



**FESTIVAL**  
OF FAITH  
WRITING



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OF FAITH  
WRITING

In the following pages, you'll find the details of our schedule—look for the icons below to help you navigate the different types of sessions you can attend. **You can also use the Festival Mobile App to customize your own schedule.**

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS			PANEL DISCUSSION
SOLO PRESENTATION			READING
CONVERSATION / INTERVIEW			WORKSHOP
MUSIC			FESTIVAL CIRCLES
THEATER / FILM			LUNCH FORUM
EXHIBITOR PRESENTATION			OPEN MIC
BOOK SIGNINGS			COFFEE BREAK

## KEY

- { }** Session title with session type icon
- PRESENTER NAME(S)
- Description of session
- Additional involvement
- Location of session*

## 9 AM

### Registration Desk and Exhibit Hall Open

*Prince Conference Center, Lobby*

## 10:30 AM

### OPENING SESSION

### “O God Our Help in Ages Past, Our Hope for Years to Come”: A Service of Gratitude and Dedication

Join us to celebrate and give thanks for 25 years of the Festival of Faith & Writing and for the establishment of the new Calvin Center for Faith & Writing with this short service of praise, prayer, and poetry. We will also commission the Center's first co-directors.

*Calvin College Chapel*

## 12 PM

### KEYNOTE

#### **Some Doubts About Certainty**

**TOBIAS WOLFF**

Esteemed author and mentor Tobias Wolff offers a meditation on the social and spiritual problems posed by the felt need for certainty in matters of faith and values, and the corresponding danger of individuals, and societies, adrift without a guiding sense of confidence in their beliefs. He will reflect on the circumstances surrounding his writing of “In the Garden of the North American Martyrs,” and the second thoughts he has had about the particular kind of heroism it depicts.

*WIERSMA MEMORIAL LECTURE*

Introduced by Lisa Ann Cockrel,  
Festival of Faith & Writing

*Van Noord Arena*

1:15 PM  **BOOK SIGNING**

*Van Noord Arena*

**TOBIAS WOLFF**

## 1:45 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Silence and Beauty**

**MAKOTO FUJIMURA**

Shusaku Endo's novel *Silence* took visual artist Makoto Fujimura on a pilgrimage of grappling with the nature of art, the significance of pain, and his own cultural heritage. His journey overlaps with Endo's as he uncovers deep layers of meaning in Japanese history and literature, expressed in art both past and present. In this talk he finds glimpses of how the gospel is conveyed in Christ-hidden cultures.

Introduced by John Witvliet,  
Calvin Institute of Christian Worship

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **To Insist That Sorrow Not Be Meaningless**

**DANI SHAPIRO**

Out of a chaotic childhood and a painful early adulthood marked by profound loss, Dani Shapiro “chipped away at her own bewilderment in order to find the pattern in it.” It is this pattern-making that has shaped Shapiro's work over the course of eight books, and it is the daily practice of attempting to make art out of chaos that has also shaped her life. What makes us writers—and why? What do we do with what we've been given? In this talk, Shapiro discusses the raw material of her personal history and how it has made her the writer she is today.

Introduced by Kristine Johnson,  
Calvin College English Department

*Calvin College Chapel*

## Writing in White Van

JOHN DARNIELLE

Hailed as the best storyteller in rock for his work as the frontman of the Mountain Goats, John Darnielle proved his storytelling prowess transcends genre with his debut novel *Wolf in White Van*. Here Darnielle talks about writing novels and dreaming out loud in front of people.

Introduced by Micah Lott, Boston College  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

## Writing Through the Ages

LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS,  
LUCI SHAW, JEANNE MURRAY WALKER,  
SARA ZARR

This panel features four writers of faith in each decade of life—from the 40's through the 80's—reflecting on the various seasons in their careers and also looking ahead. Themes include following one's dreams, loneliness and persistence, the struggle to carve out room to write amidst family and job pressures, and the spiritual depth that can arise from waiting.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

## Seeing the World Anew: Notes from Third-Culture Writers

TIM BASCOM, SUSANNA CHILDRESS,  
DANIEL COLEMAN, FAITH EIDSE

Four former missionary kids—raised in the Philippines, Ethiopia, Kenya, and the Congo—describe how their cross-cultural encounters put them in unique positions to write about human experience and spirituality. As third-culture people, they express personal dislocation and loss, but also a keen awareness of global issues. Participants will be invited into conversation about the ways that travel can enrich writing with cultural insight and inventive language.

Introduced by Allison Graff Poosawtsee,  
Bethany Christian Services

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

## Living As If We Believe in Life

JANISSE RAY

The most existential challenge we face in the 21st century is figuring out how to live well despite the isolation and destructiveness of our times. This session will explore the role of writer as activist and framer of a vision for a sustainable world. We can use our stories to transform, and to help create a world in which we can all lead more meaningful lives. We can learn to live so that we keep what we love.

Introduced by Gail Gunst Heffner,  
Calvin College Service-Learning Center

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## 2:45 PM COFFEE BREAK

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Lower West Lobby  
Hekman Library Lobby*

*Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room*

## 3 PM BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

JOHN DARNIELLE  
MAKOTO FUJIMURA  
DANI SHAPIRO

## 3:15 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **An Interview with Zadie Smith**

The celebrated novelist fields questions about her novels, all of which include religious zeal or doubt (or both). She also speaks to her work as an essayist and critic, her creative community, and, if we're lucky, her new novel, *Swing Time*, due out next winter.

*THE DALE BROWN MEMORIAL SESSION*

Interviewed by Jane Zwart,  
Calvin College English Department

*Calvin College Chapel*

#### **Going East: Following the Path of Poetry and Liturgy**

SCOTT CAIRNS, ANGELA DOLL CARLSON,  
GAELAN GILBERT,  
CAMERON ALEXANDER LAWRENCE

In our technology-laden, soundbite-driven world, we are often unaware of the deep poetry and lasting peace that liturgy offers. Through reflections on the works of the great poets and experiences in the Eastern Orthodox tradition, these writers clear a pathway through the slings and arrows of modern life.

Introduced by Dave Harrity

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **Cultivating the Imagination for Societal Flourishing**

DAVID H. KIM

Cultivating the imagination is not only critical for the writing process, but equally critical for societal flourishing. Drawing from the work of C. S. Lewis, this talk will explore the essential role of the imagination in the Christian life and the unique calling that writers have to help cultivate that imagination for all people.

Introduced by Scott Hoezee,  
Center for Excellence in Preaching

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

#### **Writing for the Joy of It: Surrendering Our Need for Status**

MICHA BOYETT, MARLENA GRAVES,  
JEN POLLOCK MICHEL,  
TISH HARRISON WARREN

Many writers consider obscurity a form of death; we want people to read our work. But how do we cultivate an audience without becoming consumed by the need for status and importance? How do we write with sustained joy while coping with the perils of rejection, criticism, misinterpretation, and success? Panelists discuss the wonder and ache of the writing life, and the spiritual practices necessary for flourishing.

Introduced by Jack Van Allsburg,  
Calvin College '16

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

#### **Tales of Faithful Dissent**

CATHERINE WOLFF

Drawing on her work editing *Not Less Than Everything: Catholic Writers on Heroes of Conscience*, from Joan of Arc to Oscar Romero, Catherine Wolff examines how tales of faithful dissent inspire writers, in their lives and in their work. Some of these dissenters were great saints, some great sinners, others relatively unknown, but each maintained their religious faith while challenging the prevailing authorities. The audience will be invited to consider their own heroes of conscience.

Introduced by Andrea LeRoy,  
Calvin College

*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

## **Writer and Prototype, Post-Mortem: Fred Manfred Meets Jennie Van Engen**

JAMES SCHAAP

A writer publishes a novel that clearly uses a painfully sad story—a true story his own boyhood community knows very well. What if, by some strange phenomenon, the spirits of the novelist and a woman, a prototype he used in the telling, were to meet in the after-life, right there in the cemetery where both are buried? What might be said between them? James Calvin Schaap will talk about his own entrance to a story he discovered in a small-town cemetery in Iowa.

Introduced by James Vanden Bosch,  
Calvin College English Department

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

## **Weird Fiction as Sacramental Practice**

DAVID GRIFFITH, CINA PELAYO,  
JONATHAN RYAN

How can the literary genres of science fiction, fantasy, horror, and paranormal act as sacramental literature? This panel will explore how the “weird fiction” of writers including Charles Williams, Gene Wolfe, and Stephen King can strip off our naturalistic blinders and invite us to “behold,” in the Old Testament sense, the unseen world around us.

Introduced by Jennifer H. Williams,  
Calvin College English Department

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

## **A Reading: Jennifer Maier**

Introduced by Hannah Faith Notess,  
Seattle Pacific University

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

## **The Pen is Mightier Than the Sword: Writing Toward Shalom**

MAE ELISE CANNON, SHAWN GRAVES,  
DREW G. I. HART, PETER HELTZEL

Violence, fear and fear mongering, discord, and strife are salient features of our fractured global society. And yet, Jesus calls his followers to be peacemakers. In this session, we will engage the powerful work of writers including Thomas Merton, Martin Luther King, Jr., Dorothy Day, and Virgilio Elizondo, as we explore how we ourselves might write effectively and prophetically to bring about shalom.

Introduced by Mary Hulst, Calvin College

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association Board Room*

## **Story Workshop**

HUGH COOK

**Pre-registration required.** Note:

This workshop is two hours long and lasts from 3:15–5:15 pm.

*Prince Conference Center, President's Dining Room*

## 4:30 PM **BOOK SIGNING**

*Campus Store*

JENNIFER MAIER

CATHERINE WOLFF

*Prince Conference Center*

JANISSE RAY

JAMES SCHAAP

## 4:30 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **The Art of Spirituals**

ASHLEY BRYAN

Children's book author and artist Ashley Bryan will talk about creating art for his illustrated collection of black American spirituals for children, which includes *Walk Together Children, I'm Going to Sing*, and *All Night, All Day*. He'll be joined onstage by the Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Chorus performing a selection of these songs.

Introduced by Sean Ivory, Calvin College Music Department and Grand Rapids Symphony Youth Chorus

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **'Riting, Reading, and 'Rithmetic: Realities Prospective Authors Should Know**

JENNIFER GRANT, ROBERT HOSACK, JUSTIN PAUL LAWRENCE

In this interactive session, three industry veterans offer their insights into the non-fiction book publishing process from the vantage points of a *writer* reflecting on all that it takes to conceive and craft a book; an *acquisitions editor* asking questions about form, fit, and finances; and a *salesperson* evaluating if, where, and how books can actually be sold.

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

#### **Fantasy, Science Fiction, and the Muslim American Imagination**

SALADIN AHMED

Hugo, Nebula, and British Fantasy Award nominated novelist/short story writer Saladin Ahmed discusses his work and what it means to be a Muslim American writing fantasy and science fiction in a climate of hostility and suspicion. He will also read "The Faithful Soldier, Prompted," a post-apocalyptic short story about God and cyborgs, and invite questions from the audience.

Introduced by Jennifer H. Williams, Calvin College English Department

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

#### **Writing about Death**

JAWEED KALEEM, MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

A journalist who covers the death beat and a professor of medical humanities discuss what they've learned about living by writing about dying.

Introduced by Kristen Alford, Calvin College Sociology and Social Work Department

*Calvin Seminary, Auditorium*

#### **Portraiture and Power: Representing the Lives of Others**

DENNIS COVINGTON, CHRIS HOKE, D. L. MAYFIELD

Appalachian snake-handler churches. Global refugees in the inner-city. Mexican gang members and inmates. The spiritual pursuits of three memoirists—Dennis Covington, D. L. Mayfield, and Chris Hoke—led them into these respective realms. These authors will engage in honest conversation around this question: When we enter the worlds of marginalized communities and write memoir, how do we represent the Other, given our privileges as outsiders? They will explore both the ethics and the craft of being in a world but not of it, in the context of memoir, social justice, and global difference.

Moderated by Jeff Chu

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

#### **Giving Voice to Biblical Characters through Poetry**

JILL P. BAUMGAERTNER, D. S. MARTIN, TANIA RUNYAN, LUCI SHAW

Many poets write from the perspective of—or about—Biblical characters. These writers will discuss the hazards and rewards of working with this rich source material, of digging deeper and challenging stereotypical responses to the Bible characters many think they already know.

*Calvin College Chapel*



## Faith, Doubt, and Cinema

PAUL HARRILL

Whether it's a car chase, two lovers kissing, or giant dinosaurs causing havoc, movies are great at showing things. But what about stories that depict things felt but not seen? How does one make a film that concerns questions of faith and doubt? Filmmaker Paul Harrill discusses this challenge and that of making cinema outside the domain of both Hollywood and so-called "faith based" film.

Introduced by William Romanowski, Calvin College Communication Arts and Sciences

*DeVos Communication Center, Bytwerk Theater*

## Didn't Our Hearts Burn Within Us: The Use and Abuse of Emotion in Storytelling

DANIEL TAYLOR

Stories are powerful because they engage the whole person—intellect, emotion, will, spirit, and body. Every aspect of the human person and experience has a link to emotion. Effective writing of every kind understands this and uses all the devices of its genre to shape the emotional response of the reader. This session explores strategies for creating and controlling effective emotion in writing (and avoiding excesses), with an emphasis on narrative in fiction and memoir.

Introduced by Donald Hettinga, Calvin College English Department

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

# 6 PM

## FESTIVAL CIRCLES

See page 48 for details.

# 7:30 PM

## An Evening with Zadie Smith

What is the purpose of writing "creatively"? Have the reasons changed over time? What can aspiring writers do to convince themselves that serious writing—in a world full of distractions—is still worth doing? What kind of writing is needed in the 21st century? Zadie Smith considers these questions from both the modern reader and writer's point of view.

Introduced by Jane Zwart, Calvin College English Department

*Van Noord Arena*

8:45 PM  BOOK SIGNING


*Van Noord Arena*

ZADIE SMITH

# 9 PM

## The Mountain Goats in Concert

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

5:45 PM  BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

SALADIN AHMED

ASHLEY BRYAN

DANIEL TAYLOR

8:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

 **Prophetic Writing: Constructive Challenge or Total Turn-off?**

AUSTIN CHANNING, AIDEN ENNS, DREW G. I. HART

How do you write about difficult things without turning off or overwhelming readers? When do you keep pushing readers to wake up and make constructive changes in their lives and when do you back off? Three writers and activists talk about navigating these issues in their work on subjects including mass incarceration, consumer culture, and white privilege.

Introduced by Lissa Schwander, Calvin College Sociology and Social Work Department

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association Board Room*

 **Till Death Do Us Part: Reimagining Christian Friendship**  
WESLEY HILL

In many Christian discussions of friendship, writers have taken great care to distinguish friendship from marriage and romantic love, stressing that friendship is about freely chosen affection that doesn't depend on promises or vows. And yet, in some Christian writings friendship is as much about stability and permanence as marriage. In this session, Wesley Hill discusses this "minority report" and its promise for today's churches.

Introduced by Karen Saupe, Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

 **A Conversation with Danielle Chapman**

Danielle Chapman answers questions about her poems, with particular attention to the ways that place, form, and perspective matter to her work. She also speaks about promoting civic engagement with the written word, crafting book reviews, and teaching literature.

Interviewed by Sarah Byker James, Community College of Philadelphia

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

 **How Chronic Conditions Challenge and Enrich the Writing Life**

DANIEL BOWMAN, JR., ELLEN PAINTER DOLLAR, JESSICA MESMAN GRIFFITH

Writers who live with a variety of chronic physical, mental, and neurobiological conditions talk about how their experiences of disability impart hard-earned insight around issues including health, technology, and thriving within our limits. This discussion is for all writers invested in compassion, humility, creativity, and the unique ways that God's strength is made perfect in weakness.

Introduced by Kyle Heys, Calvin College Academic Services

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Room 115*

### **Making Your Own Small Books at Home: Chapbook Construction for Poets, Essayists, and Short Story Writers**

BOB HUDSON

**Pre-registration required.**

*Prince Conference Center,  
President's Dining Room*

### **Poets on Motherhood and Faith**

SUSANNA CHILDRESS,  
BARBARA CROOKER,  
TANIA RUNYAN, ANYA SILVER

Four poets read from their work exploring the ways faith affects how they mother, how mothering shapes their faith, and how both faith and mothering connect to the practice of writing. These poets have diverse experiences, including those with biological children, adoptive children, children with special needs, and mothering during chronic illness.

*Calvin College Chapel*

### **A Conversation with David H. Kim: Preaching Hope and Change to Millennials**

It's no secret that Millennials are leaving the church in droves in America because they find the church to be increasingly irrelevant. How can pastors write sermons in a way that reaches the hearts and minds of Millennials who are seeking hope and change? David H. Kim discusses how to effectively connect the gospel to the deepest yearnings of this generation.

Interviewed by Mary Hulst, Calvin College  
*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

### **Searching for Faith in a Violent, Religious World**

DENNIS COVINGTON

Covington has written about the case of a snake-handling preacher in Southern Appalachia who attempted to murder his wife with rattlesnakes, and he has written the story of a young American aid worker in Syria who was kidnapped, raped, and killed by ISIS. In this work, and in this session, Covington ponders this central question: Is Christianity without passion, danger, and mystery really Christianity at all?

