



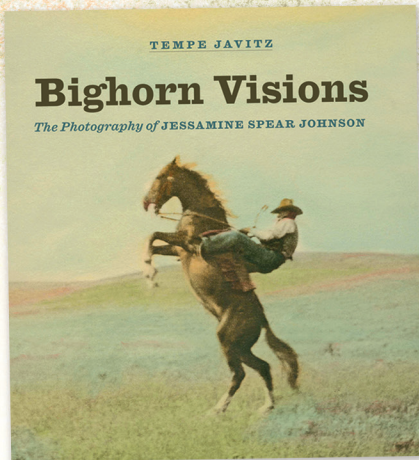
2023 SOUTH DAKOTA
FESTIVAL of **BOOKS**

SDBookFestival.com | Deadwood, SD

September 22–24, 2023

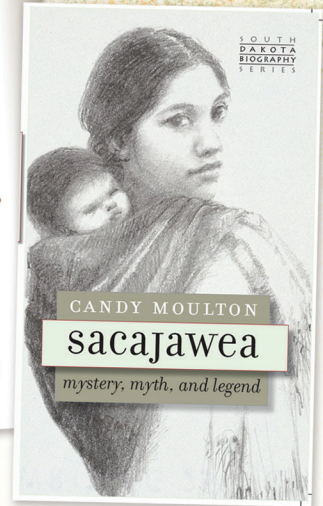
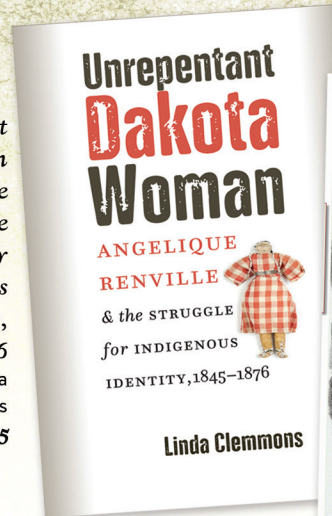
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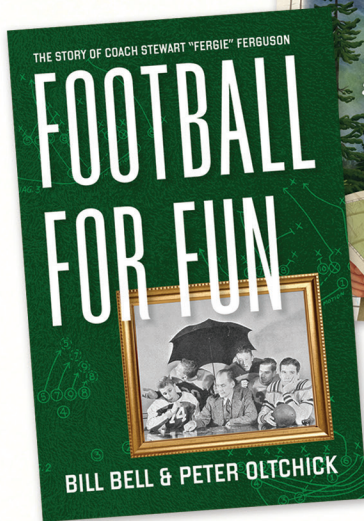
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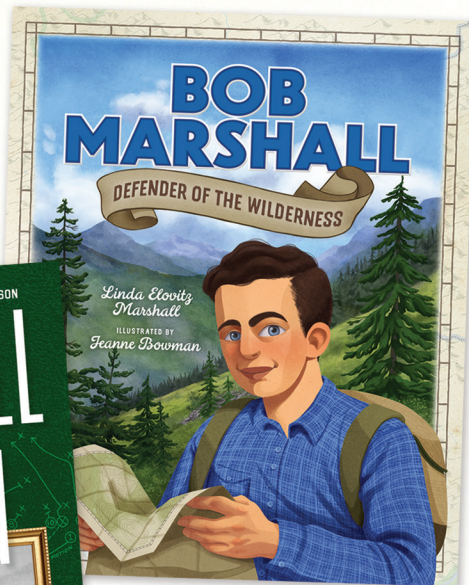


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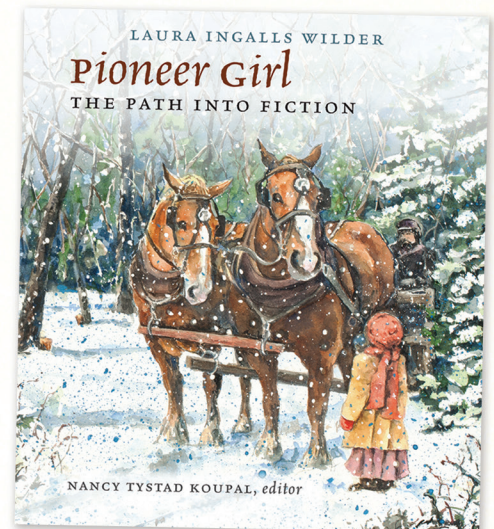
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A red handprint, added to Spearfish artist Gary Steinley's painting, indicates solidarity with Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons. This symbol, typically painted across the mouth, represents missing persons whose voices cannot be heard.

Check SDBookFestival.com and visit the SDHC booth in Exhibitors' Hall at the Festival for your chance to win this original painting!

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Stay Connected

View the schedule, changes to the author roster and other news at SDBookFestival.com or on the SD Humanities Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages. Use [#sdbookfest](https://twitter.com/sdbookfest) when commenting or to view others' comments.

The South Dakota Festival of Books
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Explore the Roughlock Falls Nature Area in Spearfish Canyon; an outdoor wonder that is impressive and unique to the Black Hills.

Roughlock Falls Photo Courtesy South Dakota Tourism



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WELCOME...

Festival of Books Visitors

I have the privilege as Mayor of the City of Deadwood to welcome you to our community for the 21st Annual South Dakota Festival of Books. Since the inception of this event in 2003, Deadwood has been the host city each odd-numbered year. The City of Deadwood, Deadwood's Historic Preservation Commission, and the Deadwood City Library are pleased to partner with the South Dakota Humanities Council to present this book festival.

The list of presenters is both long and impressive. Book lovers will have an opportunity to listen to a diverse group of authors from around the country.

There are many historical and cultural sites to visit throughout the City of Deadwood. We encourage you visit each and every one. Included in the list are the Days of '76 Museum, the Adams House, the Adams Museum, the Brothel Museum, Mount Moriah, the Broken Boot Gold Mine, the History and Information Center, the Welcome Center and Outlaw Square.

We look forward to having you join us for this exciting event and hope you get a chance to explore Deadwood, a National Historic Landmark. If there is anything I can do to make your visit more pleasant, please contact me.



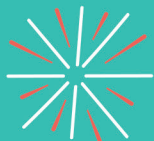
Sincerely,

David R. Ruth Jr., Mayor
City of Deadwood

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VISITOR CENTER

Come see us at the Center in Belle Fourche!

Take a photo at the Center of the Nation monument, then visit the museum of history and science exhibits, as well as activity tables and discovery boxes to educate and entertain the young. Check out our gift shop with history and science books plus journals and kids books, too!

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THOUGHTFUL VOICES

Welcome to the 2023 South Dakota Festival of Books. Deadwood, with its beautiful scenery and intriguing history, continues to captivate us, and we are grateful for its hospitality. It's a wonderful place to meet and talk, listen and think.

Recently I listened to an SDHC "Brainstorming" session with Tatewin Means as the guest. As the executive director of Thunder Valley, she shared information and stories about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons, the unsettling violence impacting Native peoples' lives.



A Mellon Foundation grant, "United We Stand," means SDHC can host carefully chosen authors and speakers to discuss this topic that is haunting the South Dakota landscape. This is part of the civic conversation SDHC encourages through thoughtful reading and interactions with experts and neighbors alike.



Likewise, we are grateful for the voices of children's authors such as Kate DiCamillo. Kate was our first Young Readers One Book author, 10 years ago, and we are bringing back her magic to celebrate with us this year. Third graders across the state will receive a copy of her book, *The Tale of Despereaux*. Her visit will include meetings with local school children to talk about books and authors. Yes, they too could be writers!

What better way to celebrate literature than by sharing it across age groups?

Other authors include those whose stories help define our state. Some authors, like Chris Enss, reflect on South Dakota topics, while those residing in-state, like Patrick Hicks, turn their eyes and words towards explaining past, present and future concerns for South Dakotans and the world.

Thoughtful, interesting, imaginative, realistic — we welcome you with literature that helps us interact with the many features of the world. Here's to celebrating in Deadwood,



