



CELEBRATING THE CITY'S AUTHORS: TORONTO LIT UP ANNOUNCES SPRING SEASON

Today, the [Toronto International Festival of Authors \(TIFA\)](#) announced the 18 new titles selected for the Spring season of [Toronto Lit Up 2025-2026](#). The programme is a joint initiative with [Toronto Arts Council](#) that spotlights Toronto writers through supporting and promoting their book launch celebrations, bringing together communities of readers across the city.

The Spring season will take place between April 2025 and September 2025, and features new works for adults and young people from debut and established Toronto authors. Each author has a different story to tell and a different way to tell it, from a photography book by a former astronaut to the history of all your favourite Canadian punk bands. Discover the stories that capture the iconic character of Toronto's neighbourhoods and the wealth of cultures that meet on our streets. From bookstores to bars, clubs to coffee shops, Toronto Lit Up has a book launch for everyone's TBR needs.

The following new books will be featured:

- Matt Bobkin & Adam Feibel – [*In Too Deep: When Canadian Punks Took Over the World*](#) (House of Anansi)
- Dr. Roberta L. Bondar – [*Space for Birds: Patterns and Parallels of Beauty and Flight*](#) (Figure1Publishing)
- Matteo L. Cerilli – [*Bad in the Blood*](#) (Tundra Books)
- Catherine Bush – [*Skin*](#) (Goose Lane Editions)
- Antonio Michael Downing – [*Black Cherokee*](#) (Simon & Schuster)
- Alice Fitzpatrick – [*A Dark Death*](#) (Stonehouse Publishing)
- Farah Ghafoor – [*Shadow Price: Poems*](#) (House of Anansi)
- Kid Haile – [*Sometimes I Eat with My Hands*](#) (Groundwood Books)
- Maika Harper, illustrated by Kaja Kajfež – [*The First Peoples*](#) (Inhabit Media)
- Maggie Helwig – [*Encampment: Resistance, Grace, and an Unhoused Community*](#) (Coach House Books)
- Joelle Kidd – [*Jesusland: Stories from the Upside Down World of Christian Pop Culture*](#) (ECW Press)
- Hajer Mirwali – [*Revolutions*](#) (Talonbooks)
- Jacob McArthur Mooney – [*The Northern*](#) (ECW Press)
- Vinh Nguyen – [*The Migrant Rain Falls in Reverse*](#) (HarperCollins Canada)
- Charlie Petch – [*Infinite Audition*](#) (Brick Books)

- Miranda Schreiber – [*Iris and the Dead*](#) (Book*hug Press)
- Teri Vlassopoulos – [*Living Expenses*](#) (Invisible Publishing)
- Tamla T. Young, illustrated by Raz Latif – [*Ready, Set, Mango!*](#) (Owlkids)

Events to launch and celebrate these titles will take place in person across Toronto from April to September. All events will be free to attend and open to the public. Stay tuned for dates and details to come at FestivalofAuthors.ca.

Between April 2016 and March 2024, Toronto Lit Up has presented over 200 events featuring over 250 Toronto authors and illustrators.

- **From the Toronto Arts Council**

“Partnering with TIFA to amplify the work of Toronto authors and illustrators is something we are very proud to do. Toronto Lit Up not only generates excitement for published work, but it promotes and further strengthens our city’s rich literary community. Congratulations to the authors and illustrators who are taking part in this season of Toronto Lit Up!”

– **Kelly Langgard**, Director & CEO, Toronto Arts Council and Toronto Arts Foundation.

The Committee

Each submission is reviewed by the Toronto Lit Up Committee, composed of **Ian Keteku** (Creative Writing Instructor, OCAD U), **Samia Madwar** (Senior Editor, *The Walrus*), **Hazel Millar** (Co-Publisher, Book*hug) and **Roland Gulliver** (Director, Toronto International Festival of Authors).

How to get involved:

To keep up to date on announcements, upcoming events and submission periods, follow us on social media at [@festofauthors](https://twitter.com/festofauthors) and subscribe to our [e-newsletter](#).

About the Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA)

Join us at the Toronto International Festival of Authors (TIFA), to celebrate with stories from Toronto and around the world. Discover new stories, meet your favourite authors, imagine new worlds and delve into exciting ideas. We create imaginative and inspiring experiences for people of all ages and interests, no matter what types of stories you enjoy. At TIFA, immerse yourself in the joy of storytelling that spans boundaries, showcases fresh perspectives, and ignites creativity and imagination in us all. Whether you love fiction or non-fiction, sci-fi or romance, picture books or YA, there’s a story for you!

TIFA is grateful for the support of the Government of Canada – Department of Canadian Heritage; the Canada Council for the Arts; the Ontario Arts Council; the Toronto Arts Council; and Ontario Creates. Lead philanthropic support is generously provided by the Global Authors Club: Gail and Mark Appel, The Marilyn and Charles Baillie Family Foundation, The Lynn and Brent Belzberg Foundation, The Bennett Family Foundation, The Honourable Nicole Eaton, The L’Heureux Family Foundation, Harriet Lewis and Eldon Bennett, Beth Nowers and Jack Curtin, The Ouellette Family Foundation, Nalini and Tim Stewart, The Mary Jane and Paul Torrie Foundation.

About Toronto Arts Council (TAC)

Toronto Arts Council (TAC) is the City of Toronto’s funding body for artists and arts organizations. Since 1974, TAC has offered innovative and responsive programs, enabling artists and arts organizations to explore, create and thrive. With funding of over \$25 million annually, TAC grants lead to exhibitions, performances, readings and workshops seen each year by over five million people across the city. TAC is proud to play a leadership role in fostering Toronto’s dynamic and diverse arts scene. www.torontoartscouncil.org

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Media Contact

Shae Loeffelholz, media@festivalofauthors.ca

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