Introduced by Martyn Wendell Jones

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

### **Telling It Slant: How to Develop an Angle for Your Book that Editors Will Love**

STEPHANIE S. SMITH

If content is king, then angle is queen. The angle is the signature of great writing, providing a fresh frame for timeless truth beyond overdone, underdeveloped, dime-a-dozen concepts. In this workshop, Stephanie S. Smith, an acquiring editor for Zondervan, goes beyond the mechanics of creating a book proposal to focus on the heart of the proposal itself. She explains how to find and hone an angle that will make for a great book and catch an editor or agent's interest.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

### 9:30 AM COFFEE BREAK

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Lower West Lobby  
Hekman Library Lobby*

*Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room*

## 9:45 AM BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

MARY HULST

DAVID H. KIM

*Prince Conference Center*

HUGH COOK

DENNIS COVINGTON

WESLEY HILL

## 10 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **A Reading: Christian Wiman**

Christian Wiman reads a selection of poems—his own and those written by others—and discusses the spiritual and theological issues they raise.

Introduced by Jane Zwart,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **A Conversation with Dani Shapiro**

Dani Shapiro rejected the Orthodox Judaism of her youth, and then returned to the faith on her own terms later in life. Here she discusses the role of spirituality in a writing life that encompasses fiction, memoir, and essay.

Interviewed by Catherine Wolff

Introduced by Kristine Johnson,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **Writing Faith from the Inside Out: One Writer's Journey Through Doubt**

DEBBY DAHL EDWARDSON

Katherine Paterson writes, “The challenge for those of us who care about our faith and about a hurting world is to tell stories which will carry the words of grace and hope in their sinew and not wear them like a fancy dress.” Where do these kinds of stories come from and how do we make them happen? Indeed, can we or should we even try to *make them happen*? This National Book Award finalist believes that writing is an act of faith and stories are a gift of grace. The question is this: how does one channel this gift?

Introduced by Katherine Swart,  
Calvin College Hekman Library

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

## What It Means To Be a Muslim Journalist In The Mainstream Media

JAWEED KALEEM

Muslims are everywhere in the media these days yet, and yet they rarely report the stories. The coverage of Islam is about Muslims, but rarely features them. Jaweed Kaleem talks about what it's like to be a Muslim working in major American newsrooms during a time of increasing anti-Muslim rhetoric. He addresses the ins and out of reporting on Islam and how Muslims—and other minority groups (including Christians, in the case of journalists)—can navigate newsroom politics to make the case for covering religion in an increasingly secular world.

Introduced by Doug Kindschi,  
Kaufman Interfaith Institute

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## Blogging or Blathering: The Current State of Personal Online Writing

KATELYN BEATY, AMY JULIA BECKER,  
LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS,  
SANDRA VANDER ZICHT

Amid much media attention, some high-profile bloggers, including one founder of the genre, have recently called it quits, beginning a trend away from blogging. Is there still a legitimate place or need for blogging in a writer's life, or are the critics and quitters right? An ex-blogger, a current blogger, a publisher, and a magazine editor weigh in on the present challenges, limits, and value of blogging.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

## Books, Movies, Spiritual Engagement: The Uses and Power of Transmedia

RANDY TESTA

Transmedia stories use different content platforms to add something new to an overall narrative, be it by offering background stories, changing the perspective on an event or character through different viewpoints, or continuing a story arc that was left off in another medium. This session will explore transmedia through two stories: *Fun Home* by Alison Bechdel, a graphic novel that has been adapted as a Broadway musical; and *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers, a novel about to become a feature-length film. We'll explore the grace transmedia can offer storytellers, story-lovers, and people of faith.

Introduced by Quentin Schultze, Calvin College  
Communication Art and Sciences Emeritus

*DeVos Communication Center, Bytwerk Theater*

11:15 AM  BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

CHRISTIAN WIMAN

*Prince Conference Center*

DEBBY DAHL EDWARDSON

11:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

 **The Language of Forgiveness**

KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS,  
SHANE McCRAE

Poet Shane McCrae writes, “There is a wound in American whiteness that answers to the wound in American blackness, and whites and blacks need each other to heal each other, and forgiveness must play a role in the healing.” Together he and theologian Kelly Brown Douglas explore how to navigate our sinful racial history and unreconciled relationships in order to create a different world.

Moderated by Jeff Chu

*Spoelhof Center, Gezon Auditorium*

 **Developing Story Ideas for the Screen**

PAUL HARRILL

**Pre-registration required.**

*DeVos Communication Center,  
Bytwerk Theater*

 **Rendering the Body in Words and Illustration**

SAMUEL MARTIN, TARA OWENS,  
RAGAN SUTTERFIELD,  
BRIAN VOLCK, JOHN VOLCK

Does the Christian belief that God became human in the person of Jesus Christ grant the body special importance and signifying power in creative work by persons of faith? This panel brings together writers and a visual artist to explore ways in which the body is rendered—from the Latin root, *reddere*, “to give back, return, or restore”—in poetry, fiction, creative non-fiction, and visual art.

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

 **Why and How Authors Are Publishing Independently**

ED CYZEWSKI, KRIS CAMEALY,  
ANDI CUMBO-FLOYD, JANA RIESS,  
SHAWN SMUCKER

Opportunities abound for independent authors who want to take control of their publishing careers, but independent publishing isn’t just for authors who don’t have a traditional book deal. Traditional authors are adding independent eBook projects in order to build their email lists, to earn an additional side income, or to establish a more sustainable long-term career. A panel of traditional and independent authors will discuss the most effective tools and strategies they have used in order to create, publish, and promote professional, high quality books on their own.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

 **Memoir as Feminist Testimony**

AMY JULIA BECKER,  
JESSICA MESMAN GRIFFITH,  
ALISON HODGSON, KATHERINE  
WILLIS PERSHEY, RACHEL MARIE STONE

Recent studies and news reports suggest we live in a world where women still struggle to be heard and believed about their own lives. Perhaps that’s why memoir, as a genre, is particularly resonant for women writers despite the very real danger of being branded narcissistic. In this panel, we’ll discuss how memoir functions differently than other forms of non-fiction, why women love memoir, and common pitfalls in memoir writing, including oversharing and modes of faux-confession.

Introduced by Jennifer H. Williams,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

## What Is Within You Will Save You: Deep-Mining Your Attention Collection

DAVID DARK

“Write what will stop your breath if you don’t write,” Grace Paley once advised. Drawing on the development of *Life’s Too Short To Pretend You’re Not Religious*, David Dark discusses writing as an avenue for holding out your deepest frustrations and your deepest enthusiasms with open hands. Unless we take up the work of creatively taking stock of our fears and hopes, Dark argues we have yet to experience our own experience.

Introduced by Ken Heffner,  
Calvin College Student Activities Office  
*Calvin College Chapel*

## Are You There God? It’s Me, YA Literature: Writing About Teenagers and Faith

JENNIFER MATHIEU

While contemporary young adult fiction has ventured into challenging and even provocative territory in recent years, books that tackle the sensitive topic of young people and faith are not as frequently found on bookstore shelves. Mathieu discusses how her own faith journey and her interest in religious extremes—including a fascination with the Duggar family of reality television fame—sparked her interest in writing *Devoted*, a novel about a young woman being raised in a restrictive Christian Patriarchy home. Mathieu explains why this topic may be neglected in the world of YA literature and what rewards can be found in writing about it.

Introduced by Donald Hettinga,  
Calvin College English Department  
*Commons Annex, Alumni Board Room*

## An Interview with Jennifer Maier

Jennifer Maier invests the ordinary with shimmering significance. Here she discusses the role of time, memory, and redemption in her two prize-winning books of poetry.

Interviewed by Paul Willis, Westmont College  
*Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room*

## Orwell Had it Easy: The Contemporary and Its Fictional Challenges

ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN

What do the challenges of writing fiction about the contemporary, on the one hand, and the current worldwide volatility of voters, on the other, have in common? Zia Haider Rahman explores aspects of current political trends that reflect deep changes in a person’s encounter with the world and looks at how these very same changes pose new challenges for novelists.

Introduced by Jill VanBeek,  
Association for a More Just Society  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

## A Reading: Mary Ruefle

Introduced by L. S. Klatt,  
Calvin College English Department  
*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

12:45 PM  BOOK SIGNING

*Prince Conference Center*

DAVID DARK

JENNIFER MATHIEU

ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN

MARY RUEFLE



12:45 PM

LUNCH FORUMS

**🍴 Christians who Drink Craft Beer: The Rise of Middle Space Artists and Audiences in Entertainment**

ERIK LOKKESMOE, CHARLIE LOWELL, WILLIAM ROMANOWSKI

The 1970's folk song, "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love" might be better sung as, "They Will Know We Are Christians By... Our Low-Budget Movies" in 2016. In this session, Erik Lokkesmoe, executive producer of *Last Days in the Desert*, discusses the growth of the "in-betweeners" who exist between mass/crass and teach/preach art and entertainment. Questions he'll explore include: What does common grace look like in the arts? What is the role of the artist in a pre-Christian world? How is the middle-space audience changing how content is created and consumed? Adding to Lokkesmoe's insights will be musician Charlie Lowell of Jars of Clay and William Romanowski of Calvin College.

Sponsored by Different Drummer

Prince Conference Center, Board Room

**🍴 Wine, the Slow Food Movement, and Spirituality**

GISELA KREGLINGER

In *The Spirituality of Wine*, Gisela Kreglinger offers a fresh, holistic vision of the Christian life that sees God at work in all created things, including the beauty of well-crafted wine shared with others around a table. She brings Christian spirituality and the world of wine together in new ways, drawing both upon interviews with vintners from around the world and on her own experience growing up on a family winery in Bavaria. Join Gisela Kreglinger for a lunchtime exploration of wine, spirituality, and what it's like to be writing at the intersection of theology and the Slow Food movement.

Sponsored by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company

Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room

**🍴 The Art and Wonder of Writing for Children and Teens**

ANNETTE BOURLAND, GLENYS NELLIST, LORIE LANGDON

Have you ever wanted to write a children's picture book? Has YA fiction captured your imagination and writing zeal? It takes a special kind of writer to create stories (and intrigue!) for children and young adults. Writing for them requires not only a degree of child-brain and kid-memory, but a certain skill set and calling. In our time together, Zondervan publisher Annette Bourland will introduce two dynamic writers. Glenys Nellist will share how she made her picture-book writing dream a reality, and then best-selling author Lorie Langdon will share how dynamic marketing goes hand-in-hand with great content. *A complimentary boxed lunch will be provided for the first 30 attendees to arrive.*

Sponsored by Zonderkidz

Prince Conference Center, Willow Room West

**🍴 Hard Realities, Continual Rejection, and Occasional Disasters: A Publishing Journey**

ALISON HODGSON, THE REAL PUG OLIVER

Alison Hodgson arrived at her first writer's conference filled with hope, which was quickly crushed when she learned the harsh realities of publishing, beginning with: a platform isn't merely a stage. After she wasted a few years fighting despair, things began to look up—until an arsonist randomly set her house on fire. But, she learned the great thing about being a writer is that even your worst times can become your best story. Hear Alison's experience of becoming an author, learn insider tips, and meet The Real Pug Oliver, who became an essential part of Alison's story! *A complimentary boxed lunch will be provided for the first 30 attendees to arrive.*

Sponsored by Zondervan

Prince Conference Center, Willow Room East



2 PM

## CONCURRENT SESSIONS


**An Interview with George Saunders**

George Saunders entertains questions about his pilgrimage from Catholicism to Buddhism, the pleasures of story, humor and its relationship to truth telling, and the uses and abuses of language.

Interviewed by L. S. Klatt,  
Calvin College English Department  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*


**Black Lives Matter and the Justice of God**

KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS

What does it mean to be called by faith to write? *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God* was Kelly Brown Douglas's testimony of faith as she sought to understand the meaning of God's justice at a time when it appeared that Black lives did not matter. In this session she explains her reluctant response to the call to write and how her faith was deepened through the work.

Introduced by Christina Van Dyke,  
Calvin College Philosophy Department  
and Director of Gender Studies  
*Calvin College Chapel*


**Lines**

STEPHANIE SANDBERG

This moving play explores how racial issues specifically impact individuals and families. *Lines* challenges the audience to ask questions about their communities and respond to race-related division. Based on interviews with more than 150 residents of Grand Rapids, this is the theatre of testimony, giving voice to the voiceless.

Run-time: 2 hours, including  
post-show discussion

*Spoelhof Center, Lab Theater*


**Beyond our Tidy Boxes: Race, Immigration, and Faith**

RANDY BOYAGODA,  
ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN

Race, ethnicity, legal status, country of origin, class, religion. We cannot seem to escape these categories even as we recognize how poorly our labels capture the irreducible reality and intrinsic worth of just one human being. How does faith inform, or perhaps upset, those tidy boxes we put each other in? How might the narratives of fictional characters reflect and even shift the "real world" narratives of ourselves and others? Zia Haider Rahman and Randy Boyagoda discuss faith, identity, justice, and belonging in their novels and the real world.

Moderated by Micah Watson,  
Calvin College Political Science Department  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*


**Called to Clarity: Writing for a Polarized Public**

MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

Civil conversation and humane public discourse are hard to maintain in a political climate where stakes are higher, enmities more bitter, and spin more sophisticated than ever in our lifetimes. Where half-truths are common currency and discourse is dumbed down, speaking life-giving words can be particularly challenging. To write so as to educate, encourage, and clarify, to write sentences that survive and subvert organized confusion, is an invigorating challenge. This session will offer some reflections on strategies for staying both politic and prophetic in the midst of well-funded "messaging."

Introduced by Jennifer L. Holberg,  
Calvin College English Department  
*Spoelhof Center, Gezon Auditorium*

## **The Memoirist's Lament: Living with What you Publish**

CARLA BARNHILL, JENNIFER GRANT, MARGOT STARBUCK, CARYN RIVADENEIRA

What are the tricky bits seasoned authors have faced both in writing memoir and also living with it once it's "out there." Join memoirists as they unpack the passages closest to their hearts and also the ones that they'd now choose to change. Drawing from their own favorite memoirs, these authors help writers navigate the most difficult edges in writing about those closest to us.

Introduced by Angela Scheff,  
The Christopher Ferebee Agency

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

## **In Praise of Indolence: Seasons of Discipline and Grace in the Writing Life**

BRIAN G. PHIPPS

If you're discouraged because you just can't seem to discipline yourself to write when you don't feel like it, take heart. You can have a rich writing life without being prolific. For many writers, creativity is seasonal. Because we experience times when we don't feel like writing, as well as times when we do, grace plays just as important a role as discipline in our productivity and perseverance as writers. If you don't feel like writing, it's okay. Don't write. But be ruthless about writing when you do feel like it. This presentation suggests ways to make the most of your productive seasons.

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association Board Room*

## **A Reading: Danielle Chapman and John Estes**

Introduced by Sarah Byker James,  
Community College of Philadelphia

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

## **Revolution in the Garden**

JANISSE RAY, NORMAN WIRZBA

Sometimes notions of agrarian life drawn from literature are idealised or simply outdated, and at odds with the realities of rural American life. At the same time, stories and storytellers have been important to keeping rural traditions, and even rural myths, alive. Two writers deeply attentive to the natural world discuss what stories we have been told about "the country," who is telling these stories, and how we might tell more accurate ones.

Moderated by Gail Gunst Heffner,  
Calvin College Service-Learning Center

*LIONEL BASNEY MEMORIAL LECTURE*

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## **We Are the Journalists We've Been Waiting For**

PATTON DODD, MARIA EBRAHIMJI, JAWEED KALEEM, BOB SMIETANA

There are thousands of takes, many of them hot, on what's wrong with media in the age of the Internet. This panel will try to make sense of what's not working, but also what is working, from the perspective of the audience, media business owners, and journalists themselves.

Introduced by Bruce Buursma,  
Bruce Buursma Communications

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

3:15 PM  **BOOK SIGNING**

*Campus Store*

DANIELLE CHAPMAN

KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS

MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

3:30 PM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### **A Conversation with Shauna Niequist**

Shauna Niequist talks about the books that have influenced her own writing, paying attention to the little things, and creativity.

Interviewed by Ansley Kelly,  
Calvin College '16

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

### **A Reading: Scott Cairns**

Scott Cairns reads from two recently published books, *Slow Pilgrim: The Collected Poems* and the new, expanded edition of his spiritual memoir, *Short Trip to the Edge: a Journey to Prayer*.

Introduced by John Estes,  
Malone University

*Calvin College Chapel*

### **Religious Words and Secular Pages**

G. C. WALDREP, CHRISTIAN WIMAN

Two poets who have also edited poetry journals discuss how the secular publishing world reacts to poetry with explicit Christian themes, what kind of faith-related work (including doubt and disavowal) is making its way over the transom, why it's the rare poet who can render religious language authentically and artfully, and how their own spiritual and literary journeys inform their poetics.

