



**2006
Nebraska
Book Festival**

*Beyond Borders:
Nebraska
and the World*

Program of Events

October 6-7

**Nebraska Wesleyan
University**

FRIDAY, October 6

School Day for high school and Nebraska college students.

- **Registration at McDonald Theatre**
8:30-9 a.m.
- **Richard Graham on the Graphic Novel and Comic Books**
9 a.m., Old Main.
- **Richard Graham: Writing Graphic Novels and Comics Workshop**
10 a.m., Old Main.
- **Scott Stewart: Illustrating Graphic Novels & Comics Workshop**
10 a.m., Old Main.
- **Combining Writing and Illustrations Workshop**
11 a.m., Old Main.
- **Lunch**
Noon, Student Center Caferia.
- **Presentation of Student Work; Wrap-up by Richard Graham**
1-2 p.m., McDonald Theatre.

FRIDAY EVENING, October 6

Events at the University of Nebraska's Van Brunt Visitors Center, 313 N. 13th St.
(13th and Q Street entrance):

- **New Nebraska Poets**
7 p.m., Michael Dumanis, Anthony Hawley, Zach Schomburg and Mathias Svalina, with introductions by Scott Stanfield and Michael Dumanis.
- **Special Guest: Mary Helen Stefaniak**
8 p.m.
- **Return to Roots Readings: Erin Belieu and Anna Monardo**
9 p.m.

Events at the Mary Riepma Ross Media Arts Center, 313 N. 13th St.
(13th and R Street entrance):

- **Tom White on the Life and Works of Frank Spearman**
7 p.m., with an introduction by Mike Smith, Director/CEO, Nebraska State Historical Society.
- **Screening of "Whispering Smith," a film adapted from Frank Spearman's novel, "Whispering Smith"**
7:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, October 7

Adult Program

Beyond Borders: Nebraska and the World. Sessions will be held on the Nebraska Wesleyan University campus, 50th and St. Paul streets, 8:30 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Luncheon tickets for \$10 per person are available from 8:30 a.m. to noon or until sold out.

SESSION 1

■ **Beyond Genre: Graphic Novels**

9 a.m., Smith-Curtis, Room 220.

Richard Graham and Scott Stewart.

■ **The Art of the Anthology**

9 a.m., Smith-Curtis, Room 222.

Denise Banker, Erin Belieu, Michael Dumanis, Greg Kosmicki and Ladette Randolph.

SESSION 2

■ **Panel: Literary Journals/Small Presses**

10 a.m., Smith-Curtis, Room 220.

Prairie Schooner, Octopus, Backwaters Press, University of Nebraska Press.

■ **Beyond the 100th Meridian: Poets from the High Plains**

10 a.m., Smith-Curtis, Room 222.

Garry Alkire, Mary Jackson and R.F. McEwen.

■ **Keynote Speaker: Meghan Daum**

11 a.m.-noon, McDonald Theatre, with welcome by Joe Gow, Interim President, Nebraska Wesleyan University.

■ **Nebraska Book Festival Awards Luncheon**

12:15-1:45 p.m., tickets required, Student Center Cafeteria.

Introduction by William Kloefkorn and address by Terese Svoboda.

SESSION 3

■ **Readings by Meghan Daum and Terese Svoboda**

2 p.m., Olin B.

SESSION 4

■ **Multicultural Literature in Nebraska**

3 p.m., Smith-Curtis 220.

Readings by Amelia Maria de la Luz Montes and Charles Fort.

■ **Literary Societies**

3 p.m., Smith-Curtis 222.

Cather, Neihardt, Sandoz, Aldrich.

SESSION 5

■ **Writers from the Edge: Fictional Mysteries & Crime Novels**

4 p.m., Olin B.

Alex Kava and Sean Doolittle.

■ **Writers from the Edge: The "Real" Nebraska**

5 p.m., Olin B.

Eric Konigsberg, Timothy Schaffert and Liza Ward.

Indoor activities in Smith-Curtis include:■ **Exhibitors**

8:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m., in the Great Hall.

■ **Perpetual Reading Series**

9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Smith-Curtis Room 221.