Ann Volin, Executive Director
South Dakota Humanities Council

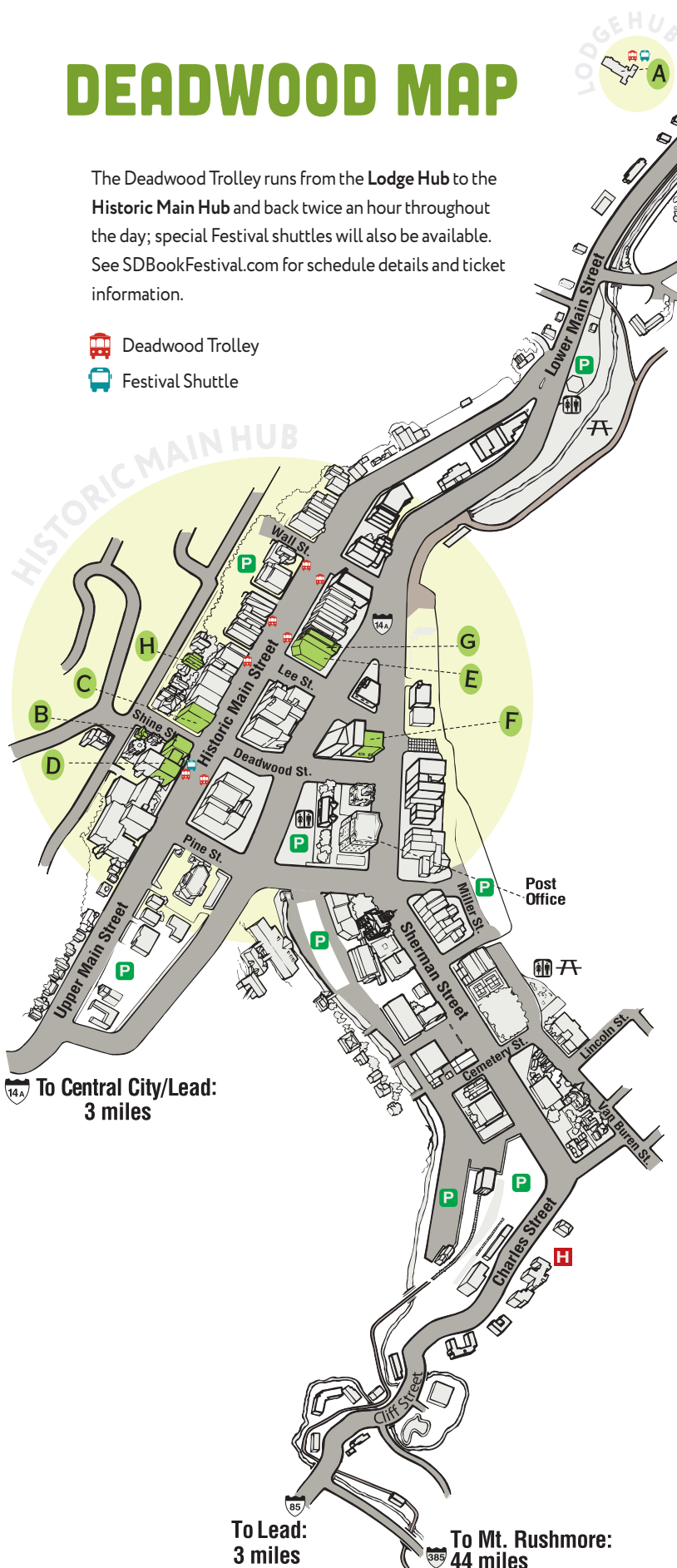
FESTIVAL GUIDELINES

Please abide by the following guidelines to make this event enjoyable for all: no soliciting or distributing flyers, literature, etc., of any kind at any festival venue without prior consent. No videotaping or tape recording without prior consent. Turn cell phones and pagers off during presentations. The Festival of Books, its sponsors and venues are not responsible for lost or stolen items.

DEADWOOD MAP

The Deadwood Trolley runs from the **Lodge Hub** to the **Historic Main Hub** and back twice an hour throughout the day; special Festival shuttles will also be available. See SDBookFestival.com for schedule details and ticket information.

-  Deadwood Trolley
-  Festival Shuttle



DEADWOOD EVENT LOCATIONS

LODGE HUB

- A. The Lodge at Deadwood**
(100 Pine Crest Lane)
- Pine Crest Ballroom C & D
 - Bullock Room • Cody Room
 - Roosevelt Room • Russell Room

HISTORIC MAIN HUB

- B. Deadwood Public Library**
(435 Williams St.)
- Main Floor • Downstairs
- C. Elks Lodge** (696 Main St.)
- Club Room — 2nd floor
- D. Franklin Hotel** (700 Main St.)
- Emerald Room — 2nd floor
- E. Holiday Inn Express & Suites** (22 Lee St.)
- Mystic & Savoy Rooms
- F. Martin & Mason Hotel** (33 Deadwood St.)
- 1898 Grand Ballroom — 3rd floor
- G. Saloon #10/Deadwood Social Club**
(657 Main St.)
- Charley Utter Theater — 2nd floor
- H. St. John's Episcopal Church**
(401 Williams St.)
- Sanctuary

LEAD LOCATION

- Historic Homestake Opera House**
(313 W. Main St., Lead)
- Theatre

RAPID CITY LOCATIONS

- Dahl Arts Center**
(713 7th St., Rapid City)
- John T. Vucurevich Center

- The Monument**
(444 N. Mt. Rushmore Rd., Rapid City)
- Rushmore Hall 1&2

- SDPB Black Hills Studio**
(415 Main St., Rapid City)

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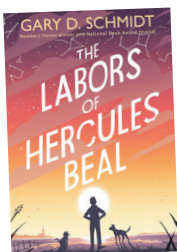
For Gary D. Schmidt, it's always about the story. "You pick up a book in middle grades, and if you're not into it by the end of the first page, you're done," says Schmidt, a prolific author of young adult fiction and a two-time Newbery Honoree. "I want someone to be trapped in that first page and have to turn the page so you know what happens next."

Readers will feel that tug in Schmidt's newest novel *The Labors of Hercules Beal*, the story of a seventh grader who must learn to navigate life with his older brother after their parents are killed.

Schmidt, a professor of English at Calvin University in Michigan, relies on his own middle school memories and interactions with modern-day students. Before the COVID-19 pandemic, he made 40 to 50 middle school visits every year. "People often say they'd love to relive their college days or high school, but no one ever says they'd love to relive middle school," he says. "There are a lot of vivid memories, and I use those. It doesn't mean that all the episodes are the same, but it does mean that I remember the feelings very powerfully."

Schmidt studied medieval literature in college but began writing for middle grades when he started teaching a children's literature course. "It's a really interesting age to write for because the tension is built in," Schmidt says. "When you're in middle school, some days you're a kid with all the freedoms and fears that you might

have. On another day, you're moving toward adulthood with all the responsibilities that involves. That creates its own sort of tension, and you can build that into a story."



The Amazing Power of Despereaux

For 20 years, children and adults alike have found inspiration in *The Tale of Despereaux*, Kate DiCamillo's story of a tiny mouse with big ears and a heart to match. DiCamillo returns to the festival this year not only to celebrate the book's anniversary but also its selection as the 2023 Young Readers One Book. The South Dakota Humanities Council distributed 12,000 copies to third graders this fall, and DiCamillo will meet with many of them during her visit to Deadwood.

Despereaux blossomed while DiCamillo was visiting a friend and her family in St. Louis. Her first book, *Because of Winn Dixie*, had recently been published. "Her son was 8 years old, and he had never been that impressed with me before, but here was my name on a book and he was a huge reader," DiCamillo says. "So he followed me everywhere I went during that visit, and toward the end he asked if he could have a word alone with me in his room."

That's where he shared his idea for a story about an unlikely hero with exceptionally large ears. "What happens to this hero?" DiCamillo asked. "I don't know," the boy replied. "That's why I want you to write the book."

DiCamillo developed a rich set of characters led by Despereaux Tilling, a smaller-than-average mouse ostracized by his friends and family for not acting like a mouse. There's Roscuro the rat, Gregory the jailer, young

Miggery Sow, the king and Princess Pea — all residing in a castle that's bright and luxurious above ground but dank and mysterious in the dungeon. Those worlds collide as Despereaux seeks a life in the light.

The boy did not specify that the hero be a mouse, but DiCamillo thought that creature seemed to be

the most unlikely hero imaginable. "People wonder why there are so many mice in children's books, and to me it's always been such a no-brainer," she says. "It's because when you're a kid you feel small and powerless and invisible, so to take somebody small — even smaller than a normal

mouse — and let them become heroic, it works for how you feel as a kid."

That's evident in the stories she hears. Sometimes, adults who attend her book signings sport Despereaux tattoos. One woman told her that she read the book as a third grader, and it inspired her to incorporate it into her own third grade class when she became a teacher. Another reader explained how reading *The Tale of Despereaux* over and over helped her deal with childhood health issues that required long hospital stays.

"When I say all of that, it sounds unbelievable," DiCamillo says. "What a gift for me as a writer. You do it alone in your room, and then unbelievably you get to connect with people, and often it's people that you don't even know you've connected with. It's that amazing power of books and stories."



Caring for Seeds and Each Other

The Dakota Commemorative Walk, held every November, retraces the steps of 1,700 Dakota women, children and elders who were marched 150 miles from the Lower Sioux Agency to Fort Snelling following the 1862 Dakota War. It has been called Minnesota's Trail of Tears. But powerful stories have survived that heartache, including one that inspired Diane Wilson's *The Seed Keeper*, the 2023 One Book South Dakota.

Wilson joined the march one year and heard another walker talking about the original displaced Dakota women. Because they didn't know where they were going, they didn't know how they would feed their families, so the women sewed seeds into the hems of their skirts and hid them in their pockets. "Even when families and children were hungry, they protected those seeds so there would be something to plant the next season and for future generations," Wilson says. "That story just hit my heart. The courage and sacrifice they made in that moment to protect those seeds demonstrated what we need to be doing today to make sure we have these healthy foods."

The story came at a serendipitous time. Wilson was working on a memoir about her mother, who grew up in a Dakota family in South Dakota and attended boarding school on the Pine Ridge Reservation. She had also become aware of an effort near her home in Minnesota to preserve heirloom seeds.

It all coalesced into *The Seed Keeper*, the story of seven generations of a Dakota family that endures war, the

boarding school era and the hardships of adjusting to life in an increasingly non-Indian society — all while protecting a precious cache of seeds.

Each family member's reverence for nature and the environment is tested as agriculture becomes an industry fixated on yields and profits. "You get to see how these seeds go from being protected by Dakota women during the war and, as each generation progresses, those seeds evolve in their relationship with people," Wilson says. "By the time we get to 2002,

we have genetically modified seeds. My hope was that, by telling this long story across generations, people would see how our relationship with seeds has changed, and then we can have a conversation about what that means and what the consequences are."

Discussion groups have lauded Wilson's storytelling and her generational approach. In her travels, she says audiences are just as focused on how they can become better stewards of the land. "A lot of people feel paralyzed. They don't know what to do," she says. "They feel helpless because the headlines are filled with new and dire predictions. What has been heartening to me when people read the book is the idea that we still have a responsibility to all of our relatives — birds, animals, plants, water — to take care of them. So what can you do in your life, your yard, your community that can make a difference? I enjoy brainstorming with people from the teachings in the story. What happens when you actually take care of those seeds? That's the way we are meant to live, as relatives taking care of each other."

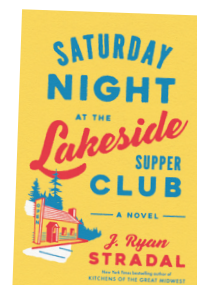


GROUNDING IN THE MIDWEST

J. Ryan Stradal's latest novel, *Saturday Night at the Lakeside Supper Club*, features the best of the Midwest and all of its idiosyncrasies. The story follows a northern Minnesota family beset by trials but bound by their locally legendary small-town restaurant.

Stradal richly describes the nuances, food and culture of the place that shaped him. He grew up in Hastings, and though he's lived in California since 1998, he returns often to visit family and friends and to stay grounded in the place that he features so prominently. "Since my earliest days as a writer, I've wanted to write about the Midwest, just because I saw it represented infrequently compared to other locations," Stradal says. "I still don't see it represented as often as I'd like. There are more Midwestern writers and people writing about the Midwest than ever, but I want to add to the conversation."

