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2009

Nebraska Book Festival

Nebraska Writers: Cultivating Creativity

November 14

Lincoln, Nebraska



Presenters

J.V. Brummels is a recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts Literature Fellowship and the Mildred Bennett Award for contributions to the literature of Nebraska. A member of the English Department of Wayne State College, he has directed the Plains Writers Series, edited *Nebraska Territory*, is an independent publisher, and runs a horseback cattle operation.

Sean Doolittle grew up in southeastern Nebraska. He is the award-winning author of *Dirt, Burn, Rain Dogs*, and *The Cleanup*. Doolittle was named the Nebraska Literary Heritage Association Honorary Author Member for 2007-08. He holds a Master of Arts degree from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, where he won the Mari Sandoz Prize for his fiction.

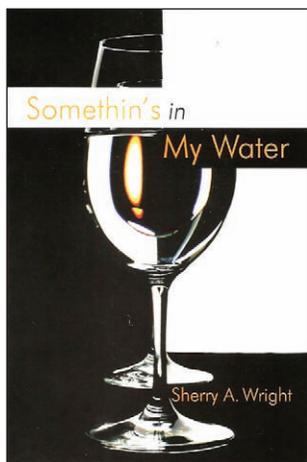
Kelly Madigan Erlandson (Workshop Facilitator) has worked since 1983 as a drug and alcohol counselor and is the award-winning author of *Getting Sober: A Practical Guide to Making it Through the First 30 Days*. She is also a poet and essayist whose work has been published in literary magazines and anthologies. She received a 2008 National Endowment for the Arts Fellowship and a Distinguished Artist Award from the Nebraska Arts Council. She also won first place in the 2009 International Reginald Shepherd Memorial Poetry Prize.

Photographer **Michael Forsberg** grew up in Nebraska and is dedicated to working extensively in the prairies of the Great Plains. His work has appeared in such publications as *National Geographic*, *Audubon*, *Natural History*, and *National Wildlife* and in books published by National Geographic and Smithsonian, among others.

Allison Hedge Coke holds the Distinguished Paul W. Reynolds and Clarice Kingston Reynolds Endowed Chair in Poetry as an Associate Professor of Poetry and Writing at the University of Nebraska at Kearney, where she directs the Reynolds Reading Series and Sandhill Crane Migration Retreat. Hedge Coke has edited numerous poetry collections and is editing a two-book series of emerging indigenous writing. She is Huron and Cherokee, French Canadian and Portuguese, and came of age working in fields, waters, and factories.

William Kloefkorn was named the Nebraska State Poet by proclamation of the Unicameral in 1982. A retired professor of English at Nebraska Wesleyan University in Lincoln, he is the author of many collections of poetry, four memoirs, two collections of short fiction, and other books.

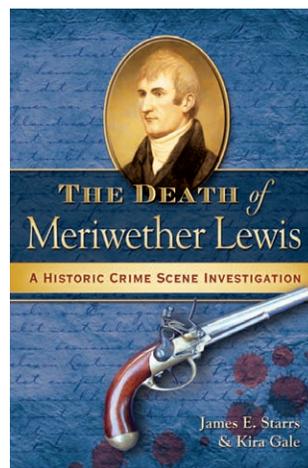
Ted Kooser, a two-time U.S. Poet Laureate (2004-2006), is the author of ten collections of poetry, including *Delights & Shadows*, which won the 2005 Pulitzer Prize for Poetry. His other honors include two National Endowment for the Arts fellowships, a Pushcart Prize, and the Stanley Kunitz Prize from Columbia University. He teaches in the English department of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln as a visiting professor.



For ages poetry has been used as an outlet to express the inner affections of the hearts of those in love. While those affections can be hard to describe on paper, Sherry Wright has done it with ease and seems to capture the true human emotions that go along with such passionate sentiments.

Wright wrote each poem as a script, allowing the reader to become the “actor” and feel the range on emotions as they read her heartfelt words. Wright’s melodic poems came from what she calls “inspiredwordsoul” which is a mixture of inspiration, imagination and emotions.