Denise Banker, Grace Bauer, J.V. Brummels, Michael Catherwood, Kelly Madigan Erlandson, Gene Fendt, Twyla Hansen, Greg Kosmicki, Steve Langan, Matt Mason, Kristin Naca, Lisa Sandlin, Barbara Schmitz, Gerald Shapiro, Karen Gettert Shoemaker, Judith Slater and Mary K. Stillwell.

■ **Book Signings**

9 a.m.-5:30 p.m., Smith-Curtis, outside Rooms 220-222.

Meet the authors!

Outdoor activities will be in the Old Main Amphitheatre, with food available from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and bluegrass music by John Walker at 2:30 p.m. and classic rock performed by The Electricians at 3:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, October 7

Children's Program

Outside the Lines: Creative Storytelling Activities for Children. Sessions are in Room 110 of Smith-Curtis. Free admission, with one free book (while supplies last) for every child who attends.

■ **Hispanic Storytelling for Children**

9 a.m. – Linda Garcia draws on childhood experiences from Omaha's Mexican-American barrio.

■ **Keeping a Writer's Notebook**

10 a.m. – Explore the power and magic of this important writing tool with award-winning children's author N.L. Sharp.

■ **Stories from Around the World**

11 a.m. – Regina Leininger uses chants, movements, puppets and props to entice the audience to become part of her stories.

■ **Sack Lunch Program**

Noon – Kiowa/Otoe-Missouria storyteller Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones, in native attire, shares tales of his tribes. (Children and parents bring their own lunches.)

■ **From Page to Stage**

1 p.m. – Leta Powell Drake reads from John Steptoe's *Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters*. You help bring the story to life!

■ **Where Do You Get Your Ideas?**

2 p.m. – N.L. Sharp shares her secret weapons to help you come up with story ideas of your own.

■ **Storytelling in Action with Help from the Listeners!**

3 p.m. – Ricardo Garcia leads the telling of Hispanic and Hispāno tales.

■ **C is for Cornhusker**

4 p.m. – Rajean Luebs Shepherd leads an A to Z tour of Nebraska's unique treasures.

SATURDAY EVENING, October 7

■ **Reception: Prairie Schooner 80th Anniversary Reception**

7:30-9:30 p.m. at the Great Plains Art Museum, 1155 Q St.

Master of ceremonies Stephen Hilliard, University of Nebraska-Lincoln Professor of English, with special guests Glenna Luschei Endowed Editor in Chief of the *Prairie Schooner* and UNL Professor of English and Women's & Gender Studies Hilda Raz, *Prairie Schooner* managing editor Kelly Grey Carlisle, UNL Department of English Chair Joy Ritchie, UNL Assoc. Professor of English Grace Bauer and UNL Emeritus Professor of English Dorothy Zimmerman.

Meet the authors

Terese Svoboda has taught at various colleges, including The New School, the University of Hawaii, San Francisco State University and the College of William and Mary. Svoboda also wrote film proposals for a number of years and was a producer for the Columbia Translation Series and the Voices and Visions series. Her books include *Tin God*, *Cannibal* and *Treason*. Her poems have been published in *Paris Review*, *The Atlantic Monthly*, *Yale Review*, *Grand Street*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Verse*, *Ploughshares* and many others.

Meghan Daum (keynote speaker) is the author of the novel *The Quality of Life Report* and the essay collection *My Misspent Youth* and writes a weekly column for *The Los Angeles Times*. She has contributed to public radio's *Morning Edition*, *Marketplace* and *This American Life* and has written for numerous publications, including *The New Yorker*, *Harper's*, *GQ*, *Vogue*, *Self*, *New York*, *Harper's Bazaar*, *The Village Voice* and others. Meghan has taught at various institutions, including California Institute for the Arts, where she was a visiting artist in 2004.

Gary Alkire teaches anthropology and English at Western Nebraska Community College in Scottsbluff. In addition to being a poet, he coauthored *Field Archaeology: The Basic Practices in the North Platte Valley*.

Denise Banker teaches creative writing at Concordia University in Seward. Her poems have appeared in *The ALAN Review*, *Prairie Schooner*, the anthology *Crazy Woman Creek* and elsewhere. She is coeditor of the forthcoming anthology *Nebraska Presence*.

