

FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

 WORKSHOP	 VIRTUAL	 LIVESTREAM	 ASL
 SCHOOL GROUP	 IN-PERSON	 ON-DEMAND	 CLOSED CAPTIONED

SUNDAY, MAY 1

THE OPENING EVENT

11:00am - 11:45am



Join staff from the FOLD in this opening event for the festival. Meet the team and some fellow attendees. Find out what's happening during the week, how to get the most out of the festival and the platform, and get a first-look at the evolution of the festival and a behind-the-scenes look at our incredible live venue space.

INDIGENOUS VOICES: TRUTH, FICTION, AND FAMILY

12:00pm - 1:15pm



Award-winning authors **Jesse Wentz**, **Katherena Vermette** and **Clayton Thomas-Müller** discuss their most recent titles and the process of crafting stories about family in a conversation on relationships, writing and resistance.

THE WRITER'S HUB

12:00 - 5:00pm



Drop by the booths of our 20+ volunteers, including multinational and small publishers, publishing programs, book sellers, and community organizations.

THE WRITER'S WORKSHOP: PUBLISHING 101

2:00pm - 4:00pm



Back by popular demand, the Writer's Workshop is specifically designed for writers navigating the Canadian publishing industry. Through an in-depth and extensive workshop, writers will hear from agent **Bridgette Kam** about the submission process, followed by a deep-dive into the editing process with editor **Aeman Ansari**. Wrapping up the workshop, publicist **Cynara Geissler** will provide helpful tips about what to expect and how to approach the challenges of marketing and publicity. Before, after and throughout the event, attendees will also have the opportunity to ask questions, and visit vendors and publishing professionals in our exhibit hall. This is where representatives from Penguin Random House Canada, Harlequin, Simon and Schuster Canada and more will be available to answer publishing questions live.

RE-THINKING HEALTHCARE

7:00pm - 8:15pm



In this timely panel on the perils and possibilities of healthcare, three writers—**Zena Sharman**, **Shayda Kafai**, and **Anna Quon**—examine unique approaches to care and what this might mean for our collective future with moderator **Kai Cheng Thom**.

MONDAY, MAY 2

POWERFUL PITCHING FOR PUBLICISTS

2:00pm - 3:15pm



In this workshop designed for publicists and publishing professionals, **Cynara Geissler** provides insight on author care and the important work of pitching books in a competitive market.

KEEPING IT SHORT

8:00pm - 9:15pm



In this panel, authors **Jack Wang**, **Kim Fu** and **Norma Dunning** discuss the makings of a phenomenal short story. From character development to dialogue, discover the creative craft involved in writing a short story and details that go into publishing a collection.

TUESDAY, MAY 3

THE WRITER'S LIFE WITH ABDI NAZEMIAN

10:00am - 11:00am



Author, screenwriter and producer **Abdi Nazemian** joins us live from Los Angeles, California for an interview on what it's like to write for film and television, the differences between writing for the screen versus writing for the page and what it takes to build a career as a writer. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

EXPLORING IDENTITY IN YOUNG ADULT FICTION

12:00pm - 1:00pm



Whether a book is set in the real world or in a fantastical realm, figuring out who you are is a staple of plot in young adult fiction. Chasing your dreams, finding the person or people who understand you, and dealing with the anxiety of failure are all a part of growing up. Join authors **Sarena** and **Sasha Nanua**, **H.N. Khan** and **Farah Heron** as they explore that through their novels. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

WORKING TOWARDS WELLNESS: MIND, BODY AND SOUL

2:00pm - 3:15pm



Three American writers—**Morgan Harper Nichols** (*Peace is a Practice*), **Bethaney Wilkinson** (*The Diversity Gap: Where Good Intentions Meet True Cultural Change*) and **Dija Ayodele** (*Black Skin*)—discuss personal and professional wellness, tackling practical solutions and strategies to the trials and challenges of everyday life.

TO CANADA, FROM NIGERIA

5:00pm - 6:15pm



Three incredible writers—**Chidiogo Akunyili-Parr**, **Tololope Oloruntoba** and **Cheluchi Onyemelukwe**—who have found a home in Canada discuss how Nigerian traditions have shaped their storytelling style.

MEMOIRS ON MOTHERHOOD

8:00pm - 9:15pm



Three writers with incredible family stories—**Suzanne Barr**, **Anais Granofsky** and **Chidiogo Akunyili-Parr**—join forces in a powerful panel discussing their recent memoirs. In a conversation on the stories that shaped their past and their present, they'll discuss what it was like to write their mothers into the pages of a memoir and what they learned along the way.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 4

BLACK IN SCHOOL

10:00am - 11:00am



Writers **Curtis Carmichael**, **Habiba Cooper Diallo** and **Kern Carter** unpack the challenges of navigating their education and the important work of turning real-life experiences as Black Canadians into teachable moments for students and educators from all backgrounds and walks of life. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

WRESTLING WITH RESEARCH

12:00pm - 1:00pm



What goes into flower arranging? What did the 1920s in Shanghai, China look like? How was medicine practiced in the mid-1700s? In this panel featuring authors **Farah Heron**, **Chloe Gong** and **June Hur**, three young adult writers discuss the research that went into their novels and the work involved in fleshing out a fictional world. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

THE TRUTH BEHIND CLIMATE FICTION

2:00pm - 3:15pm



Fiction writers **Sydney Hegele**, **Premee Mohamed** and **Mary-Lou Zeitoun** have written three incredible stories that tackle the current and future climate crisis. In this panel, the writers dive into the motivation behind their stories and the role of writers in moments of political crisis.

