

NEWS RELEASE

Youth and the community at the heart of the 23rd Frye Festival

More than 65 school visits to take place in Greater Moncton and elsewhere in NB

(Moncton, Tuesday, April 12, 2022) Youth and the community are at the heart of the Frye Festival, Atlantic Canada's largest bilingual literary event. As such, highlights of the 2022 festival include the Youth Program's triumphant return, as well as the inauguration of the *Writers in the Community* program, which promotes a love of words and literature in Greater Moncton and beyond. The [Frye Festival](#) will take place from April 21 to May 1.

Bringing authors and their stories to people where they live

A brand-new program supported by TD Bank Group, *Writers in the Community* will enable the Frye to reach new groups and communities seeking equity, whose members may not usually be able to take part in the Festival. The objective is to reach hundreds of new festivalgoers each year while also promoting reading and literacy.

During the Frye, a dozen private activities will take place in various communities throughout the province. Several public events will also be recorded, subtitled and broadcast at a later date in partnership with community partners. Through these initiatives, the Festival hopes to reach several groups and communities, including recent immigrants, adult learners, incarcerated people, LGBTQ2S+ individuals, youth, and rural New Brunswickers. This year, the recorded activities include two bilingual roundtables: **Fragmented Narratives** and **Writing Upstream**.

The Frye has forged partnerships with various community organizations in Atlantic Canada who will host *Writers in the Community* activities, including MAGMA, the CAFI, and South East Adult Education in Moncton; the NB Women's Correctional Centre in Miramichi; Caraquet's Acadie Love festival; and the King's Co-op Bookstore in Halifax. Several Storytime events are also a part of *Writers in the Communities* program.

Authors in the schools!

This year, students from 17 municipalities throughout New Brunswick will welcome authors in their classrooms, in person and virtually. These visits are the perfect opportunity for youth to learn more about what it takes to be a writer, and often motivate many to put pen to paper for the first time.

This year, 33 schools are taking part in the municipalities of Moncton, Dieppe, Riverview, Miramichi, Grand-Barachois, Notre-Dame, Salisbury, St. Andrews, Memramcook, Tracadie-Sheila, Petitcodiac, Saint John, Fredericton, Baie-Sainte-Anne, Saint-Louis-de-Kent, Bouctouche, and Cocagne.

The Frye Festival's **Storytime** events are always a highlight for young festivalgoers and their families. This year, in English, **Jon-Erik Lappano** will read from his book, *Martin and the River* (for children ages 3 to 6), at 3 p.m. on Saturday, April 23, at the Royal Canadian Legion in Petitcodiac; **Sara O'Leary** (*A Kid is a Kid is a Kid*) will meet with children ages 3 to 5 years old at the Riverview Public Library, on Saturday, April 30, at 9 a.m., and at the Sackville Public Library on Saturday, April 30, at 11 a.m. Kids from ages 3 to 5 will also fall in love with *The Doll*, written and presented by author **Nhung N. Tran-Davies** at the Moncton Public Library on Saturday, April 30, at 11 a.m.

Winners of the **Provincial Creative Writing Contest** will be announced on Friday, April 22, during **Prelude**, presented at 5:30 p.m. at the Aberdeen Cultural Centre. The awards ceremony will be followed by musical performances by Words on Stage participants, including Amélie Gautreau, an Accros de la chanson finalist, as well as readings by emerging writers from New Brunswick.

On Saturday, April 23, kids are invited to fill out their literary passport and dive into the world of books during **KidsFest**. Many fun activities are on the menu, including storytimes with authors **Jon-Erik Lappano** and **Nathalie Dion**, as well as many surprises. This fun word party for children ages 2 to 10 will take place at the Moncton Public Library and the Blue Cross Centre, from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

The **Imagination at Work** exhibit, featuring drawings and texts by students from kindergarten to grade 4, will be open to the public from April 23 to May 1, at the Moncton, Dieppe and Riverview public libraries.

On Saturday, April 23, **Budding Writers** will feature students in grades 5 to 8 reading their own original works, as well as guest authors **Jennifer McGrath** and **Baron Marc-André Lévesque** reading from their latest books. The event will take place at Resurgo Place at 5:30 p.m.

The complete **2022 Frye Festival Program** is available at www.frye.ca. Admission to youth and family events is free (with the exception of **Prelude**, to which admission is ticketed on a pay-what-you-can basis).

The Frye Festival's Youth program is presented thanks to generous partners such as Encorp Atlantic, the French General Consulate in Moncton and Halifax, the City of Moncton, the Société culturelle Kent-Sud, New Brunswick Deaf and Hard of Hearing Services Inc., the Secrétariat du Québec aux relations canadiennes, the New Brunswick Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture, and the Festival international de poésie de Trois-Rivières.