

# 2020 WordSpring Festival

May 22 - 24, 2020



St. Thomas University, 51 Dineen Drive, Fredericton, NB

Great Hall within the George Martin Hall Building

## DAY 1: Friday - May 22, 2020

1:00 pm–5:00 pm	REGISTRATION at St. Thomas University – Great Hall within George Martin Hall Bldg.
1:00 pm–3:00 pm	Meet & Greet hosted by the WFNB Board – St. Thomas University – Great Hall
2:00 pm–5:00 pm	WORKSHOP: Roger Moore – Poetry of Place
3:00 pm–5:00 pm	Member Book Launches St. Thomas University – Great Hall
5:00 pm–7:00 pm	Dinner on your own
7:00 pm–9:00 pm	Literary Soirée for Award Winners of WFNB Writing Competition (Great Hall) <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Host: Susan White</li><li>• Welcome by Shoshanna Wingate</li><li>• Music 7:00 – 7:30 by Emily Kennedy</li><li>• Finger foods and cash bar available</li></ul>
9:00 pm onward	Informal get-together

## Day 2: Saturday - May 23, 2020

8:00 am–9:00 am	St. Thomas University – Great Hall Complimentary breakfast, registration.	
9:00 am–12:00 pm	Roger Moore Workshop <i>Writing for Reading and Reading from Writing</i>	
10:00 am–12:00 pm	Lynn Davis Workshop <i>In and Out of a Book</i>	Susan White Workshop <i>Writing Workshop for Teens (ages 13 - 18)</i>
12:15 pm–1:30 pm	St. Thomas University – Great Hall Lunch Buffet & 2020 Annual General Meeting. All WFNB members are welcome. Includes election of directors. KEYNOTE : Ann Brennan – WFNB Honourary President (lunch included in registration fee)	
2:00 pm–3:00 pm	Jenn Carson Workshop <i>A Librarian is Your Best Ally: How to Promote Your Work to Libraries</i>	
2:00 pm–5:00 pm	Gerard Collins Workshop <i>On With the Show!</i>	
3:00 pm–5:00 pm	WFNB Board Meeting – board members only	
5:00 pm–6:00 pm	Dinner on your own	
6:00 pm	<b>New Brunswick Book Awards</b> Memorial Hall, University of New Brunswick, 9 Bailey Drive, Fredericton All are welcome to attend the annual award ceremony.	

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## Day 3: Sunday - May 24, 2020

8:00 am–9:00 am	Complimentary breakfast Great Hall within George Martin Hall Bldg. – St. Thomas University
9:00 am–12:00 pm	<b>Blue Pencil Café</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 20 minutes of one-on-one with a facilitator who reviews your work.</li><li>• <b>To register, you must sign up for this by May 1</b> by sending an email to <a href="mailto:info@wfnb.ca">info@wfnb.ca</a> with the genre to which you wish to submit.</li><li>• Submit 750 words of prose or 5 pages of poetry to <a href="mailto:info@wfnb.ca">info@wfnb.ca</a> by <b>May 8</b>.</li></ul>
10:00 am–12:00 pm	Panel – First Books with Jenna Lyn Albert, Douglas Walbourne-Gough, and Meghan Rose Allen
10:00 am–12:00 pm	Panel – Gaming Narratives for Fun and Profit with Alexa Fae McDaniel, Dennis Desroches, and Mike Tims
12:00 pm–2:00 pm	Lunch on your own
2:00 pm–4:00 pm	Very Odd Sunday WFNB Open Mic — Topsy Muse Café, 86 Regent Street, Fredericton Open to everyone, but please sign up ahead. <b>Sign up at registration.</b>
<b>Send Off and Thank you!!</b>	

## Workshops



### **In and Out of a Book** by Lynn Davis

**Saturday, May 23 @ 10am - Noon**

There's a powerful connection between making something with our hands and then facing the blank page or returning to a writing problem. In this 2 1/2 hour long workshop, we will construct a simple pocket book and then move on to writing meant to refresh the part of us that creates

and to remind us of the power in details, verbs, and images. You will leave with some writing to be pursued, a book to be filled, ideas to consider, and some new tools up your writing sleeve. All genres and all levels of experience welcome.

Lynn Davies is the author of three books of poetry. Her poems have been featured on CBC Radio and short-listed for a Governor General's Award and the Gerald Lampert Award. She also writes essays and reviews. Forthcoming this spring from Nimbus Publishing is a book of riddle poems for children entitled, "So Imagine Me". She lives in Fredericton.



### **On with the Show!** by Gerard Collins

**Saturday, May 23 @ 2pm – 5pm**

You've heard it over and over: show, don't tell. In fact, the ability to "show" instead of just telling separates mediocre writing from good, and good from the great.

Tell us something, and we might believe you. Show us, and we'll believe in your characters. Instead of telling us who they are, show us what they do, how they behave, and how they talk.

In writing fiction or nonfiction, the best way to make us care about your

characters and story is through precise diction, specific detail, and purposeful dialogue. Make us feel, understand, fear, and want. Make us sigh or smile when your protagonist and antagonist get what they deserve.

