

schedule . thursday, april 19

9:00 am

registration desk opens

Prince Conference Center Lobby

10:00–10:20 am

chapel service

Luci Shaw leads a time of prayer and reflection for the Calvin community and Festival guests.

Chapel

10:30–11:15 am

pre-festival activities

 festival sampler

AARON BELZ, KATHRYN ERSKINE, AMY FRYKHOLM, BETHANY PIERCE, JANA RIESS, JUDITH SHULEVITZ

In this session, several authors offer a preview of Festival 2012 by reading brief excerpts from their work.

Chapel

 new attendee reception

If this is your first time at the Festival, we'd like to welcome you and answer any questions you may have about how best to enjoy all that Festival 2012 has to offer.

Willow Room

12:00–1:15 pm

opening plenary session

Where the Servants Dwell

GARY SCHMIDT

The Wiersma Memorial Lecture

Van Noord Arena

1:45–2:45 pm

concurrent sessions

 ***The Book of the Dun Cow***
(free tickets required—see page 7 for information)

PRESENTED BY THE CALVIN THEATRE COMPANY

(2.5 hours)

Based on the award-winning novel by Walter Wangerin, Jr., and directed by Stephanie Sandberg, this production—part fantasy, part mythology, and part animal allegory—beautifully explores the depths of life's joy and despair alongside the problem of evil. Chauntecleer, the troubled rooster and leader of his coop, must learn to rally his kingdom together to fight against the evil Wyrms. Following the production, Walter Wangerin, Jr., and Stephanie Sandberg will talk with the audience about the process of bringing the book to the stage.

Lab Theatre

 **Cultivating Curiosity: Amy Frykholm and Judith Shulevitz in Conversation**

Is it possible to be a successful writer—or human being—without being curious? Let's hope not. But writers exercise their curiosity differently. Some might approach it with a strategy—a study plan. Others might cultivate habits of awareness that leave them open to serendipity. Once curiosity sparks an idea, how do writers cultivate the flame and make something of their curiosity? Two writers with wide-ranging interests discuss the importance of curiosity in their work.

Gezon Auditorium

 **The Discipline of Rest**

CAREY WALLACE

We struggle constantly to work harder and get more done, and although we might stall, freeze, or run out of fuel, we almost never rest. But rest is intimately tied to creation, and in the crush of today's world, it takes courage and discipline to lay plans and fears aside and listen for the voice that speaks in the stillness.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **How to Read Poetry Devotionally**

SUSAN VANZANTEN

Reading poetry as part of one's devotional life can be a meaningful spiritual practice. Susan VanZanten briefly reviews the historical relationship of poetry and devotion, discusses how to go about reading poetry prayerfully, and guides participants through three spiritually evocative poems.

Swets Choral Hall

schedule . thursday, april 19

concurrent sessions . 1:45–2:45 pm . continued

Kicking at the Darkness: Methodological Reflections

BRIAN WALSH

In this session, Brian Walsh reflects on the nature, assumptions, and goals of “theological criticism” of contemporary music, using his work on Bruce Cockburn as an example. What happens when art is taken as a source, in dialogue with Scripture, for theological reflection? How is the art respected as art and not just “used” to make a theological point? How does this kind of work help to engender and shape a Christian imagination?

Chapel

Memoir Is Cheaper Than Therapy: Laughing at Your Life

JANA RIESS

The act of writing a memoir is fraught with dilemmas about how much to reveal and how vulnerable to be. But in the end, the memoir’s combination of retrospection and introspection can be personally cathartic, even revelatory, especially if a memoirist’s writing stimulates relationships with kindred spirits.

Seminary Chapel

Ours and Not Ours: Writing the Immigrant Experience

HUGH COOK, KRISTEN DEN HARTOG, CORNELIA HOOGLAND, JOHN TERPSTRA

All artists, writers among them, have stories that haunt them. One of these stories is immigration. Many writers today are the children of immigrants, and the silence that surrounds their pasts haunts them. They obsess about the families, the language, the geographies, the religion, the customs that are both theirs and not theirs. They want to know the stories that will connect them with their beginnings, but, like Adam and Eve, who were banished from the garden, they often find themselves in a new place with only vague memories and bits of stories of what came before. This is what feeds all immigrant writing—the silences, gaps, and fragments of the past. In this panel discussion, four writers speak about how immigration fuels their writing.

Seminary Auditorium

The Play’s the Thing: A Workshop

JEANNE MURRAY WALKER

For participants who pre-registered.

Hickory Room

A Reading by Luci Shaw

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

The Rhythm of Art

BRIAN PINKNEY

How does an illustrated book come into being? Artist and illustrator Brian Pinkney explains his creative process, focusing on the rhythms that run through his books, and talks about how picture books can help children to develop visual literacy.

Recital Hall

2:45–3:15 pm

coffee break

Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Gezon Auditorium Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

3:15–4:15 pm

concurrent sessions

Be Careful or You’ll End Up in My Novel

KATHRYN ERSKINE

Where do authors get their characters? Do you feel like you know some of the characters you meet in books? If so, that’s a good thing! But how do authors accomplish that? Kathryn Erskine explores the many ways in which authors create authentic characters.

Commons Lecture Hall

The Craft of Book Reviewing

BRETT FOSTER, CHRIS SMITH, JOHN WILSON

With the advent of blogs and social media, readers now have many outlets to review and express their opinions about the books they’ve read. But what makes for a good book review? What skills does it require? How can a writer hone his or her reviewing skills? And what is the future of book reviewing in the digital age? Two editors and a critic discuss the answers to these questions and more.

Willow Room

Finding a Voice: Character and Voice in Fiction

HUGH COOK

Does character influence the prose style of a novel, even when the novel is written in third person point of view? Is there a correlation between character and voice? Hugh Cook discusses the organic relationship between these two elements and illustrates with a reading from his latest novel.

Chapel

Inspirational Fiction and the Promiscuous Reader

BETHANY PIERCE

The rules of the Christian book market can sometimes contradict the principles of literature as an art form. Novelist Bethany Pierce discusses navigating the tension between the expectations of the Christian publishing industry and the demands of craft, looking to some of this century’s great writers of faith as examples.

Prince Board Room

 **Poetry as Worship, Poetry in Worship: Inviting Creativity into the Worship Experience**

SARAH WELLS

Exploring the ways in which canonized and contemporary poets alike have incorporated spirituality into their writing as an act of worship, this session provides participants with ideas that they can take back to their places of worship to incorporate the written word into the corporate worship experience.

