*), Vivek Shraya (*Even This Page Is White*) and two team members from Hamilton Youth Poets (HYP).

War and Remembrance (8:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Jamie Tennant

Two perspectives on war and its legacy, featuring Diana Bishop (*Living Up to a Legend: My Adventures with Billy Bishop's Ghost*) and Leslie Shimotakahara (*After the Bloom*).

The Disappeared (9:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Melanie Florence

Gripping, unnerving stories about characters on the verge of disappearing from Iain Reid (*I'm Thinking of Ending Things*) and Rebecca Rosenblum (*So Much Love*).

Friday, April 7, 2017

YA Reading (in-school)

Lesley Livingston: *The Valiant*

Children's Reading (in-school)

Kyo Maclear: *The Liszts*

Lunch with the Dewey Divas (1:00 pm at Bryan Prince Bookseller)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Diana Bishop

The Dewey Divas offer a sneak peek at the best of summer reading from Penguin Random House and HarperCollins Canada. Lunch is included.

Justice for All? (6:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT Committee Member Elizabeth DiEmanuele

A revealing look at the Canadian legal system and the people whose lives it affects. Featuring reporter Christie Blatchford (*Life Sentence*) and memoirist Diane Schoemperlen (*This Is Not My Life*).

Identity and Self-Determination (8:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT Alum Autumn Getty

Join Ivan Coyote (*Tomboy Survival Guide*), Bev Sellars (*Price Paid: The Fight for First Nations Survival*) and Leslie Shimotakahara (*After the Bloom*) for an illuminating discussion about how we identify ourselves and the labels and stereotypes that are forced on us by others.

Fantastical Fiction (9:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Ann Y. K. Choi

Guy Gavriel Kay (*Children of Earth and Sky*) and Lesley Livingston (*The Valiant*) share otherworldly tales of pirates, spies and female gladiators.

Saturday, April 8, 2017

Writing Workshop: Memoir Writing (9:30 am at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Diane Schoemperlen looks at how to turn personal experiences into readable and relatable stories. *Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door*

Author Talk: Price Paid (11:00 am at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Award-winning author Bev Sellars was moved to write her latest book when realized that lawmakers and educators did not have an understanding or even an awareness of the historical reasons why they were expected to come to the table and negotiate native land rights. Join the author as she debunks myths and addresses misconceptions about Canada's First Nations in this riveting discussion of *Price Paid: The Fight for First Nations Survival*.

This event is pay-what-you-can.

Reading in the Digital Age (12:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by Hamilton Spectator Reporter Graham Rockingham

How do we tell our stories in the era of internet anonymity and fake news? Author Marilyn Simonds (*Gutenberg's Fingerprint*) and novelist/blogger Kerry Clare (*Mitzi Bytes*) discuss the evolution of writing and how we enter the world in the digital age.

Literary Salon (2:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Join award-winning author and performance artist Ivan Coyote for tea, sweets and a lively round-table conversation where you decide the topics.

Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door

Hamilton Public Library Partner Event (2:00 pm at Central Library)

Kyo Maclear discusses her journey from urban birdwatching to inspiration in *Birds, Art, Life* – a joyful examination of creativity and life's small pleasures.

This event is free admission.

Our Canadian Families (3:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT Alum Wayne Grady

Ann Y. K. Choi (*Kay's Lucky Coin Variety*) and Scaachi Koul (*One Day We'll Be Dead and None of This Will Matter*) offer insight into the modern Canadian family.

Writing Workshop: The Art of Blogging (5:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Author Kerry Clare draws on her 15+ years of experience blogging to show how to build a blog that works for you. A great workshop for both beginners and people who blog at work. *Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door*

Democracy (In)Action (6:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by Hamilton Ward 1 Councillor Aidan Johnson

What if the problem is not our political system but rather how we are using and understanding it? Aidan Johnson talks to author Dale Smith about his book *The Unbroken Machine* and how our system of democracy can work – if we use it the way we should.

Anatomy of a Marriage (8:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT 2017 Author Paul Benedetti

An intimate, sometimes frightening, look inside two imperfect marriages and their far-reaching consequences with Shari Lapeña (*The Couple Next Door*) and Kate Taylor (*Serial Monogamy*).

Women and Power (9:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by CHCH TV Anchor Annette Hamm

Annette Hamm talks with Denise Donlon about her long career as a leader in the Canadian music industry and her book, *Fearless as Possible (Under the Circumstances)*.

Sunday, April 9, 2017

Writing Workshop: The First Page (10:00 am at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Merilyn Simonds looks at the all-important first page and how to draw readers into your story from the very first line. *Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door*

Writing Workshop: Historical Fiction (11:30 am at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Kate Taylor discusses using historical characters and events as building blocks for exciting, original new stories. *Registration: \$25 in advance, \$30 at door*

Youth Writing Workshop: Fantasy Fiction (1:00 pm at Central Library)

YA author Sarah Raughley shares writing tips for creating great fantasy fiction. For writers aged 14-18. *This is a free event. Registration is required.*

Hamilton Writes (1:00 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by CFMU Radio Host Kirstin Archer

Celebrate the work of three hometown writers with readings from Marnie Woodrow (*Heyday*), Jamie Tennant (*The Captain of Kinnoull Hill*) and Paul Benedetti (*You Can Have a Dog When I'm Dead*).

Telling our Own Stories (2:30 pm at Art Gallery of Hamilton)

Hosted by gritLIT Committee Member Jesse Dorey

Author Denise Donlon (*Fearless as Possible*), poet Chris Pannell (*Love Despite the Ache*) and graphic novelist Teva Harrison (*In Between Days*) share three different approaches to telling their own stories.

Drafts and Drafts (4:30 pm at Mills Hardware)

Hosted by CHCH TV Anchor Annette Hamm

Festival authors Wayne Grady, Marilyn Simonds and Marnie Woodrow join three local writers for a beer and a reading from their latest works-in-progress.

Tickets: \$12 advance, \$15 at door. One drink included with admission

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