Moderated by John Wilson, *Books & Culture*

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

### **Dispatches from Somewhere Else**

TARA ISABELLA BURTON,  
DEAN NELSON

Two journalists who often write about travel and foreign cultures discuss getting beyond stereotypes, the importance of literature written by locals to their own work, and lessons they've learned writing about unfamiliar religious practices.

Introduced by Tim Bascom, Waldorf College  
*Spoelhof Center, Gezon Auditorium*

### **Speaking the Truth in Love: Writing on Race**

MARLENA GRAVES, HELEN LEE,  
PATRICIA RAYBON, MARGOT STARBUCK

Four writers committed to speaking the truth in love explore what it means to write about race in 2016—acknowledging the challenges and celebrating the rewards.

Introduced by Christina Edmondson, Calvin College Intercultural Student Development  
*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

### **Wrestling a Writer's Life from Farm, Sea, and Forest**

BRENT BILL, LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS,  
PAUL WILLIS

Three writers—an Indiana farmer, an Alaska fisherwoman, and a California wilderness guide—discuss the relationship between their work on the page and their work on the ocean and land. Their immersion in place and labor has fed their imaginations and located them as writers, yet it has also cost them as writers. With honesty and clarity, they explore together ways that all writers and readers can be fed and enriched by connection between body, land, imagination, and spirit.

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

**👤 Absurd Answers to Serious Questions: The Coen Brothers' *A Serious Man***

**JOSHUA MAX FELDMAN**

“Even though you can’t figure anything out, you’ll still be responsible for it on the midterm.” So despairs Larry Gopnik, the Job-like protagonist in the 2009 Coen brothers’ film *A Serious Man*. Set in the Minnesota suburbs in the late 1960s, the film follows Larry’s efforts to find larger meaning as his life falls apart. Author Joshua Max Feldman explores this comedic and notoriously perplexing film through the lens of contemporary Jewish philosophy, showing how Larry’s travails resonate with some of the fundamental questions of religion.

Introduced by Sam Smartt, Calvin College Communication Arts and Sciences

*DeVos Communication Center, Bytwerk Theater*

**👤 Writing about Friendship**

**WESLEY HILL, DANIEL TAYLOR**

Writing and speaking about friendship is difficult. Unlike other common loves—parenting, for example—friendship has no obvious aim or end point. It isn’t “about” anything other than mutual enjoyment, even if many goods may come of it. In light of this, two friends discuss what it means to encounter—or attempt—good writing about friendship, writing that illuminates the experience of it and that encourages our pursuit of it.

Introduced by Julia Smith, Calvin College Sexuality Series

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association Board Room*

**👤 Searching for Truth in New Mexico**

**KRISTIN VALDEZ QUADE**

Making connections between theologian Paul Tillich’s concept of the “fascinating and shaking character of the holy” and the practice of writing fiction in search of truth, Kirstin Valdez Quade talks about the role faith, Catholicism, and the history of Hispanic northern New Mexico play in her work.

Introduced by Caitlin Horrocks, Grand Valley State University

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

**👤 I Speak for Myself**

**MARIA EBRAHIMJI**

Co-editor of *I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim*, Maria Ebrahimji talks about the importance and power of personal religious narratives, interfaith dialogue, and independent publishing.

Introduced by Erin Lane

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

**4:45 PM 📖 BOOK SIGNING**

*Prince Conference Center*

**SCOTT CAIRNS**

**MARIA EBRAHIMJI**

**JOSHUA MAX FELDMAN**

**KIRSTIN VALDEZ QUADE**

**PAUL WILLIS**

4:30-6 PM

**Party at the Prince**

Author Shauna Niequist hosts the Party at the Prince in the Exhibit Hall. Meet up with friends and enjoy snacks, book signings, and special giveaways. Be sure to get the center square of your FFW Bingo card stamped at the party for a chance to win a free registration to the 2018 Festival of Faith & Writing.  
*Prince Conference Center, Exhibit Hall*

9 PM

 **Something, Anything**

PAUL HARRILL

When a tragedy shatters her plans for domestic bliss, a seemingly typical Southern newlywed gradually transforms into a spiritual seeker, quietly threatening the closest relationships around her. One of ten projects selected in 2013 for IFP's Narrative Lab, this debut feature from Paul Harrill is both a meditative character study and an unconventional romance.

Run time: 1 hour, 28 minutes

*DeVos Communication Center, Bytwerk Theater*

7:30 PM

 **An Evening with George Saunders and Tobias Wolff**

George Saunders takes up the question "What good is art, and why?": Exploring the actual "how" of art production, he considers what a close and honest observation of one's own process can tell us about how much to trust art. After his talk, Saunders will be joined on stage by his former teacher Tobias Wolff for a wide-ranging conversation on faith and writing.

Introduced by  
Sarina Gruver Moore, Grove City College

*Van Noord Arena* **Open Mic Poetry Reading**

Hosted by Calvin's creative journal *Dialogue*, this open mic event allows writers to share their poetry (or other work) for up to ten minutes. Sign up at the Registration Desk by 6 pm.

Hosted by Jack van Allsburg

*The Fish House*9 PM  **BOOK SIGNING***Van Noord Arena*

GEORGE SAUNDERS  
TOBIAS WOLFF

## 8 AM

### Short Story Workshop

HUGH COOK

**Pre-registration required.** Note: This workshop is two hours long and lasts from 8–10 am.

*Hiemenga Hall, Room 314*

## 8:30 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### Everyday Dystopias: YA Realism and the Meaning of the Ordinary

BRYAN BLISS, KATE BASSETT, SARA ZARR

While popular trends in young adult fiction emphasize epic tales of survival, for most teens the true hero's journey is just getting through the day. We'll look at realism in young adult fiction and how it portrays the faithful, the searching, and the ways young characters are lost and found in our own familiar world.

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Room 115*

### The Enigmatic Supernatural

JOSHUA MAX FELDMAN, CHIGOZIE OBIOMA

Two debut novelists discuss the choice to place puzzling, apparently supernatural incidents at key inciting moments in their novels. How does the supernatural create complexity and possibility for two very different fictional worlds: the world of a secular Jewish lawyer in Manhattan, and the world of four young boys growing up Christian in Nigeria? How do biblical narratives resonate in their novels? And how might these novels comment on how we encounter the mystery of God?

Moderated by Debra Rienstra, Calvin College English Department

*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

### A Conversation between Ashley Bryan and Arree Chung: All Things Bright and Beautiful

ASHLEY BRYAN, ARREE CHUNG

Throughout his long career, Bryan has always found a way to make art. Racial discrimination didn't stop him. Neither did WWII. He always found a way, even keeping a sketchbook in his gas mask. In this conversation, Chung asks Bryan to reflect on his persistent faith in tough times, his creative process, and his secrets for relishing life.

Introduced by Donald Hettinga, Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

### The Art and Craft of the Book Review

D. L. MAYFIELD, RICHARD KAUFFMAN, C. CHRISTOPHER SMITH, RACHEL MARIE STONE, JOHN WILSON

We live in an age when every literate person with Internet access can publish book reviews and op-eds on books. This panel considers what elevates a book review from glorified book report to bona fide essay, the deadliest sins besetting the book review, best practices for writing great book reviews, model practitioners of the art and craft of review writing, and how reviewing books can improve one's own writing.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*



## Writing Whole: Making Peace with the True You

TRACEY BIANCHI, LESA ENGELTHALER, ERIN LANE, GRACE SANDRA

People of faith believe that God designed us to have a unique voice, passion, and purpose. How does the creative process honor God by uncovering the “true you”? And how does ego, doubt, compulsivity, and anxiety get in the way of continuing to write from this deep, soul-filled place? Guided by the wisdom of writers including Adele Calhoun, Parker Palmer, and Richard Rohr, this workshop explores these questions and includes a True You writing exercise.

*DeVos Communication Center,  
Bytwerk Theater*

## The Body Electric: Creating Characters that Spark with Life

KATHERINE JACOBS

The characters we most enjoy reading about are ones that have rich inner lives, clear motivations, and problems that drive the plot. Look at examples of electric characters in children's and young adult literature and analyze why they work. Learn concrete ways to make characters in your own writing more dynamic. We will specifically consider *Devoted* by Jennifer Mathieu as a case study, so be sure to read that book in preparation (or be ready for spoilers!).

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association  
Board Room*

## The Fix I'm In

LORENE CARY

Like the memoir that's begun to coalesce around the period at the end of her grandmother's life, Lorene Cary's talk will meditate on faith and mortality: how so many traditions tell us to meditate on our own deaths as a way of living more fully, even as we grab at what has seemed to keep us alive up till now. Despite the lessons Cary thought she'd learned from her grandmother's terror of death, Cary reenacted her grandmother's denial for years after her passing. Here she talks about how and why the denial ended.

Introduced by Stacia Hoeksema,  
Calvin College Sociology and  
Social Work Department

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## A Reading: Marci Rae Johnson and Aaron Belz

Introduced by Z. G. Tomaszewski,  
Great Lakes Commonwealth of Letters

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

## 9:30 AM COFFEE BREAK

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Lower West Lobby  
Hekman Library Lobby*

*Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room*

## 9:45 AM BOOK SIGNING

*Prince Conference Center*

AARON BELZ

LORENE CARY

MARCI RAE JOHNSON

## 10:00 AM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **A Conversation With M. T. Anderson: Symphonies, Traitors, 'Feeds', and Faith**

In this interview, M. T. Anderson discusses his most recent work, *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dimitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad*, writing dark stories for young adults, and how winning literary awards affects his work.

Interviewed by Randy Testa,  
Harvard Graduate School of Education  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **A Reading: Shane McCrae**

Shane McCrae will read from his latest book, *The Animal Too Big to Kill*, a book-length prayer written as many poems about growing up as a black child raised by white racists, poems about poverty, poems about power, and poems about not being able to afford to be a vegetarian. He will also read poems from his forthcoming book, *Imaginary Americans*, about race in America.

Introduced by Jacob Schepers,  
University of Notre Dame

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

#### **How to be a Good Literary Citizen**

DENISE FRAME HARLAN, CAROLINE LANGSTON, HANNAH FAITH NOTESS, LAURA TURNER

Increasingly, writers are expected not just to write well and not just to find and build an audience for their own work, but also to participate in a literary conversation, promoting others' works. This raises interesting questions, including ethical questions: What if a literary organization you love asks you to blog for them for no pay? Is it cheapening your work, or is it a way of supporting something you love? This topic is relevant to both beginning writers wondering how to build an audience for their writing, and established writers who may have many opportunities but limited time.

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

#### **A Reading: Luci Shaw**

Introduced by Jill P. Baumgaertner,  
Wheaton College

*Calvin College Chapel*



11:30 AM

CONCURRENT SESSIONS

### “Under God”: Faith as a Window into American Life

TARA ISABELLA BURTON

What do the street preachers of the Las Vegas strip, the practitioners of a Christian diet program in Tennessee, and New Age hikers in the Arizona desert have in common? What, if anything, is quintessentially “American” about their experiences? How do our beliefs about God and eternity shape our views of the world—everything from our relationship with family to our relationship with food? Drawing on Tara Isabella Burton’s most recent research trips to Las Vegas, Nashville, and Sedona, this talk explores how understanding the complexities of religious identity allows us to understand people at the most fundamental level, and with it help us convey characters that are as rich and nuanced on the page as they are in real life.

Introduced by Debra Rienstra,  
Calvin College English Department  
*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

### Many Books Later, the View from Now

ANDREW CLEMENTS

Andrew Clements draws on his more than 25 years of experience as an author for young adults to offer some advice. He speaks to his sense of where good ideas come from, what makes an idea worth exploring, and what the structure of a story and the structure of a career may have in common.

Introduced by Joanne Anderson,  
Breton Downs Elementary  
School, East Grand Rapids

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

### Torn by Faith, Healed by Writing

ALANA RAYBON, PATRICIA RAYBON

When a Muslim daughter and her Christian mother agreed to write their way to interfaith peace, what did the give-and-take of journaling through an impasse teach them about the power of the pen to heal a deep divide? Award-winning Christian journalist Patricia Raybon and her passionate educator daughter Alana Raybon, a convert to Islam, disclose the truths, troubles, and triumphs of co-authoring when the collaborators are struggling not just to write a book, but to reconcile their deepest difference.

Moderated by Jana Riess,  
Religion News Service

*Calvin College Chapel*

### 11:15 AM BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

M. T. ANDERSON  
SHANE McCRAE  
LUCI SHAW

## Citizens of Majesty

PAUL HARDING

Paul Harding meditates on how the most sacred human thought and writing is directly available to anyone who cares to take the time to ponder it and attempt it for herself. He contends that writers are too often averse to attempting frankly great, sacred, beautiful works, partly because we remove ourselves from the possibilities we find within art like the Bible, Shakespeare, and Melville. This session is a homily to the democracy of the imagination, and to the cultivation of the imagination itself as a kind of act of obedience and exercise in faith.

Introduced by Dean Ward,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

## Scribed: Writing with the Word

DEBBIE BLUE, MORGAN MEIS,  
KATHERINE WILLIS PERSHEY,  
RUSSELL RATHBUN

When Christians write, our words are often tangled up with the words of the Bible—implicitly or explicitly. We wrestle with scripture, quote its poetry, retell its parables, and ponder its often jarring wisdom. In this session, preachers who tend to approach scripture with an abundance of reverence and a dash of irreverence will engage in a cross-genre conversation about scripture and writing.

*Calvin Seminary Auditorium*

## Music and Poetry as Forms of Exile

 G. C. WALDREP

G. C. Waldrep reads from his work and discusses poetry and shape-note (Sacred Harp) singing as dual modes of spiritual and aesthetic practice.

Introduced by Benita Wolters-Fredlund,  
Calvin College Music Department

*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

## What Online Editors Want: Crafting Your Best Pitch

SARAH PULLIAM BAILEY, KAREN  
SWALLOW PRIOR, KATE SHELLNUTT

Today's editors are inundated with queries, questions, and press releases. How can writers break through the inbox noise and actually get noticed? In this session, panelists share industry do's and don'ts for constructing the kind of well-timed, well-crafted pitch that can launch a writer's work onto a national platform online.

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

## Creative Cross Training: Practical and Spiritual Practices to Integrate Writing into Busy Lives

ANGELA DOLL CARLSON,  
DENISE FRAME HARLAN,  
JONATHAN HISKES, CHRIS HOKE,  
CAROLINE LANGSTON

For the majority of us who have work, family, church, and community responsibilities, it's a challenge to balance life's demands with the open-ended contemplative space that art requires. Relatedly, writers of faith are called to assess what creative success looks like in our lives. This panel will discuss concrete ways to integrate writing into life, including using day jobs as cross-training that conditions our minds and hearts for creative uses. And it will contextualize these ideas within a conversation about what constitutes success.

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

## 12:45 PM

### LUNCH FORUMS

#### **Leaving, Loving, and Laughing at the Church**

MALLORY ORTBERG

Mallory Ortberg could be the world's only hip, world-facing feminist engaging faith in an earnest way, translating theology for the thoroughly secular, and making it funny. In this talk, she discusses how and why religion has continued to be compelling to her even as her own faith has changed, what it's like to be writing about religion in the midst of those shifts, and what it's like to be writing about religion in a non-religious context.

Introduced by Aaron Belz

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

#### **Crafting a Christian Creation Imagination**

NORMAN WIRZBA

Norman Wirzba explores the difference between narrating the world as “nature” or as “creation.” The grammars of these two terms can be vastly different depending on context, and Wirzba proposes that a “creation imagination” gives us access to a new vision of life's movement, meaning, and purpose.

Introduced by Susan Felch,  
Calvin College English Department

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

#### **Loaded Language**

MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

Especially in an election year, American public discourse is riddled with loaded language—buzz words, labels, abstractions, slogans, phrases abducted from respectable sources and forcibly infused with new meaning. Hijacked words become for a time the property of hijackers. Though most slogans have a short half-life, they tend to color common speech and confuse common sense. Churches and faith communities are affected by the “load” on public language as it seeps into their internal conversation. In this session we'll consider what loads language and how to approach the task of retrieving, repurposing, or sometimes rerouting our writing around “hot” words.

Sponsored by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

#### **Re-Enchanting Christian Writing**

WESLEY HILL, KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR,  
JAMES K. A. SMITH, NORMAN WIRZBA

In his new book, *You Are What You Love*, James K. A. Smith writes, “I expect it will be forms of reenchanting Christianity that will actually have a future.” Join us for a short panel discussion on how thoughtful Christian non-fiction can help foster this reenchantment. Topics will include friendship, literature, worship, and creation. *Box lunches will be provided for the first 40 attendees, and a book signing will follow.*

Sponsored by Baker Publishing Group

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room* 

#### 12:45 PM **BOOK SIGNING**

*Campus Store*

ALANA AND PATRICIA RAYBON

*Prince Conference Center*

MALLORY ORTBERG

G. C. WALDREP

#### 2 PM **BOOK SIGNING**

*Prince Conference Center*

NORMAN WIRZBA

## 2 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **A Conversation with Nadia Bolz-Weber**

Preacher and author Nadia Bolz-Weber discusses the challenges and benefits of crossing genres (e.g., sermons, essays, stand-up comedy), how formal structures like liturgy and lectionaries affect creativity, and the noble art of sarcasm.