Seminary Chapel

 **Pooling Metaphors Overflowing**

LARRY WOIWODE

"We are embodied in the metaphor—we surrender ourselves to it," writes Jeremy Begbie. What are the pools of metaphor in which we bathe daily? What exactly does it mean to surrender ourselves to the metaphor? And how do we do that? Larry Woiwode explores the centrality of metaphor in our lives.

Gezon Auditorium

 **A Reading by Maurice Manning**

The Basney Memorial Reading

This reading is held in honor of the late Lionel Basney, professor of English at Calvin College.

Recital Hall

 **What's a Platform, Anyway? Selling Yourself Without Selling Your Soul**

ROBERT HOSACK, KELLY HUGHES, ADRIANNA WRIGHT

One of the big buzzwords in publishing these days is *platform*. Simply put, it's the author's public profile that helps sell the book. Without a platform, often there is no publishing contract. Yet many aspiring authors don't know what a platform is, why it's so important, or how to build one for themselves and their work. Why do they need a platform to sell the book—isn't that the publisher's job? And how do Christian writers reconcile self-promotion and platform-building with a faith that values humility? In this session, three publishing veterans—an acquisitions editor and two publicists—will show non-fiction authors why growing a platform is vital to success, how to connect with existing and potential reading audiences, and how to not hate themselves in the process.

Seminary Auditorium

 **Write Your Life**

SUSAN E. ISAACS

Do you have a story you need to tell—a story only you can tell and that you can no longer *not* tell? Author Susan E. Isaacs will help you find the patterns and themes in your own life to craft a compelling memoir. You'll brainstorm and leave with tools to continue. Bring pen and paper; you'll be writing!

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

4:30–5:30 pm

concurrent sessions

 **Artistic Collaboration, Individual Expression: Richard Michelson and Brian Pinkney in Conversation**

Illustrators of picture books will sometimes illustrate their own work, but other times they will take on the daunting task of illustrating the text of another author, bringing their own conceptions and visions to bear. How does this process of text to illustration come about? In this conversation, Brian Pinkney and Richard Michelson reflect on their work as illustrators and writers, thinking about the relationships between texts and illustrations, and discussing how the merging of the two art forms can create compelling stories for children.

Gezon Auditorium

 **The Double Faces of Ambition: Luci Shaw and Jeanne Murray Walker in Conversation**

Donald Hall once claimed, "If I have any ambition, it is for my work, not for myself." A noble sentiment—and yet without ambition, it is difficult to persist at any task in life through the inevitable hurdles and discouragement into a place of real excellence. But ambition can also easily turn into wanting and needing external praise and attention. Two friends and writers discuss these two faces of ambition.

Chapel

 **Getting Out of the Way: A Workshop**

JOHN ESTES

For participants who pre-registered.

Hickory Room

 **In Motion: Writing Poetry for Children**

MARJORIE MADDOX

Kids wiggle, hop, dash, and tumble. So how do authors write poems that zip with them? Marjorie Maddox explores techniques that can be used to write poems about sports, dance, animals, and other don't-sit-still subjects in ways that will engage and delight children.

Swets Choral Hall

 **An Interview with Bruce Cockburn**

Singer-songwriter Bruce Cockburn talks with Brian Walsh about social justice, the creative process, and "kicking at the darkness."

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

 **Listing Creation: Cosmogonies and the Poem**

PETER O'LEARY

How do poetry and sacronymic lists connect? Poet Peter O'Leary explores one of poetry's oldest instincts—the holy naming of the objects of creation—and discusses why our own efforts in this act bring us into closer proximity to the divine imagination.

Prince Board Room

schedule . thursday, april 19

concurrent sessions . 4:30–5:30 pm . continued

☀ Teaching Without Teaching

FRANCISCO X. STORK

A writer of young adult literature explores the importance of—and reasons behind—teaching values to young people through the expression of truth and beauty.

Commons Lecture Hall

☀ Telling the Truth in Love: The Tricky Bits of Writing Memoir

AMY JULIA BECKER, JENNIFER GRANT, MARGOT STARBUCK

How does a memoirist tell the truth about sensitive issues—and do it in love? Three memoirists—who have written about disability, adoption, and dysfunctional family life—discuss the promise and pitfalls of writing about those closest to us.

Willow Room

☀ What the Sabbath Does

JUDITH SHULEVITZ

In many religious traditions, Sabbath observance has lost its meaning and value. And yet in our fast-paced, technologically saturated society, Sabbath is vitally important. Judith Shulevitz discusses how Sabbath observance changes the way we relate to time—and what its slow fade from human society might mean for each of us personally.

Recital Hall

☀ Writing for Documentary Film, Activism, and Social Media

KIRSTEN KELLY

Filmmaker Kirsten Kelly considers the role of writing and the credit of “writer” in documentary film. Using her own work as an example, Kelly explores the unique challenges of writing a script based on live footage and the expanding role of the documentary writer’s job, which now extends to creating platforms for social media and audience engagement.

Bytwerk Theatre

6:00–7:00 pm

festival circles

For participants who pre-registered. (See full listing, with room locations, on page 26.)

7:30–8:30 pm

plenary session

Reading Between the Lines

JONATHAN SAFRAN FOER

Van Noord Arena

9:00 pm

evening activities

☀ film / *That Evening Sun*

Presented in partnership with the Calvin College Film Arts Committee, this showing will be followed by a discussion with the film’s writer and director, Scott Teems.

Bytwerk Theatre

☀ poetry readings

These open-microphone poetry readings are limited to ten minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm. Listeners are welcome.

Hickory Room

☀ student readings

Hosted by the Festival 2012 student committee, these open-microphone readings—open to all undergraduate students—are limited to five minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Upper East Lobby



schedule . friday, april 20

8:30–9:30 am

concurrent sessions

 **Beautiful Souls and Interesting People**

DANIEL NAYERI

Alternately titled, “How to Be Interesting”—with sources from Castiglione’s *sprezzatura* to Orwell’s *All Art Is Propaganda*—this session comes from years of Daniel Nayeri hearing the same two questions. In his role as author, people ask him, “Where do you get your ideas?” In his role as editor, people ask him, “What kind of books are you looking for?” The answer is the same: “Whatever is interesting.”