In this interactive workshop, we'll examine written examples of both showing and telling, discuss when it's time for one or the other, and learn how to engage readers. While there's a time to summarize, it's usually better to dramatize.

Gerard Collins is a Newfoundland writer who lives in southern New Brunswick. His first novel, *Finton Moon*, was nominated for the International Dublin Literary Award, Sunburst Award, the NL Heritage and History Award, and won the Percy Janes First Novel Award. In 2019, he turned the *Finton Moon* experience into a multimedia art exhibition, *The Book That Wrote Itself*. Gerard's short story collection, *Moonlight Sketches*, won the NL Book Award, and his stories have been published in journals and anthologies, adapted for radio, and taught in university. His new novel, *The Hush Sisters*, will be published by Breakwater Books in September 2020. A lecturer at Memorial University for two decades, Gerard has a Ph.D. in Gothic literature. He is an experienced leader of writing retreats and workshops in Canada, the United States, and Europe. Gerard lives in a cottage beside a lake where he mentors talented emerging writers, teaches university by distance, and writes. He is currently working on everything



## **A Librarian is your Best Ally: How To Promote Your Work to Libraries** by **Jenn Carson**

**Saturday, May 23 @ 2pm – 3pm**

How to market and sell/donate your books to libraries (public and academic) and make sure they are getting read. How you and/or your publisher classify your book's genre and subject affect how it is cataloged and where it is located in the library and who is reading it. How to organize book tours and author talks

with libraries (both public and academic) and get paid for them. Tips for dealing with librarians and library patrons. Library programming for writers including writer-in-residence programs, book clubs, writers' groups, and poetry readings. Tips for getting noticed for writers who self-publish or publish online content.

Jenn Carson is an internationally recognized expert in physical literacy, an award-winning author, and the director of the L.P. Fisher Public Library in Woodstock, New Brunswick, Canada. Her non-fiction book *Get Your Community Moving: Physical Literacy Programs for All Ages* (ALA, 2018) was released to critical acclaim, including a starred review in *School Library Journal*. Her second book *Yoga and Meditation at the Library: A Practical Guide for Librarians* (Rowman & Littlefield) was released June 2019. She also recently published a chapter on using digital resources to teach meditation in *Recipes for Mindfulness in Your Library: Supporting Resilience and Community Engagement* (ALA Editions, 2019). She blogs on contract for the American Library Association on the subject of library programming. In 2019, she was awarded both the Library Journal Movers & Shakers Award and the Atlantic Provinces Library Association Advocacy Award for her writing promoting movement-based programs in libraries. She is currently at work on a book about adult library programs for Rowman & Littlefield. In addition to her non-fiction work she has had 33 poems published (or accepted) in journals and anthologies. In 2017 she was shortlisted for the Iceland Writers Retreat Alumni Award (poetry). In 2018 she was labelled by Amplify East as a "remarkable woman making a difference in Atlantic Canada" for writing and teaching, and in 2019 she was nominated for the Best New Poets anthology.



## **Writing Workshop for Teens (ages 13-18) \*** By **Susan White**

**Saturday, May 23 @ 10am – Noon**

Award-winning author Susan White will share her experiences and offer insights to improving your craft and working toward publication. She will bring her twenty-nine years of experience teaching writing to elementary school students. She will challenge the young writer to a

realistic look at the challenges of a writing career and the personal rewards of following a dream. Every participant will be gifted with a journal.

**\*this workshop is for Teen Writers**

Susan White's first book *The Year Mrs. Montague Cried* was published in 2011. It won the Ann Connor Brimer Excellence in Children's Literature award in 2012. Three more Y/A novels, *Ten Thousand Truths*, *The Sewing Basket* and *The Memory Chair* followed. Her first adult novel *Waiting For Still Water* was released in June 2016 and her second adult novel *Maple Sugar Pie* in 2017. Her Y/A novel *Headliner* was released in 2018 and was shortlisted for the Mrs. Dunster Fiction NB Book award in 2019. *Fear of Drowning* was released in 2019 and her latest release is the adult novel *When the Hill Came Down*.

## Poetry of Place by Roger Moore

Friday, May 22 @ 2pm – 5pm

The Introduction will offer a brief definition of the poetry of place with comments on zeitgeist, chronotopos, sacred spaces, and poetry of place in general. NB Poetry of Place occurs in both poetry and prose. This is a workshop for any and all creative writers who seek to improve their writing, whatever the genre. Topics will include (1) The Poetry of Sacred Space. (2) The Poetry of Urban Space.

(3) The Poetry of Sea Space and Shore. (4) The Poetry of Ancient Monuments. The workshop will end with selected readings by participants. Objectives: (1) To be aware of the nature of space within the limitations of zeitgeist and chronotopos and to understand how to interpret it. (2) To create four brief pieces as described above. (3) To meet as many writers as possible in small group interaction.



