

## **Republic of Childhood. Learning From The Future - Putting Children First**

The Republic of Childhood expands upon our highly popular two decades long relationship with children and young people based on writing workshops and our writers-in-schools program.

The Republic of Childhood is a festival for children, young people and families centred on the Convention on the Rights of the Child and our experience that creativity, innovation and the imagination are essential elements for children to find and develop their own voices.

The Republic of Childhood will empower and encourage young learners to take an active role in all aspects of the Festival including conducting onstage interviews with published writers and sharing their own work as part of the festival program alongside critically acclaimed storytellers.

### **September/October**

OPL Writing Workshops September 16, 23, 30, and October 7  
X4 Saturdays 2 to 4 PM  
10 to 15 adjudicated young people  
Rosemount Public Library  
with Charles de Lint

Connaught Public School 4 X 2 hr workshops with one class grade 5 or 6  
with Alan Cumyn  
Teacher, Pam Jones, Principal Caretta Williams  
DeAveiro

Glashan Public School 4 X 2 hr. workshops with one class  
grade 7 or 8  
with Amal El-Mohtar (2017 Hugo Award winner)  
Principal Jim Tayler

Fisher/Summit School 4 X 2 hr. workshops with a grade 7 class, teacher David  
Farley  
with Jamaal Rogers  
Teacher, David Farley, Principal, Tim Hawes,

## CREATION OF THE CHAPBOOK

A very important piece of this initiative is the creation of a chapbook of the workshop writers. This means that we will have to copy edit and lay out. We believe printing services with the Board can produce say 200 copies. Copies are for the kids, family and friends and of course to be displayed during the Festival alone side visiting author's books.

Please give some thought as to how we might do this. I am certainly willing to help but have little experience with lay out and design. Charles de Lint says he will help as well.

In a meeting with Reg Lavergne we discussed having some high school student mentors to help with such things as social media, tech support, videography as well as doing some on stage interviews with visiting authors during the Festival.

The idea here is to give the students a real taste of all aspects of organizing a festival and at the same time utilizing there skills.

## **Monday November 20**

**9:30 to 11:00 AM** Opening: UNIVERSAL CHILDREN'S DAY: ANNIVERSARY  
CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD  
Smudge Ceremony  
Granddaughter of Former Senator Landon Pearson: Centre  
for the study of Children and the Rights of the Child  
Community Foundation of Ottawa and Canada  
OCDSB Director of Education, OPL CEO  
CCUNESCO  
Jo Becker, Joel Bakan, Mary Branley  
Jamaal & students

Invitation: Students from OPL, Fisher/Summit, Glashan & Connaught with friends  
and family

Fisher/Summit Auditorium

**6:00 to 7:15 PM** Show Casing OPL workshop students with Charles de Lint &  
Glashan Public School students with Amal El-Mohtar  
Host Neil Wilson & student  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch seats 150

**7:30 to 9:00 PM** Panel: Putting Children First: Childhood Under Siege  
Joel Bakan, Jo Becker, Mary Branley  
host Neil Wilson & student  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch seats 150

**School visits in the afternoon**

**Tuesday November 21**

**School visits morning and afternoon**

6:00 to 7:15                      Showcasing Fisher/Summit Public School with Jamaal  
Rogers  
Readings by S.K. Ali & Kevin Sands  
Host Neil Wilson  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch seats 150

7:30 to 9:00                      Panel: Education for All - Inclusion and Diversity  
with Sajidah Ali, Cherie Dimaline, Amal El-Mohtar,  
Jael Richardson,  
hosted by Neil Wilson & student  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch seats 150

**Wednesday November 22**

**School visits morning and afternoon**

9:30 to 3:30                    **Carleton Digital Storytelling Workshop** with Ali Arya  
Architecture and Engineering Labs, Carleton U.  
with Sandra Ridley, Jo Rioux & JonArno  
Lawson, Nina Drystek, Neil Wilson, Geoffry Bates  
Digital writers provided by Ali Arya  
10 to 15 students invited to sign up from middle school  
grades 6, 7 and 8. This is a very special opportunity for  
students to work with digital storytellers and traditional  
storytellers.

6:00 to 7:15 PM                Showcasing Connaught Public School students with  
Alan Cumyn followed by readings by Mary Branley,  
Deborah Webster Kigjugalik  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch

7:30 to 9:00 PM                Panel: Learning from the Future  
with Alan Cumyn, Mary Branley, Nahid Kazemi,  
JonArno Lawson  
hosted by Neil Wilson & student  
OPL Auditorium Main Branch

**Available Author School Visits OCDSB**

**Tuesday Nov. 21, Wednesday Nov. 22**

**Minimum 100 students**

**Copy of book will be supplied to classes that sign up for Author visit.**

Ms. Jael Richardson available for junior or middle school visits Wednesday Nov. 22 morning and afternoon <https://www.dundurn.com/books/Stone-Thrower>  
<https://houseofanansi.com/products/the-stone-thrower>

Deborah Webster Kigjugalik - Available Tuesday or Wednesday for Junior School visits <http://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/north/akilaks-adventure-deborah-webster-1.3850381>

Nahid Kazemi - Available for Junior School visits Tuesday afternoon and or Wednesday morning or afternoon  
'Alive Again', 'Orange House' Tiny Owl publisher

JonArno Lawson - Available for Elementary School visits Tuesday morning and afternoon 'Side Walk Flowers', 'Leap', 'But Its So Silly' Kids Can Press

Cherie Dimaline - Available Middle or High School visit Tuesday afternoon  
'The Marrow Thieves', Cormorant Books

Kevin Sands - Available for middle school Wednesday morning and afternoon  
'The Blackthorn Key' 'Mark of the Plague' Simon and Schuster

Sajidah(S.K.) Ali - Available for middle school visits Wednesday morning or afternoon.  
'Saints and Misfits' Simon and Schuster

Jo Bekker

Mary Branley

