

13th Annual Festival of Words
July 16 – 19, 2009
Theme: Life is an Open Book
Dedicated to the
Saskatchewan Writers Guild

Bill Chase Walking Stick
Still a few tickets available on
this terrific fundraiser — \$5 each.
Stop in at the Festival office
for a chance to win!

Used Book Sale at Sidewalk Days
Fri. June 26th and Sat. June 27th
10 AM to 3 PM Daily
Please drop off your book donations
to the Festival Office.

The Festival of Words the word

13th Festival Year Theme: Life Is An Open Book

“Life is an Open Book” is the theme for the 13th annual Saskatchewan Festival of Words dedicated this year to the Saskatchewan Writers Guild. Running from July 16 to 19th in Moose Jaw, the Festival will serve up samples of many genres of writing, running the



Joan Barfoot

gamut from poetry to non-fiction to fiction, mystery, science fiction and historical — as well as drama, film, and children’s literature.

Among the non-fiction presenters J. Edward Chamberlin will discuss civilization and the horse reading from his book *Horse: How the Horse Has Shaped Western Civilization* and Gemini award winner and sports commentator Bruce Dowbiggin will read from *Puck: History of Hockey. Welcome to the Departure Lounge* by Meg Federico of Halifax relates, with a generous dash of humour, the terribly sad stresses of dealing with an Alzheimer’s afflicted mother and stepfather.

Mary Lou Finlay in *The As it Happens Files* gives us the great stories — the hilarious eccentrics, the audience favourites, the poignant moments — that make up the fondest memories of her eight years as co-host of this popular radio show.

In *The Trouble with Lions* Dr. Jerry Haigh gives the reader a fast-paced memoir of his years practicing wild-animal medicine in Africa.

Governor General Award winner Andrew Nikiforuk will read from and answer questions about his newest book *Tar Sands: Dirty Oil and the Future of a Continent*.

The Nereus Writers Trust Non-Fiction Prize and the Canadian Jewish Book Award for History have both been garnered by Anna Porter for *Kasztner’s Train: The True Story of Rezső Kasztner, Unknown Hero of the Holocaust*.

Russell Wangersky, editor of the St. John’s, Newfoundland *Telegram* newspaper, has written a riveting account of his experiences dealing with human tragedy and his own resulting trauma as a volunteer firefighter in *Burning Down the House*.

The spoken word is showcased by Sharon Pollock and Janet Marie Rogers. Pollock is a renowned playwright and double Governor General Award winner for the plays *Blood*



Giles Blunt (Peter Peitsch Photo)

Relations and *Doc*. Janet Marie Rogers is a performance poet whose most recent publication which includes a CD of spoken word poetry is *Splitting the Heart*.

Fiction writers on the program include internationally acclaimed novelist Joan Barfoot whose 11th novel

that Starry Place, “an achingly beautiful book” won the Chapters/Books in Canada First Novel Award.



Artistic Coordinator, Donna Lee Howes and Board Member, Bob Currie Launch the 2009 Line-Up.

Exit Lines is a wry and darkly comic observation on growing old disgracefully. Mystery writer Gail Bowen will be reading from her newest Joanne Kilbourn mystery *The Nesting Dolls* while Giles Blunt, known for his John Cardinal series, has written a stand alone novel *Breaking Lorca*, which was inspired by Margaret Atwood’s poem “Footnote to the Amnesty Report on Torture”.

David Carpenter, who has earned high praise from readers and reviewers, has just produced his second novel — *Niceman Cometh* — dealing with a love quadrangle.

Good to a Fault, Marina Endicott’s superbly realized novel, which was shortlisted for the 2008 Giller Prize, has won the 2009 Commonwealth Writers Prize for Canada and the Caribbean Region.

Poet Tom Wayman, known as the Squire of “Appledore,” has chosen to read from his fiction titles: *Boundary Country* and *A Vain Thing*, however, he will conduct a workshop on writing poetry.

Essayist, dramatist and fiction writer Terry Jordan received the first fellowship to live and write in the Wallace Stegner House in Eastend. His *Beneath*

Jack Whyte has tackled the history of the Knights Templar in his recent trilogy, beginning with *The Knights of Black and White*, continuing with the *Standard of Honor* and ending with *Order in Chaos*, from which he will read.

Prolific Edward Willett’s most recent novel is *Terra Insegura*, sequel to *Marseguero*, which is a finalist for the 2009 Prix Aurora Award for best Canadian science fiction or fantasy novel.