Bytwerk Theatre

 **Finding and Feeding the Narrative Drive in Non-Fiction Writing**

JOHN SLOAN

Apart from memoirs, many non-fiction books lack a compelling thread or narrative that provides engagement for readers. And yet the narrative approach can be done well. But how does an author locate and develop the narrative in a work of non-fiction? Using examples from several contemporary writers, editor John Sloan demonstrates how writers can use different tools to achieve a compelling narrative.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **Illuminating Grace: Marilynne Robinson’s Fiction and Faith**

LINDA MCCULLOUGH MOORE, LAURA SCHUTZ

This session features two scholarly treatments of the work of Marilynne Robinson. Laura Schutz presents “A Weight of Light: Beauty and Being in Marilynne Robinson’s *Gilead*,” and Linda McCullough Moore presents “At Home with Marilynne Robinson: Some Thoughts on the Novel *Home*.”

Swets Choral Hall

 **An Interview with Jonathan Safran Foer**

Jane Zwart talks with Jonathan Safran Foer about story and history, language and image, mystery and belief.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

 **It’s What You Leave Out: Finding a Book in a Stack of Poems**

JOHN LEAX

Pascal wrote, “Every author has a meaning which reconciles all contradictory passages, or else he has no meaning at all. . . . We must therefore look for a meaning which reconciles all contradictions.” So how does this idea apply to the work of the poet? Using examples from his own work, John Leax explores the idea that satisfying Pascal requires the omission of poems rooted in our too-anxious desire to achieve coherence and meaning.

Seminary Auditorium

 **Patient Poets: Writing and Healing**

MARILYN CHANDLER MCENTYRE

People who live with chronic pain, terminal illness, or disability reach with surprising frequency for words to sustain them. Reading and writing poetry, memoir, and story may contribute measurably (some would say immeasurably) to healing. Drawing from her own work, Marilyn Chandler McEntyre considers what we can learn from poetry by patients who write as if, and because, their lives depend on it.

Recital Hall

 **Writing for the Elder Brother**

M. CRAIG BARNES

Reaching out to the prodigals with the forgiving grace of the Father is deeply ingrained in the American understanding of the Gospel. But many of the people who worship and who read Christian literature have not made a mess of their lives. Like the elder brother, they are careful and good at following the rules. Their sins are boring and tedious. So how do we address the Gospel to these elder brothers?

Gezon Auditorium

 **Yearning for the (B)eloved/(b)eloved**

LISA RUSS SPAAR

At their most intense, the discourses of erotic and religious ardor are interchangeable. By what “ruses” do ecstatic poets approach articulation of the ineffable? Poet Lisa Russ Spaar explores these varied approaches, using examples from St. Teresa of Avila, Emily Dickinson, Gerard Manley Hopkins, and others.

Alumni Association Board Room

9:30–10:00 am

coffee break

Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Gezon Auditorium Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

schedule . friday, april 20

10:00–11:00 am

concurrent sessions

 **Borrowing the Fictive for Poetry: How Imagination and Biography Can Blur and Shimmy**

SUSANNA CHILDRESS

Too often, contemporary lyric and narrative poets rely on—or are constrained by—(auto)biographical “truth” to generate poetic material. But who says poetry need be non-fiction?

President's Dining Room

 **From Words to Image**

DAVID DIAZ

How does a children's picture book take shape? What are the challenges along the way? David Diaz demonstrates the journey that an illustrator travels when bringing a manuscript to life.

Alumni Association Board Room

 **Grumblings, Angry Conversations, and Sad, Sad Songs: The Art and Joy of the Lament**

GREGG DEMEY, SUSAN E. ISAACS, CARYN DAHLSTRAND
RIVADENEIRA

Lamenting is an important—but often overlooked—part of the Christian life, which is a shame, since it is a rather high calling and one that writers ought to be encouraged to take up. But so often we're afraid to lament for fear of seeming whiny or ungrateful. And yet lamenting can bring beauty and closeness with God. This session explores the critical role of writers in helping individuals and communities find hope and healing through lamenting.

Recital Hall

 **The Magpie Form: Brian Doyle and Patrick Madden in Conversation**

Naked honesty and expansive versatility, playfulness and craft, “pop and verve,” quicksilver art in short format—the essay today is more exciting and challenging than ever for readers, writers, and editors. Two prolific essayists discuss their ardent commitment to the form that steals and stashes everything it touches, including (naturally) all the best features of the other genres.

Gezon Auditorium

 **The Pentimento Perplex: Memory, History, and the (Re)Construction of Childhood in Books for Young Readers**

SUSAN CAMPBELL BARTOLETTI

How many egos does it take to write a children's book? What's the difference between a book for children and a book for adults? Why do celebrities write terrible children's books? Why do children love the books they do? What do history and memory have to do with writing books for children? What's the one prerequisite if you want to write a children's book? And why do writers for children have so much fun? Susan Campbell Bartoletti discusses the art—and joy—of writing books for children.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **A Reading by Tony Earley**

Lab Theatre

 **Rethinking Perfection**

AMY JULIA BECKER

In a culture obsessed with image, status, and achievement, what room is there for a child with a disability? What room is there for any of us with our flaws and failings? Amy Julia Becker reflects upon the problems with our cultural assumptions about perfection, both within and outside a Christian context.

Seminary Auditorium

 **What Digital Publishing Can Do for You**

DANIEL NAYERI, CHRIS PARK, JANA RIESS, ELDA ROTOR

E-books are here to stay—but so are apps, enhancements, “Kindle specials” (novellas and mini-books), and novels tweeted out in 140 characters or less. Oh, and did we mention the traditional print book? That's also still very much around. How can authors navigate the rapidly changing landscape of digital publishing? What terms should authors ask for when negotiating digital rights in a traditional publishing contract? And going outside the traditional publishing rubric, what are the advantages and disadvantages of digital self-publishing? Four publishing industry experts provide some answers.

Willow Room

 **The Word Needs Flesh: Sex and Faith in Contemporary Writing**

JOHN ESTES, AMY FRYKHOLM

Non-fiction writer Amy Frykholm and poet John Estes discuss the challenge of writing about sexuality in Christian contexts, where sexuality and holiness have often been placed at odds with each other. Their discussion focuses on the role of sensuality and the imagination in shaping both art and faith.

Bytwerk Theatre

 **Writers and the Business of Creativity**

WALTER WANGERIN, JR.