Interviewed by Karen Saupe,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **A Reading: Andrew Clements**

Remember that trip to the principal's office? Numerous main characters in Clements's school stories have run-ins with the principal—sometimes a happy chat, but more often not. Clements reads some of these scenes and talks about the role of the principal in the lives of kids and in the life of a school.

*Children are welcome and encouraged to attend this session.*

Introduced by Franny, Ted, and Lyndon Turnage, East Grand Rapids students

*Calvin College Chapel*

#### **Clouds of Witnesses: How We Write Within Tradition**

BARBARA CROOKER, LYNN DOMINA,  
JEFF GUNDY, JULIE L. MOORE

Panelists discuss how relationships with ancestors in the faith combine with work by literary forebears to influence their own poetry and prose. They describe the difficulties as well as the advantages of perceiving themselves as members of a distinct literary tradition and provide specific examples illustrating how Christian texts or traditions have worked alongside other literary models to support, challenge, inspire, or otherwise affect their work.

*Calvin Seminary Chapel*

#### **A Conversation with Paul Harding**

Paul Harding talks about fiction writing as truth telling, how words persuade readers via all of their senses, and why all writers must be readers.

Interviewed by Micah Lott, Boston College

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **Fantasy and Religious Imagination**

SALADIN AHMED, JEFFREY OVERSTREET

Fantasy writers create new worlds filled with nightmares and marvels, villains and heroes, where miracles and wonders are commonplace. More than a few have been inspired in part by religion: from the epic tales of the Greek and Norse myths to *Lord of the Rings* and *Narnia*. In this conversation, two fantasy writers from different faith backgrounds explore the role of religion in shaping imagination, and how religion's cosmic views of history and reality have shaped their work. They also discuss both the joys and pitfalls of mixing faith and fantasy.

Moderated by Bob Smietana,  
Religion Newswriters Association

*Commons Annex, Lecture Hall*

#### **Fire in the Hole: Mysticism, Imagery, and the Transformation of Lockdown Spaces**

CHRIS HOKE

Chris Hoke—jail chaplain, gang pastor—believes the growing number of prison cells in America can be repurposed like the simple bottles that become Molotov cocktails. Sharing from his own work—as well as looking at sacramental theology, prison literature, and creative writing workshops in juvenile detention centers—Chris will explore the writer's power of image and metaphor to ignite imaginations and re-purpose the spaces in which we find ourselves today.

Introduced by Kim Benedict,  
Calvin College English Department

*DeVos Communication Center, Bytwerk Theater*

## **A Conversation with Kirstin Valdez Quade**

Kirstin Valdez Quade's very first book is a stunning collection of stories the *New York Times* calls "haunting and beautiful." To call her fiction "religious" is to understate the immense force of the everyday martyrs who people her stories. Quade talks about faith and writing fiction as a search for truth.

Interviewed by James Schaap

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

## **From Grand Rapids Publishing Intern to New York Senior Editor**

KATHERINE JACOBS

A Grand Rapids native and Calvin alum describes how she found her way to a job at a major publisher in New York City. Find out what really happens at a publishing house and all the people it takes to make a book. Get tips about how to enter the publishing industry, and be sure to bring a lot of questions.

Introduced by Michael Van Denend,  
Calvin College Alumni Association

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association  
Board Room*

## **The Teacher As Writer: How Classroom Experiences Shape Writers**

JENNIFER MATHIEU, ALANA RAYBON

While some may view teaching as a way to fund a writing career, for many writers, time in the classroom feeds the work of writing and is as integral to the writing process as drafting and revising. Mathieu and Raybon discuss how teaching has helped them define and refine their own writing processes, how students inspire their storytelling, and how writing improves their practice as teachers.

Introduced by Donald Hettinga,  
Calvin College English Department

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

## **The Loud and the Quiet: Writing in the Age of Social Media**

SARAH BESSEY, CHRISTIE PURIFOY,  
PRESTON YANCEY, ADDIE ZIERMAN

If, as Kafka once said, "Writing is utter solitude, the descent into the cold abyss of oneself," then the Internet—with its lightning-fast news cycles and dashed-off status updates—sets itself in opposition to that quiet, deep work. And yet, writers are often expected to have an engaging online presence. How do we make the necessary space to delve deeply into our art while still maintaining a platform? This session explores the intersection between the quiet writing life and loud online spaces and suggests how we might live and write well in the tension.

Introduced by Angela Scheff, The  
Christopher Ferebee Agency

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## 3 PM COFFEE BREAK

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Lower West Lobby*

*Hekman Library Lobby*

*Prince Conference Center, Fireside Room*

## 3:15 PM BOOK SIGNING

*Campus Store*

ANDREW CLEMENTS

PAUL HARDING

*Prince Conference Center*

CHRIS HOKE

## 3:30 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **The Sacred and the Strange**

M. T. ANDERSON

M. T. Anderson describes some of the most unusual mythic rites and religious practices he has come across in his travels. What can these rituals—sacrifices, possessions and exorcisms, sacred asceticism—teach us about writing and about what it means to be human?

Introduced by Debbie Visser,  
Calvin College English Department

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **Love and Marriage: Writing our Most Intimate Relationships**

SUSANNA CHILDRESS,  
BRENT NEWSOM, SARAH WELLS,  
ADDIE ZIERMAN

A search for compelling work on marriage turns up slim results. Unless your marriage has ended in death or divorce, reading selections are often one-dimensional or sentimental. Why is it so difficult to write about these relationships? Panelists discuss making room for writing in marriage, negotiating the space between the page and the people we love the most, and what effect writing about marriage has had on those relationships.

*Calvin Seminary Auditorium*

#### **A Conversation with Mallory Ortberg**

Humorist Mallory Ortberg says it's easy to find straight Christians talking about what to do about gay and trans people, or to find queer people who have left organized religion discussing their own experiences, but we hear very little from people who are simply both. Co-founder of the blog *The Toast*, Ortberg discusses being Christian and queer, feminism's role in her writing and faith life, and the art of short-form humor.

Interviewed by Christina Van Dyke,  
Calvin College Philosophy Department  
and Director of Gender Studies

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **Writing and Editing Outside the Fold**

THOM CARAWAY, KIMBERLY KOLBE,  
MARCI RAE JOHNSON

In her book *Walking on Water*, Madeleine L'Engle suggests that good writing is incarnational regardless of the author's faith background. But what tensions arise between a writer's faith and a publication that is not religious? In this panel, poets who grapple with issues of spirituality in their own work discuss the joys and challenges of publishing in secular journals and presses, and of their roles as editors for presses that are not specifically faith-focused: *WordFarm*, *Sage Hill Press*, and *New Issues*.

*Commons Annex, Alumni Association Board Room*

#### **These Lives Matter**

LORENE CARY,  
DEBBY DAHL EDWARDSON

Even as American media focuses on the death of indigenous people and black youth, Cary and Edwardson insist on a different way of demonstrating that these lives matter: careful, attentive, delighted focus not only on black and brown people in crisis, but on the exquisite detail of their lives and achievements.

Introduced by Linda Naranjo-Huebl,  
Calvin College English Department

*Calvin College Chapel, Undercroft*

#### **The Creator and the Creative Life**

ARREE CHUNG

Chung recounts conversations with God that shaped his journey toward a bold creative life. He discusses what he's learned about creativity, creating space, taking leaps of faith, *People Angels*, and trusting in God. By detailing these conversations with God, Chung hopes to help writers and readers to see their way into discovering hidden ideas, embracing the messiness of life, and creating from the unknown.

Introduced by Monica Walen,  
Kent District Library

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Room 115*



## Building and Sustaining Creative Community

DANIEL BOWMAN, JR.,  
LORILEE CRAKER, DAVE HARRITY,  
AMY PETERSON, Z. G. TOMASZEWSKI

Writing is a solitary undertaking, but writers work (and live!) at their best when consistently encouraged and challenged by a supportive creative community. The panelists have done the work of shaping and nurturing artistic communities in their towns, churches, online, on college campuses, in environments hostile to art, and with people on the margins. They share their experiences, including practical strategies for developing a writing community that will help sustain you year-round and drive your writing toward its best.

*Hiemenga Hall, Meeter Center Lecture Hall*

## Follow the (Lack of) Money: Making Media with Startups and Nonprofits

PATTON DODD

In the 1976 film *All the President's Men*, Watergate informant Deep Throat told *Washington Post* reporter Bob Woodward to “follow the money.” These days, that famous journalism quote carries a certain irony. Money is nowhere to be found, and journalists cannot afford to do journalism. In recent years, an array of startup efforts and nonprofit organizations have taken two very different approaches to the problem: make money in new ways, or make no money at all. A veteran of both approaches, Patton Dodd surveys the recent past and looks to what new opportunities may yet emerge.

Introduced by Lisa Ann Cockrel,  
Festival of Faith & Writing

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

## A Good Cross is Hard to Find: Catholic Fiction Beyond Flannery O'Connor

RANDY BOYAGODA

Contemporary Catholic writers have complicated relationships with Flannery O'Connor, whether they want to or not. Contemporary Catholic readers also have relationships with O'Connor, but these tend to be simpler—they hinge on adoration—and this often leads them to use her as the standard by which to judge all subsequent Catholic writers. How, then, should Catholic writers wrestle with (and perhaps move beyond) O'Connor's stories? How should Catholic readers rethink their expectations of writers who share their faith?

Introduced by Jane Zwart,  
Calvin College English Department

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

## Thriving as a Writer in College and Beyond

JACK VAN ALLSBURG, JOSH DELACY,  
WILL MONTEI, ABBY ZWART

Growing as a writer during and after the college years means more than taking a few creative writing courses. It means living and working in a larger ecosystem of writers, challenging oneself, and supporting one's peers. After graduation, the challenges increase. How do you set goals, meet deadlines, and find an audience once you've left a supportive college community? In this session, three recent grads and a college senior explore best practices for a healthy writing life as students and beyond. They describe what they learned editing a student newspaper, editing a student literary journal, and founding *The Post Calvin*, a successful blog for young alums, now in its third year.

*Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room*

4:45 PM  BOOK SIGNING

Campus Store

ARREE CHUNG

*Prince Conference Center*

RANDY BOYAGODA

## 4:45 PM

### CONCURRENT SESSIONS

#### **Unqualified: Why Everyone Can Write About Theology**

SARAH BESSEY

If you feel unqualified to write about what you know or experience or hope about God because you didn't attend seminary or don't have a position in full-time vocational ministry, Sarah Bessey wants to set you free to explore theology and faith with boldness and authority. She discusses how amateurs often reveal fresh ways to encounter God and why the practice of theology belongs to everyone.

Introduced by Rebecca Jordan Heys,  
Calvin Christian Reformed Church

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Auditorium*

#### **St. Hildegard: Trumpet of God**

LINN MAXWELL,  
STEPHANIE SANDBERG

This film adaptation of mezzo-soprano Linn Maxwell's one-woman show, developed by dramaturg Stephanie Sandberg, looks at Hildegard's prophetic visions and relates these visions to ancient biblical prophecies. Hildegard described herself as a "strong female warrior" and publicly rebuked clergy for being weak and immoral. *A discussion and dessert reception will follow the screening.*

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Recital Hall*

#### **Objects in Mirror Are Closer Than They Appear**

CHIGOZIE OBIOMA

Chigozie Obioma—a writer from Nigeria who now lives in Nebraska—believes distance helps us write better about places. In this talk he explores how distance is locked into many aspects of life, including one's faith life, and why solitude can help people become better Christians.

Introduced by David Hoekema,  
Calvin College Philosophy Department

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

#### **All Liturgy, All the Time: How To "Talk Politics" Without Losing Your Mind**

DAVID DARK, JAMES K. A. SMITH

David Dark and James K. A. Smith discuss the promise and perils of conversations largely driven by news cycles. Is Facebook a form of antiChrist? Is a computer a vampire? Are there strategies for lifting language and revering the human form divine in our age of escalating polarization? Smith and Dark shore up various fragments against our ruin.

Introduced by Karen Swallow Prior,  
Liberty University


*Calvin College Chapel*

#### **A Conversation with Mary Ruefle**

Poet Mary Ruefle muses on what distinguishes poetry from prose, the God-presence in her poems, the poet's duty to turn language inside out, and the symbiotic relationship between reading and writing.

Interviewed by L. S. Klatt,  
Calvin College English Department

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

5:45 PM  **BOOK SIGNING**

*Campus Store*

SARAH BESSEY

CHIGOZIE OBIOMA



6 PM

 **Gallery Talk: Chasing Faroe**

JOHN DONNELLY

Artist John Donnelly discusses the exhibit “Chasing Faroe—Imagining, Being, Remembering,” a selection of work based on his experience prior to, during, and following a four-week expedition to the Faroe Islands in the North Atlantic. The paintings—on paper, wood, canvas and wool—range from 6 inches to 7 feet in size. They document the memory of travel, the being in an actual place, and the imagining of a new destination on the line that divides the heavens and earth.

*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Center Gallery*

7:30 PM

KEYNOTE

 **An Evening with Nadia Bolz-Weber**

The blunt, tattooed pastor talks about the risks and rewards of telling inelegant truths about ourselves.

Introduced by Karen Saupe, Calvin College English Department

*THE BARON LECTURE*

*Van Noord Arena*

9 PM  **BOOK SIGNING**

*Van Noord Arena*

**NADIA BOLZ-WEBER**

# FESTIVAL CIRCLES



Festival Circles are small groups that meet two times during the Festival to discuss a topic of common interest.

The circles run 6–7 pm on Thursday and 12:45–1:45 pm on Saturday. Space is limited in each Festival Circle and pre-registration is encouraged. Check in at the Registration Desk to see which circles are still open to additional participants.

## **Poets: Understood**

ALEXANDRA BARYLSKI-STOTT  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 315*

## **Children's Picture Books and God**

BARBARA BJELLAND  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 316*

## **It Really Happened**

DIANE GLANCY  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 317*

## **Poetry as Prayer**

MARJORIE GRAY  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 320*

## **East Meets West Meets Heart Meets Page**

MELISSA GUTIERREZ  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 321*

## **The Life of Little Magazines**

ADAM JOYCE  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 323*

## **Women Writing: Getting it Done**

TIFFANY KRINER  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 331*

## **Advance Your Writing through Giving and Getting Feedback**

ANN KROEKER  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 332*

## **Dreams and Goal Setting For Writers**

LARA KRUPICKA  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 333*

## **What is Christian Film Criticism?**

JOSH LARSEN  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 334*

## **In the Waiting Room: Writing through Physical and Emotional Trauma**

MARJORIE MADDOX  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 335*

## **Christianity and Buddhism in Dialogue**

SARINA GRUVER MOORE  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 336*

## **Creating in Community: How to Start and Run a Monthly Manuscript Group**

SHAYNE MOORE  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 337*

## **How to Be a Writer with a Day Job**

NANCY NORDENSON  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 428*

## **From Blog to Book**

CHRISTIE PURIFOY  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 429*

## **A Sinewy Grace**

AIMEE REID  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 430*

## **Memoir: Writing About Your Life**

CAROL ROTTMAN  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 431*

## **Poetry + Iconography + Meditation**

ALESSANDRA SIMMONS  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 462*

## **Women Who Lead Through Writing**

NATASHA SISTRUNK ROBINSON  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 463*

## **Memoir: Inviting the Reader into the Story**

CRAIG STEFFEN  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 466*

## **Writing Prompts: Surprise and Delight**

SHELLY WILDMAN  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 467*

## **Pastoring Through Book Tours**

CARY UMHAU  
*Hiemenga Hall, Room 477*

## **Telescope, Microscope, Megaphone, Muse:**

**Sorrow As Writing Partner**  
MICHELLE VAN LOON  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Room 222*

## **Religious Syncretists**

W. BRETT WILEY  
*Covenant Fine Arts Center, Room 227*

# BOOK SIGNINGS



Book signings take place throughout the Festival at four different locations on campus:

- ➔ Lobby of the Prince Conference Center
- ➔ Calvin College Campus Store
- ➔ Van Noord Arena

Signings are scheduled to start 15 minutes after an author's talk, but please be patient as actual start times may vary. Although books will be available for sale at all of the signing venues, we strongly encourage Festival participants to purchase their books in advance of the signings they plan to attend. This will save everyone time.

Read *Festival Daily* for information on additional signings that will take place in the exhibition hall and elsewhere during the Festival.