He began with *Kitchens of the Great Midwest*, a *New York Times* bestseller after its release in 2015. His subsequent books, *The Lager Queen of Minnesota* and now *Saturday Night*, explore the unique family dynamics of the area's working-class people. "I remember the issues my family had paying bills and putting food on the table, and I don't see that represented often enough. I'm more likely to see abject poverty in a book than I am the simple day-to-day grind of just making a living. I try to put that in my books as often as possible."



POEMS THAT REIMAGINE

Geri Mendoza

Gutwein grew up in a storytelling family on the Cheyenne River Indian Reservation.

"My grandmother, my grandfather and my mother were wonderful storytellers," she says. "I just loved story and the way they described things when I was a little girl helped me to visualize things."

Eventually she was drawn to poetry. Her poems have appeared in several journals, and she has written three chapbooks, but her exploration of erasure poetry allows her to combine words and art.

Erasure poets select a previously written text and search for a poem within. Then they erase, or block out, the extra words. In Gutwein's work — which has included an erasure poem about the Dakota 38 based on a newspaper article from 1862 and crafted on seven, 16-by-20-inch panels — art exemplifies the written word.

Her most recent erasure poetry installation at the Red Dress Gala in Rapid City in May honored Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women. The text was based on President Joe Biden's 2022 proclamation and included the red handprint that has become synonymous with the movement.

Gutwein says three words — too much sorrow — stood out. "I erased so much of that piece because in the end that should be enough," she says. "Too much sorrow should be enough for things to change, but it isn't."

Gutwein's erasure poetry always involves topics important to Native people. "Erasure poetry really speaks to many of the issues of indigenous people because colonization and genocide are forms of political and societal erasure. I like exploring erasure because I think it's a really creative way to reimagine an existing text."



The Joy of Delight

Ross Gay writes about joy. Maybe he didn't intend to, but his poetry collection *Catalog of Unabashed Gratitude* set him down that path. "After that came out, people wanted to talk with me about joy," Gay says. "It didn't occur to me that the book was going to be considered a joyful book or a book about joy. The response to my work made me think, 'This is an interesting thing to further consider.' I also just started to get more interested in the ways that we care for one another. Maybe because there was so much language out there about how we don't care for one another."

He began to write daily essays about things that brought him joy: a kid giving him a high five, a friend's unfettered use of air quotes or a creative nickname. That collection, *The Book of Delights*, was published in 2019. His follow-up, *The Book of (More) Delights*, is due this September.

It seems a simple exercise, but one made difficult by the environment that Gay sees surrounding us. "It's obvious to me that there's a cynical impulse in all kinds of media and industry that makes us want to be terrified and nervous," says Gay, who grew up outside of Philadelphia and teaches at Indiana University. "There is plenty to be nervous about, but if we are inclined to notice the ways that we are capable of — and do in fact — care for one another, that's an assault on a certain

kind of consumerist life. What if you actually felt like you could talk to your neighbor about something that was difficult instead of calling the cops, or if you felt like you could share stuff as opposed to buying a bunch more stuff? Maybe we can trust each other. Maybe we should think about how much evidence there is of our trustworthiness and our beloved-ness and our caretakingness."

His poetry and prose allow him to approach the concept in different and intriguing ways. He says his writing always begins with a question. "When I'm writing poems, there's something about the question that is a little further away. It's a little more challenging to even articulate the question. And when I'm writing essays, I can usually formulate that question. It's going to change over the course of writing the essay, but usually it's a little bit closer."

So does the act of writing about joy actually bring him joy? "Thinking about what delights me and this question of joy, absolutely," he says. "If you spend half an hour every day writing about what makes you miserable, you'll have more misery in your life. And the opposite is true, as well. Delight is the sweet evidence of our connection. Ultimately delight is one of the ways we practice witnessing or paying attention to connection. The more we can study connection, the less alone we are and the more inclined we feel to help each other out."

Fighting for Tech Fairness

Meredith Broussard's first book, *Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World*, made the case that our eagerness to incorporate technology into every aspect of our lives was resulting in poorly designed systems that just as often made tasks as solved them. She continues her case against technochauvinism — the idea that computational solutions are superior to all others — in *More Than a Glitch: Confronting Race, Gender, and Ability Bias in Tech*.

Broussard is a data journalist and former computer scientist who teaches at the Arthur L. Carter Journalism Institute of New York University. *More Than a Glitch* explores what she calls “the intersection of technology and social issues.” She argues that neutrality in technology is a myth and that we need to root out the algorithms that fail certain segments of the population. “The problems in our technological systems are actually problems with human society,” Broussard says. “Technology is not flawless, even though people like to imagine that technology is objective or neutral or unbiased. It's not. The systems we build are socio-technical systems.”

She explains that machine learning works by feeding data into a computer and then asking it to create a model showing mathematical patterns. Those models can be used to make decisions and predictions. Mathematical fairness reigns, while social fairness suffers.

A startling example is an investigation by The Markup, a news organization focused on algorithmic accountability reporting. A study on

automated mortgage approval algorithms revealed that borrowers of color were 40 to 80 percent more likely to be denied than their white counterparts. “The reason for this becomes really clear when we think about how

machine learning systems are made,” she says. “The automated mortgage approval model is fed with data about who has gotten mortgages in the past, and in the past there has been financial discrimination against borrowers of color.

The model is picking up on those mathematical patterns. We *could* use more math to put a thumb on the scale and make the system less biased. It's just that nobody's really doing that, or doing it well enough.”

The book explores similar stories in realms from education to medicine to policing. Broussard covers facial recognition software that was built to work more accurately on people with light skin; or predictive policing, which uses a computer model to identify who may be likely to commit a crime based on past criminal activity. Broussard cites incidents in which innocent people were unjustly targeted through the use of each technological “advancement.”

So how do we fix it? Broussard remains optimistic that as more people gain computational literacy and feel empowered to examine and criticize artificial intelligence systems, we will build technology that brings us toward a better world. “Right now, we are building AI systems that replicate the world *as it is* with all of its flaws and biases,” she says. “I would rather we build technology that helps us get to the world *as it should be*.”



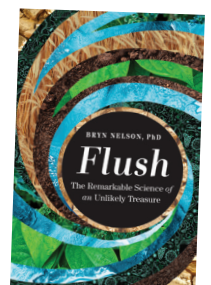
UNLIKELY TREASURE

In 2014, Bryn Nelson wrote a magazine article on fecal transplants. A woman whose daughter was suffering from severe ulcerative colitis donated her own feces to help rebalance her daughter's gut. “That just blew me away,” says Nelson, a Seattle-based science writer and former microbiologist. “It was so surprising to me that something that is not only disgusting but considered medical waste was actually curing people in a way that was blowing antibiotics out of the water.”

He tells the full story in Chapter 3 of his new book *Flush: The Remarkable Science of an Unlikely Treasure*, which is — yes — all about human waste. Nelson is up front about humanity's unease in talking about poop, but also seriously explores it from a variety of angles, including how we might use it to heal ourselves and the environment.

As Nelson researched the book, which explores the history of human waste and the psychology of disgust, he thought about the way we value certain objects, and the biases that result. “There are so many things we've overlooked,” he says. “What's fun for me is delving into that and helping people understand that something they thought was worthless or trivial or disgusting is actually pretty important.”

Examples include using compost to aid reforestation after wildfires or treating wastewater through creation of wetlands that also become prime bird habitats. If *Flush* teaches us anything, it's that solutions can be found in the unlikelyst of places.



PROTECT YOUR WORK

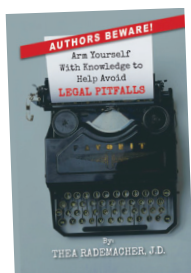
Thea Rademacher is uniquely positioned to help authors protect their published work. Rademacher worked as a social justice attorney before she co-authored a World War II memoir with her neighbor. After its release, Rademacher launched Flint Hills Publishing, and since 2015 has released 80 books with more than 30 authors. Not only has she ushered their work to the printed page, but she helps them understand the legal side of the publishing world.

"I had several friends who were authors who had been taken advantage of by unscrupulous publishers," Rademacher says.

"During the pandemic, I took that time to do a very brief overview that introduces authors to legal and publishing issues they need to know about."

That overview is *Authors Beware! Arm Yourself with Knowledge to Help Avoid Legal Pitfalls*. Among the lively and entertaining chapters are crash courses in copyright law, how to purchase an ISBN, fair use of other work and what to look for in publishing contracts. "When you decide to become an author, you are setting up a business, and it's your responsibility to have some of this basic information," she says. "You work so hard on writing the book, you need to make sure you're protecting the work as well. If you don't know that something could be a problem, that's where you're

going to get in trouble. If you stay out of trouble in the first place, it's a lot easier than going back and cleaning up a legal mess."



Closer Than You Think

Bill Markley writes about the West's legendary characters: Wild Bill Hickok, Buffalo Bill Cody, Geronimo and Sitting Bull. Ann Charles spins mysteries set in Deadwood that feature everyday characters, a twist of humor and the occasional crazy creature.

While their books may seem to appeal to completely different audiences, they both want to create stories that accurately represent the West in informative and entertaining ways that encourage readers to learn more. "Nonfiction and fiction can work together to make the whole reading experience even better," Charles says. "People like to say they only write nonfiction or fiction, and I don't think a lot of them consider how much you can blend them together and create something really wonderful."

Charles, who lives and writes in northern Arizona, and Markley, a Pennsylvania native who moved to Pierre in 1976, met at the Festival of Books a decade ago, and their friendship blossomed through subsequent regular festival appearances. As they grew to know each other personally and professionally, they started brainstorming ideas for a session in which they could share their philosophies and approaches to their craft. They launched a virtual version of "Writing about the Old West: Fiction versus Nonfiction" in 2021 and will present it again for a live audience at this year's festival.

Their methods are both grounded in solid research and accuracy — hallmarks, they say, of quality writing. For

Markley, that means tracking down the earliest original sources available in an effort to reconstruct the truth because, as he's discovered, the waters often become muddled with the passage of time. "You have constraints," says Markley. "You can't make things up, but the more I research nonfiction, I come across things in the past that aren't always the truth, but are based on truth. Sometimes nonfiction authors become a little sloppy and they'll take something that's been fabricated as the truth and just run with it instead of going back to find out what actually happened."