In this exploration of the work of the writer, Walter Wangerin, Jr., discusses the the writer as artist, the importance of the creative process, the effect of art upon the audience, and the ethical responsibility of the writer.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium



11:30 am–12:30 pm

concurrent sessions

 **Crafting Characters with Honesty and Authenticity:
Kathryn Erskine and Francisco X. Stork in Conversation**

Both Kathryn Erskine and Francisco X. Stork have written powerfully about characters who are facing what might be overwhelming limitations. In writing about characters such as these, authors have to struggle with point of view, diction, and their characters' range of perceptions and articulations in order to present honest and authentic depictions. In this conversation, two writers of young adult fiction discuss their processes, the ways they have crafted their characters, and the challenges they faced in exploring untrodden fictional ground.

Seminary Chapel

 **Extolling or Exploiting?**

RICHARD MICHELSON

Writers are often drawn to tell stories outside of their own religious and cultural traditions. But in the act of telling those stories, are writers celebrating diversity, or are they part of the problem? Richard Michelson explores the boundaries between extolling and exploiting, between stereotyping and accurate portrayal.

President's Dining Room

 **Facebooking the Past Century: Self-Portraiture in Poetry**

LISA RUSS SPAAR

Although self-portraiture has been part of the vocabulary of visual art for centuries, the phenomenon of the self-portrait poem is fairly recent. In a time of ubiquitous self-portrayal in technology and other media, what can the self-portrait poem reveal to us, as readers and as writers? In addition to looking at a number of contemporary poetic self-portraits, this session offers some self-portrait writing prompts as well.

Swets Choral Hall

 **From Page to Screen: Adapting Novels and Short Stories for Film**

SCOTT TEEMS

What are the pleasures and perils of adapting novels and short stories for the cinema? Having adapted works by authors as diverse as Stephen King, James Lee Burke, and Abraham Verghese, writer-director Scott Teems explains the adaptation process, using his film *That Evening Sun*—based on a William Gay short story—as a case study.

Bytwerk Theatre

 **The Gifts and Claims of the Natural World**

JOHN LEAX, MAURICE MANNING, PAUL WILLIS

The creation—as a form of God's self-revelation or as a gift of physical and spiritual resources to be stewarded faithfully—has been among the most enduring sources of literary inspiration. But nature expects as well as gives. The natural world makes claims on us: to pay attention to and reckon with its stories, to humble oneself before it, and to advocate for it. This session offers insights on how these gifts and claims can and ought to influence authors.

Recital Hall

 **How to Write It So They Will Come**

ANN VOSKAMP

Author, memoirist, and farmer Ann Voskamp, taking up the tradition of Wendell Berry, considers elemental earth and dirt and sky and seeds and stories that yield life change. What are imagination, creativity, and story, and how can any earthly words offer real vision to real people? What are the habits of writers planting transformation, and why do we need to find an unlikely language to speak old truths? Exploring the need for writers of spiritual truth to write straight/slant, she shares her own unexpected writing journey and her discovery of readers hungry for something different.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

 **Lies, Whitewashes, and Cover-Ups: Dealing in Memoir with Pain and Painful People**

DANIEL TAYLOR

A recurring question in writing memoir is how to deal—both psychologically and in terms of craft—with personal pain and hurtful people, especially when those people may still be in one's life or known to people who are. The session explores the issues and offers guidelines for writing effectively about things one may be hesitant to write about at all.

Gezon Auditorium

 **A Reading by Aaron Belz**

Willow Room

 **Stories of a People and Place: Adam Schuitema and Patricia Westerhof in Conversation**

This session explores the ways in which stories can be grounded in and inspired by community. Two fiction writers—both of whom have published story collections that have grown out of communities they've lived in or hold allegiances to—talk about the constraints and delights of community in the lives of writers.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **The Theory and Practice of Trust: Writing as Prayer**

LUIS ALBERTO URREA

How are writing and prayer connected? Luis Alberto Urrea explains how the Holy Spirit taught him to relax and accept his “black belt” in writing as the ultimate prayer.

Chapel

schedule . friday, april 20

12:30–2:00 pm

lunch break

lunch forums (12:45–1:45 pm)

During the lunch break, we're offering several informal sessions—some readings, some discussions, some presentations. Grab your lunch and enjoy!

- **Book Slam: Local Librarians Recommend Amazing Fiction and Non-Fiction Books That Incorporate Elements of Faith and Spirituality**
AMY COCHRAN, KAREN HEERINGA, TAMMY SCHNEIDER,
LAURA VEENEMAN
Hiemenga Hall 467
- **Getting Your Hustle On: The Icky, Necessary Art of Self-Promotion for People Like Us Who Really Just Want to Write**
MARGOT STARBUCK
Spoelhof Center 318
- **MOMumental: Adventures in the Messy Art of Raising a Family**
JENNIFER GRANT
Hiemenga Hall 462
- **A Reading by Brett Foster**
Spoelhof Center 204
- **The Spirit of Food: Readings and Conversations on the Sacramentalism of Food**
LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS, ANN VOSKAMP
Spoelhof Center 202
- **Spirituality and Storytelling: Engaging Culture with Honesty, Grace, and Truth**
DEAN NELSON, DANIEL TAYLOR
Spoelhof Center 203
- **What Does One Talk to God About, Anyway? Some Reflections on the Writing of, and Some Reading from, the Book *Talking with God***
HENRY BARON
Hiemenga Hall 314

2:00–3:00 pm

concurrent sessions

- ***The Book of the Dun Cow***
(free tickets required—see page 7 for information)
PRESENTED BY THE CALVIN THEATRE COMPANY
(2.5 hours)
Based on the award-winning novel by Walter Wangerin, Jr., and directed by Stephanie Sandberg, this production—part fantasy, part mythology, and part animal allegory—beautifully explores the depths of life's joy and despair alongside the problem of evil. Chauntecleer, the troubled rooster and leader of his coop, must learn to rally his kingdom together to fight against the evil Wyrm. Following the production, Walter Wangerin, Jr., and Stephanie Sandberg will talk with the audience about the process of bringing the book to the stage.
Lab Theatre
- **Divine Madness: Debra Dean and Luis Alberto Urrea in Conversation**
Where do fiction writers find their inspirations? How do they learn to listen to—and follow—the voices in their heads? And how do inspired ideas become completed novels? Two novelists discuss the role of inspiration in the life of a writer.
Seminary Auditorium
- **"I'm Not Making This Up, You Know": Truth and Fact in Non-Fiction for Young Readers**
DINAH STEVENSON
Editor Dinah Stevenson explores today's (and yesterday's) non-fiction for young readers, focusing on the vexed questions of accuracy and documentation, and describing how authors successfully build on a factual foundation to create literature.
Swets Choral Hall
- **An Interview with Craig Thompson**
Graphic novels have become increasingly popular—and more respected—in recent years. But what makes for a good graphic novel? And why are graphic novels often able to deal with serious subjects so well? Jennifer Williams asks Craig Thompson these questions and explores the connection between faith and the art of doodling.
Commons Lecture Hall
- **Living Fully: A Conversation with Ann Voskamp**
What does it mean to live fully and gratefully? And why is it important? Ann Voskamp reads from her work and answers audience questions on the craft of writing and the art of living with gratitude.
Chapel