Thomas Wharton winner of the Commonwealth Writer’s Prize for Best First Book for his first novel *Icelfields* is now



Marina Endicott

Great Big Book Club

Joan Barfoot discusses *Exit Lines*. Thursday, July 16th, 1 to 4 PM, Cost: \$25.

Drama Workshop with Sharon Pollock

Thursday, July 16th, 1 to 4 PM. Cost: \$25.

Tom Wayman Poetry Workshop

Thursday, July 16, 9 AM to Noon. Cost: \$25

Thursday Film at the Festival

Award winner *The Necessities of Life*. Best Director, Best Original Screenplay, Best Actor Natar Ungalaaq and Best Accomplishment in Editing.

Sask Power Live Wires

Fun, fish & chips and fab trivia. Friday, July 17, 5:30 to 8:30 PM. Cost: \$20.

Kids Ink

Kids Ink for ages 10 to 13. With Funster, Simon Moccasin. Thursday, July 16th, 9 AM to Noon. Cost: \$10.

Teen Writing Experience

Week long writing intensive. Ages 14 – 18. With Rod MacIntyre. Deadline for applications is May 15th. Call 691-0557 to register.

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working on a trilogy for young adults. The first title of the Perilous Realms series is *The Shadow of Malabron*.

For his contribution to the arts in Saskatchewan, Rod MacIntyre has received the 2005 Centennial Medal. In 2007, he received the 2007 Saskatchewan Book Award for *Feeding at Nine*. Rod will be the instructor for the week-long Teen Writing Experience which runs from July 13-17.

Poetry lovers will have the opportunity to hear two of Manitoba's poets — Alison Calder and Di Brandt. *Wolf Tree* is Calder's first book of poetry. Award-winning poet, essayist, teacher and editor Di Brandt is featured in *Speaking of Power: Selected Poetry*.

Stephanie Bolster, who won the Governor General's Award with her first book *White Stone*:



Edward Willett

travelled around the world, has written more than twenty books for children, including picture books about Stanley the dog, the Stevie Diamond mystery series and the Good Times Travel Agency Adventures.

Storyteller Simon Moccasin will be on the Festival program. He will also mentor 10 to 13 year old youngsters in the



Patrons enjoy the lemon-themed reception after the 2009 Launch.

The Alice Poems, teaches Creative Writing at Concordia University in Montreal.

Sharon Thesen is a poet, editor and writer whose latest collection is *The Good Bacteria*.

Freelance writer Barbara Klar's latest collection of poems *Cypress* was a finalist for Saskatchewan Book of the Year.

Don Kerr, a Saskatoon poet, has written five books of poetry, seven plays, a short fiction collection and three non-fiction books.

The two recent publications of Bressani Award winner John Terpstra are a poetry collection *Two or Three Guitars*, while his memoir, *The Boys, or Waiting for the Electrician's Daughter*, was shortlisted for the Charles Taylor Prize for non-fiction.

Linda Bailey, who has

Kids Ink session being held Thursday, July 16th.

Feature events will include the film, *The Necessities of Life*, the Readception featuring a sampling of program presenters, the SaskPower "Live Wires" evening, the *Ain't We Got Fun?* — River Street Revue, and the Sunday Wind-Up Lunch with singer, songwriter and percussionist Donna Kay, who blends aboriginal tradition, blues and rock into a wonderfully eclectic mix.

Passes may be purchased for \$140 until May 31st, and for \$160 after that date. The SaskPower "Live Wires" evening featuring fish and chips and trivia with prizes is an extra for which the fee is \$20.

Membership Reminder

Due at the Festival of Words. Cost is \$5 annually or \$15 for 3 years. Receive the newsletter, suggest presenters and vote at AGM.

Performers Café

Wednesday, May 13th. 7:30 PM Java Express. Launch of TRANSITION, Spring 09 issue. With readings by contributors. Music with Brody Mohninger. Open Mic Performance.

Wednesday, June 17th. 7:30 PM Java Express. The Multiculturals (New Canadians in story, poems and music). Open Mic Performance.

Prose Workshop

With Ted Dyck
Writer-In-Residence
Festival of Words

Workshop Topic: Narrator

1. person
 2. voice
 3. f.i.d.
- (critiques, exercises, readings)

June 10, 2009
10:00 to 12:00 1:00 to 3:00

Details:
\$25 per workshop payable to Festival of Words.
Pre-submission (up to 5pp) by May 4 (I) and June 6 (II).
Maximum 10 participants.
Cancellation if less than 5.

Contact:
Karen Basky, 306-691-0557,
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Sage Hill

Sage Hill Writing Experience is celebrating its 20th anniversary! For more information, check out <http://www.sagehillwriting.ca>

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