Although the poems are about relationships, they are not limited to the romantic kind. Many of the poems have a variety of meanings, and Wright leaves it up to the reader to interpret each as they choose. “I tell people to read *Somethin's in My Water* aloud in order to actually feel the message and emotions.” Poetry buffs and novices alike can appreciate and connect with the easy-read style of Wright’s poems. She effortlessly puts into words the emotions relationships evoke, yet many times are difficult to voice. “You’ve heard of 3D movies...This is 3D emotions”



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Harley Jane Kozak (Workshop Facilitator) grew up in Nebraska, attended New York University's graduate acting program, and starred in fifty plays, ten feature films, and a dozen TV movies, series, and miniseries. She lives in California with her three children, two dogs, and a cat. *A Date You Can't Refuse* is the fourth in her Wollie Shelley Mysteries series. Kozak taught a writers' workshop at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln's 2008 Nebraska Summer Writers' Conference.

The Loren Eiseley Society encourages interest in and knowledge of Eiseley's work and preserves material about Eiseley's life and writing. *The Loren Eiseley Reader* includes Eiseley's most popular essays in a single collection. Noted author Ray Bradbury wrote the foreword to this collection.

Teresa Lorensen, Director of the Bess Streecher Aldrich Foundation, will moderate a discussion of the 2009 One Book One Nebraska selection, *A Lantern in Her Hand* by Bess Streecher Aldrich.

Mary Pipher — After decades as a psychotherapist and best-selling author of such life-changing books as *Reviving Ophelia* and *The Shelter of Each Other*, Dr. Mary Pipher turns her attention to herself in *Seeking Peace: Chronicles of the Worst Buddhist in the World*, collecting insights from her own life to illuminate the importance of the journey, not just the destination.

Ladette Randolph is director of the journal *Ploughshares* and a Distinguished Publisher-in-Residence in the Writing, Literature, and Publishing at Emerson College, Boston. Formerly of the University of Nebraska Press, she is the author of the novel *A Sandhills Ballad*, the short story collection *This Is Not the Tropics*, and editor of two anthologies. She is the recipient of the Pushcart prize, a Rona Jaffe Foundation grant, two Nebraska Book Awards, and the Virginia Faulkner Award from Prairie Schooner.

Hilda Raz was born in Rochester, New York, educated at Boston University, and moved to Nebraska in 1963. She has served as editor, scholar, and fellow at the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference, and is a past president of the Association of Writers & Writing Programs (AWP). She is a professor of English and women's and gender studies at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she is the Glenna Luschei Endowed Editor-in-Chief of *Prairie Schooner*.

Don Welch continues to pursue his dual, life-long professional passions as poet and educator, after a distinguished 38-year career in the University of Nebraska at Kearney's English Department, Reynolds Professor of Poetry, Emeritus. His most recent work is *When Memory Gives Dust a Face*. He is a winner of the Pablo Neruda Prize for Poetry.

Stephanie Grace Whitson pursues a full-time writing and speaking career from her home studio in Lincoln. Whitson's fiction titles have appeared on the ECPA bestseller list numerous times and have been finalists for the Christy Award, the Inspirational Reader's Choice Award, and *ForeWord Magazine's* Book of the Year.

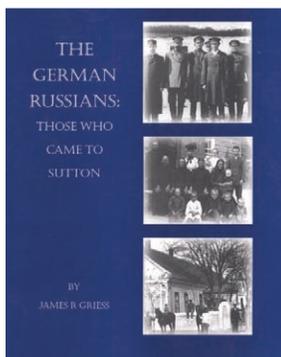


The German Russians by James R. Griess
During the later part of the 18th Century and through the middle of the 19th Century, large numbers of Germans peasant farmers migrated to Russia to avoid the political and religious wars plaguing Western Europe. They were invited to Russia by Catherine the Great and by her grandson, Tzar Alexander I. They settled in German speaking villages along the coast of the Black Sea and in the Volga river valley. Beginning in the 1870s, having failed to find the enduring political and religious freedoms that they sought, many subsequently migrated to the United States, Canada, and Latin America. Pioneers on two continents, the German Russians represent an interesting example of the strength, courage, and determination of the people who built America. Many

German Russians, attracted by homestead land and land grant holdings being sold by the UPRR and Burlington Railroad, settled in Nebraska.