Loving Thy Neighbors and Teaching Them to Read

MARK RICHARD

Mark Richard explores how Jesus' second greatest commandment can draw writers closer to God while making them better at their craft. Along the way he talks about literacy outreach, the ways in which will trumps talent, and the importance of writing within one's headlights.

Willow Room

Mixing It Up

PAUL WILLIS

Eco-fantasy fiction may be seen by some as an unlikely combination of genres. After all, nature writers by and large prefer a kind of non-fiction or realistic fiction that is rooted in the "actual" world, while fantasy writers prefer alternative worlds. So is eco-fantasy a contradiction in terms, then? Can John Muir and J. R. R. Tolkien exist on the same page? Can Narnia come to the American wilderness? Paul Willis discusses the risks and rewards of re-combining modes and genres.

Bywerk Theatre

On Prayer and Faithfulness: Writing About Spiritual Practices

KATE BRAESTRUP, PAULA HUSTON, RIVER JORDAN

What are the challenges of writing about spiritual practices? How can authors do so without being preachy or presenting themselves as perfect beings? And how do authors deal with the vulnerability of writing about their own intimacy with God? This discussion explores the art of writing about the spirit.

Seminary Chapel

A Reading by Scott Cairns

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

When Throats Are Parched

LESLIE LEYLAND FIELDS, BRETT FOSTER, GINA OCHSNER

As writers, we all walk through places where wells are dry and our words stammer only doubt. While we may know we should endure, even embrace, this silent passage and let it perform its necessary work upon us, we don't always have that luxury. Deadlines, contracts, and schedules seldom allow for mute desert wanderings. Three writers speak from their own places of thirst and illuminate genre-specific ways to carry the work forward despite times and places of dearth.

Recital Hall

3:00–3:30 pm

coffee break

Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Gezon Auditorium Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

3:30–4:30 pm

concurrent sessions

The Art of the Story

DAVID DIAZ, DANIEL NAYERI, GARY SCHMIDT

Picture books come about through the combined efforts of illustrator, writer, and editor. In this panel, these three discuss the complex and coordinated process behind the production of the forthcoming *Martin de Porres: The Rose in the Desert*.

Gezon Auditorium

An Interview with Maurice Manning

L. S. Klatt interviews poet Maurice Manning about his down-home fascination with God, folk religion, and psalms of complaint.

Willow Room

Journalizing and Sermonizing: A Dialogue

SCOTT HOEZEE, DAVID VAN BIEMA

David Van Biema, longtime head religion writer for *Time* magazine, now working on a book about the Psalms, and Scott Hoezee, director of the Center for Excellence in Preaching, talk about what's the same and what's different about their respective callings. Sometimes the same text has a profound shaping influence both inside religious communities and far outside those communities, influencing how one writes about that text. Using Psalm 139 as a starting point, this session explores the commonalities and differences to be found when writing about a particular text.

Prince Board Room

The Making of a Graphic Novel

CRAIG THOMPSON

What goes into the making of a graphic novel? Using examples from his books *Blankets* and *Habibi*, Craig Thompson explains the process, from sketchbooks to thumbnails to writing decisions and the construction of a single page.

Commons Lecture Hall

Making Sense of Allah's Will

LEILA ABOULELA

Novelist Leila Aboulela talks about how an unplanned move from her native Sudan to Scotland made her turn to fiction as a way of practicing her faith and negotiating a new life in a foreign, sometimes difficult territory. She discusses how her fictional worlds reflect Muslim logic, how stories can reveal a better understanding of other religious cultures, and how her experience of growing up as a Muslim child reading books predominantly written by Christians affected her.

Recital Hall

schedule . friday, april 20

concurrent sessions . 3:30–4:30 pm . continued

Pastor as Minor Poet

M. CRAIG BARNES

In the human experience, mystery and miracle, as well as despair and heartache, are found beneath the thin veneer of what only appears to be ordinary. So the subtext of human lives is usually where the Holy Spirit prefers to work. This makes it critical for pastors and people of faith to develop the poet's skill of exploring the truth behind reality.

Seminary Chapel

Paying Ferocious Attention

BRIAN DOYLE

How do the holy stories find their way into the wild windows of our eyes and ears? How do they command attention? Brian Doyle explores attentiveness: ranting and chanting and singing and laughing and insisting that stories are shimmering arrows that stitch souls and advance the universe 2.3 millimeters per day if we do it right.

Chapel

Poetry in Its Place(s): A Workshop

MARJORIE MADDOX

For participants who pre-registered.

Hickory Room

Telling the Truth?

KATE BRAESTRUP

Memoirs purport to be reasonable representations of real life as it has been lived by real people. But storytellers who attempt to capture even a fragment of reality will find themselves hampered by the essential discontinuity between life and words. Out of facts, inventions, and silence, storytellers—including memoirists—must create a new reality. So is there really any such thing as a true story?

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

That Evening Sun

(2.0 hours)

Based on a short story by William Gay, this film tells the story of an aging Tennessee farmer who returns to his homestead and confronts a family betrayal, the reappearance of an old enemy, and the loss of his farm. This showing will be followed by a discussion with the film's writer and director, Scott Teems.

Bytwerk Theatre

4:45–5:30 pm

performance

Poetry Spoken and Sung

Enjoy a time of poetry and music led by Capella, Calvin's concert choir, directed by Joel Navarro.

Chapel

6:30–8:00 pm

exhibition

gallery reception and book signing

Craig Thompson will be on hand to sign books and talk with guests at this reception for his exhibit, "Bible Doodles: Graphic Novel Illustrations." Books will be available for purchase.