## THURSDAY, APRIL 14

**1:15 PM**

*Van Noord Arena*  
TOBIAS WOLFF

**3 PM**

*Campus Store*  
JOHN DARNIELLE  
MAKOTO FUJIMURA  
DANI SHAPIRO

**4:30 PM**

*Campus Store*  
JENNIFER MAIER  
CATHERINE WOLFF  
*Prince Conference Center*  
JANISSE RAY  
JAMES SCHAAP

**5:45 PM**

*Campus Store*  
SALADIN AHMED  
ASHLEY BRYAN  
DANIEL TAYLOR

**8:45 PM**

*Van Noord Arena*  
ZADIE SMITH

## FRIDAY, APRIL 15

**9:45 AM**

*Campus Store*  
MARY HULST  
DAVID KIM  
*Prince Conference Center*  
HUGH COOK  
DENNIS COVINGTON  
WESLEY HILL

**11:15 AM**

*Campus Store*  
CHRISTIAN WIMAN  
*Prince Conference Center*  
DEBBY DAHL EDWARDSON

**12:45 PM**

*Prince Conference Center*  
DAVID DARK  
JENNIFER MATHIEU  
ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN  
MARY RUEFLE

**3:15 PM**

*Campus Store*  
DANIELLE CHAPMAN  
KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS  
MARILYN CHANDLER McENTRYE

**4:45 PM**

*Prince Conference Center*  
SCOTT CAIRNS  
MARIA EBRAHIMJI  
JOSHUA MAX FELDMAN  
KIRSTIN VALDEZ QUADE  
PAUL WILLIS

**9 PM**

*Van Noord Arena*  
GEORGE SAUNDERS  
TOBIAS WOLFF

## SATURDAY, APRIL 16

**9:45 AM**

*Prince Conference Center*  
AARON BELZ  
LORENE CARY  
MARCI RAE JOHNSON

**11:15 AM**

*Campus Store*  
M. T. ANDERSON  
SHANE McCRAE  
LUCI SHAW

**12:45 PM**

*Campus Store*  
ALANA RAYBON  
PATRICIA RAYBON  
*Prince Conference Center*  
MALLORY ORTBERG  
G. C. WALDREP

**2 PM**

*Prince Conference Center*  
NORMAN WIRZBA

**3:15 PM**

*Campus Store*  
ANDREW CLEMENTS  
PAUL HARDING  
*Prince Conference Center*  
CHRIS HOKE

**4:45 PM**

*Campus Store*  
ARREE CHUNG  
*Prince Conference Center*  
RANDY BOYAGODA

**5:45 PM**

*Campus Store*  
SARAH BESSEY  
CHIGOZIE OBIOMA

**9 PM**

*Van Noord Arena*  
NADIA BOLZ-WEBER

# LUNCH FORUMS



Grab your lunch and pop into one of several Lunch Forums sponsored by our underwriters during the midday breaks on Friday and Saturday.

All Lunch Forums will take place in the Prince Conference Center just steps away from where pre-ordered box lunches can be picked up. *Pro tip: several sponsors are providing free lunches to the first people at their doors, so if you're not packing your own food, get there early!*

## FRIDAY / 12:45 PM

### Wine, the Slow Food Movement, and Spirituality

GISELA KREGLINGER

In *The Spirituality of Wine*, Gisela Kreglinger offers a fresh, holistic vision of the Christian life that sees God at work in all created things, including the beauty of well-crafted wine shared with others around a table. She brings Christian spirituality and the world of wine together in new ways, drawing both upon interviews with vintners from around the world and on her own experience growing up on a family winery in Bavaria. Join Gisela Kreglinger for a lunchtime exploration of wine, spirituality—and what it's like to be writing at the intersection of theology and the Slow Food movement.

Sponsored by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Company  
*Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room*

### The Art and Wonder of Writing for Children and Teens

ANNETTE BOURLAND,  
GLENYS NELLIST, LORIE LANGDON

Have you ever wanted to write a children's picture book? Has YA fiction captured your imagination and writing zeal? It takes a special kind of writer to create stories (and intrigue!) for children and young adults. Writing for them requires not only a degree of child-brain and kid-memory, but a certain skill set and calling. In our time together, Zondervan publisher Annette Bourland will introduce two dynamic writers. Glenys Nellist will share how she made her picture-book writing dream a reality, and then best-selling author Lorie Langdon will share how dynamic marketing goes hand-in-hand with great content. *A complimentary boxed lunch will be provided for the first 30 attendees to arrive.*

Sponsored by Zondervan  
*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room West*

## SATURDAY / 12:45 PM

### Hard Realities, Continual Rejection, and Occasional Disasters: A Publishing Journey

ALISON HODGSON AND THE REAL PUG OLIVER

Alison Hodgson arrived at her first writer's conference filled with hope, which was quickly crushed when she learned the harsh realities of publishing, beginning with: a platform isn't merely a stage. After she wasted a few years fighting despair, things began to look up—until an arsonist randomly set her house on fire. But, she learned, the great thing about being a writer is that even your worst times can become your best story. Hear Alison's experience of becoming an author, learn insider tips, and meet The Real Pug Oliver who became an essential part of Alison's story! *A complimentary boxed lunch will be provided for the first 30 attendees to arrive.*

Sponsored by Zondervan

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room East*

### Christians Who Drink Craft Beer: The Rise of Middle Space Artists and Audiences in Entertainment

ERIK LOKKESMOE, CHARLIE LOWELL, WILLIAM ROMANOWSKI

The 1970's folk song, "They Will Know We Are Christians By Our Love" might be better sung as "They Will Know We are Christians By ... Our Low-Budget Movies" in 2016. In this session, Erik Lokkesmoe, executive producer of *Last Days in the Desert*, discusses the growth of the "in-betweeners" who exist between mass/crass and teach/preach art and entertainment. Questions he'll explore include: What does common grace look like in the arts? What is the role of the artist in a pre-Christian world? How is the middle space audience changing how content is created and consumed? Adding to his real-world insights will be musician Charlie Lowell of Jars of Clay and Dr. William Romanowski of Calvin College.

Sponsored by Different Drummer

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

### Re-Enchanting Christian Writing

WESLEY HILL, KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR, JAMES K. A. SMITH, AND NORMAN WIRZBA

In his new book, *You Are What You Love*, James K. A. Smith writes, "I expect it will be forms of reenchanted Christianity that will actually have a future." Join us for a short panel discussion on how thoughtful Christian non-fiction can help foster this rechantment. Topics will include friendship, literature, worship, and creation. *A complimentary boxed lunch will be provided for the first 40 attendees to arrive.*

Sponsored by Baker Publishing Group

*Prince Conference Center, Willow Room*

### Loaded Language

MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

Especially in an election year, American public discourse is riddled with loaded language—buzz words, labels, abstractions, slogans, phrases abducted from respectable sources and forcibly infused with new meaning. Hijacked words become for a time the property of hijackers. Though most slogans have a short half-life, they tend to color common speech and confuse common sense. Churches and faith communities are affected by the "load" on public language as it seeps into their internal conversation. In this session we'll consider what loads language and how to approach the task of retrieving, repurposing, or sometimes rerouting our writing around "hot" words.

Sponsored by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing

*Prince Conference Center, Board Room*

# SPEAKERS

Hailing from places as different as Nigeria, rural Georgia, Manhattan, and Barrow, Alaska, our speakers represent diverse perspectives, genres, and creative concerns. They are bound together by a love for words and a belief that stories are vital to our lives. We're grateful for the generous gift of their time and insight during the Festival.

## SALADIN AHMED

@saladinahmed

Saladin Ahmed was born in Detroit and raised in Dearborn, Michigan. His first novel, *Throne of the Crescent Moon*, was a finalist for the Hugo, Nebula, Crawford, Gemmell, and British Fantasy Awards, and won the Locus Award for Best First Novel. He has also written nonfiction for *NPR Books*, *Salon*, and *The Escapist*.

🕒 THURSDAY 4:30 PM

🕒 SATURDAY 2 PM

## M. T. ANDERSON

@\_MTAnderson

M. T. Anderson has written many books for young people and adults including, most recently, *Symphony for the City of the Dead: Dmitri Shostakovich and the Siege of Leningrad*. The first volume of his *Astonishing Life of Octavian* books won the 2006 National Book Award in Young People's Literature. Anderson lives in Boston, Massachusetts.

🕒 SATURDAY 10 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## SARAH PULLIAM BAILEY

@spulliam

Sarah Pulliam Bailey is a religion reporter at *The Washington Post* and oversees its *Acts of Faith* blog.

🕒 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## CARLA BARNHILL

Carla Barnhill is the director of youth development for Sparkhouse, a division of Augsburg Fortress Publishing. She is the author of *The Myth of the Perfect Mother*, the editor of several more books, and frequently serves as a consultant for writers getting started in publishing.

🕒 FRIDAY 2 PM

## TIM BASCOM

@BascomTim

Tim Bascom is the director of creative writing at Waldorf College and the author of four books. Bascom often draws material from his youth as the child of American missionaries in 1960s Ethiopia. His most recent work, the memoir *Running to the Fire*, was released last year.

🕒 THURSDAY 1:45 PM

## KATE BASSETT

@katebassett

Kate Bassett is a journalist and young adult author. Her first book, *Words and Their Meanings*, won the 2014 IPPY Gold Medal. She lives in Harbor Springs, Michigan.

🕒 SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## JILL P. BAUMGAERTNER

Jill Baumgaertner is the author of several poetry volumes, including *What Cannot Be Fixed* and *Finding Cuba*, and three poetry chapbooks. She is the poetry editor of *Christian Century* and teaches English at Wheaton College.

🕒 THURSDAY 4:30 PM



## KATELYN BEATY

@KatelynBeaty

Katelyn Beaty is the managing editor of *Christianity Today* and the author of a forthcoming book on women and leadership.

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

## AMY JULIA BECKER

@amyjuliabecker

Amy Julia Becker writes and speaks about family, faith, disability, and culture. A graduate of Princeton University and Princeton Theological Seminary, she is the author of *Small Talk* and *A Good and Perfect Gift*.

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## AARON BELZ

Aaron Belz is the author of *The Bird Hoverer*, *Lovely, Raspberry*, and *Glitter Bomb*. He earned a BA from Covenant College, an MA in creative writing from New York University, and a PhD in English from Saint Louis University. His poetry has appeared in journals including *Boston Review*, *Gulf Coast*, *Painted Bride Quarterly*, *Exquisite Corpse*, and *Mudfish*. He is poet laureate of Hillsborough, North Carolina, where he also lives.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## SARAH BESSEY

@sarahbessey

Sarah Bessey is a blogger and the author of *Jesus Feminist* and *Out of Sorts: Making Peace with Evolving Faith*. She lives in Abbotsford, British Columbia.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## TRACEY BIANCHI

@traceybianchi

Tracey Bianchi is the worship and teaching pastor at Christ Church of Oak Brook (Illinois). She is the author of three books, including her latest, *True You: Overcoming Self-Doubt and Finding Your Voice*, co-authored with Adele Calhoun.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## J. BRENT BILL

@brentbill

J. Brent Bill is an Indiana-based writer, photographer, retreat leader, and Quaker minister. His books include *Finding God in the Verbs: A Fresh Language of Prayer*, *Holy Silence: The Gift of Quaker Spirituality*, and *Sacred Compass: The Path of Spiritual Discernment*. He is also the author of the blog *Holy Ordinary: The Sacraments of Everyday Life*.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## BRYAN BLISS

@brainbliss

Bryan Bliss is the author of *No Parking at the End Times* and a forthcoming book titled *Meet Me Here*. He holds an MTS degree from Vanderbilt Divinity School and an MFA from Seattle Pacific University. He lives in Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## DEBBIE BLUE

Debbie Blue is one of the founding pastors of House of Mercy, a church in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is the author of *Sensual Orthodoxy*, *From Stone to Living Word*, and *Consider the Birds: A Provocative Guide to the Birds of the Bible*.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## NADIA BOLZ-WEBER

@Sarcasticluther

Nadia Bolz-Weber is the author of *Pastrix: The Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner and Saint* and *Accidental Saints: Finding God in All the Wrong People*. She is the founding pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints in Denver, Colorado.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 7:30 PM

## ANNETTE BOURLAND

@AnnetteBourland

Annette Bourland is senior vice president and group publisher at Zondervan, overseeing trade, Blink, and Zonderkidz divisions.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## DANIEL BOWMAN, JR.

@danielbowmanjr

Daniel Bowman, Jr. is the author of *A Plum Tree in Leatherstocking Country*. His work has appeared in publications including *The Adirondack Review*, *American Poetry Journal*, *Books & Culture*, *The Midwest Quarterly*, and *Seneca Review*. He is an associate professor of English at Taylor University and editor-in-chief of *Relief Journal*.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

# SPEAKERS

## RANDY BOYAGODA

Randy Boyagoda is the author of two novels, *Governor of the Northern Province* and *Beggar's Feast*, and a biography, *Richard John Neuhaus: A Life in the Public Square*. He is a professor of English at Ryerson University and president of PEN Canada.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## MICHA BOYETT

@michaboyett

Micha Boyett is the author of *Found* and she blogs regularly, was a contributor to *Deeper Story*, and has published pieces on websites including *OnFaith* and *Her.meneutics*. She lives in San Francisco.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## ASHLEY BRYAN

Ashley Bryan is a writer and illustrator of over 50 books for children. He has received many awards, including the Coretta Scott King Virginia Hamilton Lifetime Achievement Award and the Laura Ingalls Wilder Award. Bryan is a professor emeritus at Dartmouth College. A veteran of World War II, Bryan currently lives and works in Islesford, one of the Cranberry Isles off the coast of Maine.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## TARA ISABELLA BURTON

@NotoriousTIB

Tara Isabella Burton writes about religion, culture, and travel and is the winner of *The Spectator's* 2012 Shiva Naipaul Memorial Prize for travel writing. She has recently completed her first novel. She is a Clarendon Scholar, working on a doctorate in theology and French literature at Trinity College, Oxford.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

## SCOTT CAIRNS

@ScottCairnsPoet

Scott Cairns is a professor of English and director of creative writing at the University of Missouri. His poems and essays have appeared in publications including *Poetry*, *Image*, *The Paris Review*, *The Atlantic*, and *New Republic*. His newest collection is *Idiot Psalms*. He received a Guggenheim Fellowship in 2006, and received the Denise Levertov Award in 2014.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## KRIS CAMEALY

@KrisCamealy

Kris Camealy has written a book *Holey, Wholly, Holy: A Lenten Journey Of Refinement*, its companion workbook, and runs her own blog. She is a monthly contributor for *Living The Story* and *Allume*. Her writing has also been featured on *(in)Courage: Home for the Hearts of Women*.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## MAE ELISE CANNON

@reverendmae

Mae Elise Cannon is the author of *Social Justice Handbook: Small Steps for a Better World* and *Just Spirituality: How Faith Practices Fuel Social Action* and co-author of *Forgive Us: Confessions of a Compromised Faith*. She has an extensive ministerial background and is an ordained pastor in the Evangelical Covenant Church.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## THOM CARAWAY

@t\_caraway

Thom Caraway is an assistant professor of English at Whitworth University. He serves as editor-in-chief of *Rock & Sling*, a journal of witness.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## ANGELA DOLL CARLSON

@mrsmetaphor

Angela Doll Carlson is a poet, essayist, and fiction writer. Her most recent book is *Nearly Orthodox: On Being a Modern Woman in an Ancient Tradition*; her forthcoming book is titled *Garden in the East: The Spiritual Life of the Body*.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM



## LORENE CARY

@LoreneCary

Lorene Cary is the author of three novels, *The Price of a Child*, *Pride*, and *If Sons, Then Heirs*, and a memoir, *Black Ice*. She also founded Art Sanctuary, an African-American arts and letters organization that provides opportunities and resources for the Philadelphia community. She is currently a senior lecturer of creative writing at the University of Pennsylvania.

🕒 SATURDAY 8:30 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## AUSTIN CHANNING

@austinchanning

Austin Channing has an MA in social justice from Marygrove College. She currently serves as a resident director and multicultural liaison for Calvin College, and blogs regularly at [austinchanning.com](http://austinchanning.com).

🕒 FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## DANIELLE CHAPMAN

Danielle Chapman is the author of the poetry collection *Delinquent Palaces*. Her poetry has appeared in magazines and journals such as *The Atlantic*, *Harvard Review*, *The Nation*, and *The New Yorker*. She lives in New Haven, Connecticut, and teaches at Yale University.

🕒 FRIDAY 8:30 AM

🕒 FRIDAY 2 PM

## SUSANNA CHILDRESS

Susanna Childress is the author of two books of poetry and also writes short fiction and creative nonfiction. She teaches at Hope College and makes up half the band Ordinary Neighbors, whose songs are based on her writings.

🕒 THURSDAY 1:45 PM

🕒 FRIDAY 8:30 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## JEFF CHU

@jeffchu

Jeff Chu is a reporter and writer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times Magazine*, *Travel+Leisure*, the *Wall Street Journal*, the *Washington Post*, and *Fast Company*. He has also written a book, *Does Jesus Really Love Me? A Gay Christian's Pilgrimage in Search of God in America*.

🕒 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## ARREE CHUNG

@arreechung

Arree Chung is a children's book author and illustrator. Before his writing career, Chung worked as a scheduler at Pixar and video game designer, and attended the Art Center College of Design. His debut book, *Ninja!*, came out in 2014. Chung lives in San Francisco.

🕒 SATURDAY 8:30 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## ANDREW CLEMENTS

Andrew Clements is the author of many books for children and young adults, including *Frindle*, *Things Not Seen*, *About Average*, *Troublemaker*, and the *Benjamin Pratt and the Keepers of the School* series. He has been honored with a multitude of awards, including two Christopher Awards and an Edgar Award. He lives in Maine.