Contemporary sources are just as important to Charles, who writes the Deadwood Undertaker series — set during the gold rush days of the 1870s — with her husband, Sam Lucky. They help establish an accurate setting around which they can craft a story. "We have to be careful as fiction authors when writing a historical novel because if you run fast and loose with details — things like guns and clothing that are appropriate to the era — all that stuff is really important to readers," she says. "Die-hard fans will know if you didn't do your research, and they will put that in their reviews. Readers might let a little of that slip, but not a lot. You're going to lose a reader."

Charles and Markley have plenty more tips to offer aspiring writers, and by the end of their session, attendees may realize what these long-time authors have known for years. "Good fiction and good nonfiction are closer than people think," Markley says.

Reclaiming a Literary Tradition

For centuries, women were the culture keepers in indigenous societies. Sarah Hernandez (Sicangu Lakota) believes that changed with the arrival of missionaries and their printing presses. Her new book, *We Are the Stars: Colonizing and Decolonizing the Oceti Sakowin Literary Tradition*, argues that “missionary translations of the Dakota language set a dangerous precedent that denigrated Oceti Sakowin star knowledge and supplanted our tribal land narratives with new settler-colonial land narratives that ensured that many of our people converted to Christianity and assimilated to the American nation.”



She says that became clear while conducting research at the Minnesota Historical Society. “Any time I looked up information about the Dakota oral tradition, immediately these missionaries’ names would come up in the databases,” says Hernandez, an assistant professor of Native American literature at the University of New Mexico and the director of the Institute for American Indian Research. “At first, I ignored it because I wasn’t looking for missionaries. I was looking for the voices of Dakota people. But the missionaries kept coming up. That was the first time I realized what a huge impact they had on our literary tradition.”

The first section of her book, which she calls “a literary recovery project,” traces the missionaries’ movements and actions around the Plains. The second honors and celebrates indigenous women — such as Ella Deloria and Elizabeth Cook-Lynn — who have reclaimed their roles by keeping tra-

ditional narratives alive. “Ella Deloria really is the lynchpin that helped transform the oral tradition to print form,” Hernandez says. “She did so much research for Franz Boaz and on her own. She really reclaimed and revitalized these stories, so you could credit her with preserving the print version of our oral tradition. The oral tradition has always been there, it just hadn’t been written down by Dakota women until Ella Deloria.”

Hernandez grew up in Denver, but her family is rooted on the Rosebud Reservation, where she often visited and grew to appreciate her Sicangu Lakota family. “I was fortunate to be raised by very strong Lakota women, beginning with my mother,” Hernandez says. “My grandmother was a huge influence on my life, and I was close to my aunties. I saw that influence very early. I don’t think I was fully aware of that until I started writing the book, but it was always there. When I started researching the book, it just made so much sense when I realized what a profound role women have played in our culture.”

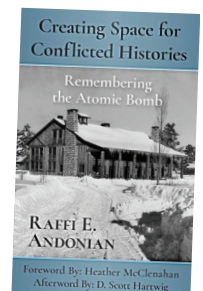
Hernandez is also a member of the Oceti Sakowin Writers Society (formerly the Oak Lake Writers Society), a tribal writing group for Dakota, Nakota and Lakota writers. “We’ve made a lot of great strides,” she says. “Elizabeth Cook-Lynn helped co-found the society, and because she did, so many more voices are now being published. I think the reason that I was able to publish my book is because she fought so hard so that Oceti Sakowin voices could be heard.”

NAVIGATING CONTESTED HISTORIES

Raffi Andonian has loved history since his parents took him to visit places on the East Coast that were integral to the founding of the United States. “That captivated me because the historic sites made history come alive for me,” Andonian says. “It made it real, more than just something I would read in history books. That’s when I was hooked.”

After college at Penn State, he worked at three sites within the National Park System. At each place, he encountered visitors who held different perspectives about them and how their stories should be told. Andonian explored that topic in his first book, *Creating Space for Conflicted Histories: Remembering the Atomic Bomb*, based on his experiences at the Manhattan Project National Historical Park in Los Alamos, New Mexico. He also hosts a streaming TV show called *Clio the Muse* in which he discusses history and memory with historians, scholars and other professionals.

Andonian has created four questions that he uses to lead discussions about contested histories. “We ask the series of questions together, peel back the layers of the onion and see that there can be room for not only their perspective but also other perspectives,” he says. “Once you allow room for those and understand how they can formulate, then you diffuse the situation. I’m not trying to convert them. I’m just trying to help them understand that history is not black and white.”



SCHEDULE SNEAK PEEK

Watch SDBookFestival.com for a Complete Event Schedule in Late August!

At that time, you can obtain a copy by calling (605) 688-6113 or emailing festival@sdhumanities.org.

We will also post updates on our Facebook, Instagram and Twitter pages.

FESTIVAL KICKOFF:

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 20

6:30-9 p.m. (Doors open at 6 p.m.) **Women Behaving Badly** — Katherine Center, Kelly Florence, Meg Hafdahl & Sarah Penner, with a special appearance by local singer Si Issler. ***ADULT CONTENT*** — Dahl Arts Center John T. Vucurevich Event Center in Rapid City — **TICKETS REQUIRED** (available through the Dahl at 605-394-4101 or TheDahl.org — \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door)

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

SDPB In the Moment — Live Broadcast with Lori Walsh featuring Henry Cole, Lauren R. Harris, Felicia Hoshino & Gary D. Schmidt — SDPB Black Hills Studio in Rapid City

Unburying the Secrets of *The Lost Apothecary*: Poison through History — Sarah Penner — The Lodge at Deadwood

Stories Are Everywhere — Kate DiCamillo — The Monument in Rapid City

Author Reception — Deadwood Public Library — **TICKETS REQUIRED**

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Full day of Festival events and workshops to be announced: **Author Talks, Craft Sessions, Panel Discussions, Poetry Readings** and more!

1 p.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibitors' Hall open

SDPB In the Moment — Live Broadcast with Lori Walsh featuring Debra Magpie Earling, Chuck Raasch & J. Ryan Stradal — The Lodge at Deadwood

Writing Workshops, including *The Big Picture*: From Writing to Publishing with C.M. Wendelboe and *The Dictionary of Obscure Sorrows*: A Generative Workshop with Debra Marquardt — **TICKETS REQUIRED**

Stories Are Everywhere — Kate DiCamillo — Holiday Inn Express & Suites

Literary Feast: Family, Food & Fiction — J. Ryan Stradal & Diane Wilson — Martin & Mason Hotel — **TICKETS REQUIRED**

Open Mic sponsored by the South Dakota State Poetry Society

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

9 a.m. to 9 p.m. Full day of Festival events and workshops to be announced: **Author Talks, Craft Sessions, Panel Discussions, Poetry Readings** and more!

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Exhibitors' Hall open

Writing about Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons — David Grann, Geri Gutwein, Debra Magpie Earling, Joseph Marshall III & Tanaya Winder



Event Highlights

The Author/Publisher Relationship — Marcia Cebulski & Thea Rademacher

Writing the Natural World: Readings from *On Common Ground* — Ryan Allen, Brian Hazlett, Patrick Hicks, Dan O'Brien & Norma Wilson

Fiction? Poetry? Me? Academics Get Creative — Ruth Harper & Bonny Specker

Solving the Mystery of Writing — Baron Birtcher & Clay Stafford

Veterans Story Contest Awards — Brian Turner

Distinguished Achievement in the Humanities Awards

Evening Keynote: How History Talks: Stories that Won't Be Silenced — David Grann



SUNDAY, SEPT. 24

Book Lovers' Brunch — **TICKETS REQUIRED** — The Lodge at Deadwood

Love, Loss & Poetry — Brian Turner

A Celebration of Delight — Ross Gay

WORDS & MUSIC: LITERARY PERFORMANCES BY SDHC SCHOLARS

• Eliza Blue
• Pegie Douglas

• Allen & Jill Kirkham
• Michael McDonald

• Miss V, The Gypsy Cowbelle

Performances will be held at the Elks Lodge.

All events take place in Deadwood unless otherwise indicated
(TICKETS available at SDBookFestival.com unless otherwise indicated)

YOUNG READERS FESTIVAL

THURSDAY, SEPT. 21

Rapid City area schools & The Monument in
Rapid City

FRIDAY, SEPT. 22

Deadwood area schools, Historic
Homestake Opera House in Lead
& Holiday Inn Express & Suites in
Deadwood

SATURDAY, SEPT. 23

Deadwood Festival venues



SPECIAL APPEARANCE

Miss South Dakota 2023, Miranda O'Bryan, will be at the festival supporting youth literacy through her community service initiative "Page Turners: Fall in Love with Reading."



FEATURED PRESENTERS

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| • Kathy Bjornestad | • Julia Lyon |
| • Henry Cole | • Linda Marshall |
| • Kate DiCamillo | • Peter Oltchick |
| • Lauren R. Harris | • Jessie Taken Alive Rencountre |
| • Felicia Hoshino | • Gary D. Schmidt |
| • David LaRochelle | • Mike Wohnoutka |



CAN'T JOIN US IN PERSON?

While we're all looking forward to gathering in Deadwood, we know some of you might not be able to join us there. If you'd still like to experience a bit of Festival fun, you can watch livestreams of selected Festival weekend events via Zoom or the South Dakota Humanities Council's Facebook page. Watch SDBookFestival.com for details!

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PRESENTERS

RYAN ALLEN is an artist, advocate, writer, teacher, consultant, coach and co-



owner of Lumin Therapy, LLC, which provides integrative healthcare and education to underserved and under-

represented individuals, families and communities. He is the author of two books of poetry and a spoken word album, *Closer To It*. A former editor for *The Briar Cliff Review*, regular contributor to *Siouxland Magazine* and co-editor of *On Common Ground: Learning and Living in the Loess Hills*, Allen lives in Sioux City, Iowa.