Center Art Gallery

7:30–8:30 pm

plenary session

Casting Out Fear

MARILYNNE ROBINSON

Van Noord Arena

9:00 pm

evening activities

concert / Bruce Cockburn

This concert is presented in partnership with the Student Activities Office of Calvin College. Tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at the Calvin College Box Office, located on the main floor of the Covenant Fine Arts Center, on Thursday or Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

film / *Stranger Than Fiction*

This showing is presented in partnership with the Calvin College Film Arts Committee.

Bytwerk Theatre

poetry jam

Presented in partnership with the Calvin College Multicultural Student Development Office, this event is open to all Festival attendees and the Calvin community. Poet Jamaal May hosts and performs. Listeners are welcome.

Fish House

poetry readings

These open-microphone poetry readings are limited to ten minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm. Listeners are welcome.

Hickory Room

student readings

Hosted by the Festival 2012 student committee, these open-microphone readings—open to all undergraduate students—are limited to five minutes each. Sign up at the registration desk by 6:00 pm.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Upper East Lobby

schedule . saturday, april 21

8:30–9:30 am

concurrent sessions

 **The Balance of Fact and History: Susan Campbell Bartoletti and Andrea Davis Pinkney in Conversation**

How does the writer of historical fiction balance imagined story with its researched foundation? How does the writer of non-fiction incorporate elements of narrative? Two writers for young readers tread the delicate steps of this dance as they discuss their own recent work in these two genres and reflect on the freedoms and restrictions of fact and history.

Gezon Auditorium

 **Caring for Words**

MARILYN CHANDLER MCENTYRE

The task of caring for words is very much like the task of caring for the earth's resources, and both are directly related to the ways we are called to care for one another. Marilyn Chandler McEntyre considers what it means to be good stewards of language, with particular attention to writing as spiritual practice and holy play.

Chapel

 **The Children's Picture Book: A Cozy Collaboration**

RICHARD JESSE WATSON

The art of writing a picture book is an intimate collaboration of author, illustrator, editor, and art director. It is also an exquisite marriage of text and art. Cozy? Yes. Comfy? Not at first. When words and pictures are first put together in this arranged marriage, the claws come out. Richard Jesse Watson offers tools to tame and finesse.

Swets Choral Hall

 **From Inking to Ink: A Workshop**

PATRICIA WESTERHOF

For participants who pre-registered.

Hickory Room

 **An Interview with Li-Young Lee**

Otto Selles asks Li-Young Lee to discuss in detail three or four poems from his most recent collection, *Behind My Eyes*, focusing on Lee's thoughts on faith, writing, and the place and purpose of poetry.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

 **Poets as Readers of Scripture**

THOMAS GARDNER

Thomas Gardner considers the way poets respond to Scripture by taking its words as particularly addressed to them, dramatizing the way readers ponder and consider, leap forward and come to a halt. Poets, he argues, teach us how to read in new and powerful ways. Special emphasis will be placed on poems responding to the Gospel of John.

Chapel Undercroft

 **Self-Transformation Through the Essay**

PATRICK MADDEN

Is the persona we read in an essay the same as the persona who wrote the essay? And what salubrious effects might essays have on their readers and, especially, writers? Patrick Madden considers these questions through personal experience and in conversation with many great essayists of the past, hoping to find that he's dedicated his life's work to something worthwhile, something that will make him and others better people.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **Why Read Classics?**

ELDA ROTOR

Editorial director of Penguin Classics, Elda Rotor shares her perspective from the editorial side of publishing classic literature and selecting "new" classics, providing some insight and inspiration from writers who have introduced them.

Prince Board Room

 **Writing the Unrecorded Life**

AMY FRYKHOLM

Writing biography is always an act of empathy, as the writer steps across the divide between his or her own life and the life of another. But how can this empathetic act take place when there is little recorded evidence of the biographical subject's life? In this session, Amy Frykholm discusses the hows and whys of writing biographies of obscure figures—the historical record, voice and distance, and reckoning with what history did not pass on.

Willow Room

 **Writing What We Don't Know: Fiction as a Spiritual Journey**

DEBRA DEAN

Fiction is sometimes disparaged as frivolous and escapist. Yet a new study suggests that reading fiction makes us more empathetic. Novelist Debra Dean reflects on the experience of writing beyond the familiar in her work.

Recital Hall

9:30–10:00 am

coffee break

Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Gezon Auditorium Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

schedule . saturday, april 21

10:00–11:00 am

concurrent sessions

 **Alive in the World: Stories of God's Revolution**

SHANE CLAIBORNE

Our personal stories often animate biblical truths. Activist and writer Shane Claiborne shares stories of the early Christians, along with some of his personal stories—growing up in the Bible Belt, working with Mother Teresa in Calcutta, getting arrested for feeding the homeless, travelling to Iraq during the bombing—and invites us to re-imagine what it means to be the body of Christ alive in the world, to join God's revolution where we are.

Van Noord Arena

 **The Book of the Dun Cow**
(free tickets required—see page 7 for information)

PRESENTED BY THE CALVIN THEATRE COMPANY

(2.5 hours)

Based on the award-winning novel by Walter Wangerin, Jr., and directed by Stephanie Sandberg, this production—part fantasy, part mythology, and part animal allegory—beautifully explores the depths of life's joy and despair alongside the problem of evil. Chauntecleer, the troubled rooster and leader of his coop, must learn to rally his kingdom together to fight against the evil Wyrms. Following the production, Walter Wangerin, Jr., and Stephanie Sandberg will talk with the audience about the process of bringing the book to the stage.

Lab Theatre

 **Community Expectations, Artistic Explorations**

JULIA SPICHER KASDORF, RUBÉN MARTINEZ, PAUL WILLIS

Many writers belong to particular communities, whether they be civic, ethnic, or religious. And those writers often encounter certain expectations from the communities to which they belong. Does this sort of membership in a community limit the voices of writers, or does it give them the proper channel for their voices to be heard?

Seminary Auditorium

 **The Evolution of a Poem**

AARON BELZ, SUSANNA CHILDRESS, BRETT FOSTER

How does a poem come into being? And what can be learned by examining the evolution of a poem? Three poets trace the process of one of their own poems, from first stirrings to finished work.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **An Interview with Leila Aboulela**

Leila Aboulela talks with Susan Felch about writing from two continents, cross-cultural challenges, the genres of romance and bereavement, and her Muslim faith.

Gezon Auditorium

 **The Transformative Power of Story**

CLARE VANDERPOOL

Stories are the great common denominator in our lives. We all have them, we all tell them, and we all need them. This session takes a look at the transformative power of story, exploring how it can change us in the telling and in the listening. Through story we reveal things and make them known, especially to ourselves. And through story we recognize what is common to all of us: the ordinary. And in the telling, the ordinary can become beautiful and extraordinary.

Chapel

 **A Wider View: Writing About Faith from the Outside**

LAN SAMANTHA CHANG

Plenty of writers never address faith in their work, and those who do address it are often dismissive or even condescending toward people of faith. So how do writers successfully and authentically portray religion and religious people? Fiction writer Lan Samantha Chang traces her own journey and provides some insight into the challenges of writing about faith.

Recital Hall

 **Wonderfully Made: Writing Poems of Awe**

JAMAAL MAY

How do poems generate a sense of wonder in readers? And what tools can poets use to achieve this sense of wonder? Through an exploration of poems with these aims, poet Jamaal May discusses techniques that will provide fresh approaches and inspire new work.

Seminary Chapel

11:30 am–12:30 pm

concurrent sessions

 **A Day in the Life: The Joys and Challenges of Publishing Poetry**

MARCI JOHNSON, PETER O'LEARY, SARAH WELLS

What is the role of small poetry presses in the literary world today? What are they looking to publish? Who is the audience? How does a poetry collection come into being? And how do writers of faith navigate this literary landscape? Three editors discuss the joys and challenges of publishing poetry in today's marketplace.

Willow Room



An Interview with Marilynne Robinson

Thomas Gardner talks with Marilynne Robinson about the intersection of theology and fiction, individual perception, and moments of grace.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

Invisible Books

ANNA BROADWAY, LIL COPAN, JOHN WILSON

Good books are routinely lost in the shuffle. Three panelists highlight some recent works of non-fiction that deserve to be widely known—books that, in their unpredictable variety, suggest the riches to be found far afield from the glare of publicity.

Chapel Undercroft

I Once Was Lost . . . : Writing About Faith and Television in the Twenty-First Century

NIKKI STAFFORD

Faith and religion are not topics commonly associated with mainstream television shows, yet they feature in series as varied as *Friday Night Lights*, *The Simpsons*, *Glee*, *The Walking Dead*, *Battlestar Galactica*, and *Lost*. Nikki Stafford explores how one writes about culture through the lens of faith, especially when pop culture audiences range from the devoutly religious to fiercely atheistic, and everywhere in between. How does a writer gracefully handle religious discussions, especially online, where hostility can overtake calm discussion in an instant? And how can issues of faith be discussed in pop culture media without descending into religious wars?

Swets Choral Hall

The Music and Dance of Words and Pictures

ANDREA DAVIS PINKNEY

Author and publisher Andrea Davis Pinkney gives a behind-the-scenes look at how stories and illustrations come together to create award-winning books. Additionally, she provides a perspective on the process that happens inside a publishing house, from a book's acquisition through its publication.

Gezon Auditorium

The Poetry of Life: Susanna Childress and Julia Spicher Kasdorf in Conversation

Poets often draw from personal experiences in their work. While personal experience can provide poetry with a certain richness and familiarity, it also has the potential to limit and constrain one's work. Two poets read from their work and talk about the benefits and limitations of writing poetry from one's life.

Commons Lecture Hall

Publishing Books for Young Readers: A Conversation with Dinah Stevenson

What excites children's book publishers in today's market? What gets their attention in a book proposal? And how can aspiring writers of children's books navigate the world of publication? Editor Dinah Stevenson provides some insight and answers audience questions on the challenges—and joys—of publishing books for young readers.

Prince Board Room

Tensions of Voice and Style

LARRY WOIWODE

In the craft of writing, the concept of voice suggests an individuality that no other writer is able to match. It is a mark of distinction. But what exactly is voice? Is it style? Or is it more mysterious? Larry Woiwode explores the nature of voice and the ways in which it can be achieved.

Chapel

Truth Finds a Way

RIVER JORDAN

Sometimes the most difficult element for a writer to convey is the truth, whether that truth is part of the universal human experience or only a moment reflected in a memoir. Despite the struggles inherent with capturing truth in its myriad of forms, writers throughout history have sought through inspiration and determination to do exactly that by illuminating the page with the truths they discover. River Jordan shares how the meaning and nature of truth has influenced her fiction, her memoir, and her daily life.

Recital Hall

The Writer as Reader

KEVIN BROCKMEIER, BETHANY PIERCE, CAREY WALLACE

Novice writers typically receive two pieces of advice: write and read. But why read—and how? The authors in this session discuss the importance of reading for their own writing. Should writers choose and respond to their reading strategically? How does reading shape habits of thought and craft? How does it inspire writers with ideas and possibilities? Participants will be helped to rethink their reading habits—and maybe get some good reading recommendations in the process.

Seminary Auditorium

schedule . saturday, april 21

12:30–2:00 pm

lunch break

festival circles

For participants who pre-registered.
(See full listing, with room locations, on page 26.)

lunch forums (12:45–1:45 pm)

During the lunch break, we're offering several informal sessions—some readings, some discussions, some presentations. Grab your lunch and enjoy!

- **Building Toward a Book: How to Use Freelance Articles, Websites, and Other Writing Opportunities to Build a Platform for Getting Your Book Published**
SARAH CUNNINGHAM
Spoelhof Center 318
- **Copyright vs. the Creative Commons License: How We Can Work to Build a Culture of Sharing to Aid the Creative Spirit**
PHIL JELLEMA
Spoelhof Center 204
- **Cultivating Play and Mystery: A Discussion of Time and Practice**
SCOTT CAIRNS, MARILYN CHANDLER MCENTYRE,
WALTER WANGERIN, JR.
Spoelhof Center 210

2:00–3:00 pm

concurrent sessions

- **Beyond Backdrop: The Role of Place in Fiction**
ADAM SCHUITEMA
One of the ways fiction writers create the illusion of reality in their work is through the careful crafting of lifelike settings. In this session, Adam Schuitema discusses the ways in which place—whether interior or exterior, actual or invented—can enhance a story's characters, conflicts, and overall effect.
Seminary Chapel
- **Creating a Spiritual Will: Passing on Wisdom, Values, and Stories**
DANIEL TAYLOR
A spiritual legacy is the passing of wisdom from one generation or person to another. One form this can take is the spiritual will, an ancient practice of passing on values, insights, and life stories through a brief statement drawing on a lifetime of experience. This workshop guides participants in the creation of a spiritual will for those they care about.
Gezon Auditorium

• **How I Ended Up Writing About Religion: Not a Story of Religious Conviction**

DAVID VAN BIEMA

For about a decade, David Van Biema was the chief religion writer for *Time* magazine. And yet he was brought up in no faith and had very little contact with religion until he took up the beat in 1997. It has taken him fifteen years to figure out why this was, in fact, a natural step. The story involves three (or possibly four) Bibles.

Prince Board Room

• **An Interview with Shane Claiborne**

Karen Saupe talks with Shane Claiborne about collaborative writing, living in community, and typing with dirt under one's fingernails.

Chapel

• **Looking for God in All the Wrong Places: A Field Guide to North American Ghost Hunting**

TONY EARLEY

Popular culture today is saturated with stories of the paranormal. But what is the appeal of those stories? Why do they seem to resonate with so many people? Tony Earley explores the American fascination with the paranormal and wonders if it is really just a secularized search for God.

Seminary Auditorium

• **On the Pop Culture Frontier: Jana Riess and Nikki Stafford in Conversation**

As television shows and other pop culture forms explore spiritual questions with increasing depth and nuance, writers are helping to promote fascinating conversations in new genres and venues. Jana Riess and Nikki Stafford—both of whom write about pop culture—discuss the artistic challenges and rollicking good fun of these new frontiers in cultural commentary and spiritual insight.

Commons Lecture Hall

• **Personal, Political, and Prophetic Voices in Poetry of Faith**

JULIA SPICHER KASDORF

The first-person singular, the “I” of the lyric poem—our heritage from the Romantic poets—can seem, these days, to have fallen out of fashion. Poet Julia Spicher Kasdorf offers some resources from traditions of faith for those writers who wish to sustain an individual eye that sees and an “I” that speaks with vision and insight.

Willow Room

• **A Reading by Walter Wangerin, Jr.**

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium



 **Stewarding the Writer's Vocation**

SCOTT CAIRNS, LAN SAMANTHA CHANG, JAMAAL MAY

In what ways do graduate programs in creative writing help or hurt authors? When does it make sense to invest oneself in an academic community for literary training? What's at the heart (and soul) of the writer's education? Two graduate program faculty members and one student offer their perspectives on the advantages and disadvantages of a graduate degree for the creative writer.

Recital Hall

 **Surrender Your Treasures, Discover Your Story**

RICHARD JESSE WATSON

A children's book author/illustrator peels back the layers of his own journey from atheism to Christianity, exploring his dance with atheists, alchemists, angels, snails, and whales, and his encounters—through music, art, dance, and literature—with the Giver of Dreams.

Swets Choral Hall

3:00–3:30 pm

coffee break

Covenant Fine Arts Center Lower West Lobby, Gezon Auditorium Lobby, Hekman Library Lobby, Prince Conference Center Fireside Room

3:30–4:30 pm

concurrent sessions

 **The Beloved (Writing) Community**

BROMLEIGH MCCLENECHAN, JENNIFER MOLAND-KOVASH, KATHERINE WILLIS PERSHEY, ERICA SCHEMPER

How can a writing group serve both to spur individual growth and to encourage its members to respond to the call to write—a call that serves as a means to glorify God, inspire others, and work for justice? Just as Christians are nurtured and challenged in sacred community, so, too, are writers of faith. A group of four women—who view writing as part of their vocational calling—discuss how a writing group may function as a communal spiritual practice, from formation to fruition.

Commons Lecture Hall

 **An Interview with Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie**

Susan Van Zanten talks with Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie about the writing life, global citizenship, and the relationships between faith and fiction.

Chapel

 **An Interview with Clare Vanderpool**

Clare Vanderpool talks with Nancy Hull about the impact of family and friends on the life and work of a Newbery author.

Seminary Chapel

 **The Modern Parable: Using Storytelling in Song**

JOSH GARRELS

"Without a parable Jesus did not speak to them." To the perplexity of his disciples and the masses, Christ chose to unveil his radical kingdom through stories. So what does this reliance on stories mean for the Christian songwriter? What does it look like to follow in Christ's footsteps?

Prince Board Room

 **Navigating Faith and Work: Hollywood and the Writer**

SUSAN E. ISAACS, MARK RICHARD, SCOTT TEEMS

The panelists in this session, all of whom have written for the entertainment industry, will talk about Hollywood as both place and metaphor, asking how writers who are people of faith navigate a life of integrity while serving a television and film industry that is frequently indifferent, condescending, or hostile to faith. How can believers have say, avoid Hollywood stereotypes, bravely interrogate their own faith, and stay employed?

Seminary Auditorium

 **Reading and Writing the Stranger**

RUBÉN MARTINEZ

How do readers access literatures of globalization? How do writers approach subjects that transcend singular nationalities? Journalist Rubén Martínez leads a conversation on borders and the bridges over them.

Willow Room

 **A Reading by Kevin Brockmeier**

Chapel Undercroft

 **A Reading by Li-Young Lee**

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

 **The Wednesday Wars: A Reading**

(2.0 hours)

Based on the novel by Gary Schmidt and adapted by Kirsten Kelly and Brian Farish, this reading—presented by actors from the Calvin Theatre Company—brings to life the trials of Holling Hoodhood, the main character of *The Wednesday Wars*. It's 1968, and things couldn't be worse for Holling. His teacher hates him, his family is against him, and to top it off he has to wear yellow tights in a Shakespeare play. How will he ever survive seventh grade? Come and find out! The reading will be followed by a short discussion.

Gezon Auditorium

 **Writing as Spiritual Practice**

PAULA HUSTON

Is writing a spiritual activity, subject to particular vices and requiring the development of certain virtues? Paula Huston believes that it is—and that the practices it suggests are meant to help us safely handle our own creative power.

Recital Hall

schedule . saturday, april 21

5:00–5:30 pm

vespers

Join fellow Festival participants in a time of closing worship and reflection.

Chapel

7:30–8:30 pm

plenary session

The Magic and Craft of Fiction

CHIMAMANDA NGOZI ADICHIE

The Baron Lecture

Van Noord Arena

9:00 pm

evening activities

concert / Josh Garrels

This concert is presented in partnership with the Student Activities Office of Calvin College. Tickets are \$10 and may be purchased at the Calvin College Box Office, located on the main floor of the Covenant Fine Arts Center, on Thursday or Friday between 9:00 am and 5:00 pm.

Covenant Fine Arts Center Auditorium