🕒 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 2 PM

## DANIEL COLEMAN

Daniel Coleman grew up in Ethiopia with missionary parents and has published books on masculinity in Canadian immigrant literature, the spirituality of reading, the colonial construction of Canadian white identity (winner of the Klibansky Prize for Best Canadian Book in the Humanities), plus a memoir titled *Scent of Eucalyptus*. He is a professor of English and cultural studies at McMaster University.

🕒 THURSDAY 1:45 PM

## HUGH COOK

@HughCook\_ca

Hugh Cook writes both short stories and novels. His newest novel is *Heron River*, set in a small town in southern Ontario. Retired from full-time teaching, Cook lives in Hamilton, Ontario, where he spends most of his time writing.

🕒 THURSDAY 3:15 PM

🕒 SATURDAY 8 AM

# SPEAKERS

## DENNIS COVINGTON

@decoving

Covington is author of two novels and four nonfiction books, including *Salvation on Sand Mountain*, a finalist for the 1995 National Book Award. His most recent book is *Revelation: A Search for Faith in a Violent Religious World*. He teaches creative writing at Texas Tech University.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## LORILEE CRAKER

@lorileecraker

Lorilee Craker is the author of thirteen books, including *Anne of Green Gables*, *My Daughter*, and *Me: What My Favorite Book Taught Me about Grace, Belonging, and the Orphan in Us All*, a memoir about her adoption and that of her Korean daughter. She is also an Audie Awards finalist for *Money Secrets of the Amish*, which she wrote and narrated.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## BARBARA CROOKER

Barbara Crooker is the author of six books of poetry, including her *Selected Poems*, and twelve poetry chapbooks. Her awards include the WB Yeats Society of New York Award, the Thomas Merton Poetry of the Sacred Award, and many fellowships. She lives in Pennsylvania.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## ANDI CUMBO-FLOYD

@andilit

Andi Cumbo-Floyd is a writer, teacher, editor, and farmer. Two of her books include *The Slaves Have Names*, and *Writing Day in Day Out*. Along with working at her farm in Virginia, she has taught writing at several colleges and universities including George Mason University, Cecil College, and Santa Clara University.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## ED CYZEWSKI

@edcyzewski

Ed Cyzewski is the author of *A Christian Survival Guide: A Lifeline to Faith and Growth*; *Coffeehouse Theology: Reflecting on God in Everyday Life*; and *Pray, Write, Grow*. He is a freelance writer who has contributed to numerous magazines and book projects. Cyzewski lives in Columbus, Ohio.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## DAVID DARK

@DavidDark

David Dark is the author of four books, including, most recently, *Life's Too Short to Pretend You're Not Religious*. Following years of teaching high school English, he received his PhD in 2011 and now teaches at the Tennessee Prison for Women, Charles Bass Correctional Facility, and in the School of Religion at Belmont University.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## JOHN DARNIELLE

@mountain\_goats

John Darnielle is an author and musician, best known as the frontman for the Mountain Goats, an indie folk rock band. His debut novel, *Wolf in White Van*, was nominated for the National Book Award for fiction in 2014. He lives in Durham, North Carolina.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**T** THURSDAY 9 PM

## JOSH DELACY

@josh\_delacy

Josh deLacy is a writer, public speaker, and website developer from Seattle, Washington. He graduated from Calvin College with a double major in writing and political science.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## PATTON DODD

@pattondodd

Patton Dodd is the executive director of media and communications for the H. E. Butt Family Foundation. He is also the author of a memoir, *My Faith So Far*. Dodd's writing has appeared in many publications, including *Newsweek*, *Slate*, *Christianity Today*, *Cineaste*, and *The Revealer*. He holds a PhD in religion and literature from Boston University.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## ELLEN PAINTER DOLLAR

@EllenPDollar

Ellen Painter Dollar is the author of *No Easy Choice: A Story of Disability, Parenthood, and Faith in an Age of Advanced Reproduction*. Her writing has appeared in *Christian Century*, the *New York Times'* *Motherlode* blog, *OnFaith*, and *Christianity Today*.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## LYNN DOMINA

Lynn Domina has written two collections of poetry, *Framed in Silence* and *Corporal Works*, which won the Intro Series Prize from Four Way Books. She currently chairs the English department at Northern Michigan University.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## KELLY BROWN DOUGLAS

Kelly Brown Douglas directs the religion program at Goucher College and is the author several books, including *Stand Your Ground: Black Bodies and the Justice of God*, *Sexuality and the Black Church*, and *What's Faith Got to Do With It?: Black Bodies/Christian Soul*. She is also a priest in the Episcopal Church.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## MARIA EBRAHIMJI

@MariaEbrahimji

Maria Ebrahimji is a journalist, strategist, and speaker. She is the co-founder of the I Speak for Myself narrative platform and in 2011 co-edited and published, *I Speak for Myself: American Women on Being Muslim* (White Cloud Press), a collection of essays written by 40 American-born Muslim women under 40.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## DEBBY DAHL EDWARDSON

@DebbyEdwardson

Debby Dahl Edwardson has written three books for young adults: *Blessing's Bead*, *Whale Snow*, and *My Name is Not Easy*, which was a National Book Award finalist in 2011. She lives in Barrow, Alaska.

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## FAITH EIDSE

Faith Eidse, editor of the anthology *Unrooted Childhoods: Memoirs of Growing Up Global*, grew up in Congo, Canada, and the U.S. She won the Kingsbury Award for her memoir writing, an oral history award for *Voices of the Apalachicola*, and has published a biography of her Canadian missionary parents, and has completed a prison novel, *Healing Falls*.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

## LESA ENGELTHALER

@lengelthaler

Lesa Engelthaler is a writer for publications including *The Dallas Morning News*, *Christianity Today*, *Relevant*, *Conversation Journal*, and *Prism*. She is proud to be a member of two writer's guilds: Ink: A Creative Collective and the Redbud Writers Guild.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## AIDEN ENNS

Aiden Enns is former managing editor of *Adbusters* magazine and founder of Buy Nothing Christmas. Raised as an urban Anabaptist, he finds hope in struggling for justice. He's the editor of *Geez*, a magazine focused on "contemplative cultural resistance" and lives in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## JOHN ESTES

@jestes

John Estes directs the Creative Writing Program at Malone University in Canton, Ohio, and is a visiting faculty member of Ashland University's Low-Residency MFA. He is the author of three books, *Kingdom Come*, *Stop Motion Still Life*, and *Sure Extinction* and two chapbooks.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

# SPEAKERS

## JOSHUA MAX FELDMAN

@jmaxfeldman

Joshua Max Feldman is a writer of fiction and plays. Born and raised in Amherst, Massachusetts, he graduated from Columbia University. Feldman's debut novel is *The Book of Jonah*, a modern retelling of the story of Jonah. He lives in Florida.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS

@leslielfields

Leslie Leyland Fields is the author and editor of more than ten books, most recently *Forgiving Our Fathers and Mothers: Finding Freedom from Hate and Hurt*. Her work has appeared in publications including *Christianity Today*, *Books & Culture*, *Her.meneutics*, and the *Bellingham Review*.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## MAKOTO FUJIMURA

@iamfujimura

Makoto Fujimura is a visual artist and the author of *Culture Care: Reconnecting Beauty for our Common Life*. In 2015, Fujimura was appointed director of the Brehm Center for Worship, Theology, and the Arts at Fuller Theological Seminary. His latest book is *Silence and Beauty: Hidden Faith Born of Suffering*.

**WEDNESDAY 3:30 PM**  
(Pre-Festival event  
at 106 Gallery.)

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

## GAELAN GILBERT

Gaelan Gilbert is an assistant professor of English at St. Katherine College and the managing editor of the *St. Katherine Review*.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## JENNIFER GRANT

@jennifercgrant

Jennifer Grant is an author, book editor, and consultant. She has written four works of nonfiction, *Love You More*, *MOMumental*, *Disquiet Time*, and *Wholehearted Living*, and regularly contributes to blogs including *Her.meneutics*.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## MARLENA GRAVES

@MarlenaGraves

Marlena Graves is the author of *A Beautiful Disaster: Finding Hope in the Midst of Brokenness*, and a contributor to *Her.meneutics* and *Gifted For Leadership, Our Daily Journey and Questions.org*.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## SHAWN GRAVES

Shawn Graves is a professor of philosophy at the University of Findlay. He serves as chair of the midwest region of the Evangelical Philosophical Society. Graves has published articles in various scholarly journals, and he has co-edited a forthcoming book on Christian pacifism and nonviolence.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## DAVID GRIFFITH

@poorerthandead

David Griffith is the director of creative writing at Interlochen School of the Arts in Interlochen, Michigan. He holds degrees from the University of Notre Dame and the University of Pittsburgh. Griffith is the author of *A Good War is Hard to Find: The Art of Violence in America*.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## JESSICA MESMAN GRIFFITH

@Mesman\_Griffith

Jessica Mesman Griffith is a widely published essayist and the author of the memoir *Love & Salt: A Spiritual Friendship in Letters*, winner of the 2014 Christopher Award.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## JEFF GUNDY

Jeff Gundy currently teaches creative writing and literature at Bluffton University. His poems have appeared in *The Adirondack Review*, *Arsenic Lobster*, and *Hamilton Stone Review*. He recently published a book titled *Songs from an Empty Cage: Poetry, Mystery, Anabaptism, and Peace*.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## PAUL HARDING

Paul Harding is the author of two novels about multiple generations of a New England family: the Pulitzer Prize-winning *Tinkers* and *Enon*. He earned his MFA from the Iowa Writers' Workshop, has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, and was a fiction fellow at the Fine Arts Center in Provincetown. He lives in Massachusetts.

🕒 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 2 PM

## DENISE FRAME HARLAN

@twirlyhead

Denise Frame Harlan's essays have appeared in *The Spirit of Food: 34 Writers on Feasting and Fasting Toward God*, and won an honorable mention in *Ruminant Magazine's* VanderMey Nonfiction contest for 2013. She holds an MFA from Seattle Pacific University.

🕒 SATURDAY 10 AM

🕒 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## PAUL HARRILL

Paul Harrill is a filmmaker whose debut film, *Something, Anything*, was named a Critic's Pick by the *New York Times*. He is the co-founder of Self-Reliant Film. Harrill lives in Knoxville, where he teaches in the School of Art at the University of Tennessee.

🕒 THURSDAY 4:30 PM

🕒 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

🕒 FRIDAY 9 PM

SUNDAY 2 PM (*Something, Anything* screening at Celebration Cinema Woodland)

## DAVE HARRITY

@daveharrity

Dave Harrity's writing has appeared in *Verse Daily*, *Memorious*, *Revolver*, *The Los Angeles Review*, *Copper Nickel*, *Confrontation*, *Softblow*, and elsewhere. Author of three books, his most recent are *These Intricacies* and *Our Father in the Year of the Wolf*. He is a recipient of the William Alexander II and Lisa Percy Fellowship at the Rivendell Writers' Colony and lives in Louisville, Kentucky.

🕒 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## DREW G. I. HART

@DruHart

Drew G. I. Hart is a blogger, PhD candidate in theology and ethics, and activist who speaks regularly in churches, universities, and seminaries. His blog, *Taking Jesus Seriously*, is hosted by *Christian Century*, and his first book, *Trouble I've Seen: Changing the Way the Church Views Racism*, was recently released.

🕒 THURSDAY 3:15 PM

🕒 FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## PETER HELTZEL

@PeterHeltzel

Peter Heltzel is an ordained minister in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and an assistant professor at New York Theological Seminary. He has contributed to eight books as author or editor and published numerous articles in journals, such as *Books & Culture*, *Sojourners*, *Princeton Theological Review* and the *Scottish Journal of Theology*.

🕒 THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## WESLEY HILL

@wesleyhill

Wesley Hill is an assistant professor of Biblical Studies at Trinity School for Ministry in Ambridge, Pennsylvania. He is the author of three books, including *Spiritual Friendship: Finding Love in the Church as a Celibate Gay Christian*. He co-founded the website *SpiritualFriendship.org*, and he writes regularly for *Books & Culture*, *Christianity Today*, and *First Things*.

🕒 FRIDAY 8:30 AM

🕒 FRIDAY 3:30 PM

🕒 SATURDAY 12:45 PM

## JONATHAN HISKES

@jhiskes

Jonathan Hiskes works as communications director at the Simpson Center for the Humanities at the University of Washington. He has published journalism and creative writing in *The Guardian*, *Mother Jones*, *Image*, *River Teeth*, *The Other Journal*, *Books & Culture*, and elsewhere.

🕒 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## ALISON HODGSON

@HodgsonAlison

Alison Hodgson is author of *The Pug List: A Ridiculous Dog, a Family Who Lost Everything and How They All Found Their Way Home*. Her writing has been featured on *Her.meneutics*, *Religion News Service*, and *Forbes.com*.

🕒 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

🕒 FRIDAY 12:45 PM

🕒 FRIDAY 4:30 PM  
(Party at the Prince)



# SPEAKERS

## CHRIS HOKE

@ChrisHoker

Chris Hoke is the author of *Wanted: A Spiritual Pursuit Through Jail, Among Outlaws, and Across Borders*. Hoke received his BA from the University of California, Berkeley and his MFA in creative nonfiction from Seattle Pacific University.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## BOB HOSACK

@RhosackBob

Robert Hosack is an executive editor with Baker Publishing Group, co-author of *The New Millennium Manual*, and a freelance writer and reviewer.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

## BOB HUDSON

Bob Hudson has been an editor for Zondervan for 30 years and has been making chapbooks for 20 years longer than that. He and his wife, Shelley, own the Perkipery Press, a Michigan-based chapbook publisher that has issued dozens of volumes in the last 30 years. He is the author of three books and many, many chapbooks.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## MARY HULST

@PastorMary2U

Mary Hulst—Pastor Mary to many—serves as the chaplain for Calvin College. She recently published her first book, *A Little Handbook for Preachers: Ten Practical Ways to a Better Sermon by Sunday*.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## KATHERINE JACOBS

@kjacobseds

Katherine Jacobs is an editor at Roaring Brook Press and a graduate of both Calvin College and the Center for the Study of Children's Literature at Simmons College. Before working in publishing she was a Peace Corps volunteer in Romania and a school librarian in Honduras.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## MARCI RAE JOHNSON

@MarciaRaeJohnson

Marci Rae Johnson teaches English at Wheaton College. She is also the poetry editor for WordFarm press. Her first collection of poetry, *The Eyes the Window*, won the Powder Horn Prize. Her most recent collection is *Basic Disaster Supplies Kit*.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## JAWEED KALEEM

@jaweedkaleem

Jaweed Kaleem is an independent journalist writing for *The Atlantic*, *National Catholic Reporter*, *Jewish Journal*, *Religion Dispatches* and other publications. He was *The Huffington Post's* senior religion reporter from 2011 to 2016. At HuffPost, he also wrote about death, dying, grief, and the end of life. He is the co-vice president of the Religion Newswriters Association.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## RICHARD KAUFFMAN

Richard Kauffman recently retired after 14 years as senior editor and book reviews editor of *Christian Century*. Prior to that he served as an editor for *Christianity Today* and also as a pastor.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## DAVID H. KIM

@dhkimnyc

David H. Kim is the executive director of the Center for Faith & Work at Redeemer Presbyterian Church in Manhattan. Kim is the author of *Twenty and Something: Have the Time of Your Life (Without Wasting Any of It)* and two devotional books, and is the general editor of a forthcoming faith and work Bible.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## KIMBERLY KOLBE

Kimberly Kolbe is managing editor for *New Issues Poetry & Prose*. Her work has appeared online at AGNI and *Coldfront*, and in *Hayden's Ferry* and *Passages North*.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM



## GISELA KREGLINGER

@GKreglinger

Gisela Kreglinger is a writer, theologian, and spiritual director. In her most recent book, *The Spirituality of Wine*, she offers a fresh, holistic vision of the Christian life that sees God at work in all created things, including vineyards, the work of vintners, and the beauty of well-crafted wine shared with others around a table. She is a research associate with the Institute for Theology, Imagination & the Arts at the University of St. Andrews in Scotland.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## ERIN S. LANE

@holyhellions

Erin S. Lane is the author of *Lessons in Belonging From a Church-Going Commitment Phobe* and co-editor of the anthology *Talking Taboo: American Christian Women Get Frank About Faith*.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## LORIE LANGDON

@LorieLangdon

Lorie Langdon left a thriving corporate career with a Fortune 500 company to satisfy the voices in her head urging her to write. The final installment for her four-book series, *DOON*, a YA reimagining of the Scottish legend of Brigadoon co-authored with Carey Corp, will be released this fall.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## CAROLINE LANGSTON

Caroline Langston is a widely published writer and essayist, a winner of the Pushcart Prize, and a commentator for NPR's "All Things Considered." She is a regular contributor to *Image's Good Letters* blog, and works in foundation development for *The Atlantic* and *National Journal*.