RAFFI ANDONIAN, known as the Celebrity Historian due to his frequent appearances on TV stations nationwide, is the author of three history books and the producer and host of an AppleTV show connecting past and present. He regularly leads a course on contested histories and mem-



ory, and he has spoken at Oxford, Cambridge and several humanities councils across the United States. Andonian also leads the Harmonize Your Workforce program, combining history events and employee development.

BARON R. BIRTCHER is the author of the hardboiled Mike Travis series (*Roadhouse Blues*, *Ruby Tuesday*, *Angels Fall* and *Hard Latitudes*), the award-winning Ty Dawson series (*South California Purples*, *Fistful Of Rain* and *Reckoning*) and the critically lauded stand-alone, *Rain Dogs*. His honors



include the 2018 Killer Nashville Readers' Choice Award and five Silver Falchion Awards. Birtcher has worked as a professional musician, guitarist, singer and

songwriter and founded an independent record label.

KATHY BJORNSTAD is a retired children's librarian and secondary language arts teacher of 32 years with a master's degree in humanities. She is a Wyoming Fellowship for Creative Fiction recipient, has been published in *Christian Science Monitor's* "Home Forum" and has placed multiple times in the Wyoming Writers Annual contest. Bjornstad has membership in Bearlodge Writers, Northern Colorado Writers, the South Dakota State Poetry Society and the Wyoming Writers, of which she previously served as president.



DAVID BOOP is a Denver-based speculative fiction author, award-winning essayist and screenwriter. As editor-in-chief at IntraDenver.net, his team reported on

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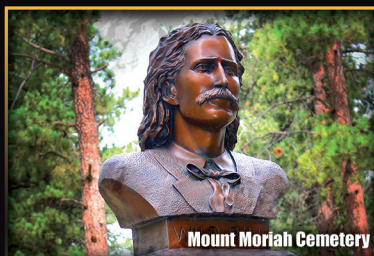
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The Brothel Deadwood



Mount Moriah Cemetery



Trial of Jack McCall



DeadwoodAlive.com



DeadwoodHistory.com



CityofDeadwood.com



Columbine, making them the first internet-only newspaper to cover such an event. Boop's fictional works include *She Murdered Me with Science* and *The Soul Changers*.

He is prolific in short fiction, has produced two short films and has published across several genres, including media tie-ins for *Predator*, *The Green Hornet*, *The Black Bat* and *Veronica Mars*.

MICHAEL P. BRANCH is an award-winning humorist, writer and Foundation Professor at the University of Nevada-Reno. He's the author of more than 300 essays



and reviews, which have appeared in CNN, *San Francisco Chronicle* and *High Country*. Branch has also published 10 books, including *Raising Wild*, *How to Cuss in*

Western and *On the Trail of the Jackalope*. His creative nonfiction includes pieces recognized in *The Best American Essays*, *The Best Creative Nonfiction* and *The Best American Science and Nature Writing*.

MEREDITH BROUSSARD is an associate professor at New York University. Her books include *More Than a Glitch: Confronting Race, Gender, and Ability Bias in Tech* and *Artificial Unintelligence: How Computers Misunderstand the World*. Her research focuses on artificial intelligence in investigative reporting, with particular interests in AI ethics and using data analysis for social good. Broussard appears in the Emmy-nominated documentary *Coded Bias* and serves as research director at the NYU Alliance for Public Interest Technology.

MARCIA CEBULSKA grew up in Cragin, a Polish neighborhood in Chicago

where her family owned a bakery. Cebulka has spent most of her career writing for the stage and screen. Her critically acclaimed plays have been produced worldwide,

and her screenwriting has aired on PBS. She has received the Jane Chambers International Award, the Dorothy Silver Award and several Master Artist Fellowships. Cebulka's books include *Skywriting*, *Watching Men Dance* and *Lovers, Dreamers, & Thieves*. She lives in Topeka, Kansas with her husband, historian Tom Prasch.



KATHERINE CENTER is the *New York Times* bestselling author of books including *How to Walk Away*, *Things You*



Save in a Fire and *What You Wish For*. She has made Amazon's Top 100 Books of 2019, Goodreads' Best Books of the Year and many

more. Her novels *The Lost Husband* and *Happiness for Beginners* are now adapted as movies on Netflix. Center lives in her hometown of Houston, Texas, with her husband, two kids and their fluffy-but-fierce dog.

ANN CHARLES is a *USA Today* Best-selling author who writes spicy, character-driven stories full of mystery, romance, comedy, adventure, suspense and supernatural mayhem. When she's not dabbling in fiction, she's arm wrestling with her two kids, attempting to seduce her husband and arguing with her sassy cats. Her newest book, *The Backside of Hades*, Book 4 in her *The Deadwood Undertaker* series, made its debut in the fall of 2022.

LINDA CLEMMONS is a professor of 19th-century American and Native Ameri-

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PRESENTERS



can history and the current director of the Honors Program at Illinois State University in Normal, Illinois. She is the author of *Dakota in Exile* and *Conflicted Mission*.

Her latest book is titled *Unrepentant Dakota Women: Angelique Renville and the Struggle for Indigenous Identity, 1845-1876*. All her works examine the interaction of Protestant missionaries and Dakota families in the 19th century.

HENRY COLE, a former beloved science and math teacher, has helped create over 170 books for children, including *Jack's*



Garden, A Nest for Celeste, Unspoken: A Story from the Underground Railroad and *And Tango Makes Three*. Between working on books and traveling the country speaking to school audiences, Cole spends his time gardening at his home in Florida,

playing the accordion and visiting friends and family in his home state of Virginia.

KATE DICAMILLO was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, raised in Clermont, Florida, and now lives in Minneapolis. She writes books for both children and adults, including *Because of Winn-Dixie*, *Flora and Ulysses*, *The Tiger Rising* and *Raymie Nightingale*. She's also the author of two Young Readers One Book South Dakota selections: *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (2014) and *The Tale of Despereaux* (2023). DiCamillo served as the National Ambassador for Young People's Literature from 2014-2015.

CHRIS ENSS is a *New York Times* best-selling author who's been writing about women of the Old West for more than 30 years. She has penned more than 50 books on the subject and her work has been honored with nine Will Rogers Medallion



Awards, three Western Writers of America Spur Finalist Awards and many more. Enss's most recent works are *The Widowed Ones*, *Along Came a Cowgirl* and *An Open Secret: The Story of Deadwood's Most Notorious Bordellos*.

KELLY FLORENCE teaches at Lake Superior College in Duluth, Minnesota, and is the creator of the "Be a Better Communicator" podcast. Florence received her MA in Communicating Arts from the University of Wisconsin-Superior and she has written, directed, choreographed and stage managed for dozens of productions in Minnesota. She is passionate about female representation in all media, particularly the horror genre, and is the co-author of *The Science of Women in Horror*, *The Science of Witchcraft* and others.



ROSS GAY has authored four books of poetry, including *Against Which*, *Bringing*

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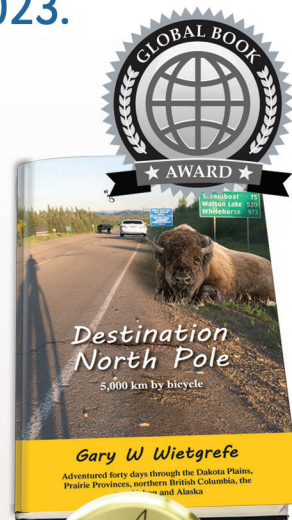
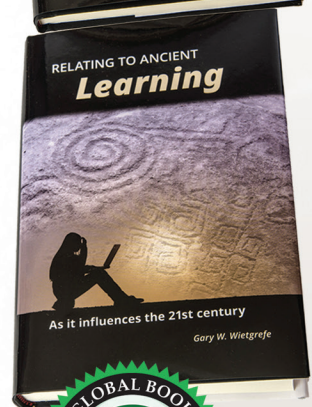
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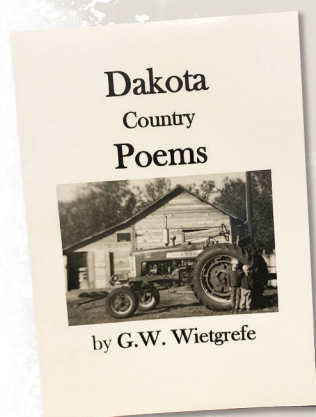
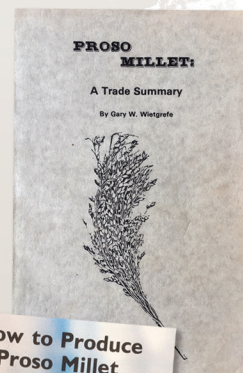
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MEET ONE OF AMERICA'S MOST DIVERSE AUTHORS AT DEADWOOD'S SOUTH DAKOTA FESTIVAL OF BOOKS SEPTEMBER 22-23, 2023.



Award winning author Gary W. Wietgreffe, is an internationally published researcher in cooperation with Uludag University, Bursa, Turkey and Mongolian University of Agriculture. His six patents for automated equipment design, engineering, and biomass processing helped develop his technical writing skills.

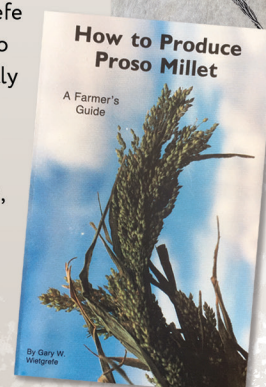
As author of eight books, Wietgreffe has won Global Book Awards in three categories: Travel Adventure — *Destination North Pole — 5,000 km by bicycle*; Historical Study — *Relating to Ancient Culture and the mysterious agent changing it*; and Education & Reference Finalist — *Relating to Ancient Learning as it influences the 21st century*. He received the Pinnacle Award for *Destination North Pole* from the National Association of Book Entrepreneurs and was Author-of-the-Day for Manybooks.net.



With over twenty-five years as an agronomist, Wietgreffe has written numerous newsletters and has sent his two millet books to over forty countries. They are especially popular since the United Nations designated 2023 as the International Year of the Millets.