Three hundred thirty five pages in length, the book is richly illustrated with photographs, charts, and maps. The German Russians brilliantly portrays the broad scope of German Russian history in Russia and the US. This historical treasure includes the motives behind the migration to Russia and the economic, political, social, and religious institutions developed. It is also the history of the

Burlington Railroad in Nebraska in the post Civil War period and the history of Sutton, Nebraska. **Available from Jim Griess, 8707 NW 70th St, Malcolm, NE 68402. jrgriess@windstram.net \$33.50 includes taxes and shipping**

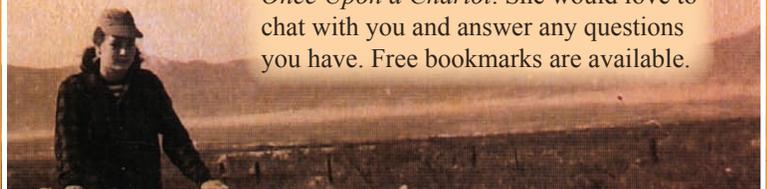


ONCE UPON A CHARIOT



A true story about Norma Jean Belloff, who established the USA Women's Record for Cross Country Bicycling in 1948

Author Iris Paris invites you to visit her table to view her mother's trophy, photos and documents pertaining to her book, *Once Upon a Chariot*. She would love to chat with you and answer any questions you have. Free bookmarks are available.



Schedule

Time	Auditorium	Gilmore Room	Investigation Station	Lobby	
8:00 a.m.		NCB Annual Meeting (8:00 - 9:00)			
8:30				Registration (8:30 - 9:00)	
9:00	New Works in 2009: Readings by Nebraska Writers Mary Pipher (9:15 - 9:45) Harley Jane Kozak (10:00 - 10:30) Michael Forsberg (10:45 - 11:15)	Writers' Workshop I Kelly Madigan Erlandson (9:00 - 11:00)	New Works in 2009: Readings by Nebraska Writers Hilda Raz (9:15 - 9:45) The Loren Eiseley Society (10:00 - 10:30) Sean Doolittle (10:45 - 11:15)	Registration, Vendors, Exhibitors, Author Signings, Talk Back Board (9:00 - 11:15)	
9:30					
10:00					
10:30					
11:00					
11:30	Celebrating Creativity through Literature Festival Luncheon @ Chez Hay, 210 N. 14th Street Nebraska Book Awards, Mildred Bennett Award, Jane Geske Award, Readings by Nebraska Book Award Winners (11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.)				
12:00					
12:30					
1:00					
1:30					
2:00	Roundtable Discussion with Nebraska Poets (2:00 - 3:00)			Registration, Vendors, Exhibitors, Author Signings, Talk Back Board (2:00 - 4:00)	
2:30					
3:00	New Works in 2009: Readings by Nebraska Writers Allison Hedge Coke (3:15 - 3:45)	Writers' Workshop II Harley Jane Kozak (3:15 - 5:15)	New Works in 2009: Readings by Nebraska Writers Ladette Randolph (3:15 - 3:45) J.V. Brummels (4:00 - 4:30) Stephanie Grace Whitson (4:45 - 5:15)		
3:30					
4:00	One Book One Nebraska Discussion (4:00 - 5:00)				
4:30					
5:00					
5:30					
6:00	Hosted Readings				
6:30	@ núVibe Juice & Java, 126 N. 14th Street				
7:00	Invited writers read from their works (6:00 - 8:00)				
7:30	Open Mic with Writers' Workshop students and other writers (8:00 - ?)				
8:00					

Evening Scheduled Readers

Hosted Readings

@ núVibe Juice & Java, 126 N. 14th Street. Invited writers read from their works (6:00 - 8:00)

echopoético, with Dominique Garay and

Oscar Rios Pohirieth

Beth Gillespie

Ryan Johnson

Lisa Knopp

Greg Kosmicki

Clara Kucera

Marjorie Saiser

Sam Stecher

Open Mic with Writers' Workshop students
and other writers (8:00 - ?)