Grace Bauer teaches creative writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She is the author of numerous books of poetry, most recently *Field Guide to the Ineffable: Poems on Marcel Duchamp* and *Beholding Eye*. Her poems have appeared in *DoubleTake*, *Poetry* and elsewhere.

Erin Belieu teaches creative writing at Florida State University in Tallahassee. Originally from Nebraska, she is the author of three collections of poetry — most recently, *Black Box* — and the coeditor (with Suzan Aizenberg) of *The Extraordinary Tide: New Poetry by American Women*.

J.V. Brummels teaches creative writing at Wayne State College, where he edits *Nebraska Territory* and directs the Plains Writers Circuit. He is the author of numerous books of poems, including *Clay Hills* and *The Cheyenne Line and Other Poems*. His work has appeared everywhere from *Prairie Schooner* to *Rolling Stone*.

Michael Catherwood teaches English at Creighton University. He has published poems in *AGNI*, *Black Warrior Review* and elsewhere, and is the author of the poetry collection *Dare*.

Sean Doolittle is the author of four crime novels: *Dirt* (Amazon.com 2001 Top 100 Editor's Pick), *Burn* (Foreword Magazine 2003 Book of the Year Award Winner), *Rain Dogs* and *The Cleanup*. He lives in Omaha.

Michael Dumanis is an Assistant Professor of English at Nebraska Wesleyan University and the programming coordinator of this year's Nebraska Book Festival. He is coeditor of the anthology *Legitimate Dangers: American Poets of the New Century* and the author of the collection *My Soviet Union*, winner of the 2006 Juniper Prize for Poetry, forthcoming from the University of Massachusetts Press in 2007.

Kelly Madigan Erlandson is a drug and alcohol counselor in Lincoln. Her poetry chapbook *Born in the House of Love* won the 2004 Main-Traveled Roads Chapbook Award in 2004. Her poems and essays have appeared or are forthcoming in *Barrow Street*, *Crazyhorse*, *Prairie Schooner* and elsewhere.

Gene Fendt teaches philosophy at the University of Nebraska-Kearney and is the author of several philosophy texts. He has published poetry in *Nimrod*, *Puerta del Sol*, *Theology Today* and elsewhere.

Charles Fort holds the Paul W. and Clarice Kingston Reynolds Chair in Poetry at the University of Nebraska-Kearney. He is the author of numerous books, including *Town Clock Burning*, *As the Lilac Burned the Laurel Grew* and *Frankenstein Was a Negro*. His poems have appeared in *Best American Poetry 2000*, *The Carnegie Mellon Anthology of Poetry*, *American Poetry Review*, *Georgia Review* and elsewhere.

Richard Graham is a librarian at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and a scholar of graphic novels and comic books.

Anthony Hawley teaches creative writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He holds an MFA from Columbia University, has served as Poetry Editor for the New York-based magazine *Fence* and is the author of the full-length poetry collection *The Concerto Form*. His poems have appeared in such publications as *The Denver Quarterly*, *The New Republic* and *The Paris Review*.

Twyla Hansen is a horticulturist and creative writing presenter through the Speakers Bureau of the Nebraska Humanities Council. Her latest book, a poem-drawing collaboration book with Paul Johnsgard, is *Prairie Suite: A Celebration*. Her poetry collection *Potato Soup* won the 2004 Nebraska Book Awards competition for poetry, and her poems have appeared in *Crab Orchard Review*, *Poets Against the War*, *Prairie Schooner* and elsewhere.

Mary Strong Jackson lives in Scottsbluff, where she is employed as a social worker. Her poetry has appeared in *Times of Sorrow*, *Times of Grace*; *At the Core: Women Writing About Power*; the *Foothills Publishing Springfed Chapbook Series* and *Pudding House Magazine*.

Alex Kava is the Omaha-based bestselling author of psychological thrillers about FBI profiler Maggie O'Dell: *Split Second*, *A Perfect Evil*, *One False Move*, *The Soul Catcher* and *At the Stroke of Madness*.

Eric Konigsberg grew up in Omaha and lives in New York City. His articles and essays have appeared in *The New Yorker*, *The New York Times Magazine*, *Rolling Stone* and *Tin House*. He is the author of *Blood Relation*, a true crime memoir.