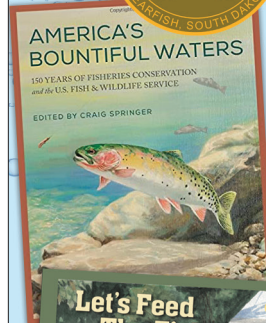
Dakota Country Poems, first in a series of poetry books, expanded the author's repertoire allowing him to be exhibited in the Western Writers of America Hall of Fame in 2023.

Lifelong South Dakotans, Gary and his wife Patricia live and travel from Rapid City.



Find Gary Wietgreffe's books (available in hardcover, paperback and e-books) at the South Dakota Festival of Books, local bookstores, online retailers, RelatingtoAncients.com or by calling 800-431-1579. Gift wrapping available.

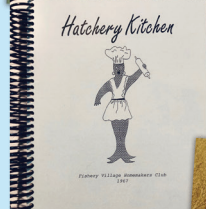
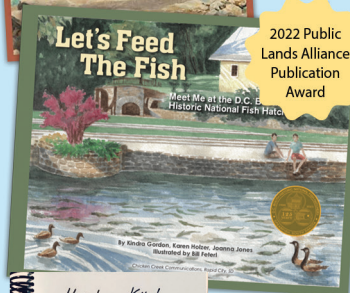
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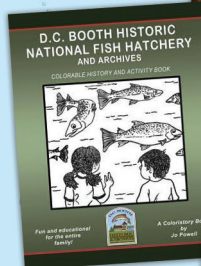
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2022 Public Lands Alliance Publication Award

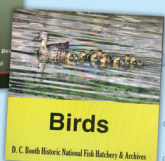


Hatchery Kitchen cookbook

Spearfish Hatchery Book



D.C. Booth Fish Hatchery Colorstory Book



Birds at the Hatchery

Books will be available at the Festival of Books Vendor Fair in Sept. and can be ordered online at The Pond Gift Shop.

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the Shovel Down and *Be Holding*. He's the winner of the PEN American Literary Jean Stein Award, the 2015 National Book Critics Circle Award and the 2016 Kingsley Tufts Poetry Award. Gay's first collection of essays, *The Book of Delights*, was released in 2019 and was a *New York Times* bestseller. His latest collections are *Inciting Joy* and *The Book of (More) Delights*.

DAVID GRANN is a #1 *New York Times* bestselling author and an award-winning staff writer at *The New Yorker*. His true-crime book *Killers of the Flower Moon* documented one of the most sinister crimes and racial injustices in American history. A movie, directed by Martin Scorsese and starring Leonardo DiCaprio, Robert De Niro and Lily Gladstone, comes out this fall. Grann's latest book is *The Wager*, a page-turning story of shipwreck, survival and savagery.

GERI MENDOZA GUTWEIN, PhD, is professor emerita at HACC, Central Pennsylvania's Community College, where she taught English, creative writing and Native American literature. Her poetry has appeared in *Connecticut Review*, *Fledgling Rag* and *Roots Trunk Sky*: IW-WG's *Imagination and Justice Meditation-Free Writing Circle*, to name a few. A Pushcart nominee, she is the author of three chapbooks: *Every Orbit of the Circle*, *The Story She Told* and *An Utterance of Small Truths*. Her poetry explores the Lakota and Mexican-American experience.

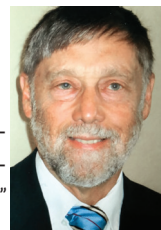
MEG HAFDAHL is a Bram Stoker Award-nominated creator of numerous stories and books. Her works include titles such as *Twisted Reveries: Thirteen Tales of*

the *Macabre*, *Daughters of Darkness* and *Her Dark Inheritance*. She is also the co-host of the podcast *Horror Rewind* and co-author of *The Science of Monsters*, *The Science of Women in Horror*, the upcoming *The Science of Witchcraft* and others. Hafdahl lives in Minnesota.

PHILIP S. HALL is a psychologist who worked with children with debilitating learning and behavior problems for 40 years. A fourth-generation South Dakotan, he also spent many hours exploring the White River Badlands, mostly on horseback, and interviewing "old-timers" living there. These experiences gave rise to three books about the area's history: *To Have This Land, Reflections of the Badlands* and, with Mary Solon Lewis, *From Wounded Knee to the Gallows*.

RACHAEL HANEL holds bachelor's degrees in mass communications and history and a master's in history from Minnesota State University and a PhD in creative writing from Bath Spa University. She lives and writes just outside of Mankato, Minnesota. Hanel is a former newspaper reporter and copy editor and teaches creative writing at Minnesota State University-Mankato. She is the author of more than 20 nonfiction books for children and adults, including *Not the Camilla We Knew*.

RUTH HARPER is professor emerita of counseling and human development at South Dakota State University. During her career, she co-authored and edited four



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books in her academic field. Harper has always loved poetry and in retirement has written and published several poems. Finishing Line Press published her first chapbook, *Uncertain Seasons*, this year. She lives in Brookings.

LAUREN R. HARRIS grew up in a military family, visiting much of the U.S. and studying history along the way. She combined years of experience as an elementary



school teacher and journalist to write her children's historical picture books, *The Plum Neighbor* and *A Place for Harvest: The Story of Kenny Higashi*. Harris interviewed

Kenny and extensively researched the 100th/442nd RCT, highlighting their inspiring examples of bravery during World War II. She lives in the Pacific Northwest with her husband and three children.

BRIAN T. HAZLETT is a professor of biology and environmental science at Briar Cliff University (Sioux City, Iowa) where he has directed the Center for Prairie Studies since its inception in 2009. Named BCU's Distinguished Scholar in 2015, he is a regular facilitator at the Loess Hills Prairie Seminar and has presented at the Iowa and North American Prairie conferences. Research projects include floristic inventories of local natural areas. Hazlett enjoys leading student trips locally, nationwide and abroad.



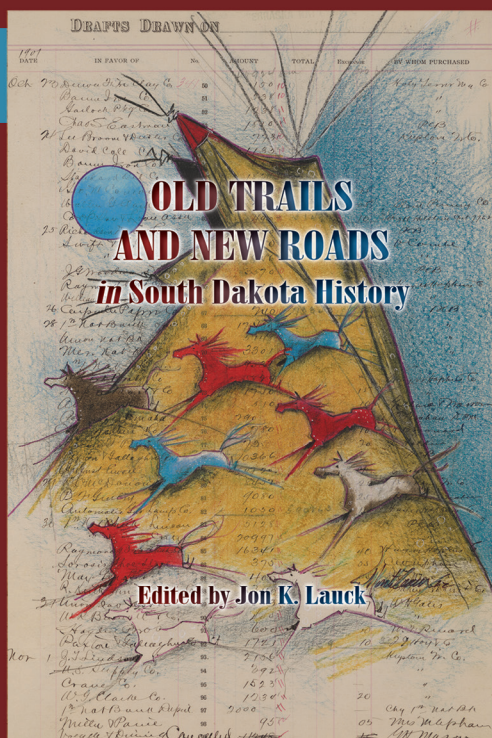
SARAH HERNANDEZ (Sicangu Lakota) is a professor of Native American Literature and the director of the Institute for American Indian Research at the University of New Mexico. Her research focuses on early and contemporary Native American literature. Hernandez is a member of the Oceti Sakowin Writers Society, a non-profit for Dakota, Nakota and Lakota writ-

ers. Together they launched #NativeReads, a community-based reading campaign and podcast series to increase knowledge and appreciation of the Oceti Sakowin literary tradition.

PATRICK HICKS has authored many books, including *Adoptable*, *In the Shadow of Dora*, *The Commandant of Lubizec* and 2023's *Across the Lake*. His work has appeared on NPR, *PBS NewsHour* and *American Life in Poetry*. Hicks has won grants from the Bush Foundation and The National Endowment for the Humanities, and he was a finalist for an Emmy. He is the Writer-in-Residence at Augustana University and a faculty member in the MFA program at the University of Nevada-Reno at Lake Tahoe.



YVONNE HOLLENBECK writes poetry about her life as a farmer's daughter and has spent her entire married life on



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PRESENTERS



a cattle ranch. She also writes about the not-so-humorous situations experienced by herself and her many family members. Hollenbeck is a freelance writer who pens a weekly column in *The Tri-State Livestock News*, as well as other publications, and writes for several major magazines.

FELICIA HOSHINO was born in San Francisco, where she still lives with her family. Her prize-winning illustrations can be seen in children's books such as *A Place*



for Harvest: The Story of Kenny Higashi, written by Lauren R. Harris, and *Juna and Appa*, written by Jane Park. Hoshino's other titles include the Jane Addams Peace Award-winning *A Place Where Sunflowers Grow* and several books about the Japanese American experience during World War II.

KARLA M. HUNTER, associate professor in the School of Communication and Journalism at South Dakota State University, earned her PhD through the University of Oklahoma in 2000. Hunter's work aims to enhance opportunities for equitable wellness and well-being through evidence-based teaching interventions to foster communication competence, confidence and cultural responsiveness. Through the "Harnessing Hope" project, she and her colleagues guide students from SD-SU's Wokini Initiative in crafting and sharing their stories of educational persistence.



TEMPE JAVITZ grew up in southeastern Montana and graduated with a BA in English Literature from Scripps College, California. She is the granddaughter of Montana photographer Jessamine Spear Johnson. Since 2007 she has worked to preserve Jessamine's massive legacy, which in-

cludes 34 photo boxes, more than 16,000 negatives and prints, and Jessamine's many diaries and genealogical notes. Javitz's book about Jessamine's life and her contributions to Western history and photography is titled *Bighorn Visions: The Photography of Jessamine Spear Johnson*.

AMBER JENSEN grew up on a dairy farm east of Bryant and lives on an acreage just two miles from that childhood home with her husband, children and animals. She earned her BA and MA from South Dakota State University, where she teaches composition and creative writing, and completed her MFA in creative writing through the University of New Orleans. Her first book is a memoir, *The Smoke of You: Love During and After Deployment*.



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ment of Natural Resource Management at South Dakota State University. His research has focused on the Missouri River, prairie



restoration, landscape ecology and the effects of climate change on wetlands in the Prairie Pothole Region. Johnson has taught courses in ecology and land management, served on four National Research Council panels and earned national awards from the Ecological Society of America and the Environmental Law Institute. His two newest books are *Ten Square Blocks* and *Ecology of Dakota Landscapes*.