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## CAMERON ALEXANDER LAWRENCE

Cameron Alexander Lawrence is a poet whose work has appeared in *Asheville Poetry Review*, *Exit 7*, *Image*, and *Rock & Sling*. He currently lives in Decatur, Georgia.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## JUSTIN PAUL LAWRENCE

@just\_inpaul

Justin Paul Lawrence is the academic and library markets sales manager for InterVarsity Press. In his prior work for Calvin College he managed the bookstore for the last four Festivals.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

## HELEN LEE

@HelenLeeAuthor

Helen Lee is an associate editor at InterVarsity Press. Her work has appeared in *Christianity Today*, *Leadership Journal*, and *Christ and Pop Culture*. Her essays and blog *The Missional Mom* focus on faith, pop culture, and race. She also co-edited the book *Growing Healthy Asian American Churches*.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## ERIK LOKKESMOE

@ErikLokkesmoe

Erik Lokkesmoe is the founder and principal of Different Drummer, an LA-NYC audience mobilization agency for global entertainment brands and content, and the partner of Waking Giants Entertainment Group, a film production and distribution company. He's an executive producer on *Last Days in the Desert*, an imaginative retelling of Jesus's 40 days in the desert that recently premiered at the Sundance Film Festival.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## CHARLIE LOWELL

@cdlowell

Charlie met a few friends and formed the band Jars of Clay during his short college career in the mid 90s, and has spent the past 20 years playing keyboards, songwriting, touring, and founding the non-profit Blood:Water with the band. He handles special projects for Different Drummer, a LA-NYC audience mobilization agency for global entertainment brands and content, from Nashville.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## JENNIFER MAIER

Jennifer Maier is the author of two poetry collections: *Dark Alphabet* and *Now, Now*. Maier also serves as the associate editor of *Image* and is a professor of literature and creative writing at Seattle Pacific University.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

# SPEAKERS

## D. S. MARTIN

D. S. Martin is a poet whose works include *Poema*, *So The Moon Would Not Be Swallowed*, and most recently, *Conspiracy of Light: Poems Inspired by the Legacy of C.S. Lewis*. He lives in Ontario.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

## SAMUEL MARTIN

Samuel Martin is the author of the story collection *This Ramshackle Tabernacle*, short-listed for Canada's BMO Winterset Award, and the novel *A Blessed Snarl*, long-listed for the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## JENNIFER MATHIEU

@jenmathieu

Jennifer Mathieu teaches English to middle and high school students in Texas. She won the Teen Choice Debut Author Award at the Children's Choice Book Awards for her first novel, *The Truth About Alice*. She is also the author of *Devoted* and a forthcoming book, *Afterward*.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## LINN MAXWELL

Mezzo-soprano Linn Maxwell is a graduate of the University of Maryland and holds a Master of Music degree from the Catholic University of America. She has recorded for RCA Red Seal, New World, Centaur, and Albany Records. She currently serves as president of Joy in Singing and the Grand Rapids Bach Festival.

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## D. L. MAYFIELD

@d\_l\_mayfield

D. L. Mayfield writes about refugees, theology, and downward mobility from Portland, Oregon. Mayfield's writing has appeared in *McSweeney's*, *Image*, *Christianity Today*, *Books & Culture*, and *The Other Journal*. Her book of essays, *Assimilate or Go Home: Notes from a Failed Missionary on Rediscovering Faith*, will be released this August.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## SHANE McCRAE

@akasomeguy

Shane McCrae is the author of four poetry collections, including *The Animal Too Big to Kill* and *Forgiveness Forgiveness*. In 2013 he received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship. He teaches at Oberlin College and in the MFA program at Spalding University.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

## MARILYN CHANDLER McENTYRE

@marilynmcentyre

Marilyn Chandler McEntyre is a writer and professor of medical humanities at the UC Berkeley-UCSF Joint Medical Program. She is the author of many books, most recently *A Long Letting Go: Meditations on Losing Someone You Love*. She lives in Oakland, California.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 12:45 PM

## MORGAN MEIS

Morgan Meis is critic-at-large for *The Smart Set* and the author of *Ruins*. He has written for *The New Yorker*, *Image*, *The Believer*, *Harper's Magazine*, and *Virginia Quarterly Review*. He is also an editor at *3 Quarks Daily* and a winner of a Warhol Foundation Arts Writers grant.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## JEN POLLOCK MICHEL

@Jenpmichel

Jen Pollock Michel is the author of *Teach Us to Want*, *Christianity Today's* 2015 Book of the Year. She lives in Toronto.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## WILL MONTEI

Will Montei is a graduate of Calvin College, a blogger for *The Post Calvin*, and a brand manager at Omni ePartners.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## JULIE L. MOORE

Julie L. Moore is the director of the writing center at Cedarville University and the author of the poetry collections *Particular Scandals*, *Slipping Out of Bloom*, and *Election Day*. Her work has earned the Writecorner Press Editor's Choice Award and has been nominated for the Dogwood Poetry Prize and the Pablo Neruda Prize.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## GLENYS NELLIST

@GlenysNellist

Glenys Nellist is coordinator of children's ministry for the West Michigan conference of the United Methodist Church. She is the author of *Love Letters From God* and *Snuggle Time Prayers*.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## DEAN NELSON

@deanenelson

Dean Nelson is a journalist and travel writer whose work has appeared in the *New York Times*, the *Boston Globe*, *Christianity Today*, *Sojourners*, and elsewhere. He is the founder and director of the journalism program at Point Loma Nazarene University in San Diego. His most recent book is *Quantum Leap: How John Polkinghorne Found God in Science and Religion*.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## BRENT NEWSOM

@Brent\_Newsom

Brent Newsom is the author of the poetry collection, *Love's Labors*, and teaches English at Oklahoma Baptist University.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## SHAUNA NIEQUIST

@sniequist

Shauna Niequist is the author of *Cold Tangerines*, *Bittersweet*, *Bread & Wine*, and a 365-day devotional called *Savor*. Her next book, *Present Over Perfect*, will be published this August. Shauna also writes for the *IF:Table*, *Storyline Blog*, and *Women of Faith*. She lives outside Chicago.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 4:30 PM  
(Party at the Prince)

## HANNAH FAITH NOTES

Hannah Faith Notes is author of *The Multitude*, winner of the Michael Waters Poetry Prize from *Southern Indiana Review Press*, and editor of *Jesus Girls: True Tales of Growing Up Female and Evangelical*, a collection of personal essays. She edits Seattle Pacific University's *Response* magazine.

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

## CHIGOZIE OBIOMA

@ChigozieObioma

Chigozie Obioma was born in Nigeria and now lives in the United States. His debut novel, *The Fisherman*, was short-listed for the 2015 Man Booker Prize for Fiction and was widely heralded as one of the best books of the year. His fiction has also appeared in *Virginia Quarterly Review* and *Transition*. He is an assistant professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## MALLORY ORTBERG

@malleis

Mallory Ortberg is a writer, editor, and a co-founder of the feminist general interest site *The Toast*. She previously wrote for *Gawker* and the *Hairpin*. Her first book, *Texts from Jane Eyre*, was published in 2014.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## JEFFREY OVERSTREET

@Overstreet

Jeffrey Overstreet writes fiction, memoir, reviews, and arts journalism—and teaches creative writing, film studies, and cultural engagement for people of faith. His novels include the fantasy series *The Auralia Thread* and he's written a "memoir of dangerous moviegoing" titled *Through a Screen Darkly*. He's currently a contributing editor for *Response* magazine at Seattle Pacific University.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

**SUNDAY 2 PM** (*Something, Anythings* screening at Celebration Cinema Woodland)

## TARA OWENS

@t\_owens

Tara Owens is a certified spiritual director, the founder of Anam Cara Ministries, and senior editor of *Conversations Journal*. She is author of *Embracing the Body: Finding God in Our Flesh and Bone*.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## CINA PELAYO

@cinapelayo

Cina Pelayo is a writer and poet with an affinity for Latin American folklore. Her work includes a short story collection entitled *Loteria* and a novel, *Santa Muerte*. Her fiction has also appeared in *The Horror Zine*, *Danse Macabre*, and *MicroHorror*. She lives in Chicago.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

# SPEAKERS

## KATHERINE WILLIS PERSHEY

@kwpershey

Katherine Willis Pershey is an associate minister of First Congregational Church in Western Springs, Illinois, and the author of *Any Day a Beautiful Change: A Story of Faith and Family*. She regularly contributes to *Christian Century* and the *TheArtofSimple.net*.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## AMY PETERSON

@amylpeterson

Amy Peterson, the assistant director of honors programming at Taylor University, has written for *Christianity Today*, *Books & Culture*, *The Other Journal*, *Comment*, and many others. She has an essay in *Soul Bare* and a forthcoming book.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## BRIAN G. PHIPPS

Brian G. Phipps is a poet and a senior editor at Zondervan. His poetry has appeared in *Anglican Theological Review*, *The Other Journal*, *Relief*, *Rock & Sling*, and *St. Katherine Review*.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## KAREN SWALLOW PRIOR

@LoveLifeLitGod

Karen Swallow Prior is an English professor at Liberty University. Her books include *Fierce Convictions: The Extraordinary Life of Hannah More*, *Booked: Literature in the Soul of Me*, and her other scholarly work has been published in journals such as *The Shandean* and *The Scriblerian*.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 12:45 PM

## CHRISTIE PURIFOY

@ChristiePurifoy

Christie Purifoy earned a PhD in English literature at the University of Chicago before trading the classroom for a farmhouse, a garden, and a blog. She is author of *Roots and Sky: A Journey Home in Four Seasons*.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## KIRSTIN VALDEZ QUADE

@kvquade

Kirstin Valdez Quade is the author of the short story collection *Night at the Fiestas*. She won a Rona Jaffe Foundation Writer's Award in 2013 and the National Book Foundation's 5 Under 35 Award in 2014. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker*, *Narrative*, and *The Best American Short Stories*. From 2009 to 2011 she was a Wallace Stegner Fellow and she is now an assistant professor at Princeton University.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## ZIA HAIDER RAHMAN

@ziahaiderrahman

Born in Bangladesh, Rahman emigrated to the UK as a child. He worked as an investment banker for Goldman Sachs in New York before practicing corporate law and then working as an international human rights lawyer focusing on corruption. His 2014 debut novel, *In the Light of What We Know*, was awarded the James Tait Black Memorial Prize.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## RUSSELL RATHBUN

@russellrathbun

Russell Rathbun is a founding pastor of House of Mercy in St. Paul, a church regularly featured on Minnesota Public Radio for its arts and music projects. Russell curated the popular lectionary blog, *The Hardest Question*, and is the author of several books, including *Post Rapture Radio* and *Midrash on the Juanito*. His latest, *The Great Wall of China and the Salton Sea: Monuments, Mishaps, and the Audacity of Ambition* is forthcoming.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## JANISSE RAY

Janisse Ray is the author of two memoirs, *Ecology of a Cracker Childhood*, winner of the 2000 National Book Award, and *Wild Card Quilt: Taking a Chance on Home*, among other works of nonfiction and poetry. She is currently a Woodrow Wilson Visiting Fellow through the Council of Independent Colleges.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## ALANA RAYBON

@AlanaRaybon

Alana Raybon is the co-author of *Undivided: A Muslim Daughter, Her Christian Mother, Their Path to Peace*, along with her mother, Patricia Raybon. Raybon writes and teaches middle school in Tennessee.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM



## PATRICIA RAYBON

@PatriciaRaybon

Patricia Raybon is a journalist and the author of four books, including the memoirs *I Told the Mountain to Move*, a finalist for *Christianity Today's* 2006 Book of the Year, and *My First White Friend*, which won the Christopher Award. Her most recent book is *Undivided: A Muslim Daughter, Her Christian Mother, Their Path to Peace*, co-written with her daughter Alana Raybon.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## JANA RIESS

@janariess

Jana Riess holds degrees from Wellesley College, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Columbia University. She is a freelance editor, a senior columnist for Religion News Service, and the author of *Flunking Sainthood* and *The Twible*, among other books.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## CARYN RIVADENEIRA

@CarynRivadeneir

Caryn Rivadeneira is a freelance writer and editor. She is the author of five books and a regular contributor to *Her.meneutics* and *Re:Frame Media's ThinkChristian*.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

## WILLIAM ROMANOWSKI

William Romanowski is a scholar and commentator on the intersection of religion and popular culture. He is professor of communication arts and sciences at Calvin College, where he teaches courses in film and media studies. His books include *Eyes Wide Open: Looking for God in Popular Culture*, winner of the ECPA Gold Medallion Award.

**F** FRIDAY 12:45 PM

## MARY RUEFLE

Mary Ruefle is the author of many volumes of poetry, including *Trances of the Blast*, *Indeed I Was Pleased With the World*, *Post-Meridian*, and *The Adamant*, which won the Iowa Poetry Prize. Her collection of lectures, *Madness, Rack, and Honey*, was a finalist for the National Book Critics Circle Award in criticism and she has received fellowships from the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim Foundation. She teaches at Vermont College and the University of Iowa Writers' Workshop.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## TANIA RUNYAN

@TaniaRunyan

Tania Runyan is an author and poet. Her work includes four poetry collections, *What Will Soon Take Place* (forthcoming), *Second Sky*, *A Thousand Vessels*, *Simple Weight*, and *Delicious Air*. She was awarded an NEA Literature Fellowship in 2011. She also writes for *Image's* blog, *Good Letters*.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## JONATHAN RYAN

@authorjryan

Jonathan Ryan is an author, columnist, blogger, and speaker. He has published two paranormal thrillers, *3 Gates of the Dead* and its sequel, *Dark Bride*. His blog, *Sick Pilgrim*, explores faith, reason, and doubt. He has also written for *Christianity Today*, *Quantum Fairy Tales*, *Huffington Post* and *Notre Dame* magazine.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## STEPHANIE SANDBERG

Stephanie Sandberg is a playwright, director, and a professor of theatre history, dramaturgy, and directing at Calvin College. She is also the artistic director of ADAPT.Theatre that Changes.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM

## GRACE SANDRA

@Grace\_Sandra\_

Grace Sandra is author of *Converge Bible Study: Kingdom Building*, and *Converge Bible Study: Cries of the Poor*. She has also published essays in *Talking Taboo: American Christian Women Get Frank About Faith* and *The Mother Letters: Sharing the Laughter, Joys, Struggles & Hope*.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

# SPEAKERS

## GEORGE SAUNDERS

George Saunders is the author of three essay collections and several works of fiction, including, most recently, *Tenth of December: Stories*. Among his many awards are the MacArthur “genius grant” and Guggenheim fellowships. In 1997, he joined the faculty of Syracuse University, where he is currently a professor of creative writing.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**F** FRIDAY 7:30 PM

## JAMES SCHAAP

James Schaap is the author of 23 books, several short fiction pieces, and essays, including *Romey's Place* and *Things We Couldn't Say* (with Diet Eman). Schaap is emeritus professor of English at Dordt College in Sioux Center, Iowa.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## DANI SHAPIRO

@danijs Shapiro

Dani Shapiro is the author of five novels and the memoirs *Slow Motion* and *Devotion*. She has also written for magazines including *The New Yorker*; *O, The Oprah Magazine*; *Vogue*; and *ELLE*. She has taught creative writing at Wesleyan University, the New School, and Columbia University.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

## LUCI SHAW

@luci\_shaw

Luci Shaw has published several volumes of poetry, including *What the Light Was Like* and *Harvesting Fog*. She also writes non-fiction, including, most recently, *Adventure of Ascent: Field Notes from a Lifelong Journey*. She was co-founder and later president of Harold Shaw Publishers, and since 1988 has been a writer-in-residence at Regent College in Vancouver.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

## KATE SHELLNUTT

@kateshellnutt

Kate Shellnutt is an associate editor at *Christianity Today*, where she oversees *Her.meneutics*.

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## ANYA SILVER

@AnyaSilverPoet

Anya Silver is a poet and professor at Mercer University. Named Georgia Author of the Year for poetry in 2015, she has published two books of poetry, *The Ninety-Third Name of God* and *I Watched You Disappear*. Her new book of poems, *From Nothing*, is due later this year.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## BOB SMIETANA

@bobsmietana

Bob Smietana is a Nashville-based correspondent for Religion News Service and former religion writer for the Tennessean. He's a frequent contributor to national publications like *Sojourners*, *Christianity Today*, *U. S. Catholic*, and *On Faith*, and the co-author of three books. He currently serves as president of the Religion Newswriters Association.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## C. CHRISTOPHER SMITH

@ERBks

Chris Smith is the editor of the *Englewood Review of Books*, the author of *Slow Church*, and the author of a forthcoming book on reading in community.

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## JAMES K. A. SMITH

@james\_ka\_smith

James K. A. Smith is professor of philosophy at Calvin College, editor-in-chief of *Comment* magazine, and regular writer for publications including the *Wall Street Journal*, the *New York Times*, *Slate*, and *First Things*. His most recent is book is *You Are What You Love: The Spiritual Power of Habit*.

**S** SATURDAY 12:45 PM

**S** SATURDAY 4:45 PM



## STEPHANIE S. SMITH

@heystephsmith

Stephanie S. Smith is associate acquisitions editor for the non-fiction editorial team at Zondervan. She worked previously as an editor at Barna Group, and at Relevant Media Group.