Greg Kosmicki, an Omaha social worker, serves as editor and publisher of *The Backwaters Press*. His poetry has been published in *Kansas Quarterly*, *The Paris Review* and elsewhere. His most recent collections include *Some Hero of the Past*, *The Patron Saint of Lost and Found* and *We Have Always Been Coming to This Morning*. He is coeditor of the forthcoming anthology *Nebraska Presence*.

Steve Langan is on the teaching and residency faculty of the University of Nebraska MFA in Writing Program. He is the author of the poetry collections *Freezing* and *Notes on Exile & Other Poems*.

Matt Mason's most recent collection of poetry *Things We Don't Know We Don't Know* was published in 2006. He has been extensively involved in slam poetry groups in the Midwest. His poems have been accepted by *The Logan House Anthology of 21st Century American Poetry* and magazines such as *Prairie Schooner*, *Green Mountains Review* and others.

R.F. McEwen is an arborist and associate professor of Language and Literature at Chadron State College. He is the author of *Heartwood and Other Poems*, featured on *CBS Sunday*. His poetry has been published, among other places, in *Kansas Quarterly*, *Ploughshares*, *Prairie Schooner* and *South Dakota Review*.

Anna Monardo is Associate Professor and Chair of the Writers Workshop at the University of Nebraska-Omaha. Her books include *Falling in Love with Natassia* and *The Courtyard of Dreams*. Her stories, essays and poems have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *The Sun*, *Indiana Review*, *Redbook* and elsewhere.

Amelia Maria de la Luz Montes is a fiction writer, memoirist and Assistant Professor of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has published in such places as *Culture and Society in Dialogue*, *HERS 3: Brilliant New Fiction by Lesbian Writers* and *Circa 2000: Lesbian Fiction at the Millennium*.

Kristin Naca holds an MA in Creative Writing from the University of Cincinnati and is a PhD Student in Creative Writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her work has been published in *Crab Orchard Review*, *Seattle Review* and *Poetry Northwest*.

Ladette Randolph is the executive editor at University of Nebraska Press. She is the author of the short story collection *This Is Not the Tropics* and editor of the anthology *A Different Plain: Contemporary Nebraska Fiction Writers*. Her short fiction and essays have been published in numerous literary journals, including *Prairie Schooner*, *Fourth Genre*, *The Clackamas Literary Review* and *Connecticut Review*.

Hilda Raz teaches in the Department of English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, where she is the Glenna Luschei Endowed Editor in Chief of *Prairie Schooner*. Her books include *What is Good*, *The Bone Dish* and *Divine Honors*. She is the editor of several anthologies, including *Living in the Margins: Women Writers on Breast Cancer* and *The Prairie Schooner Anthology of Contemporary Jewish American Writing*.

Lisa Sandlin is an Assistant Professor of English at Wayne State College, where she teaches creative writing. She is the coeditor of *Times of Sorrow, Times of Grace*. Her writing has appeared in *Shenandoah*, *The New York Times*, *Southwest Review* and elsewhere. Her newest book is a collection of short stories, *In the River Province*.

Timothy Schaffert is the Director of the Omaha Lit Fest. He has served as editor of *The Reader* and *Omaha Pulp*. His novels include *The Singing and Dancing Daughters of God* and *The Phantom Limbs of the Rollow Sisters*. His short stories have appeared in *Prairie Schooner*, *The Greensboro Review*, *Press*, *Natural Bridge* and other literary journals.

Barbara Schmitz is a former member of the English faculty at Northeast Community College in Norfolk. She is a former editor of *Elkhorn Review*, and her writing has been published in journals, such as *Prairie Schooner*, *Laurel Review* and *Nebraska Review*. She also is the author of *The Upside Down Heart* and *How Much Our Dancing Has Improved*.

Zach Schomburg is a PhD student in Creative Writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His poems have appeared in *Fence*, *Canary*, *Spork*, *Parakeet*, *Cutbank* and *No Tell Motel's Bedside Guide Anthology*. He is coeditor of the journal *Octopus* and curates *The Clean Part Reading Series* in Lincoln with Mathias Svalina. His collection of poetry, *The Man Suit*, is forthcoming in 2007.