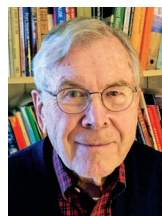
BRUCE BURGESS JUNEKE is an adventurer, speaker, author, photographer and filmmaker who has bicycled and traveled with his wife through 54 countries. Since 1987, two million students nationwide have seen their educational slide programs.



Juneke's *A Bright One Chronicles*, a four-book mystical fantasy adventure for adults and teens, was greatly influenced by his odysseys around the world. He has also

written two travel narratives and a rock-climbing guidebook and produced the documentary film *Bruce & Tass Bicycle China*.

DENNIS KNIGHT grew up in Clear Lake and is professor emeritus in the Botany Department at the University of Wyoming, where he taught ecology and forest management from 1966 to 2000. His research focuses on the effects of natural



and human-caused disturbances on forest and grassland ecosystems in the Rocky Mountains and Great Plains. A former president of the Ecological Society of

America, Knight is the author of *Mountains and Plains* and the co-author of *Ecology of Dakota Landscapes*.

NANCY TYSTAD KOUHAL is director and editor-in-chief of the Pioneer Girl Project and founder of the South Dakota

Historical Society Press. She received an MA in English from Morehead State University and did postgraduate work at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Kouhal is the editor of L. Frank Baum's *Our Landlady*, *Pioneer Girl Perspectives: Exploring Laura Ingalls Wilder and Wilder's Pioneer Girl: The Revised Texts* and *Pioneer Girl: The Path into Fiction*.



DAVID LAROCHELLE is an author and illustrator. He is the author of many books for young readers, including *Isle of You*, illustrated by Jaime Kim, as well as *How to Apologize*, *See the*

Cat: Three Stories About a Dog and *See the Dog: Three Stories About a Cat*, all illustrated by Mike Wohnoutka. LaRochelle lives in White Bear Lake,



Minnesota, and when he's not working on a new book, he loves solving puzzles, geocaching, traveling, reading and carving pumpkins.

JULIA LYON used to interview kids as a reporter, and now she writes books for them. Her debut nonfiction picture book is titled *A Dinosaur Named Ruth*. Before writing books, Lyon wrote for daily newspapers in Oregon and Utah for more than 10 years. A graduate of the Columbia Journalism School, she loves to dig up remnants of the past and get inspired for her next book. In her free time, Lyon likes to swim and play the ukulele.



DEBRA MAGPIE EARLING is an associate professor at the University of Montana-Missoula and teaches fiction and Native American Studies. Earling's work has appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Northeast Indian Quarterly* and many anthologies, including *Song of the Turtle*, *Circle of Wom-*



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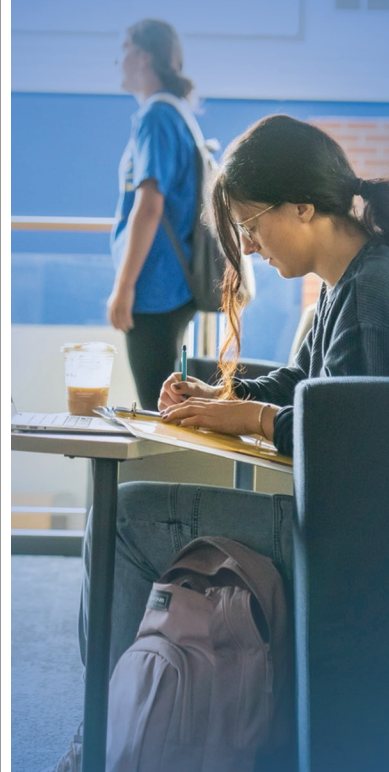
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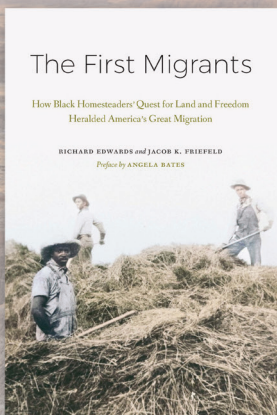
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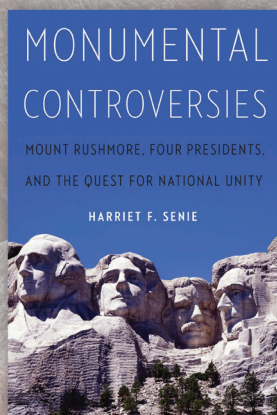
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en and *Talking Leaves*. She has received the Western Writers Association's Spur Award for Best Novel of the West, the Mountain and Plains Booksellers Association Award, WWA's Medicine Pipe Bearer Award for Best First Novel and many more.

FREYA MANFRED attended Macalester College and Stanford University and has received a Radcliffe Grant and a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. She won the 2009 Midwest Booksellers Choice Award for Poetry, and her poems have appeared in more than a hundred reviews, magazines and anthologies. She lives with her husband, screenwriter Thomas Pope, in Stillwater, Minnesota. Their sons, visual artists Bly Pope and Rowan Pope, have illustrated many of her books.



BILL MARKLEY is a member of Western Writers of America. His book *Geronimo and Sitting Bull: Leaders of the Legendary West* received a silver Will Rogers Medallion in biography, and two of his books were 2020 nonfiction Will Rogers Medallion finalists. Markley and co-author Kellen Cutsforth's *Old West Showdown* was a 2019 Will Rogers Medallion nonfiction finalist. Its sequel is *Standoff at High Noon*. Western Fictioneers selected Markley's *Deadwood Dead Men* as a finalist for 2014 Best First Western Novel.

DEBRA MARQUART is a distinguished professor of liberal arts in the MFA Program in Creative Writing and Environment at Iowa State University, as well as the Stonecoast Low-Residency MFA Program at University of Southern Maine. Marquart is Iowa's Poet Laureate and



Senior Editor of *Flyway: Journal of Writing & Environment*. Having authored seven books, she has been featured on NPR and BBC and has received over 50 grants and awards, including a Poets Laureate Fellowship from the Academy of American Poets.

JOSEPH M. MARSHALL III is a teacher, historian, writer, storyteller and Lakota craftsman. Raised by his maternal grandparents in a traditional household on the Rosebud Sioux Indian Reservation, he is an enrolled member of the Sicangu Lakota tribe. Marshall published his first book in 1991 and has written 17 more since, mostly nonfiction focusing on Lakota history, issues and culture. He is an adjunct instructor at Sinte Gleska University and a board member of Lakota Youth Development.



LINDA MARSHALL is an award-winning author of nearly two dozen fiction and nonfiction picture books. She grew up in New England and attended Barnard College/Columbia University. Throughout her life, Marshall taught preschool, pursued a PhD in anthropology and owned an indie bookstore. Her books include *The Polio Pioneer*, *Bob Marshall*, *Rainbow Weaver/Tejedora del Arcoíris*, *Measuring a Year: A Rosh Hashanah Story* and the forthcoming *Brave Volodymyr: Volodymyr Zelensky and the Fight for Ukraine*.



MATT MASON has run poetry workshops in Botswana, Romania, Nepal and Belarus for the U.S. State Department, and his poetry has appeared in *The New York Times*. He is the Nebraska State Poet and has received a Pushcart Prize as well as fel-

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lowships from the Academy of American Poets and the Nebraska Arts Council. Mason's work can be found on NPR's *Morning Edition*, in *American Life in Poetry* and in several hundred other publications.

CANDY MOULTON has authored 17 Western history books, co-edited a collection of short fiction and a two-volume encyclopedia, and written and produced sev-



eral documentary films. She won Spur Awards from Western Writers of America for her biography, *Chief Joseph*, and for her documentary films

In Pursuit of a Dream and *The Battle of Red Buttes*. Moulton served as editor of WWA's *Roundup Magazine* for 17 years and as WWA Executive Director for 11 years.

BRYN NELSON is an award-winning science writer and former microbiologist who received his doctorate from the University of Washington. Nelson has accu-



mulated more than two decades of journalism experience, including seven years at *Newsday*. He is the author of *Flush* and the editor of two chapters for the

bestselling six-volume *Modernist Cuisine*. Nelson has written for dozens of other outlets, including the *New York Times*, *Scientific American*, *The Daily Beast*, *CNN.com* and *Wired*.

KENT NERBURN is the author of 17 books on spirituality, the power of the land and the bridge between Native and non-Native cultures. His book *Neither Wolf nor Dog* was the One Book South Da-



kota selection for 2019. Nerburn considers his work a search for an authentic American spirituality that honors the difficult meeting of our Euro-American tradition and the elder cultures of this continent as we struggle to live as common children of a common land. His newest book, *Lone Dog Road*, is currently available in bookstores.

MICHELLE NIJHUIS authored *Beloved Beasts: Fighting for Life in an Age of Extinction*, a history of the modern conservation movement. It was named one of the best books of 2021 by *The Chicago Tribune*, *Smithsonian Magazine*, *Booklist* and other publications. Nijhuis is a longtime editor of *High Country News* and a regular contributor to *The New York Review of Books*.



After 15 years off the electrical grid in rural Colorado, she and her family now live in White Salmon, Washington.

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DAN O'BRIEN is a falconer, wild-life biologist, rancher and the founder of Wild Idea Buffalo Company. His books include *The Spirit of the Hills*, *In the Center of the Nation* and the 2009 One Book South Dakota, *Buffalo for the Broken Heart*. O'Brien has received two National Endowment for the Arts Individual Artist Grants, two Western Heritage Awards and a 2001 Bush Creative Arts Fellowship. He contributed an essay to the 2023's *On Common Ground*.

PETER OLTCHICK got his start in writing as sports editor for the oldest college weekly in America, *The Colgate Maroon*. He has written for *Suite101*, an online magazine, and is the author of a children's picture book, *Clean Clara*. He lives in New York City with his wife, Amanda, and two children, Zoe and Andrew. Oltchick's most recent book, *Football for Fun*, is co-written with his father-in-law, Bill Bell.



He has written for *Suite101*, an online magazine, and is the author of a children's picture book, *Clean Clara*. He lives in New York City with his wife, Amanda, and two children, Zoe and Andrew. Oltchick's most recent book, *Football for Fun*, is co-written with his father-in-law, Bill Bell.