Festival Map



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Award Winners

The Nebraska Book Awards program, sponsored by the Nebraska Center for the Book (NCB) and supported by the Nebraska Library Commission, recognizes and honors books that are written by Nebraska authors, published by Nebraska publishers, set in Nebraska, or concerning Nebraska.

2009 Book Award winners:

Cover/Design/Illustration

BVH Architects: Forty Years,
by Suzanne Smith Arney
Publisher: Omaha Books,
a division of Eventive Marketing, LLC
Designer: Elizabeth Murphy
Cover Photo: Fashid Assassi

Cover/Design/Illustration Honor

The Death of Raymond Yellow Thunder,
by Stew Magnuson
Publisher: Texas Tech University Press
Designer: Lindsay Starr
Cover Photo: John Vachon

Fiction

Exiles, by Ron Hansen
Publisher: Picador: Farrar, Straus, and Giroux

Nonfiction

The Death of Raymond Yellow Thunder,
by Stew Magnuson
Publisher: Texas Tech University Press

Nonfiction Honor

Nebraska's Cowboy Trail, by Keith Terry
Publisher: University of Nebraska Press

Poetry

Geographia, by James Magorian
Publisher: Black Oak Press

Mildred Bennett Award

TBA... The Nebraska Center for the Book's Mildred Bennett Award recognizes an individual who has made a significant contribution to fostering the literary tradition in Nebraska. Its purpose is to remind us all of the literary and intellectual traditions that enrich our lives and mold our world.

Jane Geske Award

TBA... The Nebraska Center for the Book's Jane Geske Award recognizes a Nebraska association, organization, business, library, school, academic institution, or other group that has made an exceptional, long-term contribution to one or more of these fields in Nebraska: literacy, reading, book selling, books, libraries, and writing.

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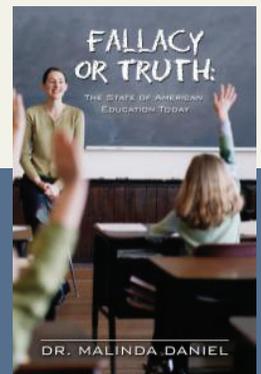
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Kevin Simonson

Usborne Books and More, Stacy Goes
Valerie Vierk
Willa Cather Foundation
Sherry Wright
WriteLife, LLC

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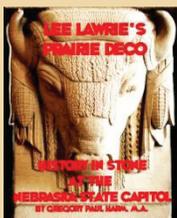
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Prairie Schooner



If you love Nebraska, and its Capitol, you need this book! In November 1934, seventy-five years ago last week, *more than 12 years* of sculpting stone on the Capitol was finally completed. The whole world loves and admires our Capitol, yet almost no one has ever heard of the shy genius who created *The Sower*, Lee Lawrie.

Lee Lawrie was Goodhue's chief architectural sculptor for nearly thirty years. He created almost all the works of unique Art Deco sculpture at the Capitol, yet somehow, he managed to fly completely under history's radar. A sculptor for nearly seventy years—from the Gaslight Era until the Space Age—this was the largest sculptural commission of his life.

Discover who he was; how he thought and worked, and how this early Art Deco pioneer came to illustrate the glories of the prairie, the Native American past, the history of law, and the lessons of how our democracy was born. Learn why all of these stories are still so relevant today.

"Lee Lawrie's Prairie Deco: History in Stone at the Nebraska State Capitol" ©2009. Written and photographed by former Lincolnite Gregory Paul Harm, M.A. For Nebraskans (and others) all ages. *Get it now*, in soft or hardbound at the Museum Store, online through www.leelawrie.com, www.bisonwerks.com or preview and buy it online at www.blurb.com.



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