Gerald Shapiro teaches creative writing and literature at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He has published two collections of short stories, *Bad Jews and Other Stories* and *Little Men: Novellas and Short Stories*. He is the author of the short story collections *From Hunger*, *Bad Jews* and *Little Men*. His stories have appeared in *Ploughshares*, *Witness*, *Kenyon Review* and elsewhere.

Karen Gettert Shoemaker's fiction and poetry have been published in a variety of journals, including *Prairie Schooner*, *South Dakota Review*, *West Wind Review* and others. Awards for her writing include a Nebraska Press Association Award for Feature Writing, Vreeland Award and a Prairie Schooner/Mari Sandoz Award for Fiction.

Judith Slater teaches creative writing and literature at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. She has published a book of short stories, *The Baby Can Sing and Other Stories*. Her stories have appeared in *Beloit Fiction Journal*, *Redbook*, *Colorado Review*, *Greensboro Review* and other places.

Mary Helen Stefaniak is an Associate Professor of English and Director of Creative Writing at Creighton University in Omaha. Her novel, *The Turk and My Mother*, was published in 2004. Her work has appeared in *Redbook*, *The Iowa Review*, *The Yale Review* and in several anthologies.

Scott Stewart is a Lincoln-area illustrator, artist and creator of the online literary magazine *artstew*.

Mary K. Stillwell is a PhD student at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her work has appeared in *New York Quarterly*, *The Massachusetts Review*, *Confrontation* and elsewhere, as well as in a variety of anthologies, including *Leaning into the Wind*, *The Decade Dance: A Celebration of Poems* and *The Paris Review Anthology*. She is the coeditor of the forthcoming anthology *Nebraska Presence*.

Mathias Svalina is pursuing a PhD in creative writing at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. His poems have been published in *Willow Springs*, *River City*, *Perihelion*, *La Petite Zine* and other journals. He is the coeditor of the journal *Octopus* and co-curates *The Clean Part Reading Series* with Zach Schomburg.

Liza Ward's first novel, *Outside Valentine*, was published in 2004. Her stories have been published in *The Atlantic Monthly*, *The Georgia Review*, *The Antioch Review* and *Agni Review*.



elcome to the 15th annual *Nebraska Book Festival*. True to the 2006 festival theme, "Beyond Borders: Nebraska and the World," there's a diverse line-up of presenters.

Novelist, journalist, essayist and satirist **Meghan Daum** will headline as keynote speaker at 11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 7. Born in California, she was raised on the East Coast and wrote her award-winning novel, "The Quality of Life Report," while living in Lincoln between 1999 and 2003. She is a weekly columnist for *The Los Angeles Times* and has been called "one of the most celebrated nonfiction writers of her generation."

Terese Svoboda is the main speaker at the Oct. 7 luncheon. Svoboda grew up in a small southwestern Nebraska town, but has lived in New York City for more than 30 years. She has written eight books, including "Tin God" (a novel), "Trailer Girl and Other Stories," "Treason" (poetry), and "Cannibal," her award-winning first novel. Nebraska State Poet William Kloefkorn will introduce Svoboda.

Other presenters include **Erin Belieu, Sean Doolittle, Michael Dumanis, Charles Fort, Richard Graham, Alex Kava, Eric Konigsberg, Greg Kosmicki, Anna Monardo, Amelia Maria de la Luz Montes, Hilda Raz, Timothy Schaffert, Mary Helen Stefaniak, Scott Stewart** and **Liza Ward**. Topics for panels include anthologies, graphic novels, literary journals and small presses, mysteries and crime novels, and how Nebraska is represented in literature and poetry.

This year's festival also features a day of children's programming — interactive storytelling, writing workshops, puppetry, readers' theatre and a virtual tour of Nebraska. Presenters include **Linda Garcia, N.L. Sharp, Regina Leininger, Matthew "Sitting Bear" Jones, Leta Powell Drake, Ricardo Garcia** and **Rajean Luebs Shepherd**.

The festival ends Saturday evening with a reception celebrating the 80th anniversary of *Prairie Schooner*. This national literary quarterly publishes award-winning fiction, poetry, essays and reviews and is based at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

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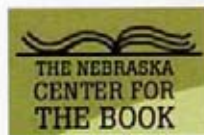
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