SARAH PENNER is the *New York Times* and internationally bestselling author of *The Lost Apothecary*, which has been translated into 40 languages worldwide. A



graduate of the University of Kansas, Penner spent 13 years in corporate finance and now writes full-time. She and her husband live in Florida, where she enjoys hiking, running, yoga and cooking in her free time. Penner also sits on the Board of Directors at her local animal shelter, Friends of Strays.

THOMAS POPE worked for 25 years as a professional screenwriter before becoming a professor at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design. He has written for Francis Coppola, Ridley Scott, Barry Levinson, Penny Marshall, Frank Oz, Robert

Redford, Wim Wenders and many others. The other films he's contributed to include *Bad Boys*, *The Curious Case of Benjamin Button*, *Someone to Watch Over Me* and *Sweet Land*.



CHUCK RAASCH is a native South Dakotan, journalist and author. His first book, *Imperfect Union*, was published in 2016. His new nonfiction, *Life Painted Red*, is set in Dakota Territory. Raasch was a national correspondent for *USA Today*, *Gannett* and the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and has had bylines from 49 states and five continents. He is a graduate of South Dakota State University's Journalism Department and was a Knight Journalism Fellow at Stanford University. Raasch lives in Alexandria, Virginia.



THEA RADEMACHER started her professional career as a social justice attorney after graduating with honors from



ALANA WELLS is the author of *The Reaping*, *The Awakening*, and *The Rising*, which are part of the Dark Fantasy series *The Gods and Guardians Chronicles*. She has created her own publishing company to publish the work of other fantasy authors. As a military veteran, she has traveled the world before settling in South Dakota. She draws inspiration from the magic of the Black Hills to weave her tales. When she isn't writing, Alana enjoys hiking, photography, and hanging out with her dogs.

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the University of Minnesota School of Law. Since then, she's done a variety of things, including helping authors publish and speak about their works. Rademacher started Flint Hills Publishing after her inspiring experience co-authoring *A Drop in the Night, the Life and Secret Mission of a WW II Airman*. Her company has now published almost 80 books, including one that won a Spur Award.

LOU RAGUSE is a journalist specializing in crime. Since 2005, he's reported for local NBC, CBS and FOX affiliates in Minnesota, New York, Arizona and South Dakota. His book, *Vanished in Vermillion*,



recounts the decades-long mystery surrounding the disappearance of two South Dakota teenagers. His honors include an Edward R. Murrow Award. Raguse

loves backyard barbecues, playing fantasy football and hunting down vintage Star Wars toys for his kids.

JIM REESE is associate professor of English at Mount Marty University in Yankton, South Dakota. His awards include a 2022 Distinguished Teaching Award from Mount Marty University, a First Place Allen Ginsberg Poetry Award and a Distinguished Public Service Award in recognition of his exemplary dedication and contributions to the Education Department at Federal Prison Camp Yankton. Reese's most recent books are *Dancing Room Only* and *Bone Chalk*.

JESSIE TAKEN ALIVE RENCOUNTRE is a Hunkpapa Lakota author



and jingle dress dancer who educates through storytelling, song and dance. Combining cultural knowledge with her experiences over 15 years as a school coun-

selor, she has published four children's books, with two more forthcoming in 2023. Rencountre won the Great Plains Emerging Tribal Writer's Award for her first book, *Pet'a Shows Misun the Light*, and was named a Future Legacy Leader by the international Spirit Aligned Leadership Program.

GARY D. SCHMIDT is a prolific author of children's literature and young adult fiction. He graduated from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign with a PhD in medieval literature and has taught at Calvin University and Hamline University.



Some of his recent novels include *Orbiting Jupiter*, *The Labors of Hercules Beal* and *A Little Bit Super*. Schmidt has received two John Newbery Honor Awards. He now lives on a 200-year-old farm in Alto, Michigan, where he plants gardens and writes.

JAMES SOLHEIM is a writer and illustrator. He was born in North Dakota but was raised all over the Midwest, including Ver-

million and Sioux Falls. His children's books have been praised by *The Wall Street Journal*, PBS and *The Washington Post*. His newest book, *Eat Your Woolly*



Mammoths, covers two million years of the world's most amazing food facts. Besides writing and illustrating, Solheim gives presentations to encourage kids' success through the fun of books.

BONNY SPECKER, a recently retired epidemiologist, has published over 200 scientific papers and chapters. She has drawn on her lifelong fascination with the investigative work of early epidemiologists to write two historical novels: *Spot On:*



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PRESENTERS

The 1846 Faroe Islands Measles Outbreak and Smallpox: The 1876 New Iceland Outbreak on Lake Winnipeg. Specker lives in Brookings, where she serves on the City Council.

CLAY STAFFORD is an American best-selling and award-winning author, poet, screenwriter and playwright. He is also a film and television producer, director, showrunner, actor and book, film and stage reviewer, as well as a public speaker. He has sold nearly four million copies of his books, and his work has been distributed in 16 languages. Stafford is founder and CEO of the annual Killer Nashville International Writers' Conference and a contributor to *Writer's Digest* magazine with his online column, "Killer Writer."



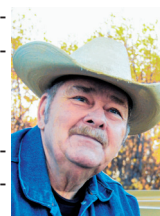
J. RYAN STRADAL is the author of *New York Times* bestseller *Kitchens of the Great Midwest* and national bestseller *The Lager Queen of Minnesota*. His writing has

appeared in *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Guardian*, *The Rumpus* and the *Los Angeles Review of Books*. His debut, *Kitchens of the Great Midwest*, won the American Booksellers Association Indie Choice Book Award for Adult Debut Book of the Year. Born and raised in Minnesota, he now lives in California with his family.

BRIAN TURNER has authored five collections of poetry, including *The Wild Delight of Wild Things* and *The Goodbye World Poem*, and the memoir *My Life as a Foreign Country*. He is editor of *The Kiss* and co-editor of *The Strangest of Theatres* anthologies. A musician, Turner has also written and recorded several albums with The Interplanetary Acoustic Team, including *11 11 (Me, Smiling)* and *The Retro Legion's American Undertow*. He lives in Orlando, Florida, with his dog, Dene.



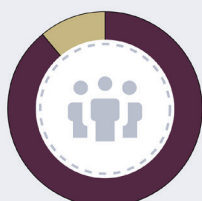
C. M. (CURT) WENDELBOE began writing as a child in Mitchell but had to take a hiatus when the Marines sent him to Southeast Asia. After Vietnam wound down, he resumed writing and has successfully published four series: the Spirit Road Mystery Series, the Bitter Wind Mystery Series, the Nelson Lane Mystery Series and the Tucker Ashley Western Series set in 1870s Dakota Territory. Wendelboe lives with his wife, Heather, and continues writing from his home in Cheyenne, Wyoming.



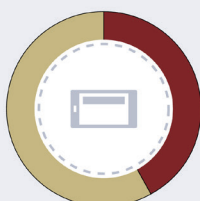
CHRISTINE MAGER WEVIK is the author of four books, including the humorous self-help book *It's Only Hair* and two award-winning paranormal mysteries: *Vacant Eyes* and *Borrowed Memories*. Her most recent book, *Someone Knows*, highlights 52 South Dakota cold cases involving unsolved deaths and disappearances. A mother of four and grandmother of five, Wevik lives

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with her husband Doug (the other Clint Eastwood) in southeast South Dakota.

DIANE WILSON is a writer, speaker and educator who has published two award-winning nonfiction books, numerous essays, two children's books and the 2023 One Book South Dakota, *The Seed Keeper*. She has received a Bush Foundation Fellowship and honors from the Minnesota State Arts Board, the Jerome Foundation and the East Central Regional Arts Council. A Mdewakanton descendent enrolled on the Rosebud Reservation, Wilson is executive director of the Native American Food Sovereignty Alliance.

NORMA CLARK WILSON is a University of South Dakota English professor emerita. Nature is the primary focus of her poetry and prose. She is the author of *Rivers, Wings & Sky*, *Under the Rainbow*:



Poems from Mojácar, The Nature of Native America and many more. Four of her poems are featured in the film and book *On Common Ground*. Wilson lives in a geo-solar house with her husband, Jerry Wilson, on a prairie bluff northwest of Vermillion.

TANAYA WINDER is an author, singer/songwriter and motivational speaker who comes from an intertribal lineage of Southern Ute, Pyramid Lake Paiute and Duckwater Shoshone Nations, where she is an enrolled citizen. Winder's poetry collections include *Words Like Love* and *Why Storms are Named After People and Bullets Remain Nameless*. Her specialties include youth and women's empowerment, healing trauma through art, creative writing workshops and mental wellness advocacy.



MIKE WOHNOUTKA has illustrated numerous books for young readers, includ-

ing *How to Apologize, See the Cat: Three Stories About a Dog* and *See the Dog: Three Stories About a Cat*, all by David LaRochelle, as well as the *Croc & Turtle* series. He earned his BFA in illustration from Savannah College of Art and Design and has illustrated over 30 children's books since. A native of Spicer, Minnesota, Wohnoutka and his family currently live in Minneapolis.



DAVID WOLFF is professor emeritus at Black Hills State University, where he specialized in South Dakota and Black Hills history and served as dean of the College of Liberal Arts. His books include *Seth Bullock: Black Hills Lawman* and *The Savior of Deadwood*. A member of several local and regional historical societies, Wolff chairs the Adams Museum & House Board of Directors. His honors include the Robinson Lifetime Achievement Award from the South Dakota State Historical Society.

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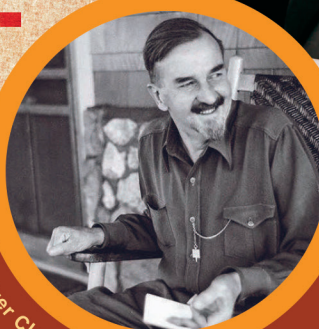


THE AMERICAN BUFFALO

A FILM BY KEN BURNS



Lori Walsh



Badger Clark



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South Dakota Public Broadcasting is also set to
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Join Lori Walsh Friday, Sept. 22 at
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