**F** FRIDAY 8:30 AM

## ZADIE SMITH

Zadie Smith is the author of four novels, including her highly-acclaimed debut, *White Teeth*, and *On Beauty*, which won the 2006 Orange Prize for Fiction. Her next novel, *Swing Time*, will be released in 2016, and she is working on a book of essays entitled *Feel Free*. Smith is a professor of creative writing at New York University.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**T** THURSDAY 7:30 PM

## SHAWN SMUCKER

@shawnsucker

Shawn Smucker has authored and co-authored 15 books, including *The Day the Angels Fell*, *How to Use a Runaway Truck Ramp*, and *Building a Life out of Words*. He also coaches people who are writing memoirs and autobiographies.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## MARGOT STARBUCK

@MargotStarbuck

Margot Starbuck is the co-author of the forthcoming book *Overplayed: A Parent's Guide to Sanity in the World of Youth Sports* and the author of five books, including *The Girl in the Orange Dress*. She is a regular contributor to *Today's Christian Woman* and an editorial advisor for *Gifted for Leadership*.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## RACHEL MARIE STONE

@Rachel\_M\_Stone

Rachel Marie Stone's writing has appeared in *Books & Culture*, *Christian Century*, the *Washington Post*, *Christianity Today*, and elsewhere. Her first book, *Eat With Joy: Redeeming God's Gift of Food*, won the *Christianity Today* Book Award for Christian Living.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## RAGAN SUTTERFIELD

Ragan Sutterfield is the author of *This is My Body: From Obesity to Ironman*, *My Journey Into the True Meaning of Flesh, Spirit*, and *Deeper Faith* and is training to become an Episcopal Priest.

**F** FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## DANIEL TAYLOR

@DanielWTaylor

Daniel Taylor is the co-founder of the Legacy Center, an organization that helps individuals identify and preserve their values and personal stories. He's the author of many books, including *Death Comes for the Deconstructionist*, winner of *Christianity Today's* 2015 Book Award for fiction.

**T** THURSDAY 4:30 PM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## RANDY TESTA

Randy Testa was the vice president of education at Walden Media for eleven years and is now associate director of PreK-16 programs at Harvard Graduate School of Education. While at Walden Media, he wrote educational materials related to films based on children's literature, including *The Giver* and *The Chronicles of Narnia*.

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**S** SATURDAY 10 AM

## Z. G. TOMASZEWSKI

Z. G. Tomaszewski is a poet, rambler, handyman, fisherman, and musician, as well as a founding producer of Lamp Light Musical Festival and co-founder of Great Lakes Commonwealth of Letters. His book of poetry, *All Things Dusk*, was selected by Li-Young Lee as the 2014 International Poetry Prize Winner and published by Hong Kong University Press.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

# SPEAKERS

## LAURA TURNER

@lkoturner

Laura Turner is a writer and editor living in San Francisco. She writes the *Entertaining Faith* blog for Religion News Service and is a regular contributor to *Her.meneutics* and other publications, including *Pacific Standard*, *Books & Culture* and *The Bold Italic*.

📅 SATURDAY 10 AM

## JACK VAN ALLSBURG

Jack Van Allsburg is a senior English major at Calvin College and is the editor of *Dialogue*, Calvin's creative journal of undergraduate art and writing.

📅 FRIDAY 9 PM

📅 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## SANDRA VANDER ZICHT

Sandra Vander Zicht is an associate publisher and executive editor at Zondervan Books.

📅 FRIDAY 10 AM

## BRIAN VOLCK

Brian Volck is a pediatrician, author of the poetry collection, *Flesh Becomes Word*, and co-author of *Reclaiming the Body: Christians and the Faithful Use of Modern Medicine*. His memoir, *Attending Others: A Doctor's Education in Bodies and Words*, is forthcoming in 2016.

📅 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## JOHN VOLCK

John Volck is an illustrator, painter, and image maker living in Cincinnati. He attended the Columbus College of Art and Design and the University of Cincinnati DAAP Program. He illustrated Brian Volck's poetry collection, *Flesh Becomes Word*.

📅 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

## G. C. WALDREP

G. C. Waldrep is the author of four volumes of poetry, including *Goldbeater's Skin* and *Disclamor*. He currently directs the Bucknell Seminar for Young Poets at Bucknell University, edits the journal *West Branch*, and also serves as editor-at-large for the *Kenyon Review*. He is a member of the Old Order River Brethren.

📅 FRIDAY 3:30 PM

📅 SATURDAY 11:30 AM

## JEANNE MURRAY WALKER

@jmurraywalker

Jeanne Murray Walker is a poet, editor, scriptwriter, and professor at The University of Delaware. She has published eight volumes of poetry and a memoir titled, *The Geography of Memory: A Pilgrimage through Alzheimer's*. She has won many awards, including the Pew Fellowship in the Arts and a National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship.

📅 THURSDAY 1:45 PM

## TISH HARRISON WARREN

@Tish\_H\_Warren

Tish Harrison Warren is a priest in the Anglican Church in North America and works with InterVarsity Women in the Academy and Professions. Her work has appeared in *The Well*, *Her.meneutics*, *Christianity Today*, and elsewhere. Her first book, *Liturgy of the Ordinary: Sacred Practices in Everyday Life*, is forthcoming.

📅 THURSDAY 3:15 PM

## SARAH M. WELLS

@sarah\_wells

Sarah Wells is the author of the poetry collection, *Pruning Burning Bushes*, and a chapbook of poems, *Acquiesce*. She is a regular contributor to *Off the Page*, a ministry of Our Daily Bread, managing editor at the Weatherhead School of Management, and associate editor of *River Teeth: A Journal of Nonfiction Narrative*.

📅 SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## PAUL WILLIS

Paul Willis has published numerous poems in journals including *Poetry*, *Ascent*, *Wilderness*, and *Christian Century*. His most recent collections of poetry are *Say this Prayer Into the Past*, *Rising from the Dead*, and *Visiting Home*. He is a professor of English at Westmont College.

📅 FRIDAY 11:30 AM

📅 FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## JOHN WILSON

@jwilson1812

John Wilson is the editor of *Books & Culture* and editor at large for *Christianity Today*. His reviews and essays have appeared in the *New York Times*, *Boston Globe*, and *First Things*.

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## CHRISTIAN WIMAN

Christian Wiman is a poet, author, editor, and translator. Wiman's volumes of poetry include *Once in the West*, *Every Riven Thing*, *The Long Home*, and *Hard Night*. He has also written several works of nonfiction, most recently *My Bright Abyss: Meditations of a Modern Believer*. Wiman is currently a senior lecturer in religion and literature at Yale University.

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

**F** FRIDAY 3:30 PM

## NORMAN WIRZBA

@NWirzba

Norman Wirzba is the author of several books, including *From Nature to Creation: A Christian Vision for Understanding Our World* and *Living the Sabbath: Discovering the Rhythms of Rest and Delight*. He is a professor of theology, ecology, and agrarian studies at Duke Divinity School.

**F** FRIDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 11:30 AM

**S** SATURDAY 12:45 PM

## CATHERINE WOLFF

Catherine Wolff is the author of *Not Less Than Everything: Catholic Writers on Heroes of Conscience*, from *Joan of Arc* to *Oscar Romero* and the former director of the Arrupe Center for Community-Based Learning at Santa Clara University. She lives in Stanford, California.

**T** THURSDAY 3:15 PM

**F** FRIDAY 10 AM

## TOBIAS WOLFF

Tobias Wolff is the author of two memoirs, *This Boy's Life*, and *In Pharaoh's Army*, numerous short story collections, and three novels, including *The Barracks Thief*, which won the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction. He has been a professor of English and creative writing at Stanford University since 1997.

**T** THURSDAY 12 PM

**F** FRIDAY 7:30 PM

## PRESTON YANCEY

@prestonyancey

Preston Yancey is a writer, baker, painter, and speaker. He has written two books, most recently a meditation on spiritual disciplines and baking called *Out of the House of Bread*. Yancey holds degrees from Baylor University and St. Andrews University in Scotland. He lives in Waco, Texas.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

## SARA ZARR

@sarazarr

Sara Zarr is the author of five novels for young adults, most recently *The Lucy Variations*. Her first book, *Story of a Girl*, was a National Book Award finalist in 2007.

**T** THURSDAY 1:45 PM

**S** SATURDAY 8:30 AM

## ADDIE ZIERMAN

@addiezierman

Addie Zierman holds an MFA from Hamline University and is the author of two memoirs: *When We Were on Fire* and the forthcoming *Night Driving: A Story of Faith in the Dark*. Addie lives and blogs regularly in Minnesota.

**S** SATURDAY 2 PM

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

## ABBY ZWART

@abbyzward

Abby Zwart graduated from Calvin College in 2013 with a degree in English secondary education. She lives in Grand Rapids and teaches seventh- and eighth-grade English. She also manages the blog *The Post Calvin*.

**S** SATURDAY 3:30 PM

# EXHIBIT HALL

Located in the Prince Conference Center, the Exhibit Hall is filled with major publishing houses, small presses, journals, booksellers, schools, and other organizations geared to the interests of Festival-goers. Here you are welcome to browse new books, watch film trailers, attend author signings, and network with representatives from publishing houses.

Ave Maria Press / 5	Geez / 40	Anna Redsand, author / 21
Baker Publishing Group / 9	Wendy Vanderwal Gritter, author / 21	Relief Journal / 28
Book Rescue Ink / 20	Harvester Island Wilderness Workshop / 34	Rock & Sling   A Journal of Witness / 13
Books & Culture / 31	Her.meneutics / 31	Ruminate Magazine / 25
Books & Such Literary Management / 18	Herald Press / 29	Sojourners / 35
Calvin College Office of Admissions / 23	Image Journal / 1	Thomas Nelson / 32
Christian Century / 27	InterVarsity Press / 6	Topology Magazine / 26
Christian Scholar's Review / 39	Kregel Publications / 12	Upper Room Books/ Fresh Air Books / 2
Different Drummer / 10	Maranatha Christian Writers' Conference / 22	Windhover: A Journal of Christian Literature / 30
Discovery House / 19	Off the Page (Our Daily Bread Ministries) / 4	Wipf & Stock / 16
Earlham School of Religion / 38	The Other Journal / 24	Word Weavers
Eerdmans Publishing Company / 11	Plough Publishing / 33	West Michigan / 36
Eighth Day Books / 8	Principia Media / 3	WordFarm / 7
Englewood Review of Books / 14	Redbud Writers Guild / 17	Zondervan / 15
Fordham University Press / 37		

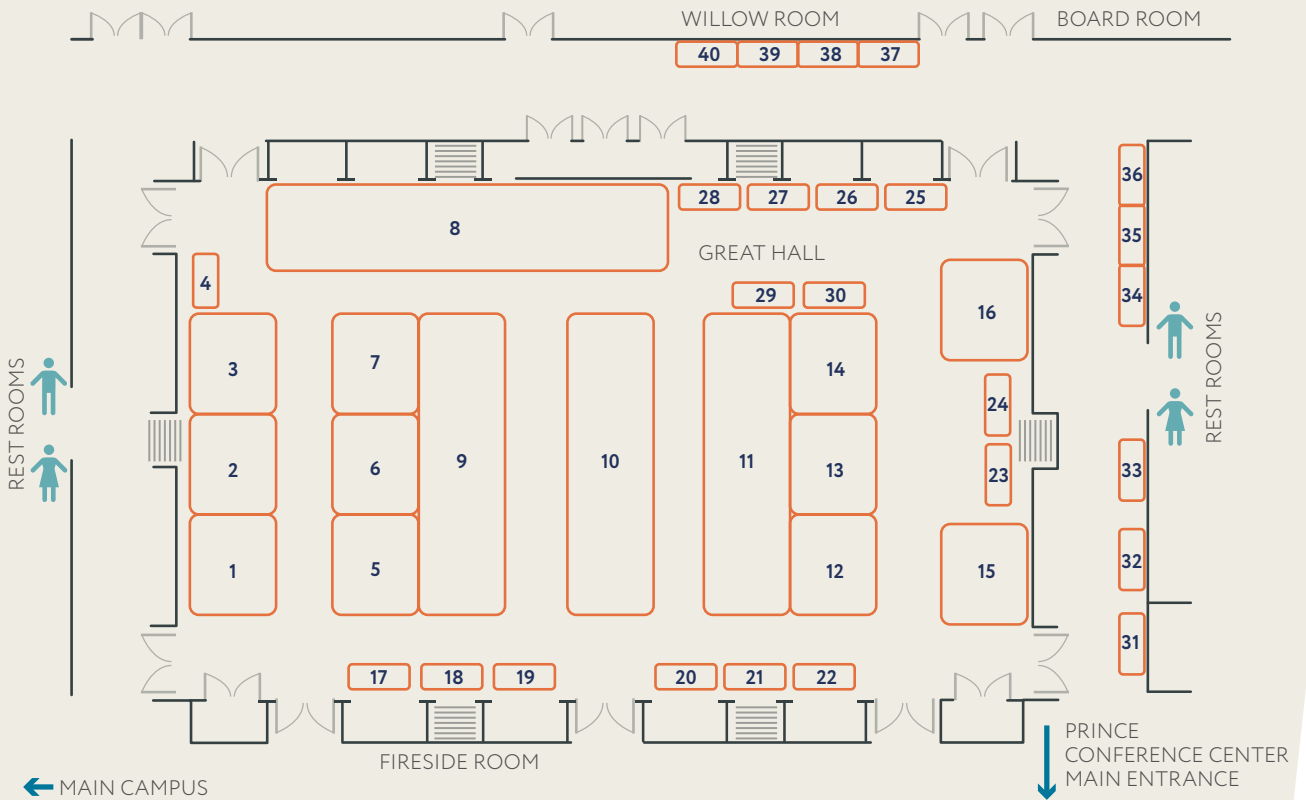
## EDITORIAL PRESENTATIONS

Aspiring writers will want to attend our editorial presentations just off the Exhibit Hall. These informal sessions provide an opportunity to hear from publishers about their aims and audience, and to ask practical questions about getting published.

### FRIDAY, APRIL 15

<b>10 AM</b>	INTERVARSITY PRESS / HELEN LEE <i>Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room</i>
<b>10:30 AM</b>	THOMAS NELSON / JESSICA WONG <i>Prince Conference Center, Hickory Room</i>
<b>11 AM</b>	WORDFARM / SALLY CRAFT <i>Prince Conference Center, President's Dining Room</i>
<b>11:30 AM</b>	REDBUD WRITERS GUILD / LARA KRUPICKA <i>Prince Conference Center, President's Dining Room</i>

OPEN DAILY FROM 9 AM-6 PM



# PARTY AT THE PRINCE

Meet up with friends and enjoy snacks, book signings, and special giveaways at many of the booths in the Exhibit Hall.

FRIDAY  
APRIL 15, 2016  
4:30-6PM  
EXHIBIT HALL

HOSTED BY  
SHAUNA NIEQUIST



# FFW BINGO

Play FFW Bingo and you might win a free registration to the 2018 Festival of Faith & Writing while providing valuable feedback to the Festival planning team. It's easy:

➔ CHECK THE BOXES as you have some of our favorite Festival experiences. (Include your own in the free spaces.)

➔ Get the CENTER SQUARE STAMPED at the Party at the Prince by Shauna Niequist or any FFW Student Committee member at the Party.

➔ When you get BINGO, fill out your personal information and feedback and drop the card in one of the designated boxes at either one of the two information desks before you leave the Festival.

After the Festival, we'll have a drawing with all of the cards submitted and **one lucky winner will get a free registration** to the 2018 Festival!



Play FFW Bingo and you might win a free registration to the 2018 Festival of Faith & Writing while providing valuable feedback to the Festival planning team. It's easy:

- ➔ Check the boxes as you have some of our favorite Festival experiences. (Include your own in the free spaces.)
- ➔ Get the center square stamped at the Party at the Prince by Shauna Niequist or any FFW Student Committee member at the Party.
- ➔ When you get BINGO, fill out your personal information and feedback and drop the card in one of the designated boxes at either one of the two information desks before you leave the Festival.

After the Festival, we'll have a drawing with all of the cards submitted and one lucky winner will get a free registration to the 2018 Festival!

## B I N G O

MEET ONLINE FRIEND IRL	FREE SPACE (Write your own!)	VISIT EXHIBIT HALL	INVITE SOMEONE TO JOIN YOU FOR A MEAL	MEET ONLINE FRIEND IRL
FREE SPACE (Write your own!)	ATTEND POETRY READING	START POST-FESTIVAL READING LIST	VISIT NATURE PRESERVE	GET BOOK SIGNED
MAKE A NEW FRIEND	DRINK COFFEE	<b>PARTY AT THE PRINCE</b>	FREE SPACE (Write your own!)	TWEET A FAVORITE FESTIVAL QUOTE
BUY A BOOK	ATTEND TALK BY NEW-TO-YOU WRITER	POST FESTIVAL PIC TO INSTAGRAM	GEEK OUT WITH FELLOW READER ABOUT SAME BOOK	FREE SPACE (Write your own!)
MEET ONLINE FRIEND IRL	RAISE HAND / ASK QUESTION	FREE SPACE (Write your own!)	ATTEND PERFORMANCE	MEET ONLINE FRIEND IRL

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