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## Writing for Reading and Reading from Writing by Roger Moore

Saturday, May 23 @ 9am – Noon

Many writers talk about their ‘voice’ and finding their ‘voice’ but what exactly is ‘your voice’, and where do you find it? This workshop will begin with some examples of poetic voice that show how the written word may be linked to the spoken word. Several meanings can be attached to the concept of ‘voice’ and a simple methodology for locating and improving ‘voice’ will be offered. Objectives: (1) To be aware of the nature of voice, both as a writer and as of a reader and to and to understand how to develop it. (2)

To meet as many writers as possible in small group interaction and to share work with different voices in an oral setting. (3) To polish four short pieces (poetry or prose) by reading them aloud and listening to them being read aloud.

**Participation: Participants should bring four brief pieces of their own poetry (10-20 lines) or prose (100 - 150 words) for workshopping in an oral setting.**

Roger Moore is an award-winning poet and short story writer. He has twice been a finalist in the CBC short story competition and has received the WFNB Alfred G. Bailey Award for poetry on two occasions. His short story collection *Bistro* was one of three finalists in the WFNB book awards (2016). Roger has published 5 collections of short stories, 19 poetry books, and 11 chapbooks. He is also a 3M National Teaching Fellow (2000), an AAU Distinguished Teacher (1997), and a member of the Institución Gran Duque de Alba, Ávila, Spain. To find out more about Moore you can follow this [link](#).

# First Book Panel

with Jenna Lyn Albert, Douglas Walbourne-Gough and Meghan Rose Allen  
Sunday, May 24 @ 10 am - Noon

A lively discussion on first books. What do you wish someone had told you before your first book came out? Panelists will discuss their own experiences with publishing their first books, including their expectations as emerging authors and what they learned along the way. What can you expect from your publisher? What will they do to market your book and what are you expected to contribute? What platforms work and which are less helpful. Moderated by WFNB executive director, Shoshanna Wingate.



Jenna Lyn Albert is a poet and proud acadienne living in Fredericton, New Brunswick. Albert has a Masters in Creative Writing from the University of New Brunswick and is a member of *The Fiddlehead's* editorial board. Her debut collection of poetry, *Bec & Call*, was published with Nightwood Editions in September 2018. She is currently serving a two-year term as the City of Fredericton's Poet Laureate (2019-2020).



Douglas Walbourne-Gough is a poet and mixed/adopted Mi'kmaw from Corner Brook, Newfoundland. His poetry has appeared in journals and magazines across Canada and he's recently found some success writing reviews and essays. His first collection, *Crow Gulch*, was published with Goose Lane's icehouse poetry imprint (Sept 2019). He holds an MFA in Creative Writing (UBC Okanagan) and is currently pursuing a PhD in Creative Writing (UNB Fredericton).



Meghan Rose Allen has a PhD in Mathematics from Dalhousie University. In a previous life, she was a cog in the military-industrial complex. Now she lives in New Brunswick and writes. Her short work has appeared in *The Fieldstone Review*, *FoundPress*, *The Puritan*, and *The Rusty Toque*, amongst others, and her first novel *Enid Strange* is published by DCB/Cormorant and was a finalist for the New Brunswick Book Awards. One can find her online at [www.reluctantm.com](http://www.reluctantm.com).

# Gaming Narratives for Fun and Profit Panel

with Alexa Fae McDaniel, Dennis Desroches and Mike Tims

Sunday, May 24 @ 10 am – Noon

**PUBLIC EVENT**

Role-playing board games (i.e. Dungeons and Dragons). MMOGs (Massively Multiplayer Online Games). LARPing (Live Action Role Playing). All these hugely popular game phenomena begin with stories that the players then expand and evolve. All three have also provided the inspiration for published novels and stories. Panelists Mike Tims, Alexa Fae McDaniel and Dennis Desroches will explore the relationship between storytelling and games both as social phenomena and as potential sources of income.



## Tabletop Game Design, Writing, and Publishing on Online Marketplaces

Tabletop roleplaying games are a big part of what sparked Alexa Fae McDaniel's interest in writing, so it's no wonder that she "grew up" to write TTRPGs themselves. She's a member of the #RPGSEA and #SWORDDREAM indie publishing communities, has worked with New Agenda Publishing's Orun RPG, and runs a regular game of Vampire the Masquerade at Comic Hunter. You can find her tweeting about the merits of rolling two six-sided dice instead of one twenty-sided die at @Lexi\_the\_Fae



## The "Other" Game Studies: Collaborative Narratives at the Table and in Print

Dennis Desroches has been teaching at St. Thomas University for sixteen years. He has been gaming, however, for more than forty. His discussion today represents an attempt to marry the job he likes with the hobby he loves in the happiest possible way. He knows the risks. . .



## Crowdfunding, Game Design and Storytelling

Mike Tims is the proprietor of Fredericton's Comic Hunter. He loves games.

## Our Sponsors



WordSpring 2020 has received generous support from St. Thomas University. We thank them for their grants and contributions and are excited to welcome all our attendees to St. Thomas University this year.



We gratefully acknowledge the generous and ongoing support of the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture; and the New Brunswick Department of Education and Early Childhood Development.

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# St. Thomas University Campus Map