CURATING AND ASSEMBLING ANTHOLOGIES

5:00pm - 6:15pm



When it comes to assembling an anthology, there are lots of things to consider—deciding who to approach through and considering the types of stories they might contribute. In this practical workshop, **Zena Sharman**, editor of *The Care We Dream Of*, unpacks helpful tips for writers and editors alike to consider for assembling collections that include a variety of voices.

LET'S TALK ABOUT FAITH

8:00pm - 9:15pm



Three acclaimed writers—**Omar Mouallem**, **Mariam S. Pal** and **Sydney Hegele**—discuss their journeys as writers and explore how their interests and beliefs shape what they choose to write about.

THURSDAY, MAY 5

GRAPPLING WITH GRIEF AND MENTAL HEALTH IN YOUNG ADULT FICTION

10:00am - 11:00am



In a candid panel conversation with young adult writers **Kern Carter**, **Abdi Nazemian** and **Mary-Lou Zeitoun**, students and educators alike will hear about the importance of careful and critical conversations on grief and mental health, and the role novels can play in cultivating safe spaces for open dialogue. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

THE SPOKEN WORD SHOWCASE

12:00pm - 1:00pm



In our annual teen showcase of incredible spoken word artists, three poets—**David Delisca**, **Shelly Grace**, and **Nisha Patel**—take the mic to present incredible poetry, followed by a live Q&A with **Lamoi**. *This event is geared towards high school students.*

WRITING HUMOUR IN UNFUNNY TIMES

5:00pm - 6:15pm



From fiction to theatre, three Canadian writers—**Dorothy Ellen Palmer**, **Anosh Irani** and **Sonya Singh**—explore the important role of humour under trying circumstances, and the careful relationship it plays in literature that tackles important subject matter.

DEEPER DIVERSITY: PATHS TO CHANGE

8:00pm - 9:15pm

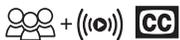


Three incredible writers who've published books on diversity and inclusion—**Shakil Choudhury**, **Stephen Dorsey**, and **Bethaney Wilkinson**—gather for an important conversation on the critical steps individuals, corporations and organizations need to consider in their efforts to transform spaces on the path to real and lasting change.

FRIDAY, MAY 6

THE GREAT READCEPTION: A LITERARY CABARET

7:30pm - 9:00pm



In this in-person evening event, a collection of festival writers and poets read from their works accompanied by Brampton's own jazz band. Whether you're a regular FOLD attendee, a big reader or a lover of live entertainment, this event is designed to celebrate the power of storytelling

SATURDAY, MAY 7

CULTIVATING CRAFT WITH MATTHEW SALETTES

12:00pm - 1:15pm



In this not-to-be-missed one-on-one interview with acclaimed writer **Matthew Salett**, author and creative writing professor Carrienne Leung explores new approaches to fiction writing and workshops.

PARENTING ON THE PAGE

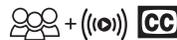
2:00pm - 3:15pm



Hasan Namir, **Julietta Singh**, and **S. Bear Bergman** discuss the joys and challenges of parenting, and the ways that they tackle such a personal topic in unique, unexpected formats.

RETURN: WRITING OUR WAY HOME

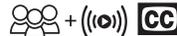
4:00pm - 5:15pm



Three game-changing nonfiction writers—**Kamal Al-Solaylee**, **Tsering Yangzom Lama**, and **Omar Mouallem**—discuss the act of writing in the west, the challenges of leaving one home and finding another, and the work of putting to page matters of the heart.

WRAPPING UP WITH ANDRÉ ALEXIS

8:00pm - 9:15pm



Award-winning Canadian writer **André Alexis** has completed his quincunx—a collection of five genre-bending novels. In this festival-closing conversation with Executive Director **Jael Richardson**, André Alexis explores what it feels like to set out on such an ambitious undertaking and what it feels like to approach the end of this career-defining collection of incredible stories.

ON DEMAND

FIERCE FICTION



Grab some friends or the members of your official book club, and keep your notebooks and calendars ready! From rom-coms through to family stories of exile and hope, this panel discussion with **Tsering Yangzom Lama**, **Reema Patel**, and **Sonya Singh** features your next favourite reads. We know there's going to be plenty to talk about.

HOLDING ATTENTION IN THE SHORT STORY



What are strategies for holding attention in fiction in general and the short story in particular? When does a short story begin and end, and how does a writer create tension and manage narrative information in between? Using literary examples as well as insights from psychology and neuroscience, this session with **Jack Wang** will help writers tell more compelling short stories.

SHAKING SOBBING SCREAMING: SHIPS IN YOUNG ADULT SCI-FICTION



Hooking readers in with a ship, the desire to have two or more characters get together in the end romantically, is a tale as old as time. In this workshop, *New York Times* bestselling author and FOLD 2022 Teen Writer-in-Residence **Chloe Gong** explores character creation through relationships—both romantic and platonic—teaching new and established writers how to use this to enhance a reader's emotional